



Australian  
**Deer**  
Association

## “PALMS AND POINTS”



**ADELAIDE BRANCH**  
**NEWSLETTER**  
february 2020

## Branch Contacts – JUNE-2019

President: Grant Brown 0403810295  
 Vice President: Tony Mavrokokki 0409846944  
 Secretary: Malcolm Racz 0415553330 (Adelaide.sec@ausdeer.asn.au)  
 Treasurer: Miles Doddridge 0412794128

### New Membership Officer

Malcolm Racz

### Hunting Committee

Freddie Meiring 0428 105 422

### "Palms & Points" Newsletter Contact

Miles Doddridge-0412794128 (med@oromax.com.au)

"Palms & Points" is the newsletter of the Adelaide Branch of the Australian Deer Association Inc.. Advertising is welcome. A.D.A. members may place small personal advertisements free of charge. Contributions are welcome. Views expressed may not necessarily be the views of the Adelaide Branch nor of the A.D.A.

**Adelaide Branch general meetings** are held at the Hectorville Senior Citizens hall, Reid Ave, Hectorville on the first Monday of every second month (except January – no meeting ) – commencing at 7.30 pm.

## ADELAIDE BRANCH SPONSORS 2019

The Adelaide Branch wishes to thank the following sponsors for their kind donations for our Branch fundraising efforts:

**Adelaide Gun Shop**  
**Fisher Firearms**  
**Europtics**  
**Light Force**

Members are reminded that when you purchase items from our sponsors that you should identify yourself as a member of the Adelaide Branch of the Australian Deer Association and that you thank the sponsor for any discount provided.

### Palms & Points Newsletter by email

Our Newsletter – Palms & Points, is available to members via email and most members have availed themselves of this service.

If you have access to email and wish to receive your copy of Palms & Points , please send your email address to Malcolm Racz:-

If you change your email address, please notify Malcolm.

Also please notify the National Membership Office to add your email address to the National database.

### **Branch Calendar for 2020**

APRIL 6 General Meeting  
 MAY 15 – 20 Sambar Hunt \*\*\*  
 JUNE 1 General Meeting

AUGUST 3 General Meeting  
 OCTOBER 12 General Meeting

Please note that a working bee is generally held on the Saturday after each general meeting: A working bee may be announced for march. This is also an opportunity for new members to do their firearm proficiency test.

\*\*\* Please note. The Sambar Hunt is likely to be at Rileys Hut and the Wonnangatta in Victoria. This hunt is being led by Miles Dodridge and Tony Mavrokokki who are both very experienced Sambar hunters. Please contact Miles at [med@oromax.com.au](mailto:med@oromax.com.au) and Tony at [tony.mavrokokki@internode.on.net](mailto:tony.mavrokokki@internode.on.net) if you would like to go. Hunting Sambar is hard work but well and truly worth the effort.

### **Additional events:**

Bruckunga interclub shoot :Date to be advised

Harrogate simulated field shoot: Date to be advised

Annual Dinner : Date & venue to be advised; If you have a good venue for the annual dinner please advise Grant. Please note that some members are cost sensitive.

The Executive may change dates, so please watch this space for amendments

## **HUNTER'S PLEDGE**

The hunter should conserve wildlife resources and not exploit them, and the hunter's behaviour should be guided by respect –

For the deer and all wildlife

For the land, forests and crops

For the landholder and his property

For everyone who enjoys the bush

## **January General Meeting**

All members returned from summer holidays looking well.

The president welcomed members to the meeting. A number of new members introduced themselves.

Deer hunting has been limited of course but Colin recently culled two does for a concerned property owner. Each animal ,though mortally wounded ,was able to reach thick cover before expiring .They were able to be located with the help of highly trained hounds (Dacshounds).

The president announced that the national executive had reversed their decision of last year and reinstated Errol Mattig as a member.

Hunting at Buckland park DEW land should commence early in the season but dates have yet to be confirmed. The Dept is keen for a large number of animals to be removed from the park & members are keen to oblige.

A number of members attended Anama for deer handling recently. Bucks were deantlered and two were relocated to grants property. The work went without a hitch or acrimony.

The regular raffle was conducted by Doug & supper was supplied by Jeff. Thanks to those members for their ongoing efforts.

The club is keen to explore new hunting opportunities in the state. If any member has a relationship with a property owner who has a problem with too many deer, the club would be happy to arrange an appropriate control program. Please contact Grant to discuss.

## **Eligibility for hunting on club properties**

Ballots for hunting will commence soon.

Please ensure that you have fulfilled all criteria which enable you to enter the ballot.

You must have; A firearms license . A hunting license. these must be sighted by out huntmaster Freddie (at a meeting or scan & send to him).

Financial membership of the ADA

Have completed at least one working bee.

Have attended one branch activity

Have attended 3 branch meetings

Paid the \$100 annual hunt fee.

To trophy hunt you must have taken a doe or a buck on ADA properties during the past year.

This year hunts at Anama will be restricted to one days duration during the trophy hunting period. This is to give opportunity to more hunters. Trophy eligible hunters will have priority for the first month of the hunting season. Doe hunters will be able to accompany the trophy hunter to give them an opportunity to harvest a doe.

Please communicate your licensing details to Freddie  
[FREDDIE.MEIRING@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FREDDIE.MEIRING@GMAIL.COM)

Your annual hunt fee can be paid at the next meeting or you can pay to:  
 Westpac 034045 acc: 147415. Please include your name & hunt fees

## **Respect for the landowner**

Members are reminded that we are guests on the properties on which we hunt.

Please : do not hunt near the homestead

Leave all gates as you found them

Do not drive over crops Do not drive on wet tracks causing ruts.

Do not use the farmers equipment unless given express permission.

Dispose of offal & carcasses appropriately

## **Hunter Safety** (reprinted from last year but please consider again)

It is always a good time to remind members to stay safe in the field. Hunting should be a safe sport if care is taken. It is in fact much more likely that you will be injured driving to your hunt than during it. One member has the dubious honour of ending an alpine hunt injured in a bicycle accident. The same member lost his car down a steep incline in the same area. US deer hunters are most likely to be injured falling from a tree stand rather than shot.

The ADA (Adelaide) Hunters Guide describes safe hunting practices to be followed. I would like to consider the scenario where a hunter shoots another hunter by mistake, that is mistaking a hunter for game.

This had happened in the US ,NZ & quite recently in the Vic alps. You may think that the hunters involved were idiots & that it could never happen to you. This may not be the case. In each of these cases the hunter concerned will swear that he positively 100% identified the human as a deer.

Remarkably, this type of accident is more likely to involve very experienced hunters. The NZ hunter was a safety advocate. In 80% of such cases the person was shot by his hunting companion. Many of the victims were wearing blaze orange.

How then can such accidents happen? The answer lies in the way the brain fills in missing information using prior experience .The more experience, the better at filling in the blanks, which is why the veteran will see more game than the novice. Cognitive bias means that if you expect to see something then that's what you are more likely to see. Your mind can even filter out blaze orange ,if that does not fit with the rest of the picture your mind is forming. Thus you interpret a backpack as part of a deers back & a hunters red hair as part of a deers hide.

How then to avoid such a disaster. If hunting with a partner stick near to each other .If separated confirm your buddies position by radio before a shot. If you cant clearly see all of an animal confirm with binoculars .If you still cant see the full outline of the animal don't take the shot. Stalk closer or wait for the animal to walk into the open.

If you want to read more on this subject Google: how hunting accidents happen, field and stream: Mistaken-for-game hunting accidents ,Wilson ,Kyle, Bridges: Hunters Safety Lab Don't think it could never happen to you.

This is all sobering reading & worth your time to reflect on.

## **Deerhunter Education Weekend**

An education weekend was recently held at Wallaroo by the Northern & York Branch . Several Adelaide branch members attended an informative meeting.

Members took the opportunity to sit the examination for NSW game council R license which was supervised by ex ADA president Bob Gough. Bob also gave several talks regarding sambar hunting & safe hunting. Tim Blackwell gave a caping demonstration. There was a butchery demonstration. Sam Russell gave a talk on long range precision shooting with rifles displayed & also provided the opportunity to try a number of high end optics.

The last morning saw a talk on field positions & marksmanship & a bow hunting talk. Thanks to Shane Kelly & his branch for hosting this informative weekend.

## **Sambar Trip**

The branch will endeavour to organize a trip to victoria to hunt Sambar in may. Bush camping is likely. Dates will be confirmed soon.

## **General Meetings**

Our general meetings can be made more enjoyable if the business meeting is followed by an entertaining presentation.

Previously we have had talks from an ARB rep, a demonstration of butchering a carcass, bring & display a treasured firearm, a quiz .

If any member would like to give a presentation or knows someone who would like to spruik their business or product we would like to hear from you.

Safe & successful hunting to all members