



## **THE AIR RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA Inc.**

### **HISTORICAL REFERENCE – Date 01/04/2026**

**Note – The following information was compiled by Des Dickson, the 2023 ARAA Secretary, and sourced from the following locations:**

- 1. The late Karl Heinz Engelhardt's Presidents files. (Karl passed away at Cooma in June in 2023. He was a driving force and a visionary in all aspects of Target Air Rifle shooting and was President between 1980 and 1993 and also during 2000.**
- 2. The Harmonie air rifle club historical files as supplied by Darius Krivanek who is the 2023 President of the Canberra ARC.**

#### **Time Line of Events:**

##### **1969**

A meeting was held at Concordia club Sydney, on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 1969 to organise the 1970 German Air Rifle championship in Adelaide in January 1970. The following clubs attended: Perth, Adelaide, Liverpool, Concordia, Cabramatta.

A closing note from the meeting indicated that the possibilities of forming an Australian Air Rifle Association would be discussed in January at Adelaide.

##### **1970**

A meeting was held to start the Association of German Air Rifle shooting clubs in Australia.

16<sup>th</sup> January – The first General meeting was held at the SAADV clubhouse in Adelaide with the following clubs were represented:

SAADV - Adelaide, RDC -Perth, DOG - Cabramatta, Tivoli – Melbourne, Hubertus – Liverpool, Concordia – Sydney, Waldeslust – Wollongong.

The “German Shooting Association in Australia” was formed.

14<sup>th</sup> June – The air rifle championship of NSW was held at Cabramatta NSW.

##### **1971**

10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> January – Australian championship was held at SAADV Adelaide.

11<sup>th</sup> January – General meeting of the “German Shooting Association of Australia” held at SAADV Adelaide.

A request was sent to member clubs for member lists and grading lists.

Postal shoots and club competitions are being organised

A set of rules has been created and clubs have been asked to accept them.

12<sup>th</sup> September – Mr Ted Schroeder is confirmed as the championship grader.

First constitution for AAOA. “Air Rifle Association of Australia”.

##### **1972**

3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> January – Australian Championship – Sydney

3<sup>rd</sup> January – AGM of the “German Shooting Association of Australia” held at Cabramatta

##### **1973**

1<sup>st</sup> January – Australian championship – Canberra

3<sup>rd</sup> January – AGM of the “German Shooting Association of Australia” held in Canberra.

1<sup>st</sup> February – Enquiries to Australian Shooting Association about the setting up of a National Incorporated body to represent all Air Rifle clubs in Australia.

5<sup>th</sup> February – Advised by ASA to contact ASRA (Australian Smallbore Rifle Association) as they are responsible for Air rifle shooting currently.

11<sup>th</sup> March – Full Committee meeting at Concordia.

The name of the Association is to be “Air Rifle Association of Australia”.

11<sup>th</sup> May – A Constitution was passed and will be submitted for registration.

## **1974**

January – Australian Championship held in Adelaide.

8<sup>th</sup> January – AGM of the “Air Rifle Association of Australia was held in Falkenauge Adelaide.

The name “Air Rifle Association of Australia” is to be Registered in the ACT.

1<sup>st</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Gotfried Kustermann’s visit, he is the junior world champion and German champion for Smallbore and Air rifle.

August – Mr W. Krikowa (Canberra) submitted the documentation to have the Air Rifle Association of Australia become Incorporated in the ACT.

17<sup>th</sup> October – Incorporation date.

24<sup>th</sup> November – Mr W. Krikowa becomes the first Public Officer of the “Air Rifle Association of Australia Inc”.

## **1975**

1<sup>st</sup> January – Lloyds Association Insurance policy in effect.

6<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Hubertus Liverpool

The Association constitution is now available.

24<sup>th</sup> April - Discussions with Australian Small Bore (ASA). Hostile discussions relating to Amalgamating with them.

5<sup>th</sup> May – Cancellation of all discussions with Small Bore.

## **1976**

5<sup>th</sup> January – AGM at Falkenauge Adelaide

## **1977**

3<sup>rd</sup> January – ARAA AGM at the Germania club Newcastle

## **1978**

8<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Diana club Wollongong

The ARAA joined the Shooters Association Canberra and together submitted a motion to the ASA to have all the shooting under 1 Association.

## **1979**

9<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at AGA club Berkley (Wollongong)

## **1980**

7<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Hubertus Liverpool

10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Association – 14 clubs with 2180 shooters.

Continued discussions re amalgamation with ASBRA. ARAA would have to dissolve and then rejoin ASBRA giving up their identity.

## **1981**

5<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Rhein Donau – Perth

Update of the ARAA Rules and Regulations.

27<sup>th</sup> September - ARAA Gala Day for the disabled – AGA club Berkley

Continued discussions re amalgamation with ASBRA.

## **1982**

20<sup>th</sup> February – ARAA AGM at Harmonie club Canberra

## **1983**

3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA 1982 Australian Championship at Melbourne

3<sup>rd</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Limburger Kangaroos – Keysborough

A review of the ARAA Constitution was done.

The ARAA Rules and Regulations is available.

The ARAA By-Laws are available

The ARAA Standing Orders are available

### **1984**

3<sup>rd</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Monaro club Cooma

Introduction of ARAA Supply Officer - Mr Franz Kirchner was appointed

1<sup>st</sup> April – Meeting between ARAA and ASBRA at Cabramatta and chaired by the Australian Shooting Association (ASA).

26<sup>th</sup> August – ARAA Special general meeting to endorse further negotiations for the Amalgamation between ARAA and ASBRA.

ASBRA changed their name to ASARA (Australian Small Bore and Air Rifle Association.)

### **1985**

14<sup>th</sup> May – ARAA AGM at Edelweiss Darwin

Proposed new constitution for ASARA.

Shooting in Australia - review

### **1986**

7<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at German Rifle club Illawarra

ARAA agrees to amalgamate with the ASARA with only one body to

Govern Air Rifle and smallbore. A committee is sit up to deal with any issues and an Extra Ordinary meeting is set for Jan 1987.

### **1987**

6<sup>th</sup> January - ARAA Extra Ordinary General meeting relating to the Amalgamation between ARAA and ASARA.

A close vote resulted in the failure of the Amalgamation with ASARA.

6<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Lake Macquarie city council, Boolaroo.

ARAA constitution 1987 in book format is available

### **1988**

5<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM Rhine Donau club Myaree W.A.

### **1989**

3<sup>rd</sup> January ARAA AGM at Diana ARG - AGA Germania club - Berkeley

### **1990**

9<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM at Hubertus rifle club – Badgerys creek NSW

Letter from Jan Kobier celebrating ARAA's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **1991**

8<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM at Illawarra - Oakes Hotel, Albion Park Rail Associations Incorporation Act 1991 - available.

### **1992**

7<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM at Monaro – Cooma Council chambers

Sale and closure of AGA Germania club. Diana shooting club closure.

### **1993**

5<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM at Hawkeye ARC - Townsville

### **1994**

4<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM at Monaro ARC – Cooma

### **1995**

2<sup>nd</sup> January ARAA AGM at Hubertus rifle club – Badgerys Creek

19<sup>th</sup> March - Meeting with NSW club delegates to look into the setting up of an ARAA NSW branch and look into the affiliation with the NSW Shooting Association.

21<sup>st</sup> May – Meeting of ARAA NSW branch to progress to Affiliation with NSW shooting.

10<sup>th</sup> July – ARAA NSW branch is now an affiliate member of NSW shooting.

23<sup>rd</sup> July – ARAA NSW branch Inaugural meeting to setup branch.

## **1996**

8<sup>th</sup> January ARAA AGM at Illawarra – Oakes Hotel, Albion Park Rail

1<sup>st</sup> March ARAA - Notice of the dissolving of the ARAA NSW Branch

4<sup>th</sup> Dec – Chairman NSW subcommittee report – The NSW branch was never legally setup.

## **1997**

10<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Adelaide

29<sup>th</sup> April – Hans Heidermann nominated as ARAA National coach.

## **1998**

6<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Liverpool

8<sup>TH</sup> May – ARAA added to the list of organisations to which clubs can be affiliated.

## **1999**

5<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Illawarra, Oak Flats

A request was made to change the proportional voting to 1 vote for 1 club, a postal ballot is to be organised.

## **2000**

4<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Monaro – Cooma

Resume discussions re Amalgamation between TRA and ARAA.

Request from NSW Shooting Association to affiliate with them.

## **2001**

2<sup>nd</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Hubertus Liverpool.

## **2002**

8<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Cooma

## **2005**

4<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Warners Bay - Newcastle

ARAA Special meeting – Constitution changes as the current one is invalid.

ARAA Financial year changed to 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> September.

ARAA membership year left at 1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Voting structure set at 1 vote 1 club.

## **2010**

22<sup>nd</sup> May – Harmonie Air Rifle Club has now changed to

Canberra Air Rifle Club (SSAA-Act) Inc

Incorporation date is 29<sup>th</sup> March 2010

## **2020**

7<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Monaro – Cancelled until April due to Fires.

April – COVID – Email AGM instigated.

ARAA Executive structure change

ARAA Constitution review

Benchrest 1 & 2 changed to 60 shots

Retire redundant trophy's

Retire running of Classes at ARAA sanctioned events.

## **2021**

8<sup>th</sup> January – ARAA AGM at Illawarra – Cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

Email AGM instigated.

2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – 2020 Australian championship at Illawarra