



South African Practical Precision Rifle
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Mooikloof
0059
Gauteng
South Africa

4 September October 2025

REPORT BACK ON SAPRF TEAM SOUTH AFRICA. IPRF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2024 – West Midlands Shooting Grounds, Market Drayton, United Kingdom .

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to provide some feedback to all of you concerning the recent .22 IPRF World Championship which was held at the West Midlands Shooting Grounds in the UK.

As you are all aware, the SAPRF .22 LR (Precision Rifle Team) SA team campaigned at the second .22 LR IPRF World Championship held in the UK at the West Midlands Shooting Grounds from the 17 to the 24 of August 2025. West Midlands are one of the oldest shooting grounds in the UK, nestled in the beautiful North Shropshire countryside. Established in 1934, the grounds boast numerous majors and world championship events over the past decades.

The ground itself is North facing along with a high escarpment allowing a good backstop for small calibre rifle events. As mainly a clay shooting ground with some 80 different stands and over 150 traps available, with every combination of angle and speed to test the best of every shooter. For our rimfire event, the North facing escarpment was used as a backstop and barricades built within the wooded area, providing an ideal environment for a very beautifully and memorable event.

With 254 participating shooters from 21 countries competing for honours in the different divisions, gave our SA Team the opportunity to benchmark ourselves against the best in the world. We knew that the Americans, but also the British on the home turf will be very difficult to beat, but the rest of the world still remains our competitors.



All individual shooters in their respective divisions acquitted themselves admirably.
Divisional results: (Top 3 individual scores to count for divisional scores and 4 for Open team scores)

Senior Men: 2nd Overall (5 and 12 th place)

Juniors: 3rd Overall (9 and 12 th place)

Ladies: 5th overall (7 and 18 the place)

Factory: 7th overall (15 and 19 th place)

Open Men: 6th overall (12 and 22 nd place)



This challenging world championship match gave us an opportunity to benchmark our skill sets and equipment against the competing nations and we acquitted ourselves admirably against the world's best shooters. In spite of one of our Senior Open team member not able to make the long trip – Greg Sykes, our Team Manager - Heinrich Strauss were able to stand in for him.

The main take aways were as follows:

Our South African shooters are on par with the rest of the world. Our set up in South Africa are on par with the best in the world, but we lack in match pre-preparation and also in pre-time management on some different stages. The 90 seconds for 12 shots (introduce 10 days before the match) did place some additional stress on some of our shooters. This is something we will need to implement at national level in order to prepare future competitors to be more competitive at the 90 second time frames set out now at international level.

The skill sets of the SA Team is definitely at an international competitive level, having learned what we did at this match, will be implemented locally to better prepared future shooters for the next .22 LR world championship in 2027.

The match itself was truly set to an international world championship level. Target size ranged from .2 to .4 MRAD over all distances. All targets were not painted (grey) and the main challenge throughout this match was target acquisition at some stages. Certain days with heavy cloud cover, made target acquisition very difficult, especially the wooded areas. On these stages you had to put on your reticle illumination to see and shoot at the targets.

Having learned from the first 22 LR fire champs in Italy, we set up a system whereby shooters not shooting on a particular day acted as spotters and supporters for team mates that were shooting. This on itself is very challenging as the shooters spotting today are shooting tomorrow and therefore standing the whole day in the sun are very tiring. This therefore influences the performance of the shooter for the next day. Key to a successful performance at all international matches, is training time behind the rifle. We did some extensive training in South Africa and that paid off. We as South Africans in spite of shortages and expensive components, made our mark and are a force o recognized by all competitors internationally.

We received a lot of support from South Africa during the match and we as South Africans can held our heads high with our shooters performance at the challenging event. We indeed flew the South African flag high at this event and everybody took notice of us as good sportsmen, but fierce competitors.

Many a good friends and permanent relationships were made that might serve our shooters in the future.

Yours Sincerely


DR AJ LATEGAN

Dr AJ Lategan
Chairman SAPRF.







