

Southland Championships 2023 – Report & Results

The Southland Championships followed the same format as 2022: seven ranges over two days held at Oamaru Rifle Club's range in Boundary Creek Road.

No.	Name	Club	Grade	Saturday				Sunday			SOUTHLAND	Eastern Agg	600 AGG
				300(1)	500 (1)	600 (1)	600 (2)	300 (2)	500 (2)	600 (3)			
F Class													
1	Les Grimsey	oam	F Open	60.008	60.008	58.007	60.003	60.005	60.007	59.002	417.040	238.026	177.012
2	Phil Gardener	kai-blen	F-TR	56.002	59.006	56.004	59.004	58.005	58.000	57.003	403.024	230.016	172.011
3	Geoff Smith	mal	F-TRC	57.000	59.002	54.001	50.001	58.002	56.003	53.002	387.011	220.004	157.004
4	John Pearce	oam	F-TR	52.001	56.001	57.002	49.000	54.001	57.002	54.002	379.009	214.004	160.004
5	Mark Alexander	mal	F-TRC	55.002	51.001	52.002	54.002	55.003	56.000	53.001	376.011	212.007	159.005
Target Rifle													
1	Chris Kershaw	mal	A	50.007	50.007	48.002	48.004	50.003	50.008	49.003	345.034	196.020	145.009
2	Bruce Horwood	inv	B	48.004	49.006	50.007	49.006	50.005	50.005	48.007	344.040	196.023	147.020
3	Daniel Alexander	mal	A	48.005	49.007	49.004	50.002	50.006	50.006	48.004	344.034	196.018	147.010
4	John Miller	ash	A	49.001	49.006	48.002	49.009	50.005	50.004	48.006	343.033	195.018	145.017
5	Ken Chittock	gore	A	49.005	49.007	49.003	46.004	50.005	50.005	47.004	340.033	193.019	142.011
6	Robbie Gilchrist	oam	B	47.004	49.003	46.004	47.004	45.001	49.006	45.003	328.025	189.015	138.011
7	Barry Brown	mal	C	47.004	44.002	47.002	47.002	46.004	49.003	46.000	326.017	185.010	140.004
8	Bruce Plant	oam	C	44.003	45.002	44.000	48.003	38.002	42.001	46.002	307.013	181.008	138.005
9	John Fleming	ash	C	44.002	44.003	39.002	31.000	42.003	45.001	39.000	284.011	158.007	109.002

With South Island facing another scorcher, the main challenge was hot and sticky conditions. Les Grimsey and Chris Kershaw were on fire as they started out with 60s and 50s in the opening two ranges with high centre counts. Nobody else scored a possible.

The target rifle leader-board changed in the afternoon with Bruce Horwood registering 99 ex 100 to win the Eastern Southland Aggregate (with a score of 196.23) by 3 Vs from Chris Kershaw, with Daniel Alexander a further 5 Vs behind. The F Class was led by Les Grimsey, followed by Phil Gardener (top F-TR) and Geoff Smith (top F-TRC).

Day 2 proved to be cooler with a fickle wind than the opening day of the Southland Aggregate and scoring was highly competitive. Over half of the TR field scored 100 ex 100 in the opening two ranges, including double possibles from John Miller and Ken Chittock who kept pressure on the top three. The F-Class shooters were also scoring highly.



Going into the final 600, Les Grimsey was only 2 points down after 5 ranges in F-Open. TR was proving interesting with Bruce Horwood and Daniel Alexander just 4 points down in Class B and A respectively, closely followed by Chris Kershaw.

Les closed out with a 59, Chris conjured up a 49 to take the TR Championship.

Below: Chris Kershaw (Southland Champion and A Grade winner) receives his trophy from Les Grimsey



Bruce Horwood (Eastern Southland & B Grade)



Below: Barry Brown (C Grade)



Above: Les Grimsey receives the F-Open from Ken Chittock

Phil Gardener (F-TR)



Geoff Smith (F-TRC)



Below: Bruce Horwood (Eastern Southland Champion)



Chris Kershaw



Ken, Les, Bruce & Barry



600 yard aggregate – Bruce Horwood



Chris Kershaw – wins the Veterans trophy as a “Rookie Vet”



Top Southland shot



Malvern (Geoff, Chris, Daniel and Barry) – concurrent Teams

