



# SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION

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**GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL**

**28 February 2022**

**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen**

**RE: F-CLASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023**

What a pleasure it is for the South African Bisley Union to cordially invite all member National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of the International Confederation of Fullbore Rifle Associations to compete in the F-Class World Championships for Individuals and Teams at the General De Wet Rifle Range, Bloemfontein, South Africa from 21 March to 1 April 2023.

What we have been waiting for impatiently is just a year away, but we realize that COVID is still a worrying factor for everybody.

**Herewith an update on the COVID-19 impact on South Africa:**

**i) Current impact of COVID-19 – February 2022**

South Africa entered its fourth Covid wave, with the Omicron strain dominating infections, as of December 2021. As has been the experience in the rest of the world, Omicron proved to be highly infectious but represented a much lower medical threat as hospitalizations and ICU admissions remained low, despite high infection numbers.

South Africa has vaccinated just over 40% of its population against COVID-19 by February 2022. But more importantly, estimates by the leading South African Medical Aid provider, Discovery Health, show that between 70% and 80% of the South African population may have already contracted the virus, and are therefore likely to possess some level of immunity.

As a result, South Africa is currently on a reduced Level 1 Lockdown, with only basic restrictions regarding the wearing of masks, social distancing and other standard health protocols in force. All curfews, restrictions on sale of alcohol and other restrictions of movement have been abolished.

Furthermore, most of the limitations on outdoor events have been substantially reduced with gatherings of up to 2000 people allowed since December 2021, subject to basic health protocols.

In terms of travel restrictions, international travellers may freely enter the country subject to providing proof of a negative PCR test taken not more than 72 hours prior to flight departure. If an international traveller tests positive however, they are required to isolate for a period of 10 days. More information on the current traveller restrictions in South Africa is available at: <https://www.nicd.ac.za/diseases-a-z-index/disease-index-covid-19/advice-for-travellers/>

**ii) Expectations for impact of COVID-19 over the next twelve months:**

Whilst the COVID-19 medical trajectory over the next twelve months remains somewhat unclear, there is a strong push from government, the private sector and civil society for the State of Disaster to be ended as soon as possible, with only limited COVID health protocols to remain in force during 2022.

Medical consensus currently appears to be that, whilst further COVID-19 strains and mutations are to be expected over the course of 2022 and potentially also 2023, the trajectory of these mutations will likely follow the trend set by the Omicron strain, which is for further reduced risk of serious illness and hospitalization.

Even though it is not the expected scenario, should a new and more dangerous COVID-19 strain emerge with significantly higher hospitalization rates, the situation could change. In such a scenario stricter lockdown measures could again be imposed. But this is not the expected scenario.

We expect the State of Disaster to be ended soon, or at least to be changed to a further reduced Level 1 Lockdown with potential for further easing of the few remaining restrictions.

**Herewith some preliminary information and requests:**

## **1. THE SA OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS & F-CLASS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023**

The 6th F-Class World Championships will be held from 26 March to 1 April 2023.

It will include:

- F-Class Individual World Championship for F Open and F/TR,
- F-Class Under 25 World Championship Team Matches,
- F-Class World Championship Team Matches,
- F Open Rutland Cup Team Match, and
- F/TR South African Cup Team Match

You are also invited to compete in the preceding event – the South African Open Championships which will be held from 21 to 25 March 2023.

The programme for both the abovementioned events can be obtained from our F-Class World Championships website - <https://2021fwc.com>

Should you not be interested in sending a team OR even if you are sending a team, we request you to distribute this information by suitable means to your individual shooters – it will be appreciated.

## **2. ENTRIES**

### **2.1. PARTICIPATION**

It is not anticipated at this stage that the maximum numbers that the range facility can accommodate will be reached, therefore all applications will be considered.

### **2.2. INDIVIDUAL MATCHES**

**2.2.1.** The Individual Championship is initially limited to 432 competitors

**2.2.2.1** Should the number of applicants to compete in the F-Class Individual Long Range World Championship exceed the range target capacity, members of the competing F-Class World Championship teams (open and under-25) will have absolute priority for entry.

**2.2.2.2** NGBs have to inform SABU by not later than 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 of the number of places required.

**2.2.3** SABU will maintain a waiting list for shooters. After the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2022, unfilled places may be filled, at the discretion of SABU, from the waiting list. If, after 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2022, there are still unfilled places, SABU may fill these by individual applications on a first-come first-served basis.

SABU will keep all NRAs informed on a regular basis of the level of entries.

### 2.3. DEADLINES FOR ENTRIES

- |               |                         |  |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| <b>2.3.1.</b> | <b>31 March 2022</b>    | Closing date for NGBs to enter for the official F-Class World Championship Team Matches,                         |
| <b>2.3.2.</b> | <b>30 June 2022</b>     | Closing date for team entries for the Rutland Cup Match (F Open) as well as The South Africa Cup Match (F/TR),   |
| <b>2.3.3.</b> | <b>30 June 2022</b>     | Latest date for NGBs and individuals to confirm Names of shooters in the F-Class Individual World Championships, |
| <b>2.3.4.</b> | <b>30 June 2022</b>     | Date after which SABU may fill remaining vacancies at its discretion,  |
| <b>2.3.5.</b> | <b>30 November 2022</b> | Closing date for F-Class Individual World Championship.  |

**A REQUEST:** Although the entries for the official F-Class World Championship Team Matches closes on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2022, we would appreciate it if you could provide us with an indication by the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 if you will be entering teams for the official matches and if so for what matches and, if possible, if you can give us an estimate of the number of shooters from your country who will enter for the individual championships. We appreciate your assistance in this regard.

### 2.4. ENTRY FORMS

All entry forms can be downloaded from SABU's F-Class World Championships' website – [www.2021fwcw.com](http://www.2021fwcw.com)

### 2.5. CONDUCT OF COMPETITION

The individual matches will be shot shoulder-to-shoulder, two to three to a target. There will be 2 relays and competitors must shoot only as per their squadding unless moved by a Range Officer.

### 2.6. RULES

The following rules will be applicable:

- 2.6.1 The F-Class SA Open Championships – SABU Rules
- 2.6.2 F-Class World Championships – The ICFRA Rules for the Management of World Championships Events, the World F-Class Championships – Match Conditions (2018) and the Rules & Regulations for F-Class Rifle Shooting (2018).

SABU Rules and the Rules and Regulations of the South African National Defence Force will still be applicable pertaining to range and range safety. Such rules and regulations will be circulated prior to Championships.

See the SABU F Class World Championships website ([www.2021fwcw.com](http://www.2021fwcw.com)) and ICFRA's website ([www.icfra.com](http://www.icfra.com)) for the applicable rulebooks.

### 3. GENERAL

#### 3.1 Safety on Range and Social Functions

- Access There will be access control by security to the Genl. De Wet Shooting Range. Accreditation cards will be issued to all competitors.
- Shipping Containers Shipping containers on the range can be hired from SABU for teams and individuals to store their rifles and ammunition. There will be 24-hour security surveillance of these containers.
- Functions There will be security and secure parking at all function venues used as part of the official FCWC event program.
- Accommodation & Travel See SABU's FCWC website for some recommended options.
- Safety Precautions As always, personal safety is a matter of shared responsibility between authorities and the individual visitor. To ensure that your visit is both special and safe, we offer a few suggestions - based on international guidelines – for your assistance.

#### At The Airport

- Make sure your bags and luggage have locks and name tags.
- Do not allow people to tamper with your bags.
- When seeking directions, proceed to marked information counters only.
- Do not use cabs and/or taxis that have been recommended by people standing outside the airport terminal.

#### At The Hotel, Guesthouse, Other Accommodation

- Report any suspicious, unattended luggage or parcels to the personnel at reception.
- Never leave your luggage unattended unless it is locked away in your room.
- Store valuables in the safety deposit box.
- Keep your room locked.
- If someone knocks, check who it is before opening the door. Contact reception if you have any reason for concern.
- Hand your keys in whenever you leave.
- Make sure that luggage is only given to the official staff and a receipt is issued for stored luggage.
- Do not leave unattended valuables on chairs, under tables or on restroom hooks.

#### On The Street

- Avoid an ostentatious display of expensive jewellery, cameras, mobile phones and other valuables.
- Keep your handbag with you, keep it closed or zipped, and do not leave it unattended. Keep your mobile phone with you and do not leave it unattended.
- Do not carry large sums of money with you.
- Exchange your currency at a bank or at the hotel – never exchange it on the street.
- Carry your wallet in an inside pocket – never in the rear pocket of your trousers.
- Credit card transactions must be processed in your presence.
- At night, stay away from dark, isolated areas.
- It is always better to explore in groups and to stick to well-lit, busy streets.
- Plan your route beforehand and, as far as possible, do not ask directions from strangers.
- A police officer or traffic officer will be happy to direct you if you get lost.
- Should you want to call a taxi, your hotel or the **South African Tourism helpline (contact number: 083 123 6789)** can recommend a reliable service.

### **In Your Vehicle**

- Plan your route in advance.
- Keep the doors locked and wind the windows up at all times.
- Do not leave your mobile phone or other valuables where they are visible from outside the vehicle.
- Lock valuable items in the boot (trunk) before your departure.
- At night, park in well-lit areas.
- Never pick up strangers or hitchhikers.
- If in doubt about the safety of an area, phone a police station for advice and help.
- Make sure you have the number of the car rental company at hand in case you get stranded.

### **ATM And Credit Cards**

- Credit card transactions must be processed in your presence.
- Try and keep a backup credit card and cash in a safe place where you are staying.
- At the ATM be alert at all times. If you see anything suspicious, stop your transaction and leave.

### **Identifying A Member of The South African Police Service**

- Members of the South African Police Service must carry an identification card stating the member's name, rank, service number and photograph.
- You have the right to request members in civilian clothes and members in uniform to identify themselves with their identification cards.

### **Some More Tips**

- [https://www.saps.gov.za/alert/safety\\_tips\\_tourist.php](https://www.saps.gov.za/alert/safety_tips_tourist.php)
- <https://www.tourism.gov.za/Pages/Safety--Travel-Tips-Info.aspx>

## **3.2 Temporary Import / Export Permits for Rifles**

The procedure and documentation required for foreign competitors:

### **3.2.1 Application for Temporary import / export permit**

Visitors must complete the prescribed application form (SAP 520). A copy of the form is available from the SABU office or can be downloaded from [www.saps.gov.za](http://www.saps.gov.za) or [www.sabisley.com](http://www.sabisley.com)

Applications can either be done directly by yourself to the Central Firearms Registry (CFR) or through the SABU Office. We advise that you do it through the SABU office.

- Applications – via the SABU office

The completed forms must be sent via e-mail to the SABU office together with the necessary documentation.

The following information must accompany your application form:

- Flight Details
- Date of arrival
- Point of entry – Johannesburg or Cape Town
- Flight number

The applications will be hand delivered to the CFR and progress followed up by the SABU Office. A fee of R250.00 per application will be charged by SABU.

There are no fees payable to the CFR for a Temporary Import/Export permit.

Once the permits are issued by the CFR, SABU will collect the permits and email a copy back to

you and hand the original to you at the SA Open Championships.

### 3.2.2 Documents to accompany the application form

- Certified copy of your passport (with photo)  
*NB: Certified copy means certified by a Commissioner of Oaths – you can get this done at your local police station*
- Certified proof of firearm ownership  
*NB: Firearm Registration Certificate and/or Firearm Licence Card  
USA – CBP Form 4457 (Certificate of Registration for Personal Effects Taken Abroad)*
- Copy of invitation to participate from host country  
*NB: SABU will attach a letter of invitation to your application. If application is made directly to CFR, please request a copy of the invitation from the SABU office.*
- *If you want to import 2 rifles of the same calibre, you need to provide us with a comprehensive motivation why you need 2 rifles of the same calibre for the competition.*

#### PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- That you can only apply for your temporary import/export permit 3 (three) months prior to the championships.
- If you want to make use of the SABU office for your application process, the completed application form plus all other required documents must be with the SABU office by 15 December 2022 at the latest.
- If part of a team, each and every member of the team requires an individual permit and therefore their own application.

### 3.3 Import of Ammunition, Components and/or Purchasing of Components

There are a few options available:

#### Option 1: Importation of Ammunition

Teams and individuals can decide to import all their ammunition.

We refer you to the following two firms to assist you with this process. Both owners of these firms are also shooters and members of SABU.

Their contact details are:

#### 1. Cloete & Du Toit

Attention: Johan Du Toit  
E-Mail: [jgdt@mweb.co.za](mailto:jgdt@mweb.co.za)  
Cell phone: +27 82 375 7257  
Website: <http://www.cloetedutoit.co.za/>

#### 2. CMH Precision

Attention: Herme Smit  
E-Mail: [herme@cmhprecision.co.za](mailto:herme@cmhprecision.co.za)  
Cell phone: +27 72 650 0758  
Website: <https://cmhprecision.co.za/>

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- It could take anything from 6 – 9 months for an application to be approved after the date of lodging an application.
- We advise that you start the process by **1 May 2022** at the latest.

#### Option 2: Import of Components to reload in South Africa

The same people as above can be contacted to assist with this process.  
The same time frame is applicable as above for the application process.

### **Option 3: Purchasing of Components in South Africa**

The same people as above can be contacted to assist with the purchasing of components.

PLEASE NOTE that your orders for components must be with the above people **by end of March 2022** to make ensure that it will be available on your arrival in South Africa. Due to COVID it is challenging to acquire the components worldwide and to transport it via air/sea to South Africa.

### **Option 4: Import ammunition and bring it with you on airplane**

You are limited to 5kg to bring with you on an airplane. The 5kg includes the container in which it is packed.

When you apply for your Temporary Import/Export permit for your rifle, you need to complete the section pertaining to the ammunition in the same form.

## **4. SA Open Championships 2022 & The SABU Long Range Championships**

### **4.1 SA Open Championships**

Everybody is welcome to attend our SA Open Championships to be held from 31 March until the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 2022. For more details visit our website.

### **4.2 SABU Long Range Championships 2022**

If you could not attend our SA Open Championships in April 22, then we would like to extend our invitation to everybody to join us for our SABU Long Range Championships to be held from the 18<sup>th</sup> until the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2022 at the Genl. De Wet Shooting Range, Bloemfontein.

We can arrange for the range to be available from 15 to 17 August 2022 for practice purposes if there are shooters who want to make use of the opportunity. We attached hereto the preliminary program, see also SABU's F-Class World Championships' website.

Please let our office know by 30 June 2022 if you want to attend the latter championship as well as the practice days.

## **5. Enquiries**

If you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Officer, Mrs Janine Buys at [admin@sabisley.com](mailto:admin@sabisley.com) or myself, Bernard De Beer at [debeerb@mweb.co.za](mailto:debeerb@mweb.co.za) or on my cell phone - +27 83 417 2942.

We are looking forward seeing you all in South Africa next year.

Regards



Bernard De Beer  
(Chairman)