



SAGA Snippets

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Chairperson's Report

The 2022 year has just blown by and this year SAGA has been extremely busy with various sponsorships and programs focusing on shooting and training, and with a major emphasis on ladies and more specifically new lady shooters.

SAPS Poor Service Delivery

We started off 2022 by engaging with and taking on SAPS and CFR on poor service delivery. SAGA established an online link for our members to submit their complaints to us for compilation as many members, specifically with respect to amnesty applications, had been waiting many months for applications to be finalized.

After many hundreds of letters of demand were sent, Major General Mamotheti from SAPS FLASH reached out to myself and, from April this year, SAGA has been able to submit complaints en block on behalf of its members to a dedicated group of SAPS personnel at CFR who provide feedback on members' complaints. So far we have submitted a total of 812 applications. By and large this has been very successful.

There is of course still much work to be done but, some 8 months later, matters have improved generally through all the SAPS administration with some members receiving their licences 2 to 3 months after submission.

There are of course still loose ends with some amnesty applications still not having been finalized and nor-

mal competency and licence applications being outstanding for many months. We suggest that our members should always insist on a receipt and keep copies of all applications submitted. Take pictures, where you are able to, of the reference numbers that are written on the front page of the application – but the receipt remains one of the most important documents.

Engagement with the Civilian Secretariat for Police on the draft FCA Bill

SAGA together with many other firearm organisations held a number of bilateral meetings with the Civilian Secretariat for Police on the draft FCA Bill. SAGA believes that these engagements have been positive but time will tell whether the CSOP will actually consider the submissions made against the FCA Bill.

We must continue to remain vigilant with respect to the draft FCA Bill, as although it appears that the Bill in its current format may never see the light of day, there is once more a very anti-gun rhetoric from certain groups and from government.

Expired Licences and the Con-Court Case.

On 27th May 2022 the Con Court handed judgment down in favour of Fidelity and thus also in favour of those persons who were / are in

SAGA Snippets December 2022

Special points of interest:

- *Chairperson's Report*
- *False Bay Shooting Club Open Day*
- *Can Perception Determine Reality?*
- *SAGA Membership*
- *Rule #3: The Golden Rule*
- *There is no Silver Bullet*
- *SAGA Office Holiday Closure*
- *SAGA Corporate Membership*

Continued...Chairperson's Report



possession of firearms whose licences had expired.

As a result of this judgment, those persons who are in possession of expired licences may now apply for a new licence for the said firearm without having to physically hand the firearm to SAPS at the same time.

Subsequent to the Con Court judgment, SAPS issued a very reasonable Directive, but there are still a few issues emanating from the Directive that must be clarified.

Much thanks must be given to Fidelity, Martin Hood and his legal team for the major effort, time and cost in pursuing this case on behalf of all firearm owners.

Media / Current / Topical Newsworthy Events

SAGA has been at the forefront of many matters affecting lawful firearm ownership, including but not limited to the "tavern shootings", loss of firearms by SAPS and corruption within SAPS, the refusal of competency / licences because of the wearing of the Hijab, woman's month / day shoots and woman and firearms, as well as the increase in competency / firearm training and the purchase of firearms which is on the increase.

We have been interviewed on SABC TV, ENCA, BBC TV, and other TV channels and multiple radio stations and newspapers / online forums.

Thanks to Tim Flack for our media and marketing material.

Thanks also to SAGA Representatives Aziza Scheidereiter, Gideon Joubert and Themba Khubeka, and to SAGA Trustees, Advocate John Welch, Stef Grobler and Lance Allam, who are always willing to give of their time for such interviews.

August – Woman's Month

SAGA went all out during the month of August for Woman's month and we had a number of official woman's day events throughout the country. Many women who

attended had never before held a firearm and many thanks to our experienced instructors for assistance.

Thanks to Themba Khubeka, Hamish Deal, Aziza Scheidereiter, Trisha Parshotam, and Ridwaan Syed for assisting and organizing these events as well as to all the support staff and SAGA members that helped out and assisted.

Special thanks to SAGA staff members Gaye and Peter Marshall-Goodridge who are always willing to give their support and attend the local events, or support the events logistically throughout the country.

Other Events

SAGA was involved in a number of other events throughout the country, where new shooters were introduced to firearms, schools were introduced to firearm safety, and the general public, and in some cases, the media, were shown the safe use of firearms. Quite often we have been amazed by the positive feedback from participants of such events.

Many thanks to all those who have assisted at such events and for the co-sponsors of such events – which are too many to list.

Should you wish to sponsor or co-sponsor any of the SAGA supported events planned for 2023, please contact our SAGA head office on saga@saga.org.za

SAGA Membership

We are on a major drive for SAGA membership – please encourage your family, friends and colleagues to join SAGA. Without the support of the SAGA members we would be unable to continue as an organisation to continue to hold government and SAPS accountable.

Why don't you give the gift of a SAGA membership to a family or friend this festive season?

I wish all SAGA members a safe festive season and a happy new year.

Damian Enslin - SAGA Chairperson



False Bay Sports Shooting Club Open Day

By Damian Enslin

SAGA together with the NHTSA co-sponsored the False Bay Sports Shooting Club Open Day, which was held on the 3rd December 2022.

This is one of the major shooting events in the Western Cape and, except for during COVID 19, is held annually in early December.

The event is aimed at the general public and those who have never fired a firearm before. It provides an opportunity to shoot different firearms, from pistols and revolvers in different calibres, to different rifles both bolt action and semi-auto, and shotguns. On hand was also a sniper rifle in .50 BMG – which as always was extremely popular!

There was also black powder and muzzle loading firearms, both single and multi shot pistols,

as well as rifles and muzzle loading miniature cannons were on hand to entertain the public.

There were also cowboy guns, both revolver and lever action rifles.

The day was a tremendous success with the event being one of the busiest and biggest in numbers for many years.

SAGA wishes to thank the NHTSA, who was represented by Cornel Els and Hamish Deal (also a SAGA representative) on the day.

SAGA was represented by a number of members and wishes to thank the SAGA representatives and members who volunteered to help out on the day: Jonny Levin, David Szoke, Tegan Slater, Murray MacDonald, Nicholas MacDonald and Greg MacDonald.

Aziza and Nick Scheidereiter both SAGA members were also there for CHS guns, and also promoted SAGA.

A final thanks to Leonie Du Raan of Du Raan Creations who took many pictures and videos of the day's activities and events.

Do not miss this event next year!



Can Perception Determine Reality?

perception

by Shelley Hill
1 December 2022

You can tell a lot about a person by the way they walk. The biggest indication of vulnerability is a person's gait. Our mindset, posture, and gait are all intertwined and will project confident or vulnerable body language.

Several studies have been published that show a direct relation to HOW a predator selects their victims based on exactly this. YES, a psychopath can use this unspoken information to decide if their potential victim has been a victim of violence before and/or will be a more submissive and easier target now.

Using exploratory research from Consultant Psychiatrist Dr. Raj Persuad, Journal of Non-verbal Behavior, Carolyn Steber and Jesslyn Shields, let's consider how your approachability, and personality, can be revealed in 6 common walking styles.

Slow Walkers: This shows that they may be more cautious and self aware. Introverts may be more inclined to walk this way with their chin and eyes down, more focused on personal thoughts, and can appear distracted.

Fast Walkers: Look out...here they come! They may be more outgoing, an extravert, and highly diligent. They are probably a go-getter, risk-taker and have high energy.

Strollers or Saunterers: They are usually "in no hurry", prone to have their heads up looking at everything around them to take in as much information as possible, and they give off a perception of confidence and self assurance.

Quick Burst Walkers: These energetic walkers are more apt to attentiveness and specifics. They like to do several things at once and can pivot their attention to other places and thoughts quickly. Go, stop, go, stop and repeat.

Anxious Walkers: These may physically drag their feet, show stress through facial expressions and/or body language, and have an overall fidgety disposition. They could be sweaty, clenching their jaws and even look fatigued.

Slumped Shoulder Walkers: People who walk slightly bent over, head down and shoulders slumped may have a lower self-esteem. They may have past, or present, trauma in their life. They tend to walk slower, have shorter strides because they are afraid to make a wrong step, and appear not be 100% present because they are deep in thought.

Hummmmm, so who would YOU attack? The "slumped shoulder" walker because they appear afraid? The "quick bursts" walker because there is no way they are seeing a potential threat with all of that jumping around? Maybe it's the "slow" walker because they may be distracted and would not see you coming? What would you say if I told you one good decision could change the perception of others?

Looking At Things From The Attacker's Point Of View

With the help of studies from the Journal of Interpersonal Violence, Psychology Today and other quality-published articles, let's read about an attacker's perspective on simply walking down the street.

A group of inmates (psychopaths and other criminals) from a maximum-security penitentiary were asked to look at short video clips of people walking and then decide if any of those people could be potential victims and open to an attack. There was no sound on these clips, no backgrounds were given of the people in the videos and no additional information was offered.



Continued... Perceptions

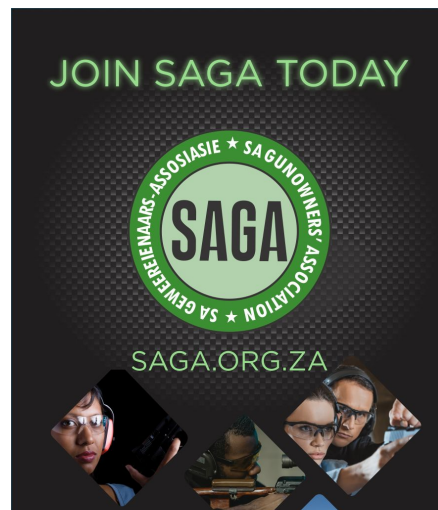
The results were shocking. Psychopaths demonstrated a higher accuracy rate, than all the other inmates, in picking out the people who had a prior history of being a victim, from the people who had never been assaulted. The psychopaths could actually tell by the person's walk if they had survived violence. These psychopaths also mentioned that "gait and nonverbal cues" were the reason they would have chosen to assault a specific person. You see, these studies found that psychopaths are proficient in decoding vulnerability through nonverbal cues and gait, giving them leverage in selecting possible victims. This is a learned craft that appears to be part of their skills during an attack cycle.

Deselection can easily be a part of each one of those 6 walking styles with just one change....walk confident. In the video clips, the psychopaths stated the most noted difference in each person's gait was nothing more than confident body language versus vulnerable body language. Below are some body language tricks to deselection you from the victim pool, if capable.

- * Confident mindset
- * Walk with a purpose, like you have a place to be.
- * Match your gait with the normality of the environment. Same pace and similar style.
- * Swing your arms, take long powerful strides, sway your hips and shift your weight with ease.
- * Avoid distractions, mainly ear buds and smartphones.
- * Head up, shoulders back and pay attention to your environment.

When you walk with confidence, your body-mind will give off the impression that YOU ARE NOT LOW-POWER thereby altering others perception of you. SO YES, perception CAN determine reality.

<https://www.shootingillustrated.com/content/can-perception-determine-reality/>



SAGA Membership

Note: As of 1 January 2023 SAGA membership fees will increase slightly.

By being a member you keep us in 'business' and we are able to continue working for fair and just firearm rights for responsible firearm owners in South Africa.

Do you know someone who supports the right to own a firearm for lawful purposes?

Beat the price increase and sign up a friend, colleague or family member before the end of the year!

Membership rates until the end of December 2022 are:

Adult R260

Pensioner/Junior R160

Family:

1x Adult @R260 plus any number of family members @ R70 each

Join via our website at www.saga.org.za

The SAGA office is now available on WhatsApp on our cellphone number **066 003 9226**.

If you would like to send us a query or message by WhatsApp, please remember to include your Name and Membership Number (if applicable).



Rule #3: The Golden Rule

They're called the rules of gun safety, not the suggestions, not the guidelines.

by Sheriff Jim Wilson

9 December 2022

Several years ago, Col. Jeff Cooper came up with four simple gun safety rules that are especially important to the armed citizen. Rule #3 states, "Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target." We call that the Golden Rule because it will prevent most negligent discharges.

Years ago, when I first heard of this safety rule, I really thought it would slow me down at a time when being slow might cost me my life, so I began to experiment with the idea and found that such was simply not the case: In the time it takes a shooter to get on target, there is plenty of time to get on the trigger.

Nowadays, most of us who teach defensive shooting carry this rule a step further. We suggest that, until the sights are on the target, the shooter should not even have his finger inside the trigger guard. Instead, the trigger finger should be straight and aligned along the pistol frame as far above the trigger guard as possible. Again, we have found that this does not hinder the ability to quickly address the target. When we get off the target our finger goes straight again.

An actual fight is a dynamic event. There may be a struggle before it is necessary to shoot. One may have to run, one may fall down and have to get up, may have to open doors or close them. Any number of physically active things are possible for the armed citizen to have to deal with. If the person is engaged in these activities while his finger is on the trigger, an unintentional discharge is very possible. In fact, it is highly likely.

I once worked with a police officer who went to the aid of another officer who was being beaten. For whatever reason, my friend had his revolver out and beat the bad guy over the head with it. When he did that his finger engaged the trigger and a shot was fired. The bullet went across the street and hit two innocent bystanders. Fortunately neither one was killed. Adherence to Rule #3 would have prevented that.

It is also important to keep the finger off the trigger and straight while re-holstering. In addition, we never get in a hurry while re-holstering. We make sure that all safeties, if there are any, are engaged and we re-holster slowly.

Rule #3 is an important habit to develop simply because it goes a long way towards preventing negligent discharges and unintentional injuries.

<https://www.shootingillustrated.com/content/rule-3-the-golden-rule/>

There Is No Silver Bullet

by Steve Tarani
6 December 2022

Several years ago, I was hired as a contract trainer to deliver a defensive tactics train-the-trainer (T3) program for a certain federal agency. At the end of a 40-hour training week, the recently trained instructors were allowed to ask any questions referencing the program. One of the questions was "Sir, we were presented with a number of different techniques throughout the week. Which is the one will work every time?"

The One

As you probably guessed, the answer is "there isn't one." If there was, then we'd all have watched it on a do-it-yourself online training video and that would be the end of the story. However, nothing could be further from reality.

The reason why there's no such thing as the one magic or silver-bullet technique is because one size does not fit all skill levels, situations, conditions, application or environment. What may work for one highly skilled practitioner would not work for someone trying to do it at an entry level. There's a good chance that what might work for a middle-weight boxer wouldn't work for a heavy-weight boxer.

In the world of self-defense there are three general categories - martial arts, defensive tactics and weapons. All three have been around for millennia. Each of these categories predates written history. We as humans have been killing each other with combatives (techniques) and weapons since the dawn of humanity. The only difference today is that weapons have become more sophisticated. In all that time and after millions of warriors killed in action, there was never found the "one technique" that worked every single time.

Get Trained

Although it is the case that there is no one technique that will solve every tactical problem, there are some tried and true com-



bative concepts that can help give you the tactical advantage.

Fortune favors the trained. Although you may watch videos and read blogs, nothing compares to rolling on a mat training in Brazilian Jiujiitsu, Filipino martial arts stick fighting, standing toe-to-toe in the ring with another boxer or out on the live fire range with a firearm learning how to shoot fast and accurate.

You will, of course, not find that one-move panacea in any of these disciplines, but given a certain amount of time and repetitions you will discover proficiency which is your very best bet in any real-world altercation.

Training in armed or unarmed combatives requires that you first gain a level of understanding. The body cannot go where the mind has not been, so it's imperative to mentally understand technique. Following an understanding is to develop the skill to physically do it. Here is where most people lack the time, discipline or ability to commit.

You can even learn a few moves over a one-time weekend seminar, and if you practice those moves repeatedly you may get them down. However, in the long run, for every technique there is a counter. The greater your skill the greater your knowledge of countermeasures. It is said that when two lions of equal size and condition fight, the lion with more experience prevails.

Gain Proficiency

Proficiency is another important training consideration. When it comes to deploying your new technique, exactly how good is good enough?

First are you even physically capable of do-

Continued...Silver Bullet

ing the technique? Take, for example, firing six shots from your handgun into the berm (without a target) from about ten yards away. If the technique calls for the shooter to draw from the holster and fire six rounds in under two seconds at an 'A'-box target set at the seven-yard line and it takes you four seconds to fire it into the berm without a target, then you've got some work ahead of you.

Your first steps to success are to develop each of the sub-skills such as your presentation, reducing your time between shots and of course keeping them all within the designated target area.

Let's say that after much practice you can now do the technique one out of every fifty times. OK, that's not bad for starters but there's two more proficiency requirements: The first is to be able to perform that skill on demand, the second is under pressure (or duress) eighty-five percent of the time.

One final question referencing proficiency is – at the end of the day do you possess the comfort level, confidence and consistency in using that skill to save your life?

As with all physical skills, gaining proficiency is a three-phase process.

The first phase is to think it through. Practice makes permanent, perfect practice makes perfect. At an entry level you need to think about what you are doing step by step – consciously – so that you get every step correct.

The next phase is when you no longer need think about it as your body tells you – feeling when it's right and when it's wrong. Feeling takes less time to register than thinking and as such provides nearly immediate feedback.

Lastly, and certainly not least, is unconscious (or subconscious) competence. When you no longer need to think about it or even feel it, the technique has successfully dropped into your subconscious and has truly gained proficiency.

A more practical question than “Which is the one technique that will work every time?” is “Will this specific technique work for me under which conditions?”

After receiving training and gaining proficiency, can you do it on your own in pajamas or slippers in the middle of the night? Can you apply it to others trying to hurt you? Do you have the self-confidence that you would trust your life to it or that of a loved one? If you can answer 'yes' to these, then that's the closest you can ever come to having a silver bullet in your threat response proverbial tool kit.

<https://www.shootingillustrated.com/content/there-is-no-silver-bullet/>

SAGA Office Holiday Closure

Please note that the SAGA Office will be closed from midday on Thursday 15 December and will re-open on Monday 9 January 2023.

The SAGA Trustees and staff wish you and your family all the best for the festive season and the new year.

Thank you for your ongoing support!



SAGA Corporate Membership



Please support SAGA Corporate members where you can.

SAGA Corporate Members are clubs, associations and businesses who actively endorse the work being done by SAGA to protect firearm ownership rights in South Africa.

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 SA TACTICAL INSTITUTE
 SAAACA GAUTENG
 SAAACA KZN
 SAAACA MPUMALANGA
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