



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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NRANZ Presidents Annual Report January 2022

The past twelve months has very much been affected by the continuing situation with covid. Shooting in the northern part of the country was interrupted in the early part of the season with covid travel restrictions resulting in some regional championships being cancelled. The government imposed rules on meeting and event attendance has had an effect on this National Championship with unvaccinated people not being allowed to attend, and passes required for those that do attend.

Clubs have been able to function within this environment without too much of a problem. The newer classes of F Class shooting, FTR Classic and FPR are continuing to grow and prove popular, although some of the growth in FTR Classic has been at the cost of FTR numbers. FTR Classic is fulfilling the role of a cost-effective F Class option which only goes to prove that the original FTR class proposal 20 years ago was the right one.

National Championships

A lot of the routine Trentham Range maintenance, and the target maintenance is done by the "Wednesday Gang". This group of mostly well preserved and some retired shooters do a great job getting the place ready for us. Thank you to them once again.

Alan Whiteman has been involved with the Trentham Range since the mid 1960's. He has been organising the markers for many years. He is our official Seddon Range Director and deals a lot with NZ Army. Alan's contribution to the sport has been recognised in the New Year's Honours with the awarding of the Member of New Zealand Order of Merit, MNZM. Congratulations to you Alan from all of us on receiving this honour.

International Shooting

There has been none.

The World F Class Championships have been postponed for a second time from 2022 to 2023.

This has resulted in the Target Rifle World Championships and Palma Match being pushed out to 2024. Both of these events are to be held in South Africa.

The NZ Ladies TR team trans-Tasman Match has also been put on hold.

Components

As you are all aware, the supply of powder is causing problems. The ADI shipment to New Zealand was originally due in early November, then there were several dates in December, and now we don't know. The container made it onto a ship and then was unloaded. After this shipment finally does make it the powder will be distributed as soon as possible. Many

brands of primers are also in short supply or unobtainable currently, that situation is not expected to change in the short term.

We do have good stocks of HBC 155.5 projectiles. Optimus, the manufacturers of the HBC projectiles have gone out of business. I hope that the machinery for making the projectiles can stay in Australia and that it will be used again there.

Electronic Targets

A small committee under the leadership of Rob Morgan is doing the evaluation of electronic targets for the National Championships. The requirements to run a National Championship are considerably more exacting than running a club or provincial meeting. To change from manual marking to electronics will be a significant cost to the Association.

Firearms Legislation

This year will see the certification of all ranges in New Zealand move to be under the control of the NZ Police. There are more stringent requirements on clubs that are operating ranges to be able to comply with the new certification. There are also penalties for non-compliance. New rules apply when you are moving firearms in vehicles, although some common sense has been applied now compared to the original draft legislation, especially with regards shorter nonstop journeys.

Police are so far proving to be unable to process new licenses or renewals in a timely manner. Twelve months for a new license or six months for a renewal is not acceptable. Part of the problem is the paperwork that is now required. It is enough to put you off being a referee for an applicant.

The spectre of firearms registration is still coming. What form that will take, who knows. The other big question is will there be charges and what form they will take.

Two Royal Commissions, Thorpe and the Christchurch Mosque Shooting, have both recommended that the administration of firearms be taken from Police. These recommendations have been ignored by the Government and administration has sadly been left under Police control.

Life Member

It is with sadness that I note the passing of our Vice Patron and Life Member John Hastie. John won the Ballinger Belt in 1982. He was also one of the "H's" in H&H Enterprises, the manufacturers of the Millennium action, and the HHE rear sight.

Council

The Council has worked well together in the last year. Opinions are all freely expressed and valued. It is a good constructive group to work with.

Apart from the winter two-day meeting, we have also used Zoom to have additional meetings.

Karyn Flanagan has stepped down as the Wellington delegate to Council after many years.

Thank you for your time and effort, especially with F Class representation.

Executive

The Executive manage the Association on a day-to-day basis. These four under the Chairmanship of Ross Mason do a lot of work. Ross has been doing the job now for about 10 years. Vice Chairman, Andre Doyle, has been a worker for the Association for as long as I can remember. The Treasurer, Coby Snowden, has been doing her job for seven years. Secretary, Helen Morgan, has been in the office now for seven years and has been the Championship Secretary for 22 years. Between them they have a huge amount of “corporate knowledge”.

The time and effort these four put into the organisation is not appreciated by most of the members.

They often have to be talked into continuing to do the jobs that they do.

Thank you to you four for the work that you do. I appreciate being able to work with a group of such capable people.

Wellington

The length of service in these jobs, is something of a reflection of the number of shooters based here on the Trentham Range.

The Wellington Clubs have always been at the heart, and are the heart of our organisation.

They run and maintain the Seddon Range for us. It is a world class range, and well run, as was proven in 2019.

Without this range and these facilities this organisation would struggle to survive.

Importantly they have also provided much of the administrative strength of the organisation, particularly the Executive.

With the Wellington Clubs struggling for numbers more than they ever have, the pool of willing workers for the Association has dwindled, and those that do the work are overloaded.

Clubs

The year ahead will bring many new challenges, with many new rules and regulations affecting how we operate our ranges. We will all need to comply in a timely manner or risk being shut down.

Look after your clubs and your club members, especially the new ones, they are the future. The regular members matter too, they are your teachers and trainers.

I can't get and look after new members for your club. Only you can do that. A club can grow if the whole club is willing to work at it, and not leave it to a few members.

My own club has grown from 7-8 members seven years ago to now being close to twenty by

being proactive and looking after new shooters. Next season we will be over twenty. It is a lot more fun having plenty of people on the range on club days. It all follows on from there. We have seven members at these Nationals.

Thank you

As I said earlier, thank you to the Executive for the work that you do. I enjoy working with you all and very much appreciate what you do for the Association.

Thank you to the Council for your work and input. You are a good group to work with. The diversity of thought and opinion makes for good decision making.

Thanks to the Vice President Brian Carter for his support and counsel.

Thanks to my club mates for keeping shooting fun and challenging, and for your support.

Finally thank you to my wife Gail for her love and support.

Malcolm Dodson
NRANZ President