



Spring 2013

Welcome to the NRA of NZ member's up-date where you the membership get to read about what's going on and whats coming up in the Fullbore Shooting world.

NRA Budget for the 2013/14 Season.

Members should be aware that Council had difficulty balancing the operating budget for the coming season. One of the main impacts on the coming seasons budget will be the cost of consultant fees with the signing of a contract with Conference Brokers Ltd, a company which will be undertaking preparatory work on behalf of NRANZ in getting ready for Palma 2019. Over time, it is expected that costs for these services will be recovered. It was agreed that the \$10K shortfall in the 2013/14 budget could be made up from additional fund raising and sponsorship.

The Associations new Publicity and Fund Raising Officer, Karen Flanagan, has a tough job on her hands but has put forward a couple of fresh ideas which will need the support of all members. It is proposed to produce a professional looking PhotoBook capturing the history of the NRA and each of the current member clubs. This book will include both text and photographs that will need to be provided by each club. These books will be an attractive gift item and the Council is sure each club will need to also have at least one copy on hand as a membership tool. We should all make sure we have a presence in this book as it will form an important part of each of our histories.

The second fund raising idea is to produce official NRA apparel starting with good quality Tee's and Polo Shirts for both men and women. Modern and fresh looking logos are on the draught board as this newsletter is being published with the prototype apparel out for feedback from all members shortly.

Regional Championships. Much discussion was had by Council at their recent meeting on attendance at regional champs during last season and the limited number of these events qualifying for grading purposes. Council has considered ways to boost attendance to enable organisers to derive more income from increased entries, which will by default generate additional champ levies and also help out with grading issues. Council has decided to sell naming rights to our "National Regional Championship" for the 2013/14 season.

Council is hopeful that a significant prize will be made available to those who regularly attend these events. Championship attendees will earn a "draw" with each Champs attendance and at the end of the season you get your name in a hat X number of times, depending on the number of these National Regional Championship events you personally attend. *More details to be released on this proposal in the near future.*

Affiliation fees for 2013/14 have been set. Council was very mindful of the effects of fee increases but with increasing costs and the need to continue to reign in our deficit, increases were necessary. Fees are:

Full Member \$150-00, Student/First Year \$70-00, Associate Member \$35-00.

Championship Daily Levy remains at \$5-00 per day.

Entry to the 2014 NZ Nationals:

Queens/Masefield \$330-00, Queens only \$270-00, Masefield only \$100-00,

Get in and enter early to save a late fee, which will apply from 22nd December.

Ways to increase Club and therefore National membership. *The most important task we have!*

Every club in New Zealand can do something to increase membership of this great sport. From having a club presence on the Internet or an Association web page - to sponsoring school teams in the New Zealand Cadet Belt Postal and the New Zealand Secondary Schools Postal matches.

Clevedon, Petone and Christchurch Rifle Clubs have all gained members last season via interest from and contact through Club Web Sites.

In recent years only four clubs have sponsored secondary schools to enter the postal matches and all four clubs have gained club members! There are many schools that enter the Triple S Postal and the New Zealand Inter Secondary Schools Teams matches in smallbore. There are cadet forces that have a shooting component in their training. All they need is a club to invite these teams/cadet forces and give them an opportunity to come out to the range to have a go.

Malvern RC sponsored a school team by supplying the ammunition for the match and subsidised the costs of practice by 50%. This cost was recovered from pub charity funding. The club also contacted the local school in the area (particularly smart if they have a shooting team) and invited them along to one of their club days. *Most of these students have their own or access to shooting jackets, slings and gloves. The club has to ensure that they have good club or member rifles and loaded ammunition for these students to use.*

“We make the experience a positive one that will encourage them to come back. Getting them involved is the key from plotting, scoring, marking (if paid markers aren't used) and of course, shooting. Malvern's approach is to run a couple of practice days. This allows us to work out rifle settings etc. It is easier if there is one rifle per team member on match day. Then we select a team and set a day for the match. The club provides the ammunition for the match, and ensures that there are markers so that the students only need to focus on the shooting. It is important the club as a whole is involved and that the students are engaged. As a club we have gained two full members from last season and have two others that are keen.”

Our F Class reps start shooting at the World F-Class Championships 23rd to 27th August in Raton, USA. The NZ crew is Nic Chiew and Jim Yates from Clevedon, Colin Brown from Karori and Les Grimsey from Oamaru. Any results received will be posted on the NRA website.

Teams matches at the 2014 National Championship. Shooters and wind coaches are required to nominate for the inter-island teams match. Nominations need to be in by the 15th of December to allow time for selection and notification to team members. Nominations to the NRANZ Secretary and if possible cc to Selection Convenor Malcolm Dodson at m_gdodson@xtra.co.nz. For those nominees not selected in the main teams the selectors plan to make provision for an additional team so all who nominate get to compete. The best outcome is for as many as possible to be involved. It would be good also if sufficient F and FTR shooters nominate to participate, even if these teams end up as five shooter teams.

Palma Team Training: The first training weekend is set down for 5-7th October at Trentham. The training weekends are primarily, but not restricted to, those intending to nominate for the New Zealand Open and Under 25 Teams to attend the World Long Range Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio, USA in 2015. The focus of the Oct weekend is on shooter skills and wind coaching skill. There is no "training squad" as such and anyone with an interest may attend. There is a travel cost equalisation used where everyone ends up paying the same cost for the weekend. *The last training weekend averaged out at \$50 each.* If you want to be involved, or want more details, and are not already on the contact list, contact the NRANZ office or Malcolm Dodson at m_gdodson@xtra.co.nz

The second Palma training weekend and selection trial at Trentham. The final training weekend for those wishing to nominate for teams will be held March 15th to 17th 2014. This weekend will be run as a trial with much more focus on groups and scores from shooters and coaches.

Under 25 training weekend. This weekend is held from Friday the 6th to Sunday 8th of December on Seddon Range, Trentham. The Friday is used for coaching and training. On the Saturday and Sunday the Ladies Long Range Championship and the NZ 1000 Yard Championships are being held. This weekend is open to any Under 25 year old shooter. NRANZ supports this training weekend financially, but does not cover all costs.

National Selectors change: After many years, John Apperley has decided to stand down from the Selection Panel. Council express sincere thanks to John for his many years work as a selector and have appointed Diane Collings as his replacement.

Sadly, we report of members passing:

Arthur Golding, Akarana-City Rifle Club, also patron of the Auckland Rifle Association, sport shop owner in Howick and one of the first user/importers of the single point sling.

Max McCarthy, Clevedon Rifle Club, also ex member of Akarana-City RC, Life Member of Clevedon Rifle Club, served in every position on the Club and Auckland Association.

Jon Withers, Te Puke and Rotorua Rifle Clubs, famous for driving long distances from his farm to attend shoots and being well known to the local car dealers - as Jon went through a few cars in his time.

Ivan Breingan, Tauranga Rifle Club, long time shooter from a club that has now closed down.

With the new season fast approaching, Council wish to extend best wishes to all members for a prosperous season and stress that ongoing work is required with membership recruitment and that we can all play a big part in that if we possess desire for progress of our game. Good luck and good shooting...