



NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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NRANZ Newsletter August 2018

The 2018/19 season is going to be the busiest one that NRANZ has had for a long time.

The NZ National Championships and the Long Range World Championships (LRWC) that follow have attracted over 300 competitors to our fair shores. The organising committee, headed up by Rob Morgan, are past the planning stage and firmly into implementation. The upgrading work has been done and is continuing to be done on the Trentham Range in preparation. The wet autumn did not help with getting earthworks done.

The NZ Championship Matches are as usual open to all who wish to enter, all grades of Target Rifle, F Open and FTR.

The Masefield and the Ballinger Belt series are for this season, one entry, you cannot enter them separately.

Individual entries are only required if you are not in the Palma, the Veterans, Under 25 or Under 21 Teams. Entries for team members are being done by team management.

The earlier that you can enter the easier it is for the office staff. If you enter after the 1st of December there is a \$50 late fee.

The Long Range World Championships are for Target Rifle competitors only, and unfortunately you have to be in A or B grade. This is an ICFRA rule, sorry.

Markers and Volunteers

With an event to run with over 400 competitors there are a lot of helpers and staff needed. One of the big jobs is getting about 60 markers. 50 targets are being used and as the event will run for 17 days reserves will be needed. The markers are all paid. We have a contingent of Australians coming over to spend their time marking targets. Volunteers are also needed for many of the other jobs.

On the LRWC website (the link is from the NRANZ site) there is a volunteer form. If you can help out by giving your time, even if only for a few days or part days, then please fill in the form. If you can mark or have someone that wants to mark, also use the volunteer form.

NZ Teams

All of our NZ teams have been selected and are firmly into training mode with training camps having been held and scheduled to come for all teams. If you have club members in the teams, please support them in their training and preparation.

The Individual World Championships for Veterans (over 60), Under 25 and Under 21 competitors is concurrent with the Ballinger Belt qualifying series.

National Championship Programme

Our nationals programme has changed a bit to cope with the numbers.

- The Masfield is 300 yards, 600 yards, 900 yards and 1000 yards, all 7 shot matches.
- The first day of the Ballinger Belt is 2 x 300 yards and 2 x 500 yards, all 10 shots.
- Days 2 and 3 are each, 600 yards, 900 yards and 1000 yards, all 10 shots.
- The finals day on Saturday is unchanged.

The programme is also on the LRWC website along with all the teams' matches.

F Class World Championships.

The next F Class World Championships are in South Africa in April 2021. It would be great to see New Zealand teams competing. Start your long term planning now.

Council

At the winter meeting the Malvern Rifle Club remit to introduce a grading system for the F Classes was discussed. After some amendments the remit was passed. The grading does not come into effect until the 2019/2020 season.

The provincial and regional fixtures list was updated, these dates can still change should the relevant association wish to.

In line with the discussion held at the 2018 AGM at Trentham, Council is investigating the various options for using electronic targets for the National Championships from 2020.

The dates for the 2020 championships will revert to the second week in January.

Subscriptions for the coming season remain the same with the Full being \$150, Junior & First Year \$75 and Associate \$35. An Associate member is one that does not shoot more than six times in a season and does not attend any championships.

The subscription halves after the National Championships. The 2019 levy of \$30 is now gone, so effectively your subs have gone down by \$30.

Commonwealth Games

The Commonwealth Games are now a memory. Our two shooters, John Snowden and Brian Carter only missed a medal by one point in the pairs match, finishing 5th

The individual match was very high scoring with the three medallists all breaking the old games record.

Thanks to the effort put in by our competitors and team manager, Bevan Mehrstens. By the time they attended the Games they had been to Australia 5 times in the previous 12 months.

At this time, there will be no more shooting events of any type at future Commonwealth Games, it is no longer on the programme.

World 300 Metre Championships

In September Helen Freiman will compete in South Korea at the 300 metre World Championships. She will also be competing in the 50 metre Smallbore Prone event. Good luck and good shooting Helen.

Bisley 150th.

In July 2019 the NRA of UK will be celebrating the 150th championship at Bisley. I have heard on the grapevine that a number of people are considering attending. If enough people are interested there is the possibility that a Goodwill Team or even a full representative team could attend. If you are interested could you contact me directly at m_gdodson@xtra.co.nz

Distinguished Service Medal.

The NRRNZ Distinguished service Medal is awarded on the recommendation from a club, association or NRRNZ. It is a recognition to someone that has given many years of "above and beyond" service to your club or association. It is as simple as writing to NRRNZ and nominating the person for the award.

Life Members passing.

NRRNZ Life member Haddon Donald died on 23 April at the age of 101. Haddon was at the time of his death our organisations Patron. He was a past NRRNZ President.

He was our most successful team Captain. The team that he led to Bisley and Canada went through those championships winning many teams matches and had a lot of individuals placing very well.

He served overseas for virtually the entire 2nd WW. Leaving New Zealand in 1939 as a Lieutenant and coming home in 1945 as the Commander of the 22nd Battalion. He also served two terms as the Member of Parliament for Wairarapa.

A lot of NZ Blazers were present in Masterton at Haddon's memorial service.

NRRNZ Life Member Ben Hoban died on the 1st of July. Ben was a past NRRNZ Councillor and President. He had a strong teams' involvement serving as Captain or Adjutant of many NZ teams. He was Captain of the 1979 Palma Team. He was also involved with the Commonwealth Games as an organiser in 1974 at Christchurch, and as a team manager at a later date. A full obituary is on the NRRNZ website.

Former NRRNZ Councillor and Life member of the Cheltenham Club, Ed Illston died on April 24th. In his shooting heyday Fast Eddie, as he was known, used to attend a lot of provincial championships.

Remember to get your entries in early for the National Championships. The forms are on the website.

Malcolm Dodson
NRRNZ President