



Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association Inc.

Spring 2014 Report

Hi folks

As I write this it's driving rain and the rivers are swelling, my joy at seeing the snows go is tempered by my concern for people caught in flood situations.

It's a busy time of year for your RNBRA Board as well as as the Sections as they prepare to implement their summer programs.

The Fullbore and Pistol Sections have busy summer schedules ready to go while the Airgun Section will be busy identifying and developing our provincial 2015 Canada Games Team as well as hosting the 2014 North Atlantic Championships and continuing to develop a provincial program.

Daniel Chisholm and I represented your Association at the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association annual general meeting, provincial round table, council and executive council meetings in Ottawa at the end of March. At these meetings Steven Stewart our sitting past president was elected to a two year term on the DCRA council. Discussions included the disappointing decision made by the Canadian Cadet Organization to make cuts to the cadet shooting program. The decisions made by the cadet organization to continually water down the shooting program are troubling and it is my opinion that to cut their opportunities to represent Canada in high level international competition certainly does nothing for the quality of the experience of a historical program to help train our future leaders. We would do well to remind policy makers and politicians that the skills that competitive shooting teaches such as sportsmanship, focus and complex decision making are highly valued and should be encouraged in our National Cadet Organizations.

At the Provincial Round Table meeting the necessity of developing a national standard for range safety officers was discussed. This brings up another issue the Board understands that while some young people may well be able to do the job, it is not RNBRA policy to have range officers under 18 years old and we cannot certify anyone under 18 to be range officers.

We have recently completed our 2014/15 budget as well as the provincial sport profile and funding request and we look forward to a positive response from the provincial govt. The money we receive (as the sport governing body for provincial shooting sports)from the provincial govt is based largely on the quality of our programs and initiatives and is our primary source of revenue allowing us to operate, coordinate and promote provincial shooting sport initiatives. There is much more potential to demonstrate the true value of our sport to the govt but we need people to come forward and offer their time and intelligence in order to expand our current programs and promote new ones. Ideally we would have active Sections within the RNBRA to operate provincial programs for each discipline of shooting sport in the province. There are currently several active shooting leagues in the province that could join the RNBRA and govern their discipline while being able to access some provincial sport assistance in the form of funding and sport development programs.

We are progressing steadily toward a new streamlined website that will be more responsive to our needs. The new site will not have the disciplines listed for which there are no organized provincial program but they will be included as soon as people come forward to drive them.

As previously mentioned all full RNBRA members will now be provided with NFA shooting insurance. This insurance will be purchased for you on the first of the month following your membership application and will remain in effect until April 1 2015. You will be expected to pay a \$5.00 per day guest insurance fee to participate in any RNBRA event until your membership is processed unless you provide proof of NFA insurance. We see great potential benefit and possible cost

savings if we could coordinate a provincial insurance plan for all shooters similar to the NFA policy that covers all legal shooting activities. We will be exploring this possibility as time and resources permit.

For those of you who for unknown reasons have not seen fit to rejoin the RNBRA then this will be the last update you receive until you decide to renew your membership.

For those who have committed to supporting organized shooting sports in the province I'd like to remind you that nominations for officers and directors will open early this summer and election will be held at the AGM this fall. Your Bylaws review committee are making progress and will soon have a few recommendations for board review and we expect to publish recommended changes for membership review well prior to the AGM when the membership will vote.

As always we encourage contact with questions or comment , we recognize that most shooters in the province have little interest in provincially organized competitive shooting but their involvement in their clubs activities demonstrate their commitment to shooting as a sport and we seek their engagement, intelligence and input as we move to strengthen our shooting community.

Good Shooting

Michael Lutes Interim President

For the Governing Board of the Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association

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