



# The Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association

*Promoting marksmanship through competition since 1866*

RNBRA Newsletter  
March-April 2018  
Volume 1, Issue 2

RNBRA Members and RNBRA Shooting Clubs,

The competitive shooting season is fast approaching and soon we will be busy preparing our equipment and making plans to travel to matches around the Maritimes and beyond. Both IPSC and Fullbore schedules have events most weekends from May to September so it should be a great summer of shooting. However, another matter that deserves thought and discussion on the range this season is the proposed firearms legislation. As most of you know, the federal government has introduced a piece of Firearms Legislation known as Bill C-71. This bill has received first and second reading in parliament and will likely be brought back in the fall for a vote. It is important that you inform yourself about this legislation and take an active role in the democratic process. Some national shooting sports organizations have taken leadership roles in the discussion. You can also contact the office of your member of parliament to get the information you need to help you form an opinion and provide your input about this legislation. There is always room for improvement before it becomes law, but the time to speak up is now.

Gordon Holloway  
RNBRA President

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Please direct all questions, comments, submissions, ideas, and suggestions to Laura at [kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com). Note that submissions will be reviewed prior to inclusion in the newsletter and may be edited for space.

Check us out on [Facebook!](#)

## Bill C-71 Information

These are some links to information on Bill C-71 and how to contact your MPs.

[Parliament of Canada Bill C-71](#)

[OpenParliament.ca Bill C-71 Summary](#)

[National Firearms Association](#)

[Contact the Prime Minister](#)

[Contact Your Local Member of Parliament](#)

Writing a personal letter is an excellent way to contact MPs. Mail may be sent postage-free to any Member of Parliament.

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## RNBRA Membership

New and renewing Members and Clubs can complete their 2018 membership online by going to [rnbra.ca/membership-form](http://rnbra.ca/membership-form). You can submit the form online or print off a copy and mail it in.

Membership fees can be paid by Email Money Transfer (preferred method) or by mailing a cheque or money order. Once payment is received you will receive a card in the mail.

The individual membership covers the cost of NFA insurance anywhere in the world. The insurance policy and card are available on the RNBRA website for download.

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## Youth Program Funding Opportunity

The RNBRA strives to support youth interested in the shooting sports and has established a Youth Program Fund. Any affiliated club with a youth program or trying to start one may make a formal request for funding support.

Youth programs may include: specific competitions for under 19, supporting youths who travel to competitions, courses or workshops for youth shooting, holding a Youth Day at your club, etc.

Send requests to Laura at [kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com) and include a description of the youth program and the date (if applicable). If you are unsure if your program/event will apply, just send Laura a quick email and she'll let you know the next steps.

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## FAQ of the Month: How Do I Start Shooting F-Class?

F-Class rifle shooting is fired from the prone position at ranges from 300m to 900m. The goal is to hit a 1 Moa circle, which is 10 inch diameter, at 900m. Not an easy task but it can be done consistently by experienced shooters with good equipment.

F-Class is distinguished from traditional fullbore shooting (referred to as TR) by the use of a front bipod and a rear bag for support and an optical sight. In F-Class your primary opponent is the wind. There are two categories of F-Class: Restricted which requires the use of .308 Win or .223 Rem cartridges and F-Open where any cartridge may be used provided the caliber of the projectile is less than 8mm. F-TR rifles are limited to a maximum weight of 8.25kg. In this article I will focus on F-Class Restricted or F-TR because that is what I am familiar with.

A typical equipment list for a competitive F-TR shooter is provided in the table below. You will notice that the rifle is broken down into pieces rather than listing a particular make and model. This is because competitive shooters don't buy a rifle for F-TR. They build one out of the best components available from specialized manufacturers. The list is intimidating and pulling all this equipment together takes time.

But don't be discouraged! The table should represent an end goal for a competitive shooter rather than a starting point in the sport.

You can get started by borrowing a target rifle. Shooting a tuned rifle is a good way to see if you like the sport. The fullbore section of the RNBRA may be able to provide a rifle and ammunition to give you that chance. Just send an email to fullbore chair [Adam MacDonald](#) to enquire.

Another way to get started is by coming to one of our "Any Rifle" shoots where you can bring your hunting rifle and try it out to 600m. (See the [Fullbore Schedule](#).) Beyond 600m you will need a muzzle velocity higher than the average hunting rifle can provide. But 600m is a challenge and you can go through the motions of adjusting for elevation and windage. A typical hunting rifle with good factory ammunition will produce 3 moa groups at 600m.

If you want to purchase your own rifle then I recommend you find a good used rifle that has a proven record of accuracy and comes with a developed load. It will typically cost \$2000-\$3000 if the barrel is in good condition (1000 rounds or less). This does not count the scope or rings but probably includes the rail. If you are interested in purchasing a used F-TR rifle we may be able to put you in contact with someone looking to sell.

Another alternative is to buy one of the "target rifles" on the market but I don't recommend this approach. These rifles cost a minimum of \$2000 (no scope) and, although better than a hunting rifle, they are not precise enough to be competitive. The weakest elements of these rifles are the barrel and trigger. But the action also has its limitations. There is a good chance you will end up spending more bringing an out of the box target rifle up to snuff than you would spend on a good used rifle.

If you do purchase a commercial "target rifle" you should choose one with a V-block in the stock or have the stock "bedded" to support the action and replace the barrel that came with the gun with a good quality custom barrel (a new barrel is about \$600) straight away. Believe it or not that will save you time and money. Ammunition is \$1 a shot and it doesn't take long to spend more money trying to develop an accurate load than a barrel is worth.

I haven't mentioned ammunition because that is a story in itself. Suffice it to say that ammunition must be hand loaded to make you a competitive shooter in F-TR. I will save that for a later article.

Good Shooting

Gordon Holloway

<b>Component</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Custom Barrel 28-32 inches long</b>	Rifling is cut and bore is lapped. It has 4-6 lands. The barrel must be chambered and precisely fit to your action by a gunsmith. Throat must be matched to the chosen projectile. Barrel is long to achieve the projectile velocity necessary for long range.
<b>Bolt Action</b>	Target actions are stiff and heavy. Typically have 3 or 4 lugs rather than the 2 lugs like a hunting rifle.
<b>Stock</b>	Must be fit to the action in a process called bedding to ensure consistent recoil.
<b>Trigger</b>	1 or 2 stage with last stage having a pull weight of 1 lb or less.
<b>Bipod</b>	Wider than a Harris style bipod for greater stability and as light as possible.
<b>Rear Bag</b>	Soft bunny ear bag made of leather and filled with sand.
<b>Scope</b>	Magnification of 25-50 X and tough enough to withstand thousands of recoil cycles. Must have target turrets for elevation and windage adjustments in 1/8 or 1/4 minutes of angle. Quality is important. Expect a minimum price of \$1400.
<b>Scope Rings</b>	Should be aluminum to save weight and match thermal expansion of scope tube.
<b>Scope Rail</b>	Joins the action to the scope rings and is generally aluminum.
<b>Shooting Mat</b>	Keeps you and your equipment clean and dry in the prone position.

(In addition to being RNBRA President, Gordon has been an active F-TR shooter for the past 5 years. In 2017 he competed in the New Brunswick Annual Prize Match, NS APM, PEI APM, Atlantic Championship, Mini-Palma, British Team Match, Inter-maritime Team Match, Eastern Canadian Championship, F-Class Nationals, and World F-Class Championship. That is a lot of bullets!)

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## Shooting Schedules

Looking to expand your shooting schedule? The RNBRA is often able to help fund inter-maritime, national, and international competitions held in New Brunswick.

The IPSC-NB 2018 shooting schedule is now available online [here](#), with a lot of matches happening in May. Be sure to check it out!

The Fredericton Trap & Skeet Club has posted its 2018 shooting schedule online [here](#).

The Fullbore shooting schedule for 2018 is always available online [here](#). The first match is the Fredericton Centennial on Saturday, May 5 where we will be shooting 300m, 500m and 600m. New shooters are always welcome.

Stay tuned for the 2018 Air Gun schedule.

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## Andy Gunter Meritorious Award

The RNBRA is accepting nominations for the Andy Gunter Meritorious Award. Andy Gunter was an industrial arts teacher in Saint John who worked with the RNBRA for many years. This award may be presented to any current or past member of the RNBRA. The criteria for the award shall be as the name suggests: for exceptional service to the Association in the furtherance of the Association. A person's ability to shoot shall not necessarily be a factor.

The award is designed for an individual but if the Committee feels it should be presented to a team or group from time to time, this will be permissible. The Committee also has the right not to make an award if it sees fit, but should call for nominations to be considered. For a list of previous recipients, click [here](#). To make a nomination, please contact Laura at [kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com).

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## Call for RNBRA Officer Nominations and Honorary Life Members

The Nominating Committee is calling for nominations from the membership for all elected RNBRA officers. Nominations are to include two signatures of RNBRA Regular Members, a biographic sketch of each nominee, and a statement from the nominee indicating willingness to serve if elected. Submittals via email are acceptable and do not require a physical signature. Only Regular NB-resident Members in good standing who agree to serve in an office will be considered by the Committee.

Offices to be filled are: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and three Directors-at-Large. These offices will be elected at the AGM in October. For information on officers' roles and responsibilities, consult the [RNBRA Constitution and By-Laws](#).

The Nominating Committee is also looking for nominations for Honorary Life Members. Any person who has made an outstanding contribution to the RNBRA and/or to the support of its objectives may be elected an Honorary Life Member. HLMs are not required to pay dues and shall have all the privileges of a Regular Member. Any five Members may submit the name of a person to be considered and are to include reasons as to why this person should be so honored.

Nominations are to be received by July 31 2018. Submit nominations or any questions to Laura at [kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com).

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## Courses

The RNBRA offers a course for training and certification of Range Safety Officers (RSO). An RSO is required every time two people or more people are using a range. For information on this course, please contact Steven Stewart at [smskew@rogers.com](mailto:smskew@rogers.com).

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## Workshops

There are several workshops offered by the RNBRA that are available to shooting clubs upon request. Currently there is one on load development and one on fullbore shooting.

If you or your club are hosting a workshop or event and would like it featured in the RNBRA newsletter, please send all information to Laura at [kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com).

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## Air Gun News

Air Gun shooters have been busy! Alyssa Gidney and Lauren Mitchell attended the NRA Maine State Championship in February at the Capitol City Gun and Rifle Club in Augusta, Maine. Alyssa Gidney took Silver in the International Junior Air Rifle and Lauren Mitchell came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Sub-Junior Air Rifle class. This was Lauren's first competition so an exciting time for them both. Emily Dean and Alyssa Gidney represented NB at the Canadian Grand Prix in Ontario at the end of April. Emily came in 4th overall in Women's Air Rifle and was the top female Canadian shooter. Alyssa placed 7th in her class.

Congratulations to Lauren, Alyssa, Emily and their coaches Don Brown and Dave Woolridge!

Information on the St. Croix Youth Air Gun Program is available on the [RNBRA website](#) or the [St. Croix Sportsman Club website](#).

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## Benchrest News

Information on New Brunswick Benchrest Shooting is available online at the [Benchrest blog](#). You can sign up to receive email notifications for new blog posts by entering your email address in the box on the right of the page.

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## Fullbore News

For the first time, New Brunswick is hosting the Eastern Canada F-Class Championships, usually held in Ontario. This 3-day match is a great opportunity to shoot with top-rated competitors at 800m and 900m. This is the only DCRA-sanctioned competition in the Maritimes. Registration is currently open, but limited to 40 competitors so register quickly! You can even pay online with a credit card on our new website: [www.easternfclass.ca](http://www.easternfclass.ca). Send inquiries to Laura at [kaderly+EASTERNS@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+EASTERNS@gmail.com).

All the latest news and information on the competitive Fullbore program is always available at the [Fullbore blog](#).

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## Practical Pistol News

Information on the Competitive Practical Pistol Program is available at the [IPSC website](#).

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## Shotgun & Smallbore News

Mark your calendars – The RNBRA Provincial Shotgun Championship Shoot is Sunday October 14. This shoot will be 100 Clays: 25 Skeet; 25 Trap; and 50 Sporting Clays. Registrations is from 9am-1pm and the entry fee is \$55. A \$5 burger lunch will be available and awards will be presented. All shooters welcome! For more information, check out the Fredericton Trap & Skeet [website](#).

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## Shooting Club News

A list of affiliated shooting clubs is available on the [RNBRA website](#).

What's happening at your club? Send club news submissions to Laura at [kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com](mailto:kaderly+RNBRA@gmail.com).

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