# The Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association Promoting marksmanship through competition since 1866

RNBRA Newsletter March-April 2019 Volume 2, Issue 2

RNBRA Members and RNBRA Shooting Clubs,

This year will be a memorable one for the 4 New Brunswick F-Class Shooters who will attend the 150<sup>th</sup> Imperial Meeting at Bisley England in July: Ken Kyle, Francis Bezeau, Adam MacDonald, and Gordon Holloway. They will be joined by Maritime shooters from PEI and Nova Scotia and others from across Canada. The Bisley Imperial Meeting is world renowned for its target rifle competition and long heritage. The F-Class competitors will face 12 days of shooting competition at ranges up to 1200 yards. It may seem intimidating to travel so far and compete against so many talented shooters but the truth is we cannot wait to get on the line and smell the burning powder. Wish us luck,

Gordon Holloway RNBRA President

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Please direct all questions, comments, submissions, ideas, and suggestions to Laura at <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a>.

Don't forget to check us out on **Facebook!** 

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# **In Memory of Don Coleman**

Don and I met several years ago and quickly became friends. As you might have guessed we first met on a local rifle range. Don introduced himself and, recognizing my last name, he asked if I hailed from Moncton. We soon discovered that despite our age difference we shared a common passion for competitive shooting sports. It didn't take long to realize that not only was Don committed to shooting sports generally, he was also a great competitor and a contender to win at our matches.

Over the next couple years as our friendship developed I began to understand how much Don believed in "giving back" to the sport. Don had volunteered a great deal of time and effort to the administration of the RNBRA, and he also took an active part in the Fullbore section administration. His extraordinary commitment was displayed when he showed up for one of our spring work days not long after having a hip replacement.

Don was a gentleman with a thoughtful unassuming manner. I tend toward the other end of the scale so it took me a little while to realize that he was a natural coach, and he regularly used that gift to help people young and not so young alike. As a matter of fact my own successful return to competitive rifle shooting was certainly facilitated by Don's advice and guidance.

Several years ago as the long serving RNBRA Membership Secretary, Don was able to help guide the RNBRA and its mostly new Executive through a couple years of political difficulty. As a newly appointed President I was very fortunate to benefit from Don's well considered council and his knowledge of past RNBRA business.

Don's determination and positive attitude helped him prevail over several serious health challenges during his life and he was determined not to waste the time he had. He enjoyed demonstrating a positive attitude and many people certainly benefited from his commitment and drive.

No story about Don would be complete without mentioning the lady who completed him. It was obvious to me that Don and Sheila were kindred spirits. They shared their lives while encouraging and supporting each other with love and respect that demonstrated the strength of our culture. I feel blessed to have gotten to know them both.

Don's work here finished early and he has gone on ahead. He will be remembered until we join him in Valhalla.

~ Michael Lutes

The Celebration of Life for the Don Coleman has been rescheduled for Sunday, May 26 2019 due to the flooding in Gagetown. It will be held at the **Gagetown Legion** from 1:30-4:30pm. All are welcome.

## **RNBRA Membership and Club Affiliation**

New and renewing Members and Clubs can complete their 2019 membership online by going to <a href="mailto:rnbra.ca/membership-form">rnbra.ca/membership-form</a>. You can submit the form online or print off a copy and mail it in. The individual membership covers the cost of NFA insurance anywhere in the world.

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.

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## FAQ of the Month – Precision Rifle Shooting & PRS

## What is precision rifle shooting?

Precision rifle shooting can be thought of as shooting at small targets from far away. There are two main competition styles in Canada. The DCRA National Service Conditions matches (a prone only match fired at set distances) and practical precision rifle matches (a mix of prone, barricade, and unconventional shooting positions with targets at random distances).

## What equipment is used?

A scoped mag fed rifle is usually used. It can be either bolt action or semi-automatic. Single shot rifles are also used, but are less common. A bipod and a rear support (bag) are also highly recommended.

Most matches are centrefire, but there are a growing number of rimfire only matches within the practical precision rifle world.

#### What is "PRS"?

PRS stands for Precision Rifle Series, a popular point series race of precision rifle matches which started in the USA. The series has expanded to Canada with matches being held in Ontario and Alberta this year. The PRS is a collection of matches, not necessarily a shooting style. Matches are sometimes described as PRS style, to give new shooters a reference point to the style of shooting.

The NRL (National Rifle League) is another points series popular in the States. It is similar to the PRS and people often compete in both leagues.

## I need fancy gear to compete.

Not true. While there are plenty of products being offered to improve shooters performance, they are not necessary. If you're interested, come out and shoot, and worry about gear later.

#### I need a special calibre to compete.

Not true. Yes, the top competitors are using some specialized cartridges. But they are not necessary to come out and shoot, learn, and have some fun.

#### I don't want to compete.

That's fine. Most of us aren't competitors. We get together to shoot, learn, and have some fun trying something different. But you might get hooked.

The RNBRA fullbore section currently supports both DCRA NSC and practical precision rifle disciplines. The fullbore section is holding their practical precision rifle season opener May 18 & 19 on CFB Gagetown for anyone interested in seeing what it's all about. Anyone interested in learning more is encouraged to contact <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a>.

#### Further reading.

Here are some websites with more info on precision rifle.

**DCRA** – NSC rules and dates

Ontario Rifle Association – Good description of NSC

**Precision Rifle Series** 

**National Rifle League** 

<u>Precision Rifle Blog</u> – A blog full of info about the PRS, the type of gear used, and precision rifle shooting in general

<u>Canadian Rimfire Precision Series</u> – A developing rimfire only Canadian series of precision rifle matches

~ Mark McMullin Fullbore Section Vice President

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# **Shooting Schedules**

The Fullbore 2019 shooting schedule is **available online** now. Be sure to check back for updates. The next F/TR match is the McGillivray on Base Gagetown on May 11 (900m). The next Black Powder match is on May 18 on Base Gagetown (400, 500 & 600m).

Interested in Benchrest Shooting? 2019 schedules are online for both <u>Minto</u> and <u>Petitcodiac</u>. There are a lot of events coming up! More information on the <u>Benchrest Blog</u>.

The 2019 Fredericton Trap and Skeet schedule is <u>available here</u> and on their website <u>www.ft-sc.com</u>. The next match is the Winchester Ammunition Open Classic on June 8-9 (preregistration is required).

The PEI Rifle Association summer schedule is available on their website <a href="here">here</a>. There are many open shoots to check out if you're going to be in PEI this summer!

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

#### 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 us at <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a>.

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## **Shooting Club Range Inspections**

The RNBRA can provide range pre-inspections and advice for affiliated clubs looking to meet the NB Government shooting range construction requirements. We can also provide, upon request, a copy of the *Standards for Design and Construction of Shooting Ranges in New Brunswick* issued by the Chief Provincial Firearms Office. For more information, email Gord at <a href="mailto:president@rnbra.ca">president@rnbra.ca</a>.

Federal: Shooting Clubs and Shooting Ranges Regulations

Provincial: **Shooting Range Leasing Policy** 

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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 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 <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a> and include a description of the youth program and the date (if applicable). If you are unsure if your program/event will qualify, just send Laura a quick email and she'll let you know the next steps.

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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. For more information on these courses or to arrange one at your club, contact Laura at <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a>.

Are you interested in developing your own workshop? The RNBRA may be able to help with funding, organizing and development. Send ideas to Laura at <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a>.

#### **Air Gun News**

Information on the St. Croix Youth Air Gun Program is available on the **RNBRA website** or the **St. Croix Sportsman Club website** or you can contact Don Brown at **d.brown4@bellaliant.net**.

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#### **Benchrest News**

Information on New Brunswick Benchrest Shooting is available online at the **Benchrest blog**, including 2019 shooting schedules for Minto and Petitcodiac.

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## **Fullbore News**

Register today for the 2019 Eastern Canada F-Class Championships, being held at Batouche again this year from June 29-July 1! The course of fire will be the same as last year, with 158 round count including sighters. Prizes for individuals and teams will be awarded. A reduced entry fee for competitors under 25 years old is available. For more information, visit our <a href="website">website</a> or email Match Director Gord Holloway at <a href="measurements">president@rnbra.ca</a>.

All the latest news and information on the competitive Fullbore program is always available at the **Fullbore blog**. The Fullbore 2019 shooting schedule is **available online** now. Be sure to check back for updates.

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## **Practical Pistol News**

Anyone interested in learning more about International Practical Shooting Confederation membership and competitions please email us at <a href="mailto:ipscnewbrunswick@gmail.com">ipscnewbrunswick@gmail.com</a> or visit our Facebook page IPSC New Brunswick.

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# **Shotgun & Smallbore News**

Saturday, June 29 has been chosen as the date for the 2019 Smallbore Prone MTR Rifle and Standing Smallbore Rifle match to be held at the Woodstock Pistol and Rifle Club. This match will be sanctioned by the RNBRA as the New Brunswick Championship in these events. It is open to all shooters and is usually attended by a number of junior as well as adult competitors. The course of fire and other match information will be finalized and made available in the near future.

# **Shooting Club News**

Don't forget to renew your club affiliation for 2019. Affiliated clubs receive a number of benefits including

- Funding for programs, special events and matches
- Free paper targets for rifle, pistol, rimfire and centrefire shooting
- Free advice and pre-inspections of ranges
- Discounts on bulk purchases of .22 RF ammunition through Ross Faulkner at the Gun Dealer

What's happening at your club? Send club news submissions to Laura at: info@rnbra.ca.

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## **Newsletter Submissions**

The RNBRA newsletter is open to submissions from members, shooting clubs, and non-members for any interesting information, events, questions, ideas, or anything else related to the RNBRA's mission: promoting marksmanship through competitive shooting.

Please send all newsletter submissions to Laura at <a href="mailto:info@rnbra.ca">info@rnbra.ca</a>.