



## **National Rifle Association of Australia Limited**

### **MEMBER UPDATE #52**

Welcome to Members Update 52

#### **NRAA Chairman – Craig McGowan**

Welcome to the Chairman's report for July. I can start off this update with news. Following our end of year review the NRAA is pleased to announce an increase in membership of 120 new Juniors and 800 new members. This sees our membership now at 6376 members. This is a fantastic effort by the clubs, States and Territories to attract new members in what can only be described as challenging times.

Following on from the Members Forum the NRAA have been focusing on key areas from the strategic plan and action items from the Members Forum. One key deliverable out of this was the updating of the Range Officer course material and delivering the initial training course to the new standard. Sporter Hunter Rules review, Constitutional Review, Festival of Shooting and the Membership Policy are key areas under work by the NRAA.

I am also pleased to announce that the NRAA are on track to sign an MOU with Biathlon East Australia. This is an important step establishing access to training facilities and ranges under the NRAA banner, while increasing the NRAA membership of those clubs that embrace this new discipline.

2021 is seeing continued pressure on our sport in terms of the supply of key reloading components. This trend is expected to continue into the foreseeable future and is requiring both the NRAA and the States and Territories to be proactive in securing orders of projectiles, powder and factory ammunition. The NRAA has decided to invest heavily to secure future supplies of projectiles and factory ammunition. This will also require a mind shift from the State and Territories to plan ahead. Not just 6 months, but 12 to 18 months ahead to avoid critical shortage of projectiles, powder and factory ammunition to shoot.

The NRAA have also been working with Sporting Integrity Australia to implement member protection policies. These are currently in early draft and plan to be implemented later this year.

#### **NRAA President - Bruce Scott**

##### **ICFRA MATTERS**

**FCWC:** The next FCWC will be conducted in South Africa in March/April 2023 and will include the SA Open Championships.

**WLRC:** The next WLRC will be conducted in South Africa and has been postponed to 2024. The provisional dates will be 7 – 23 March 2024. This includes the SA Open Championships of 2024. A detailed program will be circulated in the near future.



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The eligibility for the under 21 and under 25 matches at the WLRC 2024 will be: "25 and under" and "21 and under". The eligibility for the matches will be based on 25 March – that would have been the original date in 2023. Please take note that this is **ONLY** applicable to the delayed WLRC 2024, and not for any future WLRC.

**AUSTRALIA MATCH:** Recommendations for future Australia Matches have been provided to the ICFRA Executive with Australia hoping to host the event in 2025. NRAA will advise once the 'updated' ICFRA programme is finalised.

**COMMONWEALTH SHOOTING EVENT – INDIA 2022:** India is severely impacted by the COVID 19 pandemic and has decided they will be unable to host this event. The decision by India has been supported by Shooting Australia.

#### **HISTORY OF OUR SPORT**

**NRAA History Team:** A special interest group of members who have a passion for all facets of our sport's history has been formed. The group will be initially known as the 'NRAA History Team'. The intention is to encourage the research, compilation and publication of articles relevant to the history of long range shooting in Australia. By doing so the NRAA, States and Territories and clubs will preserve our rich history and help inform current members of our past.

**1919 Diggers Team to Bisley:** Members are encouraged to read the story behind the 1919 Diggers Team that formed in England before the members returned to Australia after the Great War.

<https://nraa.com.au/history/from-the-president-anzac-day-2021/>

**Who is Australia's youngest Queens/Kings Prize winner?** Josh Pratt, a member of the Natives Rifle Club in Brisbane, won the recent 2021 NQRA Queens aged 18 years and 47 days. Has a younger Australian won a Queens or Kings?

**NQRA recognises our past:** NQRA's 'Project Remember Them' concluded on 14 May 2021 with the dedication ceremony for a newly established memorial with a brass plaque which reads:

*The North Queensland Rifle Association and its Clubs  
Honours All Rifle Club Members  
Who Served Australia in All Conflicts*

*Their Names Liveth For Evermore.*

An article explaining the significance of the memorial has been published at

<https://nraa.com.au/uncategorised/project-remember-them-address-by-bruce-a-r-scott-csc-adc-hrsc-14-may-2021/>



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#### **Ammunition – Piers Cambridge**

Ammunition. The NRAA is acutely aware that some components are becoming difficult to obtain and we can expect supply issues for some time. This is primarily related to Berger Projectiles and primers. Fortunately, we have large regular supplies of Sierra projectiles and we are looking at options regarding primers. Please be aware that panic buying is not the solution! Powder supplies are becoming more regular as supply issues due to COVID are being managed. That said, the ongoing COVID issues will continue to affect supply times. Unfortunately, there has been a small price rise from Thales which came into effect last month. We have made our second batch of loaded ammunition which is available through the NRAA and S&T have been asked to purchase quantities of this ammunition.

The Board recently agreed to implement the Lapua Scenar L 308/155gn. Your State and Territory will have received the first orders that have been placed. A larger shipment is due in later in the year.

Range Officers Course. A new Range Officer Booklet has been developed and at the Members Forum it was agreed by all S&T that current Range Officers will be upskilled over the coming months and that new RO will need to sit a revised course. The intent is to focus on safety (especially at club level) rather than just 'rules'. Over the weekend of 29/30 May a train the trainer course was conducted in Brisbane for S&T RO. This will allow courses to be conducted in each S&T. Safety is a key risk to the longevity of our sport and it is vitally important that we concentrate on ensuring our sport is safe.

#### **Competition – Craig McGowan**

2021 has again thrown the competitions calendar into disarray with the cancellation of the F Class Teams Championships. With the agreement of the VRA and the Canberra Rifle Club, the F Class Nationals have now been moved to the VRA in April 2022.

June saw the 49th running of the National Championships and Queens Prize. This was a slightly amended program this year to fit in the National Open Teams Championships. It was a big week of shooting, and fantastic to see people out on the range after what have been a challenging time over the previous 12 months. Congratulations to all the winners and to NSW who took out the National Team Event. 2022 is looking shaping up to be a big year with the NRAA and the 50th running of the National Championships Queens Badge.

In international news, the F Class and Target Rifle Long Range World Championships have been moved back a further year. With the F Class World Championships now Scheduled for April 2023, and the Target Rifle World Championships now moved out to 2024. The NRAA is expecting to make further decisions regarding international teams matches in the coming month as the situation regarding COVID and travel unfold.



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#### **Rules – Matt Pozzebon**

As most will have seen the July edition of the SSR's has been uploaded to the NRAA webpage. This includes:

- The approval of Lapua Scenar and Scenar L .308 155gn projectiles for use from 1<sup>st</sup> September.
- Rule 4.2.1.16 has been updated to include the use of Wireless headsets.
- Rule 4.1.4.4 has been updated to clarify the full time limit.
- Rule 20.2.4 has been updated to bring the NRAA front test rule into alignment with the ICFRA equivalent.
- Chapter 25 , Biathlon Rules will be included in SSR's.

National TR Teams composition will allow a Master Coach in all 10 man Matches.

The NRAA Rules committee has been working to update the Sporter Hunter Class rules. These will be discussed at the NRAA Members forum for inclusion in the January 2022 edition of SSR's.

#### **Finance – Tina Thornhill**

The financial year has come around again and affiliation fees for 2021- 2022 are being received by your State and Territory.

We are pleased that we have been able to keep these fees the same as 2020-2021. These fees contribute directly to the Insurance, National Data base, Grading System, Online prize meeting program, Australian and National Teams events and the running of Head Office. Without your membership support we would not have been able to progress with these critical items that cement our sport of shooting into the years to come.

#### **Affiliations**

Senior	Seventy Five (75) dollars Inc GST.
Junior	Forty (40) dollars Inc GST

#### **New member Affiliation fees**

Senior	Forty (40) dollars Inc GST
Junior	Twenty dollars (20) Inc GST