

NRAA NEWS BRIEF



2024 No1, 07 March 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome!

NRAA is introducing its new Newsletter format in 2024. We hope you find the news update informative and inspiring.

Culture

At the recent Quarterly Members Forum, NRAA commenced a discussion with your State and Territory representatives about how we can improve the culture within our sport to make it more reflective of today's society. As I write this from Ngunnawal land, I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we all shoot and pay my respects to Elders past and present.

Good shooting to you all!

Stephen Negus
NRAA Chair

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

Three NRAA Australian Target Rifle Teams (Open, Under 25 and Veterans) are currently in South Africa to defend the Long Range World Championships titles they won in 2019. Each team contains members who proudly identify as indigenous. A special team shirt has been created to celebrate this journey, which is a first for our sport. Long range target rifle shooting also has an embedded culture of competition and success dating back to the 1800s.

We wish the teams all the best of luck during the individual and Teams matches during March.

You can watch their progress via the NRAA Facebook page:
[Click here](#)

SAFETY

Safety is another key hallmark of culture in our sport. Our Standard Shooting Rules (SSRs) serve to provide procedures for the safe handling of firearms which are amongst the best in the world. Vigorous cycling of bolts on the mound, loading only when on aim at the target, clearing of rifles by scorers, removing bolts and inserting Empty Chamber Indicators (ECIs) at all times off the mound are simple mandatory steps which we all follow to ensure we continue to grow the culture of safety in our sport.

However, sometimes incidents do occur which we can all learn from. These incidents may be technical or procedural. Please continue to report incidents so that the NRAA can investigate and advise improvements by way of a Safety Notice on our website.

Click on About > Policies > Incidents to view the Safety Notice part of the NRAA website.

KEY DATES: MARCH - APRIL

7 - 11 MARCH

TASMANIAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION - KING'S PRIZE

7 - 23 MARCH

PALMA MATCH AND WORLD LONG RANGE
CHAMPIONSHIPS - SOUTH AFRICA

10 - 14 APRIL

VICTORIAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION - KING'S PRIZE



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WELCOME TO THE NEW DIRECTOR

As indicated in the Dec 2023 News Brief, the NRAA is implementing a project to engage a suitable IT systems contractor to update the NRAA website, OPMP system and start implementing a national membership system to streamline efforts for all State and Territory associations. The Board is pleased to announce that we have appointed James Varty to fill a casual vacancy to lead this project from the Board.

James has a background of deploying web services to a very large education department, and over 15 years of technical experience across various organisation structures and stakeholder types.

His key strength lies in understanding the true needs of the customer and he will apply this to NRAA, Member Organisations and shooters to produce effective technical solutions. James is a target rifle shooter with the Mosman-Neutral Bay Rifle Club.

James will need support to define, scope and implement this project over the next 12 months. The NRAA will shortly be calling for expressions of interest from individual members with suitable IT expertise and skills to form an IT Systems committee. This committee will scope the tender documents to procure a suitable industry contractor and then oversight their works.

REMAINING BOARD VACANCY

The Board has been impressed by other candidates (from both within and independent to our sport) who have expressed interest in supporting the NRAA as a Board member. However, the Board has decided that as part of diversifying our culture, the role will be formally advertised both internally and externally. The Board seeks a suitable person with training, coaching program and pathway development skills and experience. This is necessary to satisfy the other directive from the Member Organisations at the Member's Forum meeting last year. Individuals who have previously expressed interest in this role are encouraged to apply when the NRAA calls for nominations to be submitted.

TRANS TASMAN SUCCESS

Congratulations to the NRAA FO and FTR teams to New Zealand who secured wins in the Trans-Tasman matches. Under the captaincy of Matt Foster and Ian Marks respectively, the teams performed extremely well.

Special mention goes to Sean Campbell of Inverell who won the individual triple of F-Open Masfield, Belt series and Grand Aggregate! A big thank you to the NRANZ who hosted the teams magnificently.

NRAA is currently discussing with NRANZ when the next Trans-Tasman match will be held in Australia.



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BIATHLON

Two of our biathlon members, Noah Bradford (NSWRA) and Darcie Morton (ACTFBTR) recently competed at the IBU World Championships. For Noah it was his first time competing and the second time for Darcie. Both athletes are currently being supported by the Australian Olympic Committee as possible contenders for selection to the Winter Olympic Games in 2026.

Darcie and Noah were also able to successfully field a single mixed relay team (one athlete of each gender) for Australia, which was the first time Australia has been able to enter such a team.

Both athletes are now competing at the IBU Cup competition in Austria, where Darcie has just recorded her best ever racing result! This has allowed her to lower her qualifying points to below 100pts, which will continue to move her closer to Olympic qualifying.

NRAA wishes them all the very best in their last competitions for the 2023-24 season, with fast skiing and shooting!



POLICIES

NRAA is continuing its program of updating existing and adopting contemporary new Sport policies. The policies aim to make participation in our sport safe, inclusive, ethical for our members, supporters and fans.

Please visit the Policies pages on the [NRAA website](#) by clicking on About Us>Policies



If you would like to receive the newsletter directly, please email your name, email address and member State and Territory organisation to subscribe@nraa.com.au