



National Rifle Association of Australia Limited

MEMBER UPDATE #47

Welcome to Members Update 47. The NRAA board has gone through some changes in the last 6 months with the appointment of three new Directors. Piers Cambridge has been appointed the Ammunition and Strategic Plan portfolios, Craig McGowan is now in charge of Competitions and Albert van Wyk will lead the NRAA with IT development and Membership. George Wittorff is now the Director for Rules and has also been appointed Chairman. Gordon Duncan has retained the portfolio of Finance.

The NRAA AGM will be held on Friday 29th November 2019. During this meeting there will be elections for three directors' positions. Nominations will be called as per the NRAA Constitution. The Members Forum will follow on Saturday 30th November, this is the opportunity for all State and Territories to present any recommendations to the NRAA Board.

All States and Territories have been participating in the Shooting Australia Roadshows. These have been a great success for information sharing. The Shooting Australia Members Forum will be held in May and we look forward to receiving the final report on all the discussion and outcomes. We will forward this to all once received. Shooting Australia has farewelled Damien Marangon who has been the CEO for the past seven years. The NRAA thanks him for all his efforts and wishes him well in his new endeavour.

To assist the invoicing process for the NRAA we have implemented a new order process, this will allow any issues to be addressed immediately and invoicing to be raised on receipt of the Goods Received form. This process will also help S&T Shops/Stores communicate to their Executives on deliveries received and upcoming payments. NRAA has also implemented a 30-day payment term.

Chairman/Rules – George Wittorff

In the period since being assigned the Rules portfolio I have addressed the following issues:

1. Attended an ICFRA committee meeting at Trentham, New Zealand in January, where the following points were raised:

- “Machine gunning”. For electronic targets when shooting single string. Target Rifle has mandated an instantaneous confirmation of registration of a hit by the target, with value and position to appear after 10 seconds. Australia voted against this change. Notwithstanding, in future ICFRA competitions in Australia, the requirement of a 10 second delay will of necessity apply. Australian Etarget suppliers/manufacturers will need to be made aware of this new stipulation and be required to update existing and future systems to be able to cater for this ICFRA requirement.
- In international teams events, to overcome the problem of penalizing the whole team in the event of a shot being fired in the preparation period, it was decided to do away with the preparation period altogether, and extend the time allowed for the team to complete its shoot by a single 2 minute period.
No change required to NRAA rules for teams required.



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- Decision to remove the position of Armourer from the Palma Match Team, reducing the Palma squad from 26 to 25.
NRAA Competitions manual to be amended to reflect the above.
- ICFRA has changed the International Teams rule to allow the use of 223 projectiles. Further 91gn 223 projectiles have been approved. *NRAA SSRs to be amended to allow the use of projectiles up to 91gn.*
This rule will become effective on 1st July, 2019.

2. Introduction of a new discipline, titled “Sporting/Hunting”
This set of rules was formulated via the use of a sub-committee who put forward a Draft set of Rules, which were then forwarded to all S&Ts for comment. Twenty one responses were received, and the input from these resulted in a final Draft being presented to the Board for approval. This discipline is introduced to cater for shooters who have off-the-shelf sporting/hunting rifles, and to offer them a venue at which to participate in the sport. It’s prime purpose is to attract new members and to encourage participation.

This new Discipline will become operative immediately, SSR’s will be published within the next seven days with New discipline included.

3. SSR 3.1.5.9 which reads “Prismatic non-magnifying periscopic devices at the backsight may be fitted to permit the competitor to address the peep sight in a downward direction, rather than horizontally” was presented to the Board.
Approved – effective 1st July 2019.

4. The following matters were raised as queries or complaints with the Rules Director by various members, and dealt with accordingly:

- Blow Off Shots
- Service Rifle – Optical Class
- Artificial rests
- F Class Teams – Personnel on Mound
- Match Rifle – 1500yds
- Minors Policy
- Muzzle Brakes
- Pointing and Meplatting
- Service Rifle Assessment
- Shooting Mats.

5. A short article was placed in the ATR, indicating a suggested approach by members when querying issues related to SSRs. In particular, Rule 11.2.3.2, which states: “Where any condition or matter arises which is not covered by any of these rules such condition or matter shall be deemed to be not approved. Application for approval can be made through a State or Territory Association to the NRAA provided the required notice is given.”



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Competition – Craig McGowan

It has been a busy start to 2019 for myself as Competitions Director for the NRAA. The highlight being the outstanding result by the Australian Rifle Team at the recently held Long Range World Championships in New Zealand. Reports have been received by Captains and Managers and will help form the basis of future teams competing overseas.

Preparations for Australian F Class Team to South Africa are moving along with both FTR and F Open Teams captains having selected their respective team managers.

Planning and preparation is also well underway for the National Championships to be held in June, along with the F Class Trans Tasman Championships.

The next three months in the lead up to the July Board meeting, will be busy for the NRAA office and director, with creation of both a Competitions Sub Committee and a Team Selections Sub Committee. Both committees will be tasked with the review of current competitions / policy and procedure and providing recommendations to the board.

April.

- Call for nominations – Competitions Sub Committee.

May.

- North Qld Championships
- Veterans Teams Championships.
- Call for Nominations – Teams Selections Sub Committee.
- Selection of Competitions Sub Committee.

June.

- Australian Target Rifle Championships and Queens Badge.
- Trans Tasman F Class Championships.
- Martin Baxter Match
- Selection of Teams Selections Sub Committee.

July.

- NRAA Board Meeting

Ladies Teams Matches New Composition

At the General Meeting of the Australian Ladies Rifle Association held on 18 June 2018, there was much discussion on the continuation of the National Ladies Team competition in its current format as Target Rifle only competition. As the NRAA is aware there is a growing membership of Ladies within the F Class disciplines and this has impacted the ability for States to submit a team for the National Ladies Team competition for several years. The Ladies have now approved the following:

- That future Ladies Teams will be Composite Teams, consisting of TR and F-Class shooters.
- Each State may nominate up to two (2) teams.
- That teams consist of 5 shooters and be made up of any combination of TR, FS, FO or FTR.
- The MCSI System or any other approved “mixed” scoring system be used for the competition. (*Executive of the Association to confirm the scoring system to be used prior to the commencement of the matches.*)

NRAA will update the teams manual and advise the new subcommittee.



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Calendar of Events 2020

Event	Location	Date
National		
Ladies Teams Matches	VRA	30 - 31 March
National Teams Championships	NRAA - Belmont	June
Australian Match Rifle and LR F Class Championships	Ragland, QLD	15 - 19 July
National Veterans Teams Matches	NSW	October
International		
Ladies Tri Nation Match	New Zealand	January
South Africa WFCLRC Test Event	South Africa	27 March - 4 April
Bisley Teams	Bisley , UK	July

Finance – Gordon Duncan

NRAA affiliation fees are coming due on the 1st July 2019. Please see the below fees for the 2019 - 2020 Financial year.

Affiliations

NRAA 2019 -2020 Affiliation.

Affiliations	Senior	Sixty Five (65) dollars Inc GST.
	Junior	Thirty Seven (37) dollars Inc GST

New member fees, annual charge as below.

Affiliation	Senior	Thirty Seven (37) dollars Inc GST
	Junior	Seventeen (17) dollars Inc GST

Membership and IT – Albert van Wyk – Nil Report



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Ammunition – Piers Cambridge

Members would be aware that Winchester have ceased production of ammunition in Australia. As a result, NRAA are seeking a solution for the long-term supply of a factory round.

In the interim, Winchester are producing a final 60000 rounds which is currently being manufactured. This ammunition will be distributed to the S&T as per the orders that have been placed; the outcome being that ammunition stocks should be available to members until later this year. We would ask members not to do any panic buying.

The NRAA has recently written to a number of ammunition suppliers in Australia asking them to bid on the supply of ammunition to a known specification. This specification is based on a Sierra 2155 and a velocity of 2950fps from a 30inch barrel. To date, three companies have responded and there is significant opportunity to move forward. When final details have been confirmed, the S&T opinion on a suitable round will be sought. In the intervening period it is likely that some people will be asked to test pre-production batches of ammunition. Firm details on the specification and cost will be provided once a supplier has been confirmed, you would appreciate that much of the information is commercial in confidence at this stage.

Members should also be aware that there is significant quantities of Commonwealth Games Ammunition (Berger 155.5gn projectile in an ADI case). Whilst at a higher price point than the Winchester ammunition, it is high quality ammunition using a Berger projectile. Members should be aware that all S&T agreed to sell the round at cost price which is \$1.82 per round.

Rules and Ammunition Changes

At the recent Board Meeting the following decisions were made:

- Any Powder now may be used by any discipline. Members are reminded to check manufactures specifications and start at the minimum load and work up loads in a safe and controlled manner. We would also make the observation, that due to the high costs and powder importation, that ADI powders will most likely remain the most available brand at the best price point.
- The Board has approved the use of any projectile up to 91gns in 223/5.56mm. Again, members are reminded to check manufactures specifications and start at the minimum load and work up loads in a safe and controlled manner.
- **These rules will come into effect on 1st July 2019.**

Safety Sub-Committee

The Board has agreed to create a safety sub-committee that will focus on creating a multi-person team to focus on range design and other firearm safety issues. As a result, people with an appropriate skill set will be asked to be members of the sub-committee and meet virtually to resolve issues/safety concerns as required. The NRAA will soon be seeking expressions of interest so please make yourself known to your S&T Association and keep an eye on the NRAA Website. The NRAA will also be asking selected individuals to participate in the sub-committee.