



# **NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA LTD**

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## **COVID 19 Members Update - 30 April 2020**

The NRAA offer our sincere thanks to all our members for your understanding and support during this challenging period. The NRAA Board is very aware of the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on individuals and also organisations as we all come to terms with changes in income and changed operating models. Unfortunately, this situation is out of every ones' control, so we need to be patient and supportive and work through these impacts methodically with an eye on the future. Hopefully, we can return to shooting in the coming weeks and not months.

The NRAA is a Member's Association and to state the obvious, without you, our members, and your financial contributions, we would not be here to deliver membership services for your benefit, be that now or in the future. Like most sporting organisations, the NRAA is the by-product of its members ... it was born and has evolved over the years through the demand to meet the needs, requirements and benefits of our participants and our sport. As our members, you therefore each have ownership and a vested interest in this Association with the shared objective that it will continue to deliver the products, services and opportunities that you continue to enjoy as members of this sport. It is always our pinnacle ambition to keep your Association alive and well, (which remains even more the case during this difficult period), and we now hope to use some of this "re-diverted" time to go from reactive to proactive mode and improve our processes and procedures so we will be able to deliver improved services to all members moving to the back end of 2020 and beyond.

So, now is probably a good time to reflect on what it means to be a member of this Association.

### **Direct benefits from the NRAA include:**

- Provision of quality ammunition and components at best cost.
- Comprehensive insurance for all.
- National online magazine – now delivering update to date articles.
- Provision of elite level competition in a formal manner through State/National/International level.
- Governance and provision for all of our shooting disciplines being 300m, Field and Rimfire, F Class Open, F Class Standard, FTR, Long Range Black Powder, Match Rifle, Precision Service Rifle, Service Rifle Target Shooting, Sporting Hunter, Target Rifle and Target Rifle Optical Class.
- Development and updating of the Standard Shooting Rules, which determine conduct of all matches, free for National members.
- Nationally endorsed training manuals.
- Support to State Associations in State/Commonwealth Government liaison.
- Policy documents for good governance of our sport.
- Online Prize Meeting Program.
- National Grading and Ranking System.
- Range Official Course and register.
- National Coaching System.

### **Indirect benefits associated with NRAA membership:**

- The benefits associated with strengthening the membership base of the NRAA, and by default, the State and Territories means that all bodies gain political clout, thus minimising the views of outside bodies, such as the anti-gun lobby, as well as some Commonwealth Departments that we are divided and lacking political influence.
- Assistance in the management of current issues such as National and State Reviews of Firearms Laws and Regulations, and the change in attitude towards firearms are examples of why the NRAA is positioned to act on Associations' and shooters' behalf.
- Regular support provided by the two employees of the NRAA to those who seek it, officially or otherwise.
- Membership of the NRAA is \$75.00, which costs \$1.45 a week, less than the amount spent on one factory round. This a very small price to pay to strengthen our sport and protect our interests.

The NRAA Board is, doing everything in its power to ensure that we can continue to deliver on these services and improve what and how the NRAA works for you. Recently the NRAA Board has been meeting (Virtually) every week to discuss how we can continue to add Value for our members. We have investigated and applied for all avenues of Government Financial Assistance that we are eligible for. We have reduced operating cost to as low as physically possible without compromising good business practices. We have made some tough decision regarding International Team participation to assist in reduction of expenses. We have tried our best to protect the livelihoods of two employees of the NRAA. Our final review was our affiliation fees and how we can assist all our members without jeopardising the NRAA or State and Territory operations. After seeking advice internally and from external disciplines we believe the following will be in the best interest to all:

- The 2020-2021 Affiliation fees as set at the 2019 AGM will remain at \$75, the reasoning being: Fees have already been promulgated, income has decreased from sales of Ammunition and Projectiles (the NRAA having removed the 3 cent levy from 15 Jun 2020 and already has on some products such as factory ammunition)
- The NRAA Board will propose to the Council at the November 2020 AGM that the proposed increase of fees to affiliation in 2021-2022 be postponed to 2022-2023. This will be ratified at the NRAA AGM in November 2020. It is important to note that under the Constitution it is the Council at the AGM who sets annual fees.

Once COVID 19 Restrictions are lifted nationally, the NRAA intends to initiate a range of activities to ensure members return and to attract new members. Stand by for further details.

We look forward to welcoming many of you back to Shooting later this year, (if we have official permission to proceed), for the conduct of the National Veterans Teams Matches in September. We will advise you of any changes as we move forward and are informed of the allowances or restrictions by the powers that be.

Please stay safe and well,

Sincerely  
Piers Cambridge  
Chairman on behalf of the Board.