



# NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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## NRANZ Spring 2020 Newsletter

Just when it looked like we were going to have a smooth start to the season, along came the Covid-19 disruptor again. Let us hope we get it under control again and we can all go shooting without worries.

With a new season starting, **now is the time to plan**, as a club, what you are going to do to grow your club.

It is easier to start new shooters as a group but decide how many you can comfortably handle at a time.

What is the state of your club equipment? What are you offering new or prospective members? How are you selling yourselves, website, Facebook or other ways?

With many remits presented to the NRANZ Council at the winter meeting, there are changes and more options for members, and prospective members to shoot.

**The F-PR class** which was outlined at the AGM in January has now come into being. The draft of the rules which were circulated to members have, after some amendments and additions, been passed. The full set of rules are on the website and have been circulated to clubs.

This class caters for the modern chassis type rifles that are capable of competitive shooting at all ranges.

The remit to have a **F class for 155 grain .308 rifles** was passed but with changes. The class will be called FTR Classic. The rifle and shooting rules are as for FTR but incorporating the Target Rifle bullet rules. The TR bullet rules state that the .308 projectile cannot exceed 156 grains, and also allow for the .223 calibre with a projectile not exceeding 91 grains. The .223 can be used in FTR Classic. This class goes back to the original concept for FTR.

Both F-PR and FTR Classic will use the F Class scoring system with the X and 6.

The remit to **remove the 1000 yard matches** from the National Championship was lost.

The remit to alter the **long range target scoring rings** was passed. The 4 ring is now the rest of the black outside the 5 ring. The white is now the 3 and 2. The change for our electronic targets is apparently quite straight forward as this target is in use in South Africa.

The **programme for the National Championship** in 2021 will be the same as that used in 2020.

300-500-600-600-800-800-900-1000-900-1000 with the final at 900.

The entry fee for the National Championship is unchanged at \$350.

Both F-PR and FTR Classic classes can shoot the National Championships in 2021. There will also be a .303 championship shooting the 300-500-600-600 yard day.

The **Overseas Team Fund**, which was funded from the championship levy, has been done away with. NRANZ will now pay the entry fee for the primary team's match for which a travelling team is selected. The money which would have formed the overseas team fund is now being used to support first time attendees at the National Championships, by way of a subsidy on their entry fee.

There is a questionnaire out asking for preferences around the **Regional Teams Match** which is held on the Friday morning during the National Championships. Replies by the end of September to the NRANZ Secretary.

A review of the **trophies** for the National Championships has shown some gaps. If you would like to donate a trophy that can be allocated to one of the gaps, it would be most appreciated.

In the past we have repurposed trophies from around the country, such as unused or defunct club or regional trophies, that are in good order and have space on them for future engraving.

The changes to the **Firearms Law** were passed with very few changes despite a lot of submissions. The section which impacts on the operation of clubs and shooting ranges (Part 6) are not coming into effect for two years.

However, the section relating to the **sale of ammunition** will come into effect at the end of this year.

This section is aimed at retailers selling ammunition over the counter to people they do not know.

But most of the shooting organisations in NZ sell and supply ammunition to their members and will be subject to some of the provisions.

New Zealand Shooting Federation have been asked to get a legal interpretation on how this legislation will affect clubs and their ammunition supply.

Several of our own with legal minds are also going through the new law and will give us their own interpretation.

You should all be aware of these new laws; you can search for them under

[Section 104 Arms Legislation Act 2020](#)

The laws relating to clubs and ranges are Part 6.

The ammunition rules are in Part 4 General Restrictions, 22B, 22D and 22E.

Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

Jon Phillipps and Helen Freiman will be running **three coaching weekends** around the country this season. One in the northern region, one Wellington and one in the middle of the South Island. They are both qualified coaches and have been running coaching weekends and the Junior Development Squad for TSNZ for many years.

The first day is mostly theory and the second day is more on the rifle.

I did a course with them earlier this month and got a lot out of it.

The theory day was the most useful and a lot of it works as more of a forum. Although their background is TR type shooting, many of the skills and training aspects are just as relevant for F Class shooters. NRANZ is picking up the cost of their travel to the regions, but there will be a cover charge for attendees.

The NRANZ Secretary has called for nominations for the two **Delegate at Large** positions on the NRANZ Council. Two of the four retire by rotation each year. The two retiring by rotation this year are Diane Collings and Amy Hatcher.

Covid-19 has forced the **postponement** of a number of international shooting events. The World F Class Championships in South Africa have been postponed a year to April 2022. We will call for team member nominations later in the year. The Australia Match for TR which was to be held in England in 2021 will now be held in conjunction with the TR World Championships in South Africa in 2023. Let us hope that international travel is again a safe option in time for these events to go ahead.

While on Covid-19, The NRANZ Executive has had some discussions around our options should our National Championships be affected by another lockdown which limits internal travel. Rather than cancelling, the preferred option would be to postpone until April. It would not be feasible to reschedule it any sooner because we all know that lockdowns are not a short-term event and planning takes time.

**Affiliation fees** are the same as last year at \$150. First year and Under 25 members are \$75, and associate members \$35. An associate member is one that does not shoot more than five times per year, does not shoot provincial championships, and has no voting rights. Subscriptions have been held even though many of our costs have increased along with areas that need expenditure, such as insurance, a website upgrade, support for regional coaching amongst other things.

We are planning on an increase in membership to offset these costs.

If your club supports people that do not pay affiliations, what you are effectively saying is that you are personally prepared to subsidise their participation in the sport when you pay your sub.

Affiliation numbers matter to us all.

I hope we can get a season without disruptions from covid-19, but I would not place any bets on it.

We all missed the tail end of last season and I know many used the lockdown to do some early preparation for the coming season, such as loading ammo.

The new classes offer more to our members and to prospective new members.

What class, or type of rifle people want to shoot with, that is their choice, but we want them all as members. The more the merrier.

Malcolm Dodson  
NRANZ President