

FORKS RIFLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

PO Box 14842

Grand Forks, ND 58208-4842

January 2020

Gate Combination Change: The combination on the gate lock and heated shooting house were changed on January 1, 2020. **The new combinations are on the 2020 membership card, which is provided when you join or renew.** If you have lost or discarded your application form that was mailed to you with the annual meeting notice, you can download one from the club website.

Display your Membership Card: Members are reminded to display their membership cards when utilizing the club facilities. Cards do not need to be displayed when participation in organized matches and leagues, as these are open to the public and are under the direction of designated club personnel. Card holders and lanyards are available from the club officers, or you can provide your own.

Why Display Membership Cards: Due to the number of activities taking place on the range where the gate is open, nonmembers may come onto the range thinking that it is a public range. They do not know the range rules and thereby pose a safety and liability issues for the club. As you know the club has some fairly complex range procedures to maximize the utilization of the ranges and ensure the safety of the individuals on the range. By displaying your card, you help to identify individuals who do not belong or are behaving in an unsafe manner.

Heated Shooting House: Only individuals who have paid the \$45.00 fee for the calendar year may utilize the heated shooting house, including the lighted target on the 100-yard sighting-in-range backstop. Individuals using the heated shooting house are reminded to ensure that the windows are closed, lights are off and the door is latched when you finish using the facility. To accommodate families utilizing the facility, a \$25.00 annual fee has been established for spouses to utilize the shooting house. There is no charge for juniors under 18 years of age, however, they must be accompanied by a parent with access.

Guests: Guests are welcome and may observe but not fire a firearm. If you have friends or family from outside of the area who wish to shoot on the range, temporary 15-day (consecutive) memberships are available for \$15.00. Just contact one of the officers or e-mail the club at <info@forksrifleclub.org>. An application form can be downloaded from the club website. Temporary members have to be accompanied by a member whenever they are on the range.

The 2020 Forks Friends of NRA Banquet and Fund Raiser is scheduled for March 28th at Alerus Center. The NRA Foundation has provided funding for most of our junior program equipment and many of the range improvements including the sighting-in-range building and indoor range. Make plans to attend and support this event. Doors open at 5:30 pm and the banquet starts at 7:30 pm. For tickets call 701-330-2099 or 218-779-0666.

Club Officers: The club officers and a director were elected at the November annual meeting. Officers are as follows: Dennis Coulter, President; Kevin Fire, Executive Officer; Tom Reiten, Secretary-Treasurer; Steven Martin, Chief Instructor; Mike Knain, Range Officer. Directors are: Rick Kraft, Gordy Linnell and Fred Martinez.

Match Winners: Marcus Moeglein won the John Bonnet World War I match with a score of 84. Ryan Karrar won the World War II memorial match with a score of 69. The sniper team of Ryan Karrar and Coby Dalgliesh won the Battle of Cisterna winter vintage sniper rifle match with a score of 34 out of 40. Joe Martin shot a 797-66x of a possible 800 to win the NRA approved 4-Position indoor match held on December 14th.

Executive Committee Meetings: The executive committee meetings are normally scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month. Club members are welcome to attend. Club activities, status of projects and future range developments plans are discussed at these meetings. To confirm the meeting date and time check the calendar on the club website <forksrifleclub.org>.

Winter Leagues: Winter indoor leagues started the first full week in January and runs through March.

- The light rifle league runs Sunday afternoons (1:00 to 4:00 pm) and Monday nights (6:30 to 10:00 pm) starting, January 5, 2020. The .22 long rifle caliber light rifle cannot weigh more than 8 ½ pounds with sights (scope or iron) and not have a trigger pull less than 2 pounds. The targets are all shot at 50 feet from the offhand position. No slings, shooting jackets or gloves are allowed. NRA light rifle rules apply.
- The 4-position rifle league is on Wednesday nights, (6:30 to 9:30 pm) starting January 8, 2020, and consists of shooting the A-17 target from prone, sitting, kneeling and standing positions from 50 feet using a .22 long rifle target rifle with scope or aperture sights. Shooting coats, pants, gloves and slings are allowed. NRA smallbore rifle rules apply.
- The handgun league is on Friday afternoons (1:00 to 3:00 pm) and Friday nights (6:30 to 9:30 pm) starting on January 10, 2020. League consists of both NRA conventional smallbore pistol shot on NRA bullseye targets (NRA rules apply) and defensive handgun shot on NRA police qualification silhouette targets, both are shot at 50 feet. Pistols are restricted to .22 long rifle or .22 short caliber.

Members can try any of the leagues one time for FREE. If you are not going to be able to participate on a weekly basis, members can participate in any of the leagues on a \$5.00 per time basis. Non-members can participate on a \$10.00 per time basis.

Junior Marksmanship Program: The junior marksmanship program utilizes the indoor range facilities on Sunday evenings and Tuesday and Thursday nights. It provides the young shooter with the basic skills to eventually compete in junior and senior smallbore rifle competitions. It is open to young shooter through twenty years of age. Thanks to Friends of NRA Foundation grants, the club has all the equipment needed to advance in precision smallbore rifle. Once juniors master the basic skills, they participate in the 4-Position rifle league. For information, contact Steve Martin at 218-779-7497.

Range Volunteers: The Forks Rifle Club has no employees. With the exception of major construction projects that are contracted out, everything done on the range is done by volunteers. If you are interested in helping with maintenance contact Mike Knain, Range Officer, at 701-215-3239. Mike is responsible for coordinating all activities involving grounds, facilities and maintenance equipment at the range.

Match Volunteers: Interested in various shooting activities, but do not feel you are ready to compete in a match? Maybe you are interested, but are not able to do so because of a physical limitation. How about working as a volunteer at the matches. It is a great way to see what is involved. Help is always needed pulling targets or scoring at high power rifle or vintage matches or scoring targets at smallbore matches. At silhouette matches target setters and scorers are needed. If you are already competing in a shooting discipline, consider running the line for another discipline, so that others might be able to shoot in the match. Contact the individual listed on the match notice if you want to help.

Hunter Safety Class: The Club will be hosting a North Dakota Game and Fish Department Hunter safety class in May 2020. You need to go to the North Dakota Game and Fish website to register for the class. A link is on the Forks Rifle Club website.

For current updates on range dates and club activities and dates for the remainder of the year, check the calendar on the club website <forksrifleclub.org>.