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Kamloops Target Sports Association

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1. President's Report

By Jim Sloper (President)

Well, an early spring is upon us, bringing nice weather to be utilizing our ranges. We have some interesting events coming up this year, and I hope you try to attend some of them.

The Archery 3-D shoot is on April 18/19th. This is worth taking the time to observe the archers doing their thing, if you haven't seen this type of competition before.

The same weekend IPSC shooters will be hosting a one day shoot on Sunday, April 19th. Again, if you don't know what IPSC shooting is all about, come on out to observe. Be sure to bring eye and ear protection.

On the May long weekend the club is hosting the BC Provincial Smallbore Championships. Make time to see some of this event and cheer on some of our young shooters.

Rumor has it that the Cowboy Action group is planning monthly one day shoots this year. Be sure to come out and see some of the old west costumes and firearms in use.

At least one fun shoot is being planned and it sounds like it will be a fun event! Look for more information soon.

The Fullbore shooters have several matches planned. Come out to see how far out some of the targets are set - it may surprise you!

We were saddened to learn of Dan Hampton's passing. He will be remembered for his selfless dedication over the years to the Junior Shooting Program and the hundreds of hours of volunteer work he gave the club. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Heidi and family.

Some work parties will be coming up in the months ahead. Please make a special effort to attend at least one, even if you can only give a couple of hours. Remember, many hands make light work, and some of our members contribute way too much of their family time to help the club.

Enjoy our ranges and new targets.

Remember **Be Safe - Have Fun - BE SAFE!**



Some of our hard working crew putting up the structure in Bay 10 last year.

2. Full Bore Report

By Barry Prost (Director)

The Full Bore shooters have wrapped up the Winter League shooting for another year. We had a few new shooters attend from the Okanagan as they do not have a regular practice venue. Good to see new shooters trying thing out.

Speaking of which, F class shooting will be trying out a new class made for standard production rifles. If you have a good varmint gun and you want to give the sport a try, you will now be competing against similar rifles. You will shoot the same distances but with fewer shots so you will not heat your barrel as bad. Sign up for the Art Bourne

Match in June or came out to a practice on Monday afternoons starting in May.

Behind the scenes prep work continues on the 600 m shooting point. Hopefully, you will see actual progress in the near future. We may yet shoot out to 600 m this year. We will also be having a cleanup fix up work party sometime in May. Watch the club calendar for a date.

Competition shooting has started with several of the club members attending a 300 m match at Mission on March 29 and doing well.

Hope to see you all on the range this summer.

3. IPSC Report

By Gary Kopp (Director)

The IPSC shooting season is well under way. Check the IPSCBC website for match information & results.

Locally we will be hosting a fun match on April 19,

2015. Current Black Badge needed to compete.

Due to lack of interest Wednesday night practise at the indoor range is cancelled. Broadcast email to membership if and when we move outside.

Alpha's Only!



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4. Range Warden Report

By Don Morphy (Director)

The “Above Zero” rule has been lifted. Spring is in – and the members are landing in droves on the outdoor ranges.

The new “range use” signs in the bays, firing point sheds and in the sign in shack seem to be helping those that can read. These signs clearly show which firearm types that may be used at each of the bays and/or ranges. The KTSA Range Rules clearly spell out the use of the various ranges and bays and yet we still find empty shotgun shells in Bay 5 & 10. Why?? Members need to become familiar with the KTSA range rules.

Some of the rules are explained as follows:

Shotgunners take note: Shotguns are not to be used anywhere on club property except in Bay 2, 3 and 4. Bay 4 has steel that is shotshell acceptable as well as target backer boards and stands. Do not move target backer boards and stands into Bay 2 or 3. Acceptable shotgun targets continue to be clay targets, cans and balloons – no glass. If you need a shotgun target board or a shotgun target stand you will need to make and bring your own. The KTSA will no longer supply you with club property for you to destroy. All shotgun users are expected to clean up their own empties etc. **Some** of you think you are exempted from this task. I can assure you that is not the case.

Shotgun use in any other bay than Bay 2, 3 or 4 is not allowed except at organized practices and events.

Manual clay target throwing machines are mounted on a concrete pad in Bays 2 and 3. They are there for all to use. They are elevation adjustable sit on type units for regular clay targets. They will throw singles or doubles.

Each of the other rifle/pistol bays should have at least one or two new style portable ground type

target stands and/or a target board on metal stands. The portable type stand holds a two foot by four foot target board in the notch and is designed to hold a target board in a vertical or horizontal position. If the top of the target board is shot badly, turn it upside down or sideways and use it again. Hitting the target board holder usually results in the holder being ruined. Try to avoid hitting the stand (a task that eludes some of our members).

Bays 1 & 8 have shooting benches and loading tables to put your gear on and in. Please remember, portable shooting stands and portable shooting benches are **never** to be placed in a position behind any safety (loading) table, no exceptions.

The KTSA will supply target backer boards for pistol and rifle paper targets.

Target backer boards are not for shotgun use – no exceptions!

Please read the range rules often. Some of the rules have changed. For those of you who are not sure –

The Short Range is for rimfire rifles and/or any handguns - NO SHOTGUNS OR HIGH VELOCITY CENTER FIRE RIFLES !

The CLUB HOUSE has a wood stove that is fully functional. The unit burns wood of about 12 to 14 inches in length and heats the room nicely. Any responsible club member that uses the outdoor bays often and wishes to have a key may contact me or any other board member. A list of key holders will be kept on file by the KTSA.

Once again, I must say thank you to “All the KTSA members” that lend a helping hand with the outdoor range upkeep and development projects. Special thanks “from all of us” to Brent Weaver, Mike Reynolds (Project Ramrods), Jeff Mann (Project Advisor & Construction Expert), Jason Labby (Equipment Operator), and our Club President - Jim Sloper (Projects Coordinator).

5. Archery Report

By Marc Britton (Director)

We have tried to put aside the disappointment of losing last winter's indoor shooting and we went outdoors early this year. This was helped by the early spring too and we are trying to make up lost ground and build on what we had last year. Thursday nights are back on 6-8pm at the range.

We have already got the shelter completed that we built last year with the help of the lads from Cowboy action and recreational and made additions to make it more comfortable as well as adding bow hooks, seating and arrow tubes. There is a notice and white board in there too where we can try and inform what is going on and even spaces for buy and sells as well maybe promote those who help us.

There is also a "lost arrow tube" for if anyone finds an arrow on the range or the bag course, they can place it in there for it's rightful owner to collect.....this is not for anyone to help themselves to! if it was not yours, please leave it in there!

By the time this newsletter goes out, our 3D shoot will have been and gone so hopefully it will have been a success and great things will have happened to reflect the hard work that has gone into it this year by the few and, as ever under the management of Myles Tuba.

So, in the final week leading up to the event we have done all we can to make this bigger and better than our previous shoots, even had some press releases in print and on the radio (including the "piss jug" article and getting the area by the weigh scales cleaned up!).

We have a clear weekend on the calendar which should free up all the coast/island shooters for a change. Early spring/cheap gas should also help and we have tried to keep as much "in house" as we can. There have been many generous donations of some very nice prizes this year, medals too this time around & new targets too (hopefully!)

We have switched up the course and made it as exciting and challenging as we can and make the best of the unique terrain we have which differs from most other clubs in the interior. Last year we

had numbers up 25% on previous years & I believe we have left no stone unturned and everything has been done to make this one of the biggest and archery shoots in B.C. and with luck, record numbers.

There is quite the backlog of interested would be archers accumulating so as soon as the dust has settled from the 3D, we will have to get through some beginners courses and get some new blood into KTSA archery. Expect some disruption to some Thursday nights and unless we can get some help with some experienced archers helping out I will be considering shutting the range for a Saturday or two and try get them done then without distraction and in greater numbers.

We are continuing to try and build a progressive and inclusive archery club we can be proud of, have the resources befitting a town like Kamloops but we need a few more archers to step up and help out more, to have ownership of the club and all we have. Setting up the 3D shoot this year has highlighted this, there has been a pretty dismal number of helpers this year and, considering what this shoot does for the club as whole and how many archers use the facility this is a sad state of affairs.

Please believe that with a greater involvement we could do way more.....another 3D a year, regularly get our targets out for club shoots, competitions and events, facility improvements.....your call!

I would like to invite any club members who are archers or are thinking about it to come along on Thursday nights (6-8pm) to see what we are doing and get involved, give your input and contribute. Try and help develop into a club YOU want. Contact us directly at ktsaarchery@gmail.com or check out our "Kamloops archers" Facebook page.

ASK NOT WHAT YOUR CLUB CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR CLUB!



6. Recreational Report

By Brent Weaver (Director)

There is lots of new work being done on the Bays and Clubhouse area. A new outhouse, complete with skylight roofing, is nearly finished. This is situated just east of the clubhouse.

A shed for the Bay 6 Dueling Tree is also nearly finished. This will provide a roof, screened side walls to contain brass, and two large “windows” to shoot out of.

More shale/sand is being spread on the front part of Bays 4, 5, and 6. This will provide more stable footing. The hog fuel was scraped back to allow the ground to dry out. Ditching was done in Bay 6 to allow improved drainage.

Some maintenance was done on the 200 and 300 m backstops on the rifle range.

A new plate rack will be ready soon. This will add

to the fun of shooting handguns to knock down the falling steel plate targets.

As usual, the same few members seem to be doing most of the volunteer work on these projects. If you can spare some time, volunteer to give a hand. They will appreciate your help!

Six members took a two day Wilderness Handgun Carry Course in the Clubhouse. It will be followed

by a one day proficiency testing in one of the bays in a couple of weeks. There were very favourable comments on the course content. It was nice to see the clubhouse put to good use.

Around the end of May there will be a fun shoot and barbeque. Stay tuned for more information on this. It should be an enjoyable day!



Wilderness handgun carry course.