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Kamloops Target Sports Association

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1. President's Report

By Brent Weaver (President)

Welcome to another edition of the KTSA Newsletter and my first as the new President. I am excited to see where we will go as Club but first I would like to thank outgoing president Jim Sloper for 10 years of dedication to our Club.

It seems we have gone from winter straight into summer without much of a chance to enjoy a spring. In preparation for a busy outdoor target sport season a group of hard working volunteers were hard at work preparing the outdoor range for a busy season ahead. Thank you to all that came out.

The season kicked off with hosting the BC Small Bore competition followed by an IPSC double qualifier, Bob Brown Introduction to Silhouette, Cowboy Action fun shoot, F Class Western nationals, more Cowboy Action fun shoots, IPSC Provincial Championships, Bob Hobbs F Class Match and the Frosty F Class Match.

We are already well into another fire season and every effort will be made to keep the Range open as long as it is safe for Members and our neighbors. In an effort to update our fire preparedness, we are adding portable fire suppression units to each bay. If a fire is spotted on our Range call 911 first then use the portable fire suppression units as directed, send someone to unlock the gates for emergency vehicles.

Nick Parisot will be teaching an advanced 1st Aid course for all RO, Board Members, and anyone else who may be interested. The hope is to never have to use this knowledge but it is best to be prepared. If you were not able to make this course you can increase your safety awareness by participating in a Range Officer Course, refresh your knowledge of Range rules and point out unsafe behaviour to your fellow Club members.

We closed last year with 1,400 plus members with the fastest growing group being our female members. As you can imagine, the amount of hours that goes into keeping our facilities in top shape with this many people passing thru the gate is huge. You can help by volunteering your time for events, maintenance or start giving some thought to participating at the Board level next year. What is your special talent - maybe you are a BBQ King or Queen. No help will be turned down even if you just have a couple hours once a year...we'll take it.

Take a minute to read the Directors reports and learn more about upcoming events. You can also check out our website. Come out and give a few of the disciplines a try as well, everyone is welcome.

We are proud to announce that one of our own, the late George Farquharson, was inducted to the Kamloops Sports Hall of Fame. George Farquharson was key in making the KTSA home of F Class.

For all of our members that get to enjoy the facility, remember that a lot of hard work has gone into creating a first-class facility so let's show our pride by picking up our garbage, reporting any maintenance concerns, and most importantly use safe practices and report any unsafe behaviour.

2. Vice President's Report

By Ron Brady (Vice President)

As this is being written, the outdoor season has started and things are looking good for this year. There are numerous competitions being held on our ranges this year and we ask all members to keep advised of range use by continually checking the website. These competitions greatly aid the bottom line each year by generating significant revenue which allows us to keep upgrading our facility.

Of great concern are the members who ignore the range closures and enter closed areas and move and shoot on these closed areas. By doing so they show a lack of respect for the Match Directors and the entire membership and cause the Match Directors to rebuild the stages they and other members have spent significant and unpaid time constructing. A

reminder that those responsible for doing so shall face membership suspension and having the Firearms Center notified they are no longer a member and thus affecting their Restricted PAL.

As you should be aware the Federal Liberal government has introduced bill C71 which will adversely affect all firearms owners. Each of us must contact our Member of Parliament, Justin Trudeau, Ralph Goodale, and the Senate that C71 does not, as they state, do anything to address the criminal misuse of firearms. All it does is put further and unreasonable restrictions on law abiding firearms owners.

Have a safe and enjoyable shooting season.

3. Cowboy Action Shooting Report

By Jim Bartlett (Director)

Cowboy Action Shooting in the Kamloops area, as with all the local shooting sports, suffered a blow from the range closure last summer due to the extreme fire hazard. We had planned to host the Cowboy Action Nationals over the Labour Day weekend and were forced to cancel. We lost our spot in the rotation, so are now slated to hold the event in 2020. Hopefully we will make up for some of the stifled activity last year with an increase in planned events for 2018.

Firearms used in Cowboy action are based on those used in the "Wild West" period, roughly the mid to late 1800s. Shooters use single action revolvers (six-guns), lever action rifles and shotguns in timed scenarios involving the use of them all. Speed and accuracy are key to the competitive aspect of the sport, but it is the other aspects of the sport that make it as much fun as it is! Shooters develop their own personas based on western characters of their choice (or invention!) and dress according. For example, women shooters may take on the role of

saloon girls or elegant ladies while male shooters could be ruffians, gamblers or sheriffs. Just think of any character you might have seen in a western movie or read about in a book focussing on the era. The point is that you needn't be a great shooter to have a great time! If you wish, you can shoot using black powder and put out clouds of smoke while you're at it! Cowboy Action is enjoyed by families and individuals of all genders and ages.

KTSA members as well as the public are welcome to attend our shoots as spectators. That's probably the best way to get a sense of how much fun the sport is for those who participate. Also, without leaving the comfort of your computer desk, you can get a good idea of what it's all about by googling "Cowboy Action Shooting" and you'll find lots of video clips on how the game is played! If you're at all interested and want to give this exciting sport a try, get in touch and we can arrange to meet at the range and let you have go at it!

We are into a great year at KTSA for Cowboy Action Shooting! Our first fun shoot, on Sunday June 17th, was a great success with about 30

shooters sending copious amounts of lead downrange. A number of spectators enjoyed the event as well and a some took the opportunity to try their hands at firing cowboy firearms. We have two more events planned so far: Sunday July 29th and Sunday September 30th. Come on out and see the action!

Jim Bartlett (aka: Bean Pot Bart) (250-374-6651)

A further note. Another great opportunity for you to have a good first-hand look at Cowboy Action Shooting will be at the annual “Palmer’s Gulch Shootin’ Match” July 28th – Aug. 2nd at the Heffley range. Check the club website (heffleycreekgunclub.com) for the itinerary to choose the most interesting time for you to come up and see the fun!



4. Archery Report

By **Ken Chantler** (Director)

We held another successful 3-D archery shoot at the end of April and are looking forward to hosting another shoot next spring. The number of shooters was down but those who attended had a good time and the rain stopped Sunday morning just as

everyone headed out on the course. Thanks to Brent, Ron and Don for manning the Barbeque. A group of members are now maintaining the bag course so bring out your bow and try the course. The weekly drop ins at the outdoor range has changed to Monday nights.

5. Junior Program

By **Curt Tinney** (Director)

The KTSA Junior Program is on break for the summer. We had a great year with a couple of new shooters joining the program and our usual suspects returning to post some impressive and consistent scores.

We shoot .22 rifles from 20m at our indoor range on Fridays from 7-9pm. The program starts on Friday September 21st, running for 12 weeks until the Christmas break. We reconvene in the New Year for another 12 Friday sessions.

There is room for more Junior KTSA members to join the program and get in on the fun. All KTSA members between 11-18 years of age are welcome to join us at the indoor range for our sessions.

All Juniors will receive firearm safe handling instruction and ongoing coaching to help them shrink their groups.

Our club provides all equipment for our Junior program. We have a great selection of Savage and Anschutz .22 rifles.

This year the club has continued to invest in our Juniors, purchasing high quality spotting scopes and 3 new Anschutz Junior target rifles.

If you require any more information on our Junior Program, contact Curt at ctinney@telus.net.



6. Full Bore

By **Brad Traynor** (Director)

F-Class is a long-distance target shooting sport, in which competitors shoot at targets between 300 and 900 m. This type of shooting is mostly shot from the prone position, although some ranges allow shooting from the bench. Shooters shoot strings of 15 shots at targets and each target ring on the target has a different value. With the environment, gun and reloading factors this can be quite challenging.

This year the founder of F-Class, George “Farky” Farquharson, was entered into the Kamloops Hall of Fame. This sport is known all over the world and it is a great honor knowing that it originated right here in Kamloops.

This year, locally, we have wrapped up our Winter League and now are in Summer Practice. Practice days are Monday afternoons at 4:00 pm at the long range for 300 m and 500 m shooting. The 3rd Monday of each month is 900 yard shooting and

this is from noon until dark. Please note that the 900-yard shooting is only allowed on scheduled dates and an approved Range Officer trained to clear the range **MUST** be on site. This Summer Practice is a really good time to come out and learn how F-Class shooting is done.

We have had two matches this year so far, the KTSA Spring Match and the Art Borne Match. Our local shooters did really well this year again as usual.

In the KTSA Spring Match, Dion St Jean was 1st, Brad Traynor 2nd, and Dave Assmus 3rd in the F-Open Class. Mark Anderson was 1st and Paul Reibin 3rd in the FTR Class.

In the Art Borne Match, Brad Traynor was 1st and Marc Thibault was 2nd in the F-Open Class.

Mark Anderson was 1st and Paul Reibin was 3rd in the FTR Class.



2018 Art Borne Match Winners

Mark Anderson – FTR, Brad Traynor – F-Open, Walter Wolfe - Bench



2018 Art Borne Match – 900 Yard Range