



Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club **NEWSLETTER**



APRIL 2019

“Wisconsin’s Oldest and Finest Gun Club”

2019 TRAP LEAGUE RULE CHANGES

Team Score Sheets: Starting this year all team shooting score sheets must be turned into the front desk. To help with efficiency prior to submission please count your tickets to verify all shooters are accounted for and paid. We would also like to move away from cash being submitted with the score sheets so please help us out by purchasing shooting tickets prior to shooting (books and individual tickets are available for sale at the front desk).

Shoot Ahead and Bank Score Cards: If you are going to be shooting ahead for a different week, or shooting a bank score, a shoot ahead or bank score card is required to be completed **PRIOR** to shooting. Additionally, if shooting with a team, the team score sheet is also required to be filled out correctly indicating what team and week your score is being used for; this information will also match the shoot ahead card.

The card will be given to the trap score keeper prior to you shooting. Once shooting is complete, the score keeper will mark the score on the card and the card will then be turned in by the score keeper, not the shooter. If you are shooting ahead on a squad and you have not properly indicated your score is designated as a shoot ahead, it will not be valid and not included as a score for the league.

We’ve had complaints in the past about teams not recording shoot aheads properly or timely. It is your responsibility to properly document your shoot aheads. If you’re shooting ahead, the score sheet and shoot ahead card need to be completed and submitted to the score keeper prior to shooting – NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

If you have any questions, please consult with your Team Captain or a member of the Trap Committee.

WRONG GUN – REMINGTON 870

We are still looking for the gun that went missing at Corn Day last August. If you were at Corn Day in August 2018 and own a Remington 870 pump shotgun, please check your gun! Someone grabbed the wrong gun and left theirs at the club. The gun was left on trap #4. If this was you, please contact the club or Dan Creviston at 715-563-5944.

RIFLE/PISTOL RANGE

Now that the weather is improving, work can resume on the range again. The Pistol Range still needs work to finish it up. The no blue sky setup needs to be finalized and the awning over top of the shooting stations needs to be completed.

The Rifle Range still needs a lot of work. Culverts are ready to go but they need to be installed. Additionally, more berm work needs to be completed and bullet traps need to be built.

We had 22 people attend the Range Safety Officer (RSO) training class and they are working on SOP's for range operating.

At the end of March the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation held a Range Seminar in Eau Claire. The seminar was geared to outdoor ranges and discussed improvements, upgrades, and information which will help our facility be an asset to our community. Specific discussions were on sound reduction, range protection, SOP's, signage, lead, target placement, security and safety, and possible funding sources. Board member Bill Moss and volunteer Jay Davis attended the seminar and came back with useful information.

Future of the Eau Claire Rod and Gun Club Rifle/Pistol Range

Due to an unfortunate incident last spring where a member was shot by another member, the range has been "temporarily" closed. After the investigation along with direction from our insurance company, it was determined the range will no longer operate unsupervised.

The current plan is an RSO will be on duty while the range will be open. This means limited hours until more RSO's are available to volunteer their time and open the range. Additionally, the Board authorized up to \$15K of range upgrades. These upgrades were long overdue and are being worked on as we speak.

There has been a lot of questions as to why is the range not open yet? What is taking so long? What are the hours going to be? Why can't I just go shoot? Members are frustrated with the range closure. However, until the RSO schedule and range upgrades are finished, the range will not be open.

The range upgrades are taking more time that anticipated. This is largely due to the lack of volunteers. We've had two or three people working on the upgrades, that is it. We've made requests for help through our website as well as on Facebook, and we are getting zero help.

This is your range people. If you want it open for shooting, we need volunteer help to get it open. If you are available to help on the upgrades and would like to be contacted when a work day is scheduled, please contact the club or Bill Moss at 715-533-2647. If you are interested in volunteering to be an RSO, please contact the club.

LEAGUE SECRETARY REQUEST

We had one person reach out and volunteer to help with the league secretary position. Thank you to Jeff Tisdale for volunteering to assist with league scoring this year!

TRAP LEAGUE SCORING IMPROVEMENTS

We are working on upgrading our trap league scoring system. Currently everything is manual with pen and paper. To put that in perspective in 2018 we had 82 Handicap League teams, 44 16-yard League teams, and 23 International League teams. That is almost 15,000 individual rounds of trap shot over the year!!! And don't forget about bank scores along with accounting for shoot-aheads as people are not always able to shoot their scheduled time/day. We are grateful for all our volunteer league secretaries!

We have been researching making this process electronic. Trap committee member and league secretary Paul Jastrow has created new software designed to specifically fit our trap leagues.

Scores will be displayed on TV monitors. These monitors will be mounted where the current league scores are posted. For 2019, we will be testing with the Wednesday night Indianhead, Central, and Western handicap leagues.

Once inputted, the scores will be displayed on the monitors. The scores will also be uploaded to our website so you can look up all your scores from anywhere with an internet connection.

The long-term goal of these upgrades is to make the process easier for everyone – our league secretaries, trap scorers, and individual shooters. We will be testing and working out the bugs this year with the hopes of all leagues being electronic next year.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Every March we invite our volunteers to have dinner on us to thank them for all their hard work, their support, and their dedication to the Eau Claire Rod and Gun Club. At the end of the evening, we acknowledge our volunteer of the year. The Volunteer of the Year Award is earned by a volunteer who goes above and beyond to support the club. The award is voted on by previous winners and board members. For 2018, the following volunteers earned the award:

- **Bob and Cindy Beaulieu** – both have been members for years and have donated their time to the club for much of their tenure. Bob has helped on the trap side as a league secretary. Additionally, he has assisted on the pistol/rifle range upgrades by providing equipment to move dirt. Cindy has been an asset to the Eau Claire Rod and Gun Foundation, and both are currently board members for the Foundation. Their passion and dedication to the club doesn't go unnoticed. Thank you Bob and Cindy!
- **Andy Cohen** – Mr. Cohen has been a member for several years a shoots on multiple handicap teams. In 2016 the club was looking for a new treasurer. Having background in finance and accounting he saw this as an opportunity to give back to an organization he is passionate about. Over the past few years he has help us organize and keep our financials in line as well as contributing to our Board with accurate, timely, and objective financial information. He also monitors the club's email and oversees the club newsletter.

The next time you see Bob, Cindy, or Andy please congratulate them! Also, please see the plaque in the Pro Shop for past volunteer of the year award recipients.

WE THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF WISCONSIN'S OLDEST AND FINESET GUN CLUB!!!