

# ❖ The North Berwick Rod & Gun Club Newsletter ❖

Editor Steve Beckwith

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President Steve Rand –646-3472

January 2021

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## 2021 RENEWAL APPLICATION ATTACHED

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### ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

There will be NO bean supper this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We will have a limited meeting at the club house for the purpose of electing officers for 2021 and paying the bills on January 28<sup>th</sup>. All present officers and BOD are willing to continue for another year. If you wish to run for an office please let a board member know prior to the 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Club Activities 2020

by Steve Rand

Due to Covid-19 organized activities at the club this year have been greatly affected. We were unable to have our Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs annual fishing day for youth in June, no youth to Bryant Pond conservation camp, no Women on Target shooting Clinics, no fall Hunter & Archery Safety classes, limited pistol/trap shoots We were required to close the ranges for the part of the month of

March and April. We opened the outdoor ranges in late April requiring social distancing and wearing masks when social distancing could not be maintained. In short we had the same limited activities that all of us have had to endure this year.

On a more positive note we accomplished three projects to upgrade the club. We contracted to have the road from Valley road to the gate rebuilt and that was done in late fall. Please remember that we have youth living on the road and the speed limit is 10MPH. You don't have the natural speed bumps now so watch you speed. This will also help keep the road bump free for the future.

Our security system of cameras and associated gear was ten years old and not that clear. We upgraded the entire system and have added cameras to the outdoor archery range. This is a very much improved system (technology advances in ten years) so we can now zoom in and really see what is what. This will be a great help if we have an incident that we need to resolve. This is for your protection as well as the clubs.

We have added a 20 X 26 foot addition to the indoor range for storage of the various props and target butts used for Archery, Air Gun and Pistol. This will open up the range that had become crowded with all the "stuff" we use. I want to thank all the volunteers that have worked hard to get the addition up and closed in. This was a trying year to get materials when you wanted them and we had delays like everyone else trying to build anything. By the time you receive this we should have procedures in place

to allow some use of the range this winter. Check the web site for current status.

### Membership

By Ralph Gamach

We've had a strong year for membership. In 2018 our membership went down for the first time in memory but even with COVID19 2020 brought us a strong rebound ending the year with 940 active members.

If you joined as a new member at this year's September meeting or after, your membership is paid through December 31 of 2021, so you don't need to send in a renewal. For everyone else, other than life members, your renewal is due now. For uninterrupted access to the club, please send in your renewal form available at <http://nbrgc.org/images/pdf-files/Renewal-2020.pdf> as soon as possible. If there is no change to your information, please check the "no change" box on the application. It really saves time if we don't need to review everyone's information. If you have questions on your renewal status you can e-mail me at [rgamache73@gmail.com](mailto:rgamache73@gmail.com).

The coming 4 years will have every indication of being challenging to our traditional activities. We are a strong active club and will continue to provide our members with an outstanding facility and activities. Please continue to support the club and renew your membership. Also consider an NRA and a Sportsman's Alliance of Maine membership.

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Youth Activities

By Ralph Gamach

Due to COVID all of the 2020 youth activities were cancelled. In the hope that COVID restrictions will be lifted by summer the club will be offering two (2) Anthony M. Dyer scholarships to the Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center. The winners may select from the following camps:

- Conservation camp: Hunter Safety: Firearm, Archery
- Fishing Camp
- Rivers and Rapids
- 4H Shooting Sports Archery
- Natural Explorer

This scholarship is open to all Maine residents ages 10 to 15 years old. To apply for a scholarship, send the applicant's name, address, age, and phone number to the club mailbox: PO Box 33, North Berwick, ME 03906 or e-mail [rgamache73@gmail.com](mailto:rgamache73@gmail.com). All entries must be received by March 20th. The drawing will be held at the March meeting and winners will be notified after that. Scholarships are valid for the 2021 season only and cover camp tuition. Transportation is the responsibility of the winner's family. For more information see the school's website at <http://extension.umaine.edu/bryantpond/>

Due to changes in the tax laws, we are no longer able to run a raffle to support these scholarships. Please consider making a small donation in addition to your membership dues in support of these valuable youth programs.

We will hold our annual "Get Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs Kids Fishing Day" at the beginning of June if COVID allows. It's a great event for all of the kids and for the members who work the event. We can always use extra hands, so please consider helping out. See photos from prior years on the club website.

Air Rifle

By Peter Waterman

The club tried to continue with the routine shooting events but the covid event closed the indoor range building and made it impossible. When the weather allowed Howard Williams was able to organize shooting outdoors at 25 yards for the bench match competition but the 10 yard freestyle type of shooting suffered and has yet to resume. Hopefully in the next few weeks or a month or so we can figure it out to resume. The bench match showing produced great success for the club as the scores that were entered for national recognition by Howard were as follows:

Results:

**Heavy Varmint Class**

Gary Barton 20th

**Light Varmint Class**

Pete Waterman 8th

Dan Brillo 11th

Gary Barton 12th

**USA Open Class**

Howard Williams 13th

**Springer Class**

Howard Williams 1st

**2020 USARB Springer Champion**

Howard further recognized that nationally there are 31 gun clubs competing in USARB virtual matches. North Berwick Rod & Gun Club and Capital Cities Gun Club are the only Maine clubs competing. Monthly competitions are held at NBRGC in both outdoor and indoor meets. Our monthly shoots attract many past champion shooters. For example Paul Bendix, 3 time World Champion, Bill Day, 2010 National Field Target Champion and 2020 Conn. State Field Target Champion's, are regular competitors.

Hopefully life will return to normal or a new normal will be established that allows us to resume our full schedule.

Hunters Trap

By Peter Waterman

A slight delay was experienced this year in the starting of Hunters Trap because of the covid stuff. Even though there was a delay shooters still displayed energetic enthusiasm. A shortened window didn't stop shooters from climbing up the grades as the weeks passed. Larry Smith started out slow but soon got his rhythm and made it back to the final spot (#12) and even completed that spot by breaking all 6 again. Several other shooters were hanging around the 8-11 spots as well. A few new shooters showed as the weeks passed and found how much fun Hunters Trap can be as well as challenging their skill-sets. New or old, everyone had fun with the shortened season and we are looking forward to getting back on the apron this spring. Watch the club calendar for the shoot schedule as we can't predict when the field dries up to get at the trap house but we expect it to be around the end of May or sooner.

2020 NBRGC Archery

By Bob Pelletier

2020 was a very "unusual" year at the club. The archery indoor season began with good attendance with 6 to 15 people in the range at any one time either on the shooting line or waiting to shoot. We were even able to host two Maine Archery Association "Shooter of the Year" tournaments. However, as we are all well aware, this came to an abrupt end in March when the Governor ordered a complete shut down due to the now well known pandemic. During that period of time the Board of Directors of our club met and decided for everyone's safety it was best to discontinue shooting at all ranges and for an unknown period of time, and shut the

### **2020 NBRGC Archery**

By Bob Pelletier (Cont.)

entire property down. To this day as I write on January 8, the indoor range is still in shut down mode.

In the spring, the Club board decided it was prudent to open the outdoor shooting ranges including the archery range for members only with some Covid safety precautions for a period of time. The outdoor facilities were later open to members and guests and have been open till today. Early this spring we were able to add four more outdoor bales for archers to use. This brings the total to 12 bales. We also took the time to number all the shooting lanes with numbered bricks for all the shooting lanes at the 40, 50 and 60 yard shooting distances. Now people can line up perpendicular to their numbered targets. This worked out well during the summer season as people could come shoot on their own any time during the week from sun up till dark. We still met as a small group on Thursday late afternoon for those who could attend.

The Maine Archery Association was running the annual 2019-2020 winter "shooter of the year" shoots at different venues throughout the winter which includes the North Berwick range. They were able to complete the year; however, the Maine Indoor State Championship scheduled to take place last March was postponed due to the pandemic. It has still not been rescheduled to this date.

Shooting indoors has been on hold since the closing last year, but the club is in the process of developing a safety protocol so we can again begin to shoot indoors this winter. At some point we will again begin to shoot on our regular Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. So far I have a list of 10 people who wish to shoot once the safety protocol has been announced and the indoor ranges open. If there

are any members who wish to shoot indoors but have not contacted me, let me know so I can add you to the list. Regardless of when the range is open, we will probably have to limit the number of archers to 10 in the range at any one time. We are looking forward to putting this past situation behind us and can now see a bright future for anyone who wishes to shoot archery indoors and outdoors here at the North Berwick Rod & Gun Club.

**North Berwick Rod & Gun Club 2021 RENEWAL Membership  
Application** REV: 10/10/20

Thank you for your membership. Please print clearly.

Check if no changes

Key card number \_\_\_\_\_

Name	
Street	
City	
State/Zip	
Phone	
Email *	

**Membership Options - Please circle.**

Membership Type	Membership Fee	Total Due
Adult – 1 Yr	\$60	\$60
Life – Under 65 yrs	\$600	\$600
Life – 65 yrs and over	\$420	\$420

**Total enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Expires December 31.

**MEMBERS WILL NOT BE BILLED FOR RENEWALS AND NO REMINDERS WILL BE SENT.**

Annual membership application go to: <http://www.nbrgc.org/index.php> “About Us”

**Please circle area(s) of interest:**

Archery - Action Pistol - Air Gun -Target Pistol - Ladies Pistol League - Rifle - Hunters Trap - Acton Fair  
- Youth Activities - Venture Crew - Appleseed - NRA member - SAM member

**Mail to:** North Berwick Rod and Gun Club, PO Box 33, North Berwick, ME 03906-0033 or bring application to meeting night **prior to 7:00.**

For all club monthly meetings go to: [www.nbrgc.org/index.php/about-us/about-us](http://www.nbrgc.org/index.php/about-us/about-us)

**\*By providing your email you grant permission for the club to email you with club business and to provide you with a login pass code to the club website. Your e-mail will not be sold or used for any other purpose**