



THE RIDGEDALE ROD & GUN CLUB

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 54, Stn. Matsqui, Abbotsford, BC V4X 3R2

Office and Bookings: 604-826-0552 Web: www.ridgedale.net

Range: East END of Harris Road (35655), Abbotsford, BC

Archery • Pistol • Rifle • Black Powder • Trap • Fishing

Newsletter September/October 2019

Really?

Let's talk about the destruction of target frames!

Mel McIntosh, Rifle Chair

One would think that there's no excuse for the careless use and destruction of the target frames at Ridgedale. Yet, it happens all too frequently.



The 2 x 4-inch post in the left photo is the result of placing targets over the post, and using the upright to attach balloons. The photo on the right clearly shows bullet holes between the ground and the much higher backing. By missing the target, the wall of tires is taking considerable damage as well.

Remember... paper targets should be placed in the middle of the plywood backboard. Two targets in the center of the panel is acceptable, however, more is excessive and inevitably leads to frame damage. A controlled rate of fire, aimed and deliberate, will preserve the target frames for the next user.

The frames are built by volunteers, but the current cost of material to build a frame is \$12. Try remember that next time you put up your targets.

To ensure the longevity of the plywood at 100 yards, targets should be posted one foot below the upper edge of the backing. **Balloons will no longer be allowed at 100 yards.**

As we are looking at ways to prevent the destruction of target frames, maybe the answer is to allow just one target per frame. Really!

Youth Day – June 23, 2019.

Report by Andrew Watson - Photos by Bridget Watson

Youth Day 2019 saw some sixty youngsters enjoy a fun-filled day of one-on-one supervised instruction in the responsible use of firearms, as well as archery and fishing equipment.

Sponsored by **Magnum Concrete** and **Wong Farms**, Miles McCarthy cooked up a great hot dog lunch that included chips, soft drinks, and mouth-watering watermelon. **International Shooting Supplies** and **Italian Sporting Goods** supplied the ammunition at an extremely friendly price.

The future of our sport, be it shooting or fishing, lies in the hands of our youth. Regardless of the activity, promoting safety is paramount, generating interest is equally important. To achieve this, our club always steps up to the plate. The generous support of our suppliers, and dedication of our volunteers, helped make this day a success once again. A big “Thank you” to all!



SFU Shoot – July 21, 2019

Photo & report by Troy Dobranski, CFO

Following a safety briefing by Gary Mauser, 34 students, along with a retired RCMP officer, very much enjoyed the event. Kudos to the team of Range Safety officers for coaching participants in the safe use of firearms. As usual, big thanks go to Miles for preparing a tasty lunch.



Shoots like these introduce young adults to the sport, while helping us raise the awareness that responsible gun owners follow an established discipline of **'Safety First'** in their sport of choice, and are not the 'bad people' that more than a few Canadian politicians claim us to be.

New RSOs Wanted

Are you interested?

By Troy Dobranski, CFO

A major element in maintaining safety at events is our dedicated team of **Range Safety Officers (RSOs)**. To strengthen this team, and ensure that not always the same members always must take on the required tasks, we are looking for members interested in volunteering for events and orientations throughout the year.

In order for candidates to develop a solid understanding of the responsibilities of an RSO, we will be holding an RSO course, at the range, on November 16, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

To qualify for taking this course, you must be a member in good standing for at least one full calendar year, have good communication skills, and knowledge of the safe handling of firearms.

Though we are currently reviewing the RSO job description, the foregoing is to give you ample notice of this opportunity. For more information, mail me at cfo@ridgedale.net. I look forward to hearing from you.

Moose Tracker App

Be an active part of moose conservation and management!

This free app allows users to upload information on the number, sex and location of moose they encounter in the wild directly to a province-wide database. The collected data helps monitor moose populations and alert wildlife staff to emerging issues. As a bonus, the app includes a digital version of the **2018-2020 Hunting & Trapping Regulations Synopsis**, an indispensable, searchable summary of hunting seasons and regulations throughout B.C. – including interactive maps. For more information, and downloading the app, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yyota73r>



Federal Elections 2019

The battle for the future of our firearms community

The biased opinion of Henk Gauw

In less than two weeks, 2.2 million lawful Canadian hunters and shooters have to cast the most important ballot in a generation. The outcome will determine the future of civilian firearm ownership in our great country. In essence, we have to choose which of two men will be the next Prime Minister of Canada.

One man represents a party (Liberal) that, despite not having a clue about the gun laws in place, is using lawful gun ownership as a political tool by campaigning on banning guns and reducing prison time for violent criminals on the backs of lawful gun owners. Should that man become Prime Minister again, his new government has a long list of gun restrictions it wants to implement.

The other man represents a party (Conservative) that rejects the aforementioned man's gun ban and promises to crack down on criminals instead. They want gun laws that target criminals with policy measures to combat gang crime and help make our communities safer, and enable police to help put them where they belong: behind bars. The leader of the third national party (Singh) has no chance of becoming Prime Minister. Therefore, I choose not to present where he stands these issues. Yet, I believe his party (NDP) may play a critical role in the outcome of these elections.

Though I'm not a political pundit by any stretch, it would seem that a strong NDP will take votes (and electoral districts) away from the Liberals in ridings where the Conservative Party cannot win. A strong NDP is important in this election because past Liberal voters may seek an alternative to a, by many accounts, damaged party and its even more damaged leader.

Therefore, it would seem that **when you live in a riding that cannot be won by a Conservative**, consider voting strategically; i.e., vote for the NDP candidate.

Election 2019 is a battle. Exercise your democratic rights. Your vote really counts!

Sources

Main parties' views on issues

<https://tinyurl.com/y3d2s94a>

Justice for Gun Owners

<https://justiceforgunowners.ca>

Canadian Shooting Sports Association

<https://cssa-cila.org>

National Firearms Association

<https://nfa.ca>

The GunBlog.ca

<https://thegunblog.ca>

Next General Meeting – Wednesday, November 13 – Starting at 7 p.m.

You may access the minutes of our General Meetings, as well as other club documents, in the **File Library** of the **Members Only Section** at <https://ridgedale.member365.com/sharingnetwork/documentLibrary> You will have to login.

Questions?

Email officeadmin@ridgedale.net or call (604) 826-0552 during office hours:

Wednesdays

- October 2nd - Noon - 6 pm
- October 9th - Noon - 6 pm
- October 16th - 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
- October 23rd - 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
- October 30th - 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Fridays

- October 4th - 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
- October 11th - 9:30 - 3:30 pm
- October 18th - 9:30 to 3:30 pm
- October 25th - 9:30 - 3:30 pm

Saturdays

- October 19th - 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

→ The email addresses of the Executive and Section Chairs can be found at <http://ridgedale.net/contact>.

Support our Supporters



Howard Wong Farms

