



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 February 2020

Annual Report - It's been a great year!

Dave Graham

With 2019 drawn to a close, I want to thank everyone who has supported and helped the club throughout the year. Therefore, it's really important to take a moment and look at the many events and the achievements we've made happen together.

With a growing membership, our fully-booked range orientations for new members continued to lay a solid base for range safety. During events, our Chief Range Officer with his team of Range Safety Officers (RSOs) not only helped ensure safety, but also coached participants in the safe use of firearms. Following a Range Safety Officer Course, we attracted a dozen new RSOs.



Photo: Special thanks to Corey Boileau of Boileau Contracting Inc. for donating his equipment and time to dig the trench, as well as to Caleb Dueck of Dueck Electric Ltd. for donating his time and giving us the supplies at cost.

With work bees, and careful planning, Ground & Maintenance was active with range upkeep and improvements. Among other, we completed the electrical for our new storage area; erected a new rail fence along the driveway; replaced the siding on the west side of the Clubhouse; to keep 3D targets out of sight of from the bears, we built two archery sheds (one on the upper trail and one on the lower trail); removed trees along the barrier closest to the parking lot area beside the Clubhouse; rearranged the circuits in the trap house to free up space to solve the shortage of electricity in the office; and finished the tire wall for the pistol range. We also took possession of a new tractor, which has been put to good use on different large jobs throughout the year.

With the *Annual General Meeting*, *Annual Game Dinner*, the *Black Chicken Trap Shoot*, and the *International Trap & Skeet League Shoot*, March was a very busy month.

April saw a successful 3D Archery Shoot, the prestigious *Pacific International Trapshooting Association Shoot (PITA)*, and the passing of the proposed amendments to our Constitution & Bylaws required to conform to BC's new Societies Act. Since then, the amendments were approved by the Registrar of Companies.

As always, our *Ladies Day* and *Youth Day* were very well received by the community. And, the always active Archery Section put on another great 3-D Shoot.

During the summer, The *Inter-Club Trap Shoot* went off without a hitch. Organized by Dr. Gary Mauser, the traditional *SFU Shoot* introduced another group of young adults to the sport; and, with sixty archers each day, the *Archery Summer Shoot* was a total success. With good turnouts, the Pistol Section gained ground, and the Rifle Section developed a youth shot and 100-yard rimfire program.

In August the Ridgedale Rod & Gun Club and the Lower Mainland Region BCWF hosted a *Wild Kidz Camp*, which is designed for children aged 9 to 12 to learn outdoor skills, wilderness safety and about their community's wild spaces in a fun, safe environment.

Followed by a meat shoot, the *Bill Farr Memorial Shoot* attracted many shooters. This year's winner was Brian Hazen; see photo. The *Trap Christmas Dinner* was very well received. With fifty plus shooters, and our *Christmas Trap Shoot* was a success in every way.

All these activities were made possible thanks to the help of our resident chef and caretaker Miles and many volunteers.

In closing, I like to mention the loyal group of suppliers and contractors that continued to support our club in many ways! It's great to phone a contractor or supplier for something and have them bill us just their cost or not charge for the work that they did. We are a very fortunate club to receive this kind of support. A heartfelt 'Thank you!' to all.



It's been a great year. Let's work together to make 2020 even better!

Fishing

▪ **Five Spots to Fish and Camp This Winter**

Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC

When the temperatures drop, the fishing doesn't stop; it only gets more exciting. With a Freshwater Fishing Licence, some basic gear and some knowledge, you can try ice-fishing on many B.C. lakes. And, as lots of parks close to great hardwater lakes are open year-round, consider making a winter camping trip out of it.

To learn more about five lakes, with recreational vehicle or camping spots close by, to try ice-fishing this winter, go to <https://tinyurl.com/vqnawum>

▪ **2019 Lake stocking Program – Year in Review**

Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC

For delivery of the 2019 provincial recreational stocking program, the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC's hatcheries raised 4.97 million trout, char and kokanee – from juvenile fry to catchable-sized fish – and released these fish into 622 lakes around our province. Read the review at <https://tinyurl.com/qlyqlkr>

Gun Laws

▪ **Let Your Voice be Heard – Stand Up for your Rights as Law-abiding Firearms Owners**

As gun owners, we are merely months away from our lives being changed forever. Our ability to own and use certain firearms will be a thing of the past if we are unable to delay or stop the upcoming Liberal gun ban.

The *BC Wildlife Federation's Firearms (BCWF) and Recreational Sports Shooting Committees* are asking you to stand up for your firearm rights. The committees have outlined several steps you can take to let Canadian Members of Parliament know why you don't support firearms bans.

▪ **We need you to take these steps of action today!**

- Send a letter to Minister Blair, your MP and opposition critics expressing your concerns about the firearms ban.
- Sign the petition at <https://tinyurl.com/s8v9nwb> → **Deadline February 15, 2020.**
- Meet with your MP and let them know why your access to firearms is essential to your lifestyle and values.

In addition to the information provided by the BCWF at <https://tinyurl.com/upd53oa>, the following resources may be helpful to forming an educated opinion about this critical issue.

- **Canadian Coalition for Firearm Rights (CCFR) - a must-view video** <https://youtu.be/uecUrs7JaMg>.
- **Canadian Firearms Digest** <https://tinyurl.com/wxzswp7>
- **Canadian Shooting Sports Association (CSSA) – Research** <https://tinyurl.com/ud759we>
- **Justice for Gun Owners - Trudeau is coming for your guns** <https://tinyurl.com/qlqcbb3>

Calendar

▪ **General Meeting - Wednesday, February 12 – Starts at 7:00 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://tinyurl.com/y3v7b5dv> You will have to login.

▪ **Range Orientation - Saturday, February 22 – Starts at 9:00 a.m. sharp!**

Registered participants only!

▪ **Annual General Meeting – Wednesday March 11, 2020 – Starts at 7:00 p.m.**

There are a few positions we need to fill. Only members in good standing are eligible to vote. New members must hold one year of continuous membership following application approval and attendance of a range orientation before they are eligible to vote and submit motions.

No membership renewals will be accepted this evening.

▪ **Annual Game Dinner - Saturday, March 14 – Doors open: 6:00 p.m. – Dinner: 7:30 p.m.**

Come for the food! Stay for the entertainment! Fun and door prizes.

**Tickets: Bring your special dish, and you and a partner pay \$20 p.p. Dish should feed at least 6 adults!
Without dish: \$30 per person!**

Due to fire code regulations and the limited capacity of our hall, **there are only 110 tickets available!**

Tickets are available at the February General Meeting, or by calling (604) 826-0552 or emailing booking@ridgedale.net **First come, first served!**

To avoid getting too much of the same, and wasting food, we will accept no more than ten (10) dishes in each of the following menu categories:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Game Birds | 2. Fish | 3. Game Roast | 4. Pasta Dishes |
| 5. Vegetables | 6. Salads | 7. Desserts | 8. Appetizers |

If you wish to donate fish or game, please contact Miles at booking@ridgedale.net or (604) 826-0552

Membership Renewal

- If you already renewed your membership, **"Thank you!"** If you have not done so yet, you may want to do that ASAP. Applications for renewal must be submitted online, by logging into your Member 365 "member portal" at <http://ridgedale.member365.com>, using your unique username and password. We accept cash, and preferably cheque / money orders or credit card for payment of fees.

If you volunteered one or more times in 2019, you will receive a one-time \$20 credit towards your 2020 membership fees.

When renewing after January 31, you also have to include a \$20 late fee. Once your renewal and payment have been processed, we reactivate your gate card and your **ETPL insurance**. If you have

questions, email membership@ridgedale.net or call 604-826-0552 during office hours; see elsewhere in this newsletter or visit <http://ridgedale.net/about/office-hours>.

Excess Third-Party Liability Insurance (ETPL)

- ETPL insures against your legal liability for unintentional bodily injury or property damage to someone other than yourself or your property and arising out of your personal actions. This coverage does not include accident benefits. Therefore, if members injure themselves during outdoor activities this policy does not provide that coverage; it applies only to third party liability, covering a member in good standing of the RRGC, anywhere in North America. So, whether you go on a hunting trip in Alberta or Ontario, or shoot at a range in Washington State, the ETPL insurance will cover you. For additional information, visit <http://ridgedale.net/membership/about-eptl-coverage>

The 2020 Certificate of Insurance

Please note that as proof of ETPL insurance, you need to carry a Certificate of Insurance with your personalized BC Wildlife Federation (BCWF) Member Card for the current year.

As the ETPL Policy term runs from January 1st - Dec. 31st, the 2019 Certificate of Insurance has expired. Ridgedale members in good standing will receive the 2020 BCWF Member card and 2020 insurance certificate directly from the BCWF.

If you like to have the certificate on your smart phone, you can download a copy via your BCWF Member Profile at the BCWF eCommunity at <https://tinyurl.com/yaxuavfy>

Questions?

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

Wednesdays

- February 5, 12, 19 & 26
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Fridays

- February 7, 14, 21 & 28
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Saturdays

- February 22
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

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



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