

**Fredericton Recreational Shooters Association  
Springfield Sports Club Inc.  
Annual General Meeting  
October 19, 2009**

Odell Park Lodge, 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Fifty-two club members including board members President Greg Gilbert, Vice-president Dan Chisholm, Treasurer Tim Cairns, Secretary Dan Toner, Chief Range Officer Steven Stewart and Directors-at-large Laurence **GILBEY**, John Harper and Bob Kierstead.

**Welcome and Opening Remarks:** Greg Gilbert welcomed the members and introduced the board. He said it had been a busy year for the association and that the board had met about every month. He said Dan Toner would chair the meeting and help keep everyone on track so all the business could be covered.

**Reading of the Minutes of 2008 AGM and Adoption of the Agenda:** Dan Toner reminded members that the minutes from the last AGM had been sent out early last winter. He had some paper copies available at the meeting. Dan summarized the major items from the last AGM and went over the agenda for the current meeting.

It was moved by Neil LaCroix and seconded by Glen Abbott that the agenda be adopted. The motion was carried.

**Financial Report for 2009:** Tim Cairns presented a Financial Report, a Balance Sheet, a Profit & Loss Statement and a Cash Reconciliation Report for 2009 (attached). He said that by year's end the club will have spent a little more than it brought in for the year but that the club had accumulated a small surplus from late last year when planned work couldn't be completed due to the weather. He noted that the club spent about \$10,000 rebuilding the backstops, moving the storage trailer and the smaller range building this year. Expected upcoming expenses include for gravel areas around the range buildings, road repairs, applying hay to the backstops and extending a side berm. He said spending on the berms, backstops and range are to make sure the club is ready for recertification in 2010. Work still needs to be done on the 600 **meter** range. The debt outstanding for the club is \$11,000, of which the board expects to pay \$4,000 this year.

There were some questions from members about various details in the reports which Tim explained.

**Membership Report:** Tim reported that as of October 18 there were **191** members compared to 179 members the previous year. He said that about 44 previous members did not renew but that about 55 new members joined.

**President's Report and Range Report:** Greg Gilbert presented a combined report summarizing activities over the past year. Preparing for recertification coming up in 2010 has been a big job for the board. There were a lot of range maintenance projects, including the backstop work Tim had outlined.

Other club activities included;

- .22 rifle and pistol championship in April.
- .22 **rifle** and pistol shoots from the range building during the winter.
- Inter-club shoots in which members participated.
- **CDP** and Cowboy Action shoots.
- IPSC shoots including the 2009 IPSC Provincials.
- Royal New Brunswick Rifle Association small bore championship.
- Back Powder events.
- A Hunter Sight-In.
- Open House and Bar-B-Que event that drew a strong turn-out and led to some new members.

In addition, club members represented FRSA with an informational booth at the Harvey and Odell Gun Shows.

The board also introduced new rubberized mats as target backs. This new material can absorb a tremendous amount of shots. Unfortunately the wooden target stands supporting these mats have been routinely shot up.

Greg said the board is looking at a new shooting schedule for 2010 and said they are open to hearing from members about the types of shooting events they'd like to see organized. He and Dan Toner pointed out that previous shoot schedules were very event-heavy but in some cases poorly attended. In a few instances board members rearranged their personal schedules to host scheduled events only to have no members show up to participate. In light of this, the 2010 shooting schedule will likely have fewer events.

**Daniel** Chisholm reminded the membership that if they have an interest, they can organize a shooting event. Board members will help with the scheduling and provide advice.

## **New Business:**

### Membership Fees and 2010 Budget Proposal

Dan Toner prefaced the presentation by Greg and Tim by advising the membership that they were about to hear the recommended membership fee and budget on behalf of the entire board. He said the board had met several times on these financial issues and discussed them in great detail before arriving at the consensus recommendation.

Greg said the board is recommending a 2010 membership fee of \$150 as part of a multi-year budget projection that will allow the club to complete the work

needed for recertification and add on new things such as covered firing points to make the range something in which all members can take pride.

Tim presented a Budget 2010 and out summary document, an Estimate for Expenses and Income for 2010 to 2016, an Estimated Capital and Maintenance schedule for 2010 to 2016 and a Budget Option Summary for 5 years (attached).

Tim said he built the 2010 Budget on the assumption of 175 members and a membership fee of \$150. He reminded the membership of the discussion at the previous AGM over whether significant maintenance work could be accomplished by the members on a volunteer basis or by a hired contractor. The experience of the past year indicates enough volunteers are not available to accomplish the work that needs to get done. This includes cutting the grass – which is a daunting task given the size and condition of the ranges – as well as removing garbage, repairing and replacing target stands, doing routine repairs on the range buildings, etc. Hiring a contractor – preferably a member – would account for a portion of the fee increase.

Also included is a Capital Plan to install covered firing points on two ranges in 2010 and one additional range each in 2011, 2012 and 2015 as well as major work on the range building in 2014 or a replacement building.

Additional work must be done on the 600 meter range back stop in 2010 and possibly extending the side berm on the 100 meter range in front of the small range building.

Tim explained that with a membership fee of \$150 and assuming a reasonably stable number of members, the necessary maintenance will be completed in a timely fashion, new capital work will enhance the facility for shooters, the buildings will be maintained/repared/replaced, the debt will be retired and the club will be financially prepared to address issues as they arise.

There was a series of questions from the membership.

One member asked about the size of the range. Tim and Steven Stewart explained the range covers 14 hectares which is leased from the Department of Natural Resources. It is presently a 10-year lease due to continue until 2015 and is renewable but there are no guarantees.

One member asked if the board had considered an early-payment discount on the membership fee as had been in place last year. Greg and Tim said the board had considered but rejected the idea as the discount costs the club \$4,000 last year. At the time, the club had needed to raise funds quickly to be able to hire a contractor for immediate work and the discount encouraged members to pay their fees sooner. This year the financial position is more stable and the cost to the club is considered too high by the board.

One member asked about the spending priorities if the membership drops. Tim said first priority is maintenance and any work necessary for recertification. Capital expenditures, such as for covered firing points, would be cut first. The issue of guest shooters was raised and discussed. Greg said that members are welcome and even encouraged to bring guests to the range. However, they need to be signed in and must follow the range rules. In addition, if the guest lives in the region then after two or three visits, it's time for them to buy their own membership.

It was moved by Glen Abbott and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the board Membership Fee and 2010 Budget be accepted. The motion was carried.

#### Business from the Floor:

- Potential Boxing Day Shooting event

George McKillop presented the idea of organizing a members-only Boxing Day shoot at the range. Interested members could bring any type of firearm for a fun shoot. A show of hands showed significant interest. George indicated he would follow-up on the idea. The board members said they'd be pleased to add it to the schedule.

- Potential 600 meter (long distance) shooting clinic

**Daniel** Chisholm said he'd be willing to host a shooting clinic for people interested in long distance (600 meter) shooting but who have limited or no experience. Significant interest was shown and Dan said he'd plan something likely in the spring and have word send out via e-mail.

- Resolution that members show due courtesy on the range

Peter Forbes spoke about the frustration of dealing with members who occupy a specific, specialized range for an undue length of time and effectively prevent others from accessing it. Greg Gilbert said the board has been grappling with the issue of appropriate behaviour and is looking at a mandatory orientation session for new members. After further discussion, it was moved by Peter Forbes and seconded by **Doug Cain** that:

"The Board and members of FRSA endorse as a principle that all members show appropriate courtesy to other members and guests on the range and that, specifically, members cooperate with each other to ensure each has appropriate access to the various range facilities."

The motion was passed.

- Amending the membership form

One member noted the membership form is unclear about whether guests need to be signed-in. The board agreed to amend the form to clarify this requirement.

### ~~—Ammunition Storage Containers~~

~~A member arranged for the donation of a quantity of used ammunition storage cans to the club. The board consulted with the members and it was decided to sell them to members at the conclusion of the meeting \$5 a container and \$10 for three. Any leftover containers will be sold at future club events.~~

**Draw for Rifle:** The first prize in the raffle draw for a Savage Model 16FCSS 22-250 with a Bushnell Elite 3200 3 X 9 40mm scope was Charles Gilbert of Bedford, Nova Scotia. The second prize of \$500 towards a weekend get-away was David Gilbert of Burton, New Brunswick.

**Draw for donated projectiles:** A supply of projectiles had been donated to the club by **Aim Projectiles**. There were 1,000 projectiles in each of four calibers. Tickets were sold for a raffle at the AGM and drawn at the end.

- Alan Gilbert won the .38 projectiles.
- Greg Gilbert won the 9mm projectiles.
- Paul Monty was the 40cal projectiles.
- Steven Stewart won the 45cal projectiles.

Election of Officers: **Daniel** Chisholm, chair of the Nominating Committee, submitted the committee's suggestions for the slate of directors and officers for 2010. The list included:

- President – Greg Gilbert
- Vice-President – Dan Chisholm
- Secretary – Larry Schriver
- Treasurer – Tim Kairns
- Chief Range Officer – Bill Hancox
- Directors-at-large – Laurence **Gilbey**, John Harper and Bob Kierstead

Dan reminded the membership that they were free to either offer themselves or nominate some other member for any of the positions and asked – three times – if there were any other nominations. No other nominations were forthcoming and the slate was elected by acclamation.

**Adjournment:** It was proposed by Neil LaCroix that the meeting adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:45.