



Anatomy of a Club

By Tony Bennett

There is enjoyment in belonging to an organization such as ours. Most of the time! I find as a rule we all desire the same things from our club.

Most clubs run with donated time and hard work of few. All who donate their time, on a regular basis, should already know that few will lead, some will follow, and most everyone else will be your harshest critic.

Why do we do what we do?

I believe some enjoy providing a service to their community. The Holmen Rod and Gun Club lost one of their best at that this past year. Rick Larson was one of the best examples of donating his time as a service to other people.

I believe some enjoy making the club work both financially and structurally. While others enjoy the shooting aspects. Still others enjoy interaction with like interests. Some have political agendas while others are retired and choose to donate their time at the club.

Remember: What ever motivates *you* to participate in any organization may not be what others around you came to find in our club. Whatever club you're involved with it is important for you to respect each other for who they are and what their motivations are for donating their time and effort to help run your club.

The Business Side

In most ways we are a business. I believe our business is to foster the shooting sports, introduce and nurture the youth in our community to our way of life as a sportsman and club member. I believe our business is to position our club in such a way that others will want to be involved.

Successful clubs, as with successful businesses, position leaders within their organization that can assess what needs to be done and lead people of all personalities to accomplish their objectives.

Clubs, more than businesses, need to accomplish this with leaders who can motivate and befriend fellow club members who donate their time. This is supposed to be fun. We should be honest with one another and be open. When this is not done clubs typically have a

rough time getting things done, as help gets scarce, as people leave.

Board of Directors

The board of directors makes decisions, for our club, on behalf of all its members. We should be biased on making these decisions based on the input from our membership. Decisions should fall in line with our bylaws, input from our Range Directors, and input from people who support us. We should listen and ask ourselves what we really want to accomplish within our club if changes require us to alter our bylaws, or alienate people who have supported our club for more years than we ourselves have been members. We should have a goal to improve our club and do the best job we can for the people who put us on the board.

Customers

Having worked exclusively in the service industry, there are certain values that always hold true. You make money and grow by being the best at solving your customer's problems. Your customer pays you. It's all right to say no to some business. Just don't make a practice out of it. Add value and charge accordingly. Your level of service should justify what you charge.

Our customers are those who pay dues, pay fees to shoot, buy food to eat, etc. We can call them participants, members, competitors what ever. If we think of them as customers we are more apt to make decisions based on what they want instead of what our personal agenda may be.

I'm looking forward to 2007. We've invested heavily on range development. We have energetic and talented individuals who know how to provide quality shoots and enjoy doing so. We have an opportunity to grow our trap program and differentiate ourselves from other clubs with the choices we make this year. We are looking at our bylaws and changing them to improve our club by bringing them up to date. We will have installed an orientation requirement to becoming a member in our club, making sure all club members are made aware of safety requirements and range rules and to abide by such. We continue to position our club to cater to the shooting sports venues. Field Days will be redesigned to one or more shooting events throughout the year. Have a good Year!!



NRA Foundation

By Greg Gentry

Thanks to a grant from The NRA Foundation *Friends of NRA* program the Holmen Rod & Gun Club will receive \$2,750.00 to under write the "Youth Education Program". We are very excited about this program and pleased that the NRA is making an investment in the Holmen Rod & Gun Club that will help update our youth training programs.



Friends of NRA is a grassroots, community-minded program supported by gunowners, sportsmen and NRA friends that conduct banquets and other fundraising events to generate income for the NRA FOUNDATION. Last year, the *Friends of NRA* raised a net of nearly \$8.1 million through events in 701 communities nationwide. The NRA FOUNDATION has awarded over 8500 grants nationally.

Trap Shooting at HRGC

by Tony Bennett

This year brings with it anticipation of having a lot of fun on the trap shooting Range.

The 2007 Blizzard shoot is upon us. Holmen Rod and Gun will host the first shoot on January 14th. Sign-up is from 9:00am to 2:00pm. All help would be greatly appreciated. Help and participation would be even better. The Blizzard shoot is a competition between shooters from Wisconsin and Minnesota. Subsequent shoots are January 21 at Rochester, January 28th at Gunslick, February 4th at LaCrescent, February 11th at Winona, and February 18th at Chaseburg. The cost to shoot is \$12.00 per 50 targets (all 16 yards).

There is an optional \$5.00 Lewis Class. The top ten scores for each state determine which state wins each blizzard shoot.

As with last year, John Davenport will run open shooting from April through September on Tuesday evenings starting at 5:00pm.

**New to open shooting this year will be the doubles trap our range just purchased. Our goal is to introduce this to our shooters this year in hopes of generating interest in a possible doubles league.

2007 is our year to host the Trane League. This is a seven-week Sunday league beginning in March. Trane alternates their league between the Holmen Rod and Gun Club and Gunslick.

Also in March we will continue our two- person league starting on Wednesday the 21st and running for six weeks. Our fall two Man league will run from August 22nd for six weeks.

We are looking for people who have never shot leagues before but enjoy trap shooting. These two-person leagues are designed to be fun and not overly competitive. Ideal candidates are folks who need to find some fun time for themselves and friends and family. Six weeks is not too long for a league. League rules permit teams to shoot ahead or make up as needed.

On Wednesday August 15th we will be hosting a fundraiser shoot for the Boy Scouts of America. It would be a great time to help out with scoring or loading trap houses or serving food for this event. This would go towards your 4 hours of work for the year and would be a great way to help support this great cause.

We look forward to seeing you at the trap range this year!!!

Craig Nagel Sets World Record!

By Bill Baumgardner

The National Bench Rest Shooters Association, Inc. (N.B.R.S.A.) sanctions bench rest matches nation wide. One such match was held in Van Dyne, WI, last summer when Craig Nagel, of the Holmen Rod & Gun Club, scored a 250 with 23 X's to set a world record in the 100 yard hunter class.



To put this in perspective, imagine a target a little smaller than the size of a dime (called the “10 ring”) with a small dot in the middle. How many times with 25 shots in 35 minutes could you hit the dime sized 10 ring while shooting from 100 yards away? How many times could you hit the dot in the middle (smaller than a pin head)? Craig Nagel hit the 10 ring 25 times and hit the dot (“X ring”) 23 times!! The former world record was 250 with 22X.

During the last bench rest match at Holmen five members of the Holmen bench rest team scored 250's. They are Roy Oines, Craig Nagel, Jim Knowler, Phil Scholze and Richard Honeywell. Others who have scored 250's in the past are Steve Rosendale, Vic Rieber, Kevin Scholze and Lavern Nelson.

The Holmen Rod and Gun Club bench rest team shoots competitively on the Holmen range four or five times per summer. New shooters are always welcomed. If you are interested in trying this challenging sport, contact any of shooters listed in this article.

The match dates are listed in the yearly calendar.

IMHSA Shoots for 2007

- April 7 9am to 4pm
- May 5 9am to 4pm
- June 2 9am to 4pm
- July 7 9am to 4pm
- August 4 9am to 4pm



Pistols, .22 rifles & cowboy lever gun. For more information contact Tony at 608-213-7228 or express270@hotmail.com

Food and refreshments will be available.

Membership Dinner January 20th

By Mark Thole

As Field Days is going by the wayside – so may the annual membership dinner if participation continues to fall. For each of the last few years attendance at the annual dinner has gotten smaller and smaller.

The folks that have been in charge of organizing the dinner are in need of some fresh blood, new ideas and volunteers to help run the event. Please, if you would like to see this tradition continue, come to a club meeting and get involved.

This year we will again be at the Holmen Legion on January 20th. Doors open at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm and the cost for a plate is \$8.50.

New Club Membership Requirements?

By Mark Thole

The Board of Directors would like the members' feedback on the idea of adding a training requirement in order to become a member. What are your thoughts? Good idea? Bad idea? Why? Would you be willing to volunteer to help implement a new training program?

Additionally we are soliciting your feedback about becoming a 100% NRA member club. There are many benefits of it, including reduced insurance costs and being able to apply for specific grants for range improvements.



~ Other Announcements ~

- Due to declining numbers and participation it has been decided by the Board of Directors to discontinue Field Days.
- The newsletter and website are in need of some new blood. If you are interested in taking over the either of them, please contact Mark Thole via e-mail at mpthole@hotmail.com.
- If you haven't heard already, there is a new alcohol policy at the club: **"No handling of firearms permitted if alcohol has been consumed."** This is for everyone's safety! Signs will be posted as a reminder of the policy.
- Bill Schmitz, AACFI certified instructor, will be holding to concealed carry permit classes. The first is February 11th and the second is April 29th. You may reach Bill by e-mail at: ccwtrainer@BDJ-LTD.COM or by phone 920-566-4525 home; 920-295-9435 cell.
- After hearing the treasurer's report for 2006, the membership dues collected just cover our yearly expenses (utilities, taxes, insurance, fees, etc). All range improvements and other infrastructure improvements are made possible by the revenue generated from our various matches. Please support your sport(s) by helping out at a match. You might be surprised at how an hour or two of your time can make a match run that much smoother.
- Volunteer opportunities: Even without Field Days, there will be plenty of chances for you to help out at the club. Please check the calendar for work days and other major events. Areas where help is always needed: painting (fences, buildings, etc), mowing, replacing backer boards, emptying garbage cans at the bays, picking up brass (and other litter). Work days have been scheduled before the major matches for the year, so please come out and lend a hand if you are able. Better yet, attend a club meeting or a work day meeting and find out what needs to be done.
- "Spring Round-Up" is scheduled for May 12th.



~ Members ~

The Holmen Rod and Gun Club exists because of its member participants. Your participation (as a volunteer and as a participant in events) is essential to ensure that the Club continues to provide recreational shooting sports activities to the community. Please – get involved – its *your* club!

~ Board of Directors ~

	Area of Responsibility	Phone Number	Board Member?	Club Officer
Bennett, Tony	Archery Range	608-526-6767	Yes	President
Call, Steve		715-597-5070	Yes	
Casper, Ronnie	3-Gun USPSA Action Pistol	715-963-2120 715-896-1965	Yes	Vice-President
Daniels, Guy		608-779-4562	Yes	Treasurer
Davenport, John	Building & Grounds	608-792-3400	Yes	
Gappa, Ben		608-526-3912	Yes	
Gentry, Greg		608-787-5933	Yes	
Hansen, Jeff		608-526-3073	Yes	
Hellerude, Dick	Cowboy Ranges	608-526-4687	Yes	
McGowan, Tom		608-317-5451	Yes	
Nagel, Craig		608-783-5522	Yes	
Oines, Roy	Big Bore Range	608-526-3727	Yes	
Rentschler, Dan	Silhouette Range Kitchen	608-783-5821	Yes	
Thole, Mark	Webmaster Newsletter USPSA (asst.)	608-784-1766	Yes	Secretary
Willemarck, Tony	Silhouette Range	608-213-7228	Yes	
Hellerude, Joe	Cowboy Ranges (asst.)	608-781-5959	No	
Butterfield, Gary	Muzzleloader	608-781-0149	No	
Richason, Stan	Muzzleloader	608-526-6737	No	