



Yellowknife Shooting Club

Northwest Territories

Shoot for the fun of it!

Spring 2015 newsletter

President's Message:

Spring is here and lots of members are starting to enjoy the warm weather and use the outdoor range. The section activities are starting up, and the range will be getting lots of use. Check the shooting club calendar or follow us on Facebook for news and updates. Handgun shoots Monday evenings, Shotgun on Wednesday, Silhouette on Thursdays. Come on out and try these activities, it is a great way to meet other enthusiasts, and have fun while improving skills. Hope to see you at the Range!

- President

Important Dates:

May 3rd – Smallbore Silhouette match at 14:00. Sight-in at 12:00.

May 5th - Annual General Meeting at 19:30 - Shooting Performance Center.

May 17th – Bench Rifle Match from 09:00 to 12:00. High Power Cowboy Silhouette Match at 14:00.

May 23rd – Spring Range Cleanup at 09:00

May 30th – action match at 09:00.

For more upcoming dates, visit the club's website at www.yellowknifeshootingclub.ca and click on the calendar. Or follow us on Facebook.

Territorials:

NWT Territorials were held the 18th of April in Yellowknife. Numerous competitors attended, some from as far north as Inuvik! We had the good fortune to have a member of the Canadian Pistol Team join us and she ran an awesome clinic the Sunday after the match. We all learnt a ton and perhaps more importantly had great time!

Rifle Results: Scott Cairns (1st), Renee Theoret (2nd), Jaylene Ruben (3rd).

Pistol Results: Liz Gustuvson (1st), Mary Cairns (2nd), Mike Jennings (3rd)

Cadet Nationals:

On April 11, 2837 PPCLI Army Cadets competed at a regional marksmanship competition in Edmonton. Top shooters qualified to compete on April 12 in a National Marksmanship Competition.

Our corps did very well in taking top 3 medals in Individual Prone and Standing in the open category. One of our Junior (under 15) shooters received a silver and a bronze medal for individual prone and aggregate. The team won the gold medals for top unit team in standing, prone and aggregate.

The corps shot targets for Nationals on Sunday, and overall the Territory came in 2nd place, after BC. However, in the individual standings the NWT provided the top three shooters in the country. Liam Wilford and Flynn Clark tied for 1st place overall, with Melissa Clark in second place. Liam Wilford also shot a perfect target scoring of 100 10x!

Silhouette Section

The Yellowknife Shooting Club hosts an active silhouette shooting program at the outdoor range. The Silhouette Section will start the 2015 season on Sunday May 3rd, weather permitting.

During the summer months, we shoot a small bore (.22 rim fire) rifle and handgun match on Thursday evenings. Sight-in starts at 6:00 pm and the match starts at 7:00 pm.

We also shoot a small bore rifle and handgun match on the first Sunday of each month. On the third Sunday of each month, we hold a high-power cowboy rifle and handgun match. New in 2015 will be a high power match option with scaled targets, using any non-magnum rifle 6mm or larger. For Sunday matches, the range is set-up for sight-in at 12:00 pm and the match begins at 1:00 pm.

Friendly instruction and assistance are provided for anyone that would like to try silhouette shooting.

Special welcome for juniors:

Small bore silhouette shooting is an excellent introduction to shooting for youths. Junior members, with parental supervision, are welcome at our matches. The club has several good quality .22 rifles to loan to junior shooters. Safety training, safety equipment, ammunition and coaching are provided.

What is Silhouette Shooting?

Silhouette shooting uses animal-shaped steel targets (chickens, pigs, turkeys and rams) placed on stands at different distances. For small bore competitions, two banks of five animals are set up with chickens at 40 metres, pigs at 60 metres, turkeys at 77 metres and rams at 100 metres. High Power Handgun and Cowboy Rifle targets are set at 50, 100, 150 and 200 metres. New in 2015, scaled high power targets will be set at 150, 200, 300 and 340 metres. A match consists of 40 shots, one per each animal target. Scoring is simple: a shot that knocks the intended target off the stand is scored as a hit; if not, it is a miss. To keep it challenging, all rifle shooting is done from the standing position.

What do you need for silhouette?

As with most sporting activities, there is a large variety of equipment available to help you get better scores. However, to begin little equipment is needed.

For small-bore silhouette, any reasonably accurate .22 calibre handgun or rifle with a scope is all you need to shoot a silhouette match. There are two different rifle classes, Hunter and Standard Rifle, depending on the weight of the rifle. The rifle class can be assigned at the range. Also, a lever action .22 rifle with iron sights will allow you to compete in the Cowboy Rifle class. High velocity rim fire ammunition will damage the targets and is not allowed.

For High Power Silhouette, we shoot Cowboy rifle matches with any lever action rifle that fires a rimmed centre fire cartridge (30-30, 45-70, etc.) The new scaled targets are made for use with most non-magnum centre fire rifles larger than 6mm. Different handgun classes allow the use of almost any centre fire handgun. Ammunition that damages the targets is prohibited. Most factory soft point ammo is fine, but FMJ ammo and high velocity hand loads are not allowed.

You will also need eye and ear protection to participate in silhouette shooting matches.

National and Territorial Championships

The 2014 Silhouette Nationals were held in Whitehorse, Yukon in July. The Yellowknife Shooting Club sponsored two juniors to attend the Nationals: Mary Cairns and Elizabeth McCullum. Both shot very well, with Mary placing first and Elizabeth second in the Smallbore Hunter AA class. In Smallbore Standard AA, Mary was second with Elizabeth in third. Mary also placed first in High Power Standard Rifle, A Class, and second in High Power Hunter Rifle, A Class. The 2015 Silhouette Nationals are scheduled for 5-11 July in Prince George, BC.

The Silhouette Section, with support of the NWT Federation of Shooting Sports, also ran a successful Northwest Territorial Silhouette Championship in Inuvik on the weekend of 20-21

September 2014. The juniors again shot very well - Elizabeth McCullum won both the Smallbore Hunter and High Power Cowboy Rifle classes. The 2015 Northwest Territorial Silhouette Championship is tentatively scheduled for Yellowknife in early September.

Pistol Section

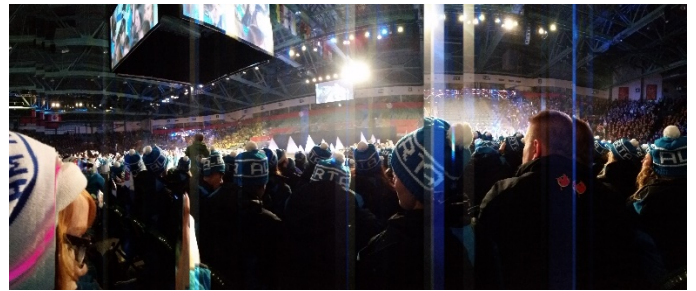
It's springtime!!!! The outdoor range is thawing out, as part of your spring cleaning routine don't forget to scrape the rust of them shootin' irons and get ready to throw some lead down range!!

The Yellowknife shooting club's handgun section shoots Monday evenings at the club's outdoor pistol range starting on May 25th and running tentatively till Sept. 14th. The drop in fee for Monday night shoots is \$5.00 which helps cover the cost of various consumables such as targets, construction materials and range improvements. If it is more convenient, (it is!!) you can pay \$50.00 to cover the drop in fees for the season.

We have several action shooting matches scheduled throughout the summer, as well as several "skill advancement" sessions hosted by our resident IPSC champion John Dzurka, please check the calendar on the website for dates and times. Recently we have purchased a variety of new targets including steel plates, new "popper" style targets, target swingers and turners to provide more shooting options for our active IPSC section. Also we have available a variety of plates and other reactive targets as well as a variety of paper bullseye type targets to provide shooting fun whatever your interests are. That being said if you have a particular shooting discipline that interests you, bullseye, balloon popping, or just good old fashioned plinking, please contact: pistol director Craig Janz (867-446-2478) or deputy director JP Landry (867-445-3953) or just simply show up on any Monday night and we will certainly try to accommodate.

In the interest of keeping our range safe and fun for everyone please refer to the safety rules that are posted throughout the site. Also **please, please, please**, refrain from shooting items such as tv's, printer's computer's, glass bottles, watermelons, in short GARBAGE! These items make a horrible

mess and really detracts from the fun and safe shooting environment we all enjoy. See you on the Range!!!



Canada Winter Games 2015

This past February, the Yellowknife Shooting Club sent four athletes to compete in the Canada Winter Games – Liam Wilford and Mary Cairns, who were competing in 10m air pistol, and Elizabeth McCullum and Melissa Clark, who were competing in 10m air rifle. They flew on a charter with other athletes on Team NWT, enjoying the camaraderie and friendly atmosphere, as well as the comfortable seats! They arrived in Prince George to be welcomed by several of the helpful and enthusiastic volunteers, who brought them to the hotel where they met up with a few of the other arriving teams.

The next evening was the day of opening ceremonies, where our athletes met up with the rest of their territory and marched out clad in their team gear, before settling in to watch a spectacle featuring many of Prince George's finest performers. The Canada Winter Games ceremony ended as the torch was lit and a giant flag was stretched across the stadium for all the athletes to hold. It was an unforgettable experience, and an incredibly victorious moment for the athletes and their coaches.

The next day was Valentine's Day, and the athletes went to the shooting venue to compete in a mock competition, as a sort of precursor to the main event. The environment was very positive and open, and there were many helpful volunteers to assure that everything ran smoothly. Clark took second place in her event, and her teammates also shot very well.

The next few days were spent exploring the city and the athletes' facilities, such as the lounge and eating hall. They also spent some time at the shooting venue, practicing for the big event and getting to know the other teams. The first to compete were Clark and McCullum in the Women's air rifle category. Both shooters scored exceptionally well, and Clark proceeded to compete in the finals. The following day, Wilford and Cairns competed in their respective events. Both shot extremely well - with Wilford shooting a personal best by almost 15 points - and proceeded to their respective finals.

During finals, Clark finished 7th, with her last shot being a 10.9! Wilford and Cairns finished in eighth place in their categories. Overall, the 2015 NWT shooting team placed significantly higher than any of the NWT's previous shooting teams. For the competitors and the coaches, it was a very important athletic milestone and the experience will stay with them forever.

