



The Shotwad

Issue#5/20

The Official Newsletter of the Marysville Rifle Club

May, 2020

The Right of the People to Keep and Bear Arms Shall Not Be Infringed

From the President

Hello,

On Monday night, the executive board of MRC met via ZOOM video conference call – it was our 1st attempt at doing so. It was interesting.

We received this medical advice regarding MRC and the resumption of normal operations:

“The pandemic is still in full swing and the risk is still high... it tempting to justify restarting but with the current numbers, we are definitely not out of the woods yet.”

Currently the basic operations of the club remains open to individual MRC Member use and not more than 2 guests per member visit.

All club meetings, public shooting events, matches continue to be closed until the lifting of the state-wide ban on large group meetings. MRC will not be holding general membership meetings during this suspension if large group gatherings.

News regarding our new executive board. The incoming board members are now assuming their new duties with one exception. On Sunday 5/3. Keith Karlick advised the executive board that he was unable to fulfill the duties of the Vice President of MRC. Dave Eason was nominated to continue to serve MRC as Vice President for an additional year. The e-board is grateful for Dave’s service to MRC as he continues into 2020.

We had a front gate incident this past week. A non-member to MRC pulled up to the gate as an MRC member was exiting. Our MRC member assumed the person was a member of the club and asked him to lock the gate behind him. The non-member proceeded on down to the pistol range and asked an MRC member if he could shoot his rifle into the 25 yd pistol trap. The non-member then asked who does he pay to shoot here? Thankfully, our MRC member recognized that this person was not an MRC member and escorted him back to the locked front gate. The MRC e-board is grateful for our member’s vigilance. Thank you.

Morale to the story, when you meet someone at the gate, do not automatically assume they are a member of MRC. Ask for them to show their badge before just letting them onto our range.

Don Jones, MRC President

Membership renewals and key distribution.

We are in the last phase of mail-in renewals for 2020.

Renewals post marked after May 31st will not be accepted. So get those last few mailed in soon!

We will schedule two key distribution events in early June. In trying to stay within the CDC guidelines and comply with Governor Inslee’s orders, here are the rules.

This will only be open to those that have renewed by mail, and just need their 2020 key and badge sticker. We will not be accepting renewals or money at these two events.

There will be a drive through set up in the lower parking lot. Members will not leave their cars. Members will be asked to wear masks in their cars. Members must bring their current MRC badges. We will hand the members a key and sticker for their badge. We will be wearing masks and gloves to protect members and those of us working. If you want to bring an envelope and hold it open, we will drop the key and sticker in the envelope, and you can sanitize as you wish when you get home.

Please comply with these rules. We are using an abundance of caution to protect our membership, and to fully comply with the State and Federal guidelines to limit MRC’s exposure to criticism.

The dates for these two events are not set yet. Please check the MRC website Calendar for June. It should be updated before the end of May. We will also publish the dates in the June Shotwad.

Thanks for your continued cooperation.

Work Points for 2020.

We have been asked by members if work parties will happen this year, or how members can accumulate work points for the year with the range shut down to most events. The short answer, we don’t know what’s going to happen for the rest of the year. Work points are accumulated January 1st through December 31st.

So, in an attempt to be fair to the membership, our current plan is to award 1.3 points for each month the range is shut down to each member. As of right now, that would mean each member will have credits for March, April, and May for a total of 4 points. We will update this as we learn more about what we will be allowed to do with respect to group or public events. As of this date, we are cautiously optimistic we will have some scheduled events later this summer. We also remind members there are some projects on the boards in the upper and lower range house that members can do on their own. Just remember

to record your hours on the sheets on the bulletin boards.
Hopefully, there will be ample events later this year to get your remaining work points.
In addition, Normal dues, \$100 for members, \$75 for seniors, will still be required at renewal next year. Keep in mind we still need to pay the bills.

MRC NEWS

COVID19

MRC would like to reiterate that the range is shut down for all public events. The range is however, open to member use with a maximum of two guests. This will remain in effect until the executive Stay Home Order from the Governor is rescinded.

Additionally, because of CDC recommendations regarding social distancing, MRC is unable to hold any meetings and to continue with membership renewals. The 2019 gate locks will remain in place until everyone has been given a reasonable opportunity to renew their membership.

WDFW COVID-19/Coronavirus response and updates

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is keeping the health and well-being of all Washingtonians in mind as the state comes together in an effort to slow the spread of the new coronavirus (COVID-19). See Department of Health guidance and the new statewide joint response website.

Closures and restrictions

Watch Governor Jay Inslee's April 27th news conference opening up limited hunting and fishing opportunities

Updated 9:00 a.m. May 5, 2020

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will reopen some recreational fishing and hunting in a phased approach following the state's efforts to limit the spread of coronavirus. The department is asking hunters and anglers to enjoy these outdoor activities only if they can do so locally, while also practicing physical distancing.

Hunting

Hunting seasons: Local hunting for turkey and spring bear opened on **May 5**. Spring turkey season will end on **May 31**, as originally scheduled.

- **Spring bear hunts:** [Spring bear special permit seasons](#) will be extended until **June 30**. Spring bear hunters who would normally travel outside their local areas to hunt may wait to see how travel guidance evolves, or seek a permit refund and reclaim their points if they are unable to hunt while meeting local hunting recommendations. Permit hunters are responsible for securing access, which may not be available for all or for the added season dates.
- **Sealing bobcats and river otters:** Successful hunters/trappers must contact a WDFW office for pelt sealing and submit the associated harvest report to the department **by July 20, 2020**. (The previous date was April 20.)

Hunter education training

UPDATED NOTICE: Due to Governor Inslee's extension of the 'Stay Home, Stay Healthy' emergency order through May 4, WDFW has cancelled all in-person hunter education classes through May 4, 2020. Please check back for updated information starting May 5.

Due to the Governor Inslee's extension of the 'Stay Home, Stay Healthy' emergency order, the Department of Fish and Wildlife has cancelled all in-person hunter education classes through May 4. The situation will be reassessed as more details become available. So, now what? **OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE:**

- Students at least 9 years of age: These students can take the online hunter education course and a Virtual Field Day. The Virtual Field Day replaces the in-person Field Skills Evaluation during the COVID-19 emergency. The entire course takes approximately 10 hours to complete. Students can complete the course in multiple sittings.

Steps:

1. Complete course 1: ▪ Register for and complete the online hunter education course at <https://www.hunter-ed.com/washington/>.
2. Complete course 2: ▪ Next, register for and complete the online Virtual Field Day course at <https://www.huntercourse.com/virtualfieldday/>. (Note, the VFD course completion certificate is NOT VALID for a license purchase).
3. Sign your hunter-ed.com certificate ▪ Upon completing the Virtual Field Day course, please sign into <https://www.hunter-ed.com/washington/> to print and sign your course completion certificate. This will serve as your official certificate (once signed, the certificate is VALID for license purchase).
4. You will also receive an orange postcard-type hunter education certificate in the mail at a later date.

- Students under 9 years of age: These students can still take the online course but are required to attend a field skills evaluation class once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Alternatively, they may choose to take a traditional classroom course once in-person courses are again offered.

- **Hunter Education Deferral:** Prospective hunters at least 10 years of age may qualify for the Hunter Education Deferral. The deferral program allows a one-year, once-in-a-lifetime deferral of hunter education training for individuals new to hunting who are accompanied by an experienced hunter. Note this is not available to people who had a deferral in the past, even if they did not purchase a license. Please see program requirements at

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/deferralprogram>. Deferral applications are submitted and processed via email, which currently takes 1-2 business days. On Due to the Governor Inslee's extension of the 'Stay Home, Stay Healthy' emergency order, the Department of Fish and Wildlife has cancelled all in-person hunter education classes through May 4. The situation will be reassessed as more details become available.

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