



Bay of Plenty

NZDA

New Zealand Deerstalkers Association

SEPTEMBER 2025



PAPARANGI CLUB HUNT

(See Barnaby Harris's story on page 11)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION,
BAY OF PLENTY BRANCH



NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION BAY OF PLENTY BRANCH

Our mission statement is to retain, enhance and create opportunities for the enjoyment of legitimate recreational hunting and the sport of shooting, for the members of the Association.

Founded in 1950, the Bay of Plenty NZDA is a branch of the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association.

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Cover Story and Photo

Want to feature on the cover of our next newsletter?

If you have a suitable photo and can write a few words to support it, please send it through to: editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz and you could win a \$100 Bar Tab at The Raft Café & Sports Bar - 65 Chapel Street Tauranga.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025

Hi Team,

As the country emerges from winter hibernation and the economy begins to see the end of the "survive through 25" tunnel, it's extremely pleasing to note that our club is back in growth mode.

At the time of writing, we have over 660 members and on track to surpass the record high of 683 achieved back in 2023/24. A big welcome to all our new members!

The past month has been extremely busy at the club – HUNTS Course, club hunts, and the Tack Driver Shooting comp to name just a few of the highlights. Why we belong to a club is varied and there is no one definitive answer. For some it's the facilities we offer, and we are fortunate to have an amazing range and the luxury of a chiller for hanging game. Or perhaps you're new to firearms and were looking for a place to learn. For other (like myself) it's the comradery and the knowledge of being represented at a much higher level. Whatever your reasons, thank you for your support and a big thanks to all those volunteers who have got stuck in and made it happen.

With these thoughts in mind, I feel it's important to point out that it takes a huge amount of work to run a club this size. Those of us at the organization level are all volunteers and we do it for the love... no one benefits financially and in many cases it costs us. Now I don't like to put a negative spin on my writing, but it needs to be pointed out that the pool of volunteers appears to be decreasing while

the workload and demand from members continues to increase. With over 600 members you'd like to think we could achieve a huge amount if we all gave a small amount of time but lately it doesn't appear to be working that way. I'd like to challenge each of you to think about how you can become more involved....

- Do you have a particular set of skills? Great, get in touch and offer to help.
- Are you passionate about hunting? Perhaps consider running a club hunt.
- Are you a regular range user?
Please show up to working bees or reach out to the Range Manager if you can help in other ways: range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
- Do you know an interesting person? Why not ask them to be a club night speaker.
- Is your business doing well? Perhaps you can donate a prize to one of our competitions.
- Do you have a great idea for the club? Why not formulate it and bring it to the committee for actioning.

As we head towards the silly season, I appreciate that the demands on everyone's time is going to increase but please remember that our club relies on you being actively involved, so the next time you're enjoying an organized hunt or sending rounds down range, please consider if you're giving as much as you take, and if not, perhaps think about how you can be more involved.

Tim Taylor
BOP PRESIDENT

TICKETS COST \$75PP



Anniversary

CELEBRATION

Date: 22nd November

Time: 18:00 - 23:30pm

Location: Cargo Shed, Tauranga

Join us for a fun night at the Cargo Shed to share stories, eat good food, boogie to a band, enter a roaring competition or just catch up with your mates you may not have seen for a while.

YOUR TICKET INCLUDES:

- A delicious buffet-dinner from Grace and Graze (from 7pm)
- Dessert
- 3 free drinks
- Guest Speaker Brendon Weatherly
- Entertainment by Shabang
- Roaring Competition
- A cash bar will also be available for those who wish to celebrate with something a little stronger.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Call Isabell Zitzelsberger on: 026 650 3488 or
Email secrartary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz**

BOP NZDA CLUB EVENTS & HUNTS CALENDAR 2025

OCT	<p>7 October Club Night - Whats in your pack Speaker: Harry Dykstra from Bene Footwear Starts: 7pm</p>	<p>16 October Club Hunt Tawa Hut Waioeka Contact: Dan Gallagher 022 128 0928</p>
	<p>18-19 October Club Hunt Mokau River Club Hunt Contact: Tim Taylor 027 668 9904</p>	<p>31 October Club Hunt SIKA Lodge Contact: Andrew Burr 021 477 599</p>
NOV	<p>1 November NZDA Taupo Branch Prize Shoot Contact: Baden 021 066 3791</p>	<p>2 November Peeking Wallaby Match 100M, 200M, 300M NZDA Range Contact: Baden 021 066 3791</p>
	<p>TBC Spring Sika Hind Hunt Competition Contact: Thinus 0274403310</p>	<p>4 November Club Night - An evening with Hunting and Fishing / Free BBQ Speaker: TBC Starts: 7pm</p>
	<p>TBC Club Hunt - Mount Cook Contacts: Josh Keen and Jonathan Flude</p>	<p>22 November 75th Anniversary Dinner - Cargo Sheds Starts: 6pm</p>

Visit: www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz/club-events for more NZDA BOP events and activities.

COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILE: JEREMY WOOLERTON

EACH MONTH WE ARE PROFILING ONE OF OUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO HELP YOU GET TO KNOW THE TEAM BEHIND THE SCENES.

Name	Jeremy Woolerton
Position	Membership Secretary
Age	35
Day Job	Commercial Development at BP
NZDA Background	My hunting adventures started on the river flats and open tops of Canterbury but took a 10y break when I moved to Australia and later Auckland. I relocated back to Tauranga after covid and joined the NZDA to meet people and learn how to find deer in the bush. I have met some great people, but I am still figuring out how to find deer in the bush... I once gave Reuben some feedback and soon found myself on the committee :).
Passion within NZDA	I love helping new members find their way within the club. I don't have all the answers but it's all about connecting people and making them feel welcomed.
Favourite Caliber and why	I have chosen to stick to one rifle and learn it inside out. My Tikka T3x 7mm08 does it all. I did splash out on a carbon fibre stock to make those long pack in missions a bit more comfortable.
What you want to contribute to NZDA	I want to help foster engagement in our club events. A lot of effort goes into making sure our calendar is full of great events, I really want to help increase attendance at our club nights, club hunts and offsite events (get your 75th Anniversary ticket!).



RANGE NEWS - SEPTEMBER

Hello members.

Here is your update on range matters for this month.

1. WORKING BEE

(Range rebuild works) – on SEPTEMBER 6th, 2025.

Thanks to the 18 members who answered the call and turned up to help out on the day. Despite the occasional wet weather showers to start with it cleared up after 11:00am, and everyone was well fed with a big BBQ after 12:30pm (nice job Trent!). Two members also brought along their own mini-diggers which was awesome – thanks guys. My sincere thanks again to all the volunteers who have helped us out at various times at the range over the past year or so, with both the large and small working bees. And to all the NRO's helping to run range open days and other organised events.

2. 600M RANGE DEVELOPMENT

Some works on site have progressed. We have also had some assistance from TECT park staff and our own contractor with initial scrub clearing in the last month.

3. STEEL BULLET CATCHER (TRIAL)

THIS IS 'LIVE' NOW - since 15th July. The 300kg stand-alone unit has been installed at the range on 15/6 with a hi-ab, and is located on the far right-hand end of 100m target line, at a special target location - now sign-posted '15a'. Shooting for this target-board and bullet catcher/trap will be from Bench #15 only. So far this is going really well. My hope is that in the VERY near future we can have 15 of these steel bullet traps installed at the 100m target line. This will help to solve the worst part of the major maintenance burden that we are facing now every 4-6 months.

4. RULES REMINDER:

With most people sighting in their rifles at 100m, the rules state that you MUST first zero any new rifles (or rifle/scope combination) at the closer targets of 25m BEFORE you can shoot at 100m.

The reason for this is that the 100m line gets by far the most use (and damage), and we have already found stray bullet holes through the new posts and support rails on the rebuilt 100m target frame line, and holes in the new target number signs. There should not be any excuse or reason for this to occur if your rifles are properly pre-zeroed at 25m first (as per the range standing orders). Also, do not place your target right at the very top of the backing boards. Please be sure to staple your targets to the backing boards at least 6-8" down from the top. The reasons for this are explained on the orange signs at the range firing line building. Do not leave live or mis-fired ammo at the range – take it home with you, along with any rubbish.

5. LOST PROPERTY:

If you have LOST anything at the range, contact the range manager. (I still have a knife and a leather sheath that I found at the range on 10/8 – possibly a kids one, and it looks very new – that I'm still trying to find the owner of. Also at the recent working bee on 6/9 someone left a handsaw at the range that needs to be collected from me.) - If you have FOUND any lost property at the range, then please contact the range manager and let me know: range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

6. COMPETITION SHOOT:

Baden's inaugural '300m Tack Driver' event has just been held on the 12 and 13th Sept, and despite the appalling weather I would have to say it was a huge success, in very challenging conditions, and it was a credit to Baden for the amount of effort he put in to organising it. See Baden's report about that in this newsletter. Good to see that it was won by a local F-class shooter from the Te Puke Club, and with some other competitors coming from Auckland and the Hawkes Bay, it was good to see the results and positive feedback for our club, and our ability to hold competition events like this to a high standard.

7. RANGE RULES REFRESHER:

With over 270 range ticket holders now part of our community, and some having been with us since the range first opened in 2012, it's only natural that a few details around the range rules may have faded over time - especially for those who only visit occasionally. That said, maintaining a high standard of safety and compliance is key to ensuring the continued success and open access of our range. We're fortunate to have one of the few ranges in New Zealand that's available to ticket holders 365 days a year, without needing constant range officer supervision. That level of trust and freedom is rare - and something worth protecting. To help keep everyone up to speed, we've put together a simple refresher document/checklist covering the current Range Standing Orders and key protocols. We're asking all ticket holders to review, sign, and return this document — it's a straightforward way to make sure we're all on the same page, without needing to coordinate large-scale in-person sessions.

Our goal here is simple: to support a safe, respectful environment for everyone using the range. The club is run entirely by volunteers, and we appreciate your cooperation in helping keep things running smoothly. Thanks for being a part of this great community — and for doing your bit to ensure we can all continue to enjoy this fantastic facility for years to come.

Regards, Dean Maisey.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Range Open Day
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH - 9:00am to 3:00pm.
(Registrations close at 2:15pm.)

Peeking Wallaby Match
SUNDAY NOV 2ND 2025



New NRO (National Range Officer) Training course

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME AN NRO? Contact rangeroster@deerstalkersbop.org.nz



The inaugural 300m Tack Driver Showdown tournament was a great success despite the unusual weather. Practice day on Saturday saw the range completely fogged in until 9:30am. Then on the competition day on Saturday it blew a gale all day. Maximum gust was 90 kph! Even a tree was blown down beside the firing line. The high winds gave an edge to the larger calibers and the 7mm's (.284's) took out first and second, with a 6.5 Creedmoor in third.

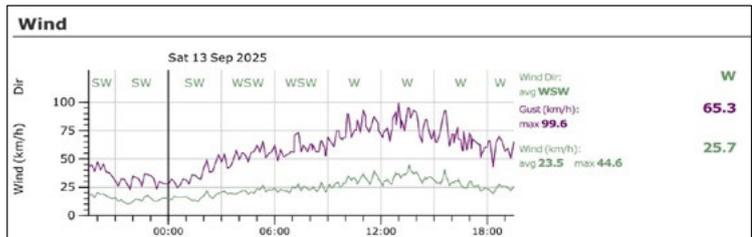


300m Tack Driver Showdown, 12th-13th Sept 2025

NZ Deerstalkers Association, Bay of Plenty Branch
TECT Park 300m Rifle Range

Grand Aggregate Results

Comp#	Name	Cartridge	Group	Score	Aggregate	Place
105	Scott McLay \$\$\$	284AI	1	2	3	1
205	Rob Kerridge \$\$	284AI	2	1	3	2
208	Erik Clausen \$	6.5CM	3	3	6	3
201	Nick Petry \$\$	6GT	4	8	12	4
207	Peter Frame	6XC	11	4	15	5
204	Peter Wall	30-338	6	10	16	6
102	Dean Wilton	6PPC	10	6	16	7
107	Steven Bell \$\$\$	6PPC	7	9	16	8
203	Damien Meehan \$\$\$	6BR	9	7	16	9
103	Grant Hammond \$\$\$	6PPC	5	12	17	10
108	Glenn Griffin	308WIN	13	5	18	11
104	Peter Haxell \$\$\$	6PPC	8	11	19	12
101	Peter Hoskin \$\$\$	6.5CM	12	13	25	13
206	Liam Cropp	6.5PRC	14	15	29	14
202	Gavin Green \$\$\$	6CM	15	14	29	15
106	Gregg Burrows	-	16	16	32	16



CONGRATULATIONS TO SCOTT MCLAY, THE 2025 300M TACK DRIVER CHAMPION.

*Grand aggregate ties are broken by the highest place of finish in a discipline.

*If that can't break it, we go to the highest group place of finish.

SPECIAL CLUB NIGHT: OCTOBER 7TH

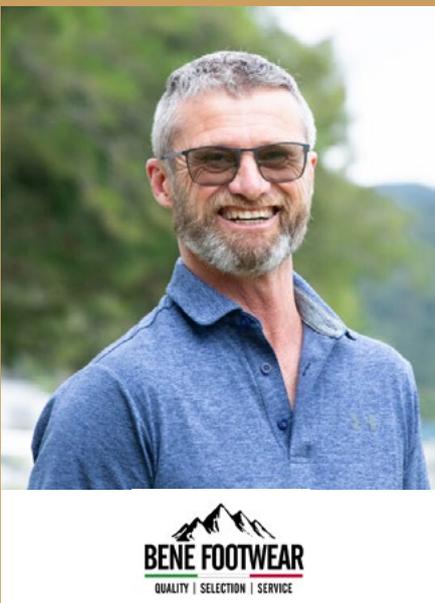
Whats in your pack with Guest Speaker Harry from: BENE FOOTWEAR



STARTING WITH: “Whats in your pack”

Hear from experienced hunters on what they pack for everything from 1-day hunts to 7-day Heli excursions.

YOU WONT WANT TO MISS THIS...



HARRY DYKSTRA.

I have been a BDM for Bene Footwear for the past 10 years. Bene Footwear are the Distributors of 3 Italian footwear Brands, Andrew, Crispi and Grisport.

I will be talking about the different brands and the aspects of the different Styles which range from Trekking boots to Alpine.

I will also explain how to care for your footwear and the accessories that are available.

THERE WILL BE SOME SPOT PRIZES AS WELL

BENE FOOTWEAR ARE DISTRIBUTORS OF:



EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NEEDED

SIKA CLUB HELI HUNT TO THE KAIMANAWA'S (PRIVATE BLOCKS)



Each year, as you may know, the Sika Foundation initiates management hunts to manage the Sika deer population. With these hunts, they hunt deer and gather valuable information that helps them study this wonderful deer species.

My intention is to arrange a hunt as soon as I get visibility on the next management hunt, there are likely to be new blocks being released in the coming weeks however I would like to start taking names from those interested and line up 4 hunters (3 plus me) so we can jump in and reserve seats as soon as these are announced.

The cost of the hunt per person will be approximately \$400 to \$650 per person - location dependant. This is for the Heli flight only. Foundation members get a slight discount I believe. All other transport and hunting gear costs are excluded.

The dates are unknown, however based on history, it would likely be over a weekend between 27 October and 17th November. I am picking 7th to 9th November.

SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

- Maximum weight per person + pack would likely be around 135kg.
- There are no huts so be ready to camp out – temps are better this time of the year.
- You should be fully independent hunter with the required emergency gear.
- Be willing to gather some data for the Sika foundation if asked.

If you are interested please email me at meyerthinus@gmail.com and we can start adding names to the list.

- Thinus Meyer

GO IN THE DRAW TO

WIN A BRAND
NEW MITSUBISHI
TRITON UTE

\$25 TICKETS ON SALE NOW



We're thrilled to launch the NZDA 2025 Fundraiser Raffle, giving you the chance to win a brand new Mitsubishi Triton GLX 2.4 Diesel + over \$9,000 of accessories, valued at \$61,925 – all for just \$25 per ticket.

This isn't just about the truck. Every ticket supports the future of recreational hunting, including our work in hunter safety training, outdoor education, and conservation across New Zealand.

The winner will drive away with a fully kitted Triton, including 20" Covert alloys, snorkel, nudge bar, towbar, deckliner, and even \$1,000 cash to help with travel for pickup!

Let's drive the future of hunting, together.



PAPARANGI CLUB HUNT



I had been wanting to hunt Paparangi for some time, so when I saw the advert in the magazine for a Club Hunt there I got in touch straight away and reserved a spot for myself and my 10 old son, Finn. I had previously hunted nearby and had heard stories of good numbers of deer “inside the fence”.

The trip soon rolled around and we met the other hunters in Whakatane. There were 13 of us all up; seven adults, four juniors and two dogs. From Whakatane it was about another 3 hours to the hut, with the final hour including some 4x4ing and a river crossing.

The Paparangi hut is almost a lodge; with two separate bedrooms and a massive open plan kitchen/dining room/lounge area. The hut also has solar powered lights and a shower heated from the wetback. All in all a very comfortable spot to spend a few days.



Finn and I teamed up with another father and son combo, Thinius and Alexander, and headed out for an afternoon hut to check the lay of the land and reconnoiter a good spot for the following mornings hunt. Initially we took a wrong turn and tried climbing out of a creek to reach a likely looking possie that we

had identified on the map. After an hour of bush bashing and climbing an increasingly steep hill we accepted that we were going nowhere fast and making a lot of noise doing it, so with sunset looming we back tracked and realized that there was a good network of trails that crisscross the property. Some of these open up into clearings and we found one that looked like a good spot to return to in the morning.

When we got back to the hut we heard that one of the other groups had bumped a hind and got a shot away but had not been able to find her in the dark. Plans were made and hunting areas divvied up between the various parties for the morning.

We teamed up with Thinius and Alexander again in the morning just before sunrise to stalk our way back towards the clearing we had chosen. Thinius was scanning with a thermal and there was some excitement as he picked up what we thought was a pig just off the side of the track. Something didn't seem quite right so Finn snuck forward to investigate and found a putrid goat that was stiff legged and swollen. The bacterial action was giving it a healthy glow in the thermal.

As we reached the clearing there was a hind about 80m away standing with her back to us enjoying the early morning sunshine. I was able to creep forward and take a kneeling shot that dropped the hind, and as she fell a yearling stepped out beside her. I took the yearling as well and turned around to see two very excited young hunters. The boys helped us dress the deer which we hung in a tree, Thinius and Alexander continued on but Finn and I headed back to the hut for a second breakfast.

When we got back to the hut the other group had found their deer not far from where they hit it, and they were able to recover the whole animal. Finn and I took a couple of trips to bring both the deer back to the meat safe.

Over the weekend the tally was 3 deer, 2 goats and a piglet that was unlucky enough to run out in front of a Malligator.



Barnaby Harris

THAT TIME I HAD A GREAT IDEA (Potentially)

So not long after moving our business to Tauriko from Papamoa I got to know and become friendly with a couple of good buggers in one of the units next door that just happened to be rather good with carbon fibre. So, while driving to work one morning I had the epiphany that I didn't like the noisy off the shelf carbon fibre stocks and thought how hard can it be to make one..

A few weekends rolled around and managed to watch a few you tube videos and snuck in some research as to what might be needed and chewed the fat about it with the guys at Carbon Concepts. Later that week a box of pourable foam showed up and the process began!! Firstly, was to make a non-stick rectangular box to make a block that would create the original form.



With the foam out of the mould it didn't take long at all to get it to the shape I wanted which was based on my Howa M1100, but with a few little tweaks here and there to customize it to the way I wanted it to feel. Once the shape was right we then started to lay down the carbon fibre and resin mix to give the foam some strength and structure. With there being some strength, I could then finish shaping and hollowing out where needed so I could drop in the action block and finish wrapping it in carbon fibre.



In the end there was 5 layers of carbon fibre and resin on it after getting the shape right to accommodate the barrel and action. Since I was going this far well I may as well go through and fully bed it, so I ordered a kit from Terminal Ballistics and followed yet more YouTube videos.



For a first attempt, it came out not too bad although did have to re-do a little bit of it but just used good ol' JB weld as the patches that needed touching up were only small.

After waaay too many assemble/test, pull it down tweak and assemble again I finally got everything right and got the action working spot on!! This time it was one last strip down to give it a lick of paint. After probably 25 hours of work I shaved nearly 500grams off my old synthetic stock.

Time to go put some lead in the air and test it out.



Andrew Burr - Quadbitz

2025 TAUPO ANNUAL PRIZE SHOOT

SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2025

Jack Dillon Memorial Community Range - 62 Mountain Road, Taupo

HUNTING & FISHING Centrefire Hunter Class



Major Sponsor The Tool Shed taupo



Entry fee - each event:

Senior: \$40 per event
Junior: Under 18 on the day FREE

Family team: \$10 per team

Registrations from 8.30 am to last detail on mound.

Shooters Briefing @ 9.30am.

Shooting starts immediately following this.

Graded & Hunter Class

Graded 100 Metre

- Graded A, B, C & D
- Centrefire or Rimfire
- Unlimited sighters
- Four Positions
- 20 scoring shots in total
- Target clothing & aids allowed within rules

Centrefire Hunter Classes

- Non Graded
- **Centrefire** .222 up to 8mm max.
- Scopes set @ Max 9 power
- 2 point sling allowed
- Four positions
- 5 shots in each position
- No sighters
- No target shooting clothing or aids allowed

Camping is available on the range.

Family Team Rimfire Prize Shoot

A FAMILY TEAM Rimfire PRIZE SHOOT

A Family competition for teams of two.

One parent and one junior to shoot as a family team.

10 shots each with .22's on the 50 metre range.

The team with the highest aggregate will win!

HAMILLS Taupo Family Team Shoot!!



REFRESHMENTS

Complimentary continuous morning and afternoon tea provided.

Bring your lunch.

Hot Roast Pork and Roast Lamb sandwiches provided following the completion of shooting and prior to the prize giving.

A time to relax and catch up with your mates.

Raffles & Spot Prizes on the day. Just turn up and register, and you could win a fabulous prize!!

CONTACT BADEN: 027 490 8613

UPCOMING CLUB HUNTS

CLUB HUNT: TAWA HUT - WAIOEKA

THU, 16 OCT - SUN, 19 OCT

Dates are 16th-19th October but you are most welcome to travel in your own time. Car pooling will be discussed in the Whats App Group of the Hunt.

There will be 6 spots for people at Tawa hut, but would recommend bringing a tent or a fly as the hut is not bookable.

It is a tough 4-5 hour slog to the Hut first 2 hours is straight uphill. Reasonable fitness levels are required no major river crossings to the hut but to get to the hunting areas you will need to cross them.

Closer to the time we will start a What's App Group to plan and chat about the hunt and weekend in general, but you will get given Dan's contact details for any questions prior.

You need to get your open Hunting Permit sorted as well. As this area borders Te Urewera you will need a separate hunting permit.

FOR QUESTIONS YOU CAN CONTACT DAN ON 0221280828

MOKAU RIVER HUNT

SAT, 18 OCT - SUN, 19 OCT

This is a river hunt involving paddling canoes down the Mokau River over a 24 hour period, camping on the river bank overnight. We will leave Tauranga approx. 730am on the Saturday and get back approx. 5pm on the Sunday. All participants are responsible for providing their own canoe or kayak - Canadian style canoes are far preferable than a kayak. There are many members in the club who own their own, so you may be able to borrow one from another member.

Due to the nature of this trip with a "put in" up river and "take out" down river. All participants will need to have a vehicle/trailer combination that can transport two vessels. Participants will be paired up so that both vessels are transported to the put in on one vehicle/trailer, after dropping the pick up vehicle/trailer at the take out. Both vessels will then be transported from the take out on one vehicle/trailer, back to the put in to collect the other vehicle/trailer, before returning to Tauranga.

This trip is a great opportunity for novice hunters to practice their stalking, field dressing and fly camping. Club trips like this are a chance to get to know other members and make some lifelong hunting friends.

SIKA HUNT - SIKA LODGE: CLEMENTS MILL RD

FRI, 31 OCT - SUN, 2 NOV

Club Hunt for Sika deer. Hunting around Clements Mill Road area in the Kaimanawa Forest Park. Staying at Sika Lodge.

This is a great opportunity to get to know other club members. NZDA BOP members can bring a friend who isn't a member.

Hunters must have a firearms licence or be under supervision of a licence holder. Participants are responsible to provide all their own sleeping and hunting gear.

A shared potluck dinner will be held on Friday night from 6pm. After that, everyone is responsible for their own catering needs for the rest of the weekend.

Transport is up to individuals to arrange. Carpooling may be available.

MOTU CLUB HUNT - PAPARANGI VENTURES

THU, 2 OCT - SUN, 5 OCT

THIS IS A PAID ACCESS HUNT

The hunting block is on the Motu River, it is private land that borders conservation land. There are red deer and pigs on the property, and goats can be found in the adjoining conservation land.

Drive to the hut, 4wd vehicles only. Mud tyres highly recommended. River fording required.

The hut has fire and wetback hot water, gas cooking and solar lights.

Dogs are allowed under certain conditions – ask first please.

The hunting is primarily bush hunting, with a few small clearings. There are good tracks for foot access around the hunting block. No quad bikes required.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PACK FOR YOUR HUNTING STYLE

PICKING THE RIGHT PACK CAN MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE WHEN YOU'RE OUT ON A HUNT.

Whether you're taking your rifle for a stroll, going bush for a week, or bowhunting with the buddies overnight, having a pack that suits your style will keep you comfortable and prepared. Here's a breakdown to help you choose the best one for your needs.





BEST PACK FOR DAY HUNTS

If you're just heading out for a quickie, you don't need to lug around too much gear; a light and quiet pack is the way to go. **The Stealth 30L** is a great pick as it's designed for stalking, made from soft, silent fabric to keep noise to a minimum, and is available in either Men's or Women's frames. There is plenty of room for essentials like water, snacks, and your kit without being too bulky, and it can still carry a decent weight if you get lucky out there.



BEST PACK FOR BACKCOUNTRY HUNTS

For multi-day trips where you need to carry extra gear, a bigger and tougher pack is a must. **The Bison 75+10 RECCO** is arguably New Zealand's favourite pack. Built to handle heavy loads and long hikes, the X1 Carrying System makes it comfortable even when fully loaded. It also comes with RECCO tech, which helps rescuers find you in an emergency, always a good backup to have when you're deep in the bush.



BEST PACK FOR LIGHTWEIGHT

Designed for lightweight adventures with an emphasis on durability and versatility. **The Swift 60 + 10** is equally at home on a hunt or a mountaineering trip. Compressible, with hydration compatibility, you can configure your load to suit the mission. Step out with the confidence of carrying a load of up to 40kg in comfort using load distribution gatekeeper buckles.



BEST PACK FOR WOMEN

If you're after a hunting pack designed to fit women better, the **Bison 60+10 Women RECCO** is a solid choice. It has a shorter back length and curved shoulder straps for a better fit while still being tough enough for longer hunts. Comfort matters when you're carrying a heavy load all day!



BEST MODULAR PACK

If you like a custom setup, the Modulus series is worth a look. These packs work with the **Modulus X1 Frame**, so you can tweak your setup based on whether you're heading out for a quick trip or a full-on backcountry adventure.

💡 FINAL THOUGHTS

At the end of the day, the best pack depends on the type of hunt you're doing. Whether you need something light and quiet or a heavy-duty pack for multi-day missions, Tatonka has solid options to suit your needs. Choose the right one, and you'll be more comfortable, better prepared, and able to focus on the hunt!



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP AND A JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP?

A family membership is a cost effective way to add a partner, children or grandchildren to your full membership so they can join us on club hunts, enter competitions and be supervised by full member at the range (provided the full member is an authorised range user).

Junior membership is a full membership avenue for those under 18. If you are under 18 and are not eligible for a family membership, this is the best way to join the club.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

- Cost \$15 per family member.
- Family members are the partner, child or grandchild, child or grandchild of the partner, or sibling, of the 'full member'.
- Children, siblings and grandchildren must be under 18 years of age as at 1 March of the current financial year.
- Includes hunting liability insurance so Family members are eligible for our Whanganui farm hunts.
- NZDA BOP Branch family members may shoot under the direct supervision of the branch primary member who is an Authorised Range User.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

- Cost \$100.25
- Full benefits at national and branch level.
- NZ Hunting & Wildlife magazine digital copy.
- Branch newsletters.
- National newsletters and advocacy updates. Eligible to enter national and branch competitions.
- Eligible to join committees.
- Includes liability insurance.
- Does not receive voting rights.



300M RIFLE RANGE OPEN DAYS

THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH
TECT PARK: WHATAROA ROAD, NGAWARO

**REGISTRATION IS \$50 PER SHOOTER OR \$25
IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF AN NZDA BRANCH
(OR A NON-RANGE TICKET HOLDER OF THE NZDA-BOP BRANCH).**

- The range is open for use by licenced firearms owners from 9:30am to 3:00pm on the last Sunday of each month.
- The range is operated under the supervision of our nationally qualified Range Officers (NRO's).
- Registration is only open until 2:00pm. Please do not be disappointed if you arrive after 2:00pm and you are not permitted to shoot.
- All shooters will need to show their Firearms License to be able to shoot. Please ensure you have this with you.
- Any non-Firearms License holders will be required to shoot under the direct supervision of a Firearms License holder (usually the person they arrive at the range with).
- Hearing protection is mandatory for all persons on or near the firing line.
- Eye protection is strongly recommended.
- Empty Chamber Indicators (ECI's), also referred to as chamber flags, are required for every rifle you bring to the range. These should be in your rifles before you leave home. When on the range these can not be removed unless a Range Officer gives you permission to do so.
- When travelling to and from the range bolts should be removed from the rifle and stored separately from the rifle. All magazines should be empty and ammunition also stored separately from the rifle. Refer Arms Regulations, Clause 19B.
- All rifles will be inspected when you arrive at the range and you will be given an induction before you can move to the firing line.
- For the safety of others please do not bring any defective equipment or ammunition (i.e. old, damaged or corroded) to the range.
- All shooters that bring rifles with an unknown zero are first required to sight them in at 25m before shooting at longer distances.



Thank goodness
you're here. Take
these and I'll search
for my wife.



HUNTING GEAR

FOR SALE

ITEM	PRICE	DETAILS	CONTACT
CZ 457 Long Range Precision, 22lr	\$2599.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfired 	Stacy Whiteman 07 578 0995
Air Arms S510 Xtra, 22 cal	\$2300.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfired • Includes filling adapter 	Stacy Whiteman 07 578 0995
Bergara B14 Crest 7mm	\$3499.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRC Carbon Barrel • Carbon Stock New 	Stacy Whiteman 07 578 0995
Tikka T1x ACE	\$2999.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22lr New Special 	Stacy Whiteman 07 578 0995
Garmin Rhino 650 GPS	\$350.00		Andrew Burr 021 477 599
ATV Gun Racks	from \$108.00		Andrew Burr 021 477 599
2005 HONDA CRF230	\$3400.00 ono	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freshly serviced and all tidied up 	Andrew Burr 021 477 599
2009 YAMAHA TTR110	\$2200.00 ono	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freshly serviced and all tidied up 	Andrew Burr 021 477 599
Garmin eTrex touch 25	\$300.00 ono	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has all maps for NZ installed via sim • Has been used once but never used in the bush so effectively brand new • RRP \$430.00 • Still in the box with everything it came with 	Karl Jager 027 714 1778
Ruger Mk1 M77 .243	\$1000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good condition with Leupold Vari-X 11 2-7 scope and Ruger rings • Includes 3 boxes of .243 ammunition 	Barnaby 02108375490

GOT SOMETHING TO SELL OR ARE YOU WANTING TO BUY?

Simply email a photo, a few words, the price and your phone number to editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz and we will be sure to publish your listing.

NZDA TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR TRADING POST LISTINGS

You may only list "A" category firearms, in sporting configuration, as defined by the Arms Act 1983. Large capacity magazines (i.e. more than 10 cartridges for .22 rimfire, or more than 5 cartridges for others) may not be sold.

Sellers must sight the firearms licence of the buyer, or for remote sales sellers must receive written confirmation signed by Police confirming the buyer holds a valid firearm's licence. Forms are available at any police station.

Firearms must already be in New Zealand. Overseas members may not buy or sell firearms on the site.



VENISON NEGIMAKI

Credit: <https://tinyurl.com/4cempzvy>

INGREDIENTS:

1 pound (450g) beef steak, thinly sliced
8 scallions, trimmed and cut into
3-inch (20 cm) pieces
1/4 cup (60 ml) soy sauce
1 tablespoon (15 ml) apple juice
1 tablespoon (15 ml) agave nectar
1 tablespoon (15 ml) olive oil
1 tablespoon (15 ml) ginger, grated
1 teaspoon (5 ml) garlic, minced
2 tablespoons (30 ml) vegetable oil
Sesame seeds, for garnish

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a bowl, combine soy sauce, mirin, honey, sesame oil, grated ginger, and minced garlic to make the marinade.
2. Place the thinly sliced venison steak in a shallow dish.
3. Pour the marinade over the venison, ensuring all slices are coated.
4. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.
5. Preheat a grill or grill pan over medium-high heat.
6. Remove venison from marinade and pat dry with paper towels.
7. Lay a piece of venison flat and place a piece of scallion at one end.
8. Roll the venison tightly around the scallion and secure with a toothpick.
9. Repeat with remaining venison and scallions.
10. Brush the grill with vegetable oil.
11. Place the venison rolls on the grill seam side down.
12. Grill for 2-3 minutes per side until the venison is cooked through.
13. Remove from grill and let rest for a few minutes.
14. Slice each roll into bite-sized pieces.
15. Sprinkle with sesame seeds for garnish.
16. Serve immediately.

ENTER THE NATIONAL WILD GOAT HUNTING COMPETITION

1 August – 26 November

To enter, visit doc.govt.nz/wild-goat-hunting-competition.



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



NZDA
New Zealand Deerstalkers Association



The Department of Conservation (DOC) and the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association (NZDA) are proud to announce the return of the National Wild Goat Hunting Competition – a nationwide initiative to raise awareness of the environmental and agricultural damage caused by wild goats.

Running from 1 August to 26 November 2025, the competition encourages hunters and landowners across Aotearoa New Zealand to tackle the growing wild goat population.

Wild goats are prolific breeders and pose a serious threat to native biodiversity and farmland. This competition is a practical and rewarding way for communities to contribute to conservation efforts while enjoying the outdoors.

Already, ten landowners have registered their interest with the competition to get help reducing wild goat numbers on their land. Many are motivated not just by wild goat control, but by the opportunity to support conservation.

Doug Jacobs, an NZDA member, took part in the 2024 competition with a focus on hunting responsibly on private land.

"I put up a light-hearted post on our local rural community Facebook page," Doug explains. "I mentioned the DOC/NZDA National Wild Goat Hunting Competition, my NZDA membership, and the protections that come with it. I also talked about the Landowner Assist process, which helps set clear ground rules between hunters and landowners."

The Landowner Assist process, developed by NZDA, with input from DOC, Federated Farmers, and Forestry Owners Association, provides a clear framework for safe and respectful hunting on private property. It covers access boundaries, carcass disposal, and meat handling—ensuring transparency and trust. Landowners can view the Landowner Assist document online via the National Wild Goat Hunting Competition website to see how it works and what to expect.

Doug's post caught the attention of a landowner dealing with wild goats crossing over from a neighbouring property. "We met up and went through the Landowner Assist document together," Doug explains. "We covered where I could hunt, what to do with the carcasses, and how we'd handle the meat. It was all very straightforward."

The landowner later told Doug that without the professional framework provided by NZDA and the Landowner Assist documentation, they wouldn't have responded at all. That trust and clarity made all the difference.

Just a week later, Doug had four goat tails to submit for the competition, nine kilograms of salami on the way, and plans for a few hearty curries. "It was a rewarding experience," he says. "Not just for the meat, but for the connection it built and the contribution to managing a local wild goat problem."

The National Wild Goat Hunting Competition is about more than just hunting—it's about protecting native ecosystems, supporting farmers, and encouraging responsible community involvement.

This year, the competition has the private landowner category open again. Landowners who register can be paired with vetted NZDA hunters and go in the draw to win over \$3,200 worth of prizes from Bushnell and Hunting & Fishing NZ Ltd.

The hunter categories also have great prizes up for grabs, including gear from Hunting & Fishing NZ, thermal monoculars from Nocpix, a tent from M.I.A, binoculars from Bushnell, freeze dried meals from Real Meals, a wild goat hunt with the NZ Hunter crew, and more—there's over \$70,000 worth of prizes, it's a great time to get involved.

"We want to see wild goat hunting become a regular feature in the hunting calendar," says Mike Perry, Wild Animals Manager at DOC.

Thinking of entering this year's comp? Entries are open from 1 August to 26 November. Whether you're hunting on public land or teaming up with a local landowner, you never know where it might take you.

The National Wild Goat Hunting Competition is brought to you by the Department of Conservation and the New Zealand Deerstalkers Association. It is supported by Federated Farmers of NZ, Hunting & Fishing NZ, and Te Tari Pūreke Firearms Safety Authority.

ENTER THE NATIONAL WILD GOAT HUNTING COMPETITION



1 August – 26 November

**Compete for national and regional prizes
while helping to protect the environment.**

Brought to you by



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai



For information on how to
enter, visit [doc.govt.nz/
wild-goat-hunting-competition](http://doc.govt.nz/wild-goat-hunting-competition).

*You can take part anywhere you have permission
to hunt. The competition promotes safe firearms
use, keeping safe in the backcountry, ethical and
humane hunting.*

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NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION (BOP BRANCH) INC.

OTHER DELEGATIONS AND BRANCH CONTACTS:

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Club Website Administrator	Reuben Hayward	reuben@deerstalkersbop.org.nz
Branch Solicitor	Luke Stewart (From Holland Beckett)	
Eastern Region Fish and Game Council	Mike Jarvie	rangernz@gmail.com

CLUB NIGHT:

First Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.
Doors open at 7pm if you want to come early for a chat!

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COMMITTEE MEETING:

Second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.
All correspondence to be sent to secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

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NEWSLETTER:

Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by the branch, its executive committee or the national association.
All newsletter content to be sent to editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

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*Formed in 1937,
the New Zealand Deerstalkers'
Association is New Zealand's
recognised National body
representing and speaking
for hunters generally. The
fundamental aim of the
association is to ensure that the
organisation and management
of recreational hunting in
New Zealand is carried
out by hunters.*



www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz