



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.

COVER PHOTO: Sascha Haag with a sika stag from Clements Mill Rd.

Want to feature on the cover?! If you have a photo suitable for the cover,

please send it through to editor@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

PRESIDENTS REPORT: FEBRUARY 2023

I HOPE EVERYONE HAS HAD A RELAXED BREAK AND IS FEELING REFRESHED AND READY FOR THE NEW YEAR. MAY 2023 BRING BETTER DAYS. I SEE SOME HAVE BEEN MAKING THE MOST OF OPPORTUNITIES AND GETTING SOME VENISON IN THE FREEZER. WELL DONE!

Over the Christmas period I reflected on the current state of hunting and shooting in NZ and the challenges ahead. It is clear that we still have hurdles to overcome, both within the hunting community and the wider public sphere. The former relates a lot to having a shared vision of how we want the future to look and the latter to how the public and government would like to change it up.

This month we have the deadline for submissions on firearms fees and I encourage you all to make a personal submission. Some of the proposals could severely impact you, your family and other firearms users.

I am currently working on a draft branch submission, and I know national office are working on theirs. Proposals include options to increase fees from \$126 to over \$800 for new firearms applications as well as increased costs for dealers and gunsmiths. The final result will impact your pocket and our way of life. Get your submissions in.

This year we are taking a different approach with club hunts. We held the planning

meeting in January which had a reasonable turnout. The aim was to distribute hunt organisation across many members rather than the few who have done it in the past. We had more volunteers this time than previously, thank you to those who put their hands up.

We are also implementing an online registration form with payment for pre-booked costs such as transport and hut fees. Hopefully this will encourage firm commitment from members who sign up for a club hunt.

With the new booking system and the hunts we are planning, there will often be limited spaces available so please keep an eye on the hunts calendar and book your spot as early as possible to avoid missing out on the action. The February Whirinaki Club Hunt was fully subscribed in less than 3 days of being advertised.

February brings the first of our benchrest shoots with new opportunities to hone your marksmanship skills. The Benchrest School 101 and Peeking Wallaby are definitely worth a go for anyone wanting to improve their shooting or grow their knowledge of target shooting disciplines. Don't miss these great opportunities to learn more and participate in social competition.

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NEW ZEALAND DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION (BOP BRANCH) INC.

PO Box 3111, Greerton, Tauranga 3142

Club Rooms, R617 SH 29, between Barkes Corner & Takitimu Drive

Website: www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz

Branch Secretary: secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

CLUB OFFICERS:

Treasurer

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reuben@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

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tim@nzdabop.org.nz

Secretary Isabell Zitzelsberger

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treasurer@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

Patron Keith Theobald 07 578 1195

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Range Manager Royce Downes 021 286 1109

range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz

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Branch Hunts Coordinator Tim Taylor

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Eastern Fish and Game Council Member

Chiller Custodian

Mike Jarvie

mikejarvie09@gmail.com

021 808 899

Accountant Cam Graham
Grants Coordinator Peter Setz

CLUB NIGHT:

First Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

Doors open at 7pm if you want to come early for a chat!

COMMITTEE MEETING:

Second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

All correspondence to be sent to secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

NEWSLETTER:

Deadlines for newsletter contributions is the 20th of the month. 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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By the time you read this, the Tapu Family Weekend, a staple club event, will be over and hopefully the weather and fishing were great. If you missed out this year, keep it in mind for next January. Social gatherings with members and their families are a great way to get connected with other members and find yourself another hunting mate.

If you're not aware, regulations are changing and new legislation comes into effect this year. The club and range are required to undergo certification before late June and the new firearms register comes into effect at the same time

Do your research and work out your best course of action. Many will want to buy up large before then and there may be a run on ammo, so make sure you're sorted.

We have some great club nights planned over the next while, keep an eye on the newsletter so you don't miss out on some awesome evenings at the club. If you have any suggestions for speakers, topics or events, please get in touch and we'll see what we can do. We are always open to ideas and looking for opportunities to host engaging club events.

Growth in the national organisation and our branch continues to be strong. We're at record high membership levels and it doesn't appear to be slowing down.

This is great for our branch as it shares the costs across more members, provides more

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opportunities and gives us more leverage when lobbying both locally and nationally. Fees are going up due to a number of reasons, national and branch operating costs, new range regulations and inflation.

The best way to keep fees low is to grow our membership. Make your non-member hunting mates join up to share the costs and reap the benefits.

Progress on our 900 yard range has been slow but continues in the background. There are a number of hurdles, both bureaucratic and financial, to overcome before site development starts but this is a long-term priority for the branch.

Anyone who has skills in related fields, i.e. surveying, civil engineering, project management, earthmoving, building etc. would be of great value to the team. If you have any skills that may be of use and

are willing to commit some of your time, it would be much appreciated.

Clubs are all about contributing and we wouldn't be where we are today without the tens of thousands of hours put in by members over the last 72 years.

If you haven't started yet, it's time to make plans for the roar. Check the calendar for a club hunt that suits you or get some mates together and get organised. If I've learnt anything from the past two years, it's to make the most of our hunting opportunities because you never know when some bureaucrat might mess them up.

This summer heat isn't good for hanging meat. If you're planning a hunt and don't have access to a chiller, the club has one for a small fee. Don't leave sorting your chiller access to the Sunday night after a big weekend of hunting. Have some foresight and get it sorted now.

Happy hunting. See you at club night!

Reuben

PRIZE FOR BEST NEWSLETTER STORY IN 2023

A \$500 HAMILLS VOUCHER DONATED BY THE HAYWARD FAMILY FOR THE BEST NEWSLETTER STORY WRITTEN BY A BRANCH MEMBER.

Story must be about a hunting trip, must be a minimum of 300 words, must be published for the first time in a 2023 newsletter and must be accompanied by at least two photos that meet the quality standards for publishing.

All stories must be emailed to the editor as an attachment in .doc or .docx format.

To be eligible to enter the competition you must be a financial member at the time of submitting the story for publishing, and to be eligible to claim the prize you must be a current financial member on the March 2024 Club Night when the winner will be announced.

Best story will be picked by the editor.

Let your inner storyteller share your adventures with us!



NZDA BOP HUNTER BUDDY PROGRAM

IN 2022 WE LAUNCHED THE NZDA BOP HUNTER BUDDY PROGRAM.

The purpose of the Hunter Buddy Program is 'To provide an opportunity for new members and postHUNTS course graduate hunters to gain valuable experience with more seasoned hunters, in order to develop and consolidate skills and knowledge".

In addition to this, the program aims *to establish friendships and support networks for new hunters within the club to enable them to feel a sense of

belonging to a hunting community of outdoor enthusiasts

If you're an experienced hunter, think about how your knowledge and skills could benefit those new to the adventure of hunting. If you're a novice hunter think about what you can do to prepare yourself for your next hunting adventure and grow your capabilities.

The HUNTS course is still the best way for those new to hunting to immerse themselves in the basics of hunting and establish a solid foundation of knowledge to build on in the future.

The Hunter Buddy Program provides the opportunity for those who have completed a HUNTS course to continue being mentored by more seasoned hunters as well as the opportunity for those less experienced and new to the Branch to build on their existing knowledge, while establishing relationships with other members.

Experienced hunters
volunteering to be 'buddied
up' with an inexperienced
hunter will be vetted
by those coordinating



the program to ensure inexperienced hunters are paired up with a suitably capable hunter who has the necessary experience.

Experienced hunters who participate in the program and who meet the criteria will be entered into a prize draw, with the lucky winner

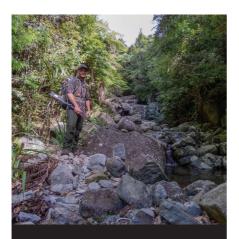
taking away a Stoney Creek Stalking Pullover (courtesy of Stoney Creek) and a \$200 Hamills voucher.

To participate in the program contact Sarah Cotching at sarah@nzdabop.org.nz or speak to a committee member at a Club Night.



FEB	CLUB NIGHT: GARMIN GPS EQUIPMENT Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 7th	BENCHREST SCHOOL 101 Date: 10 th - 11 th PEEKING WALLABY MATCH Date: 12 th Organiser: Baden Prentice 027 490 8613	WHIRINAKI HUNT Date: 17 th - 19 th Organiser: Daniel Gallaghan 021 648 011
MAR	CLUB NIGHT: Location: HAMILLS Date: Tuesday 7 th		
APR	CLUB NIGHT: PHILIPP SPARN - FUNGI Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 4 th	PAKIHI HUT HUNT Date: 13 th - 16 th Organiser: Daniel Gallaghan 021 648 011	
MAY	PEEKING WALLABY MATCH Date: 7 th Organiser: Baden Prentice	CLUB NIGHT: Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 9 th	GALATEA HUNT Date: 12 th - 14 th Organiser: Sarah Cotching
NOL	CLUB NIGHT: Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 6 th	WHANGANUI RIVER CANOE TRIP Date: TBC Organiser: Isabell Zitzelsberger / Tim Taylor	
Jūľ	CLUB NIGHT: ANNUAL PRIZEGIVING Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 4 th	LAKE TARAWERA HUNT Date: TBC Organiser: Sascha Haag	
AUG	PEEKING WALLABY MATCH Date: 6 th Organiser: Baden Prentice	CLUB NIGHT: Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 8 th	RUAHINE RANGE HUNT Date: TBC Organiser: Reuben Hayward
SEP	CLUB NIGHT: Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 5 th		
OCT	CLUB NIGHT: Location: BOP Clubrooms Date: Tuesday 3 rd	MOKAU RIVER TRIP Date: TBC Organiser: Catherine Russel	TAHR HUNT - SOUTHERN ALPS Date: Oct 28th - Nov 5th Organiser: Stan Lowe
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VISIT: www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz/club-events for more NZDA BOP events and activities.



KAIMAI RIDGEWAY TRUST BRANCH CONTACT PERSON REQUIRED

IF YOU LIVE LOCAL TO THE KAIMAI RANGE AND ENJOY GETTING UP THE TOP REGULARLY THEN WE COULD DO WITH YOUR ASSISTANCE.

Stan Lowe is our NZDA representative on the Kaimai Ridgeway Trust. It would be great if we had another person in the branch to be a contact person for when Stan is away and to assist with liaising between KRT and our branch for routine hut checks and minor maintenance requirements.

If you frequent the Kaimai Range regularly and are keen to assist Stan in liaising between KRT and our branch then get in touch with Stan at lowe2147@gmail.com or on 07 868 4515.



PEEKING WALLABY MATCH DATES

2023

Sunday 12th February

Sunday 7th May

Sunday 6th August

Sunday 5th November

Registration between 8:30am - 9:15am on the day.

Match rules can be found on the Range page of the club website.

Phone Baden on 027 490 8613 for more information or match sponsorship opportunities.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR CLUB ACTIVITIES

MEDIA AND COMMS MANAGER URGENTLY REQUIRED

We need a tech savvy media manager to coordinate our communications across all our comms channels.

Our media extraordinaire will need to be familiar with website administration, social channels, HTML email, and the advertising market. To become our Media and Comms Manager, contact the committee by email at: secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

BECOME A HUNTS COURSE ASSISTANT

Assisting with the HUNTS Course requires a willing attitude and a commitment to help with all sorts over the period of the course.

Duties may include preparing the clubrooms, doing the shopping, collecting sponsored goods, cooking, doing the dishes, cleaning up after a training session or anything else that may be required. To become a HUNTS Course Assistant, contact the committee by email at: secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

BECOME A HUNTS INSTRUCTOR

Our HUNTS Instructors train and guide new hunters as they start their journey of learning to hunt. This is an opportunity to support the future of hunting in NZ through sharing your knowledge, skills and experience with aspiring hunters. To start the journey of becoming a HUNTS Instructor contact the committee to express your interest, they will need to support your application to the NZDA National Office to become a

Once you've gained Provisional Instructor status, and have started assisting with instructing on the course, you will undergo several assessments by a Nationally Qualified HUNTS Assessor.

When the assessor is satisfied with your level of competency as a HUNTS Instructor you will receive certification from the National Office granting you status as a Warranted HUNTS Instructor. To find out more about becoming a HUNTS Instructor, contact the committee by email at:

secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

HUNTS COURSE GUIDES

Every year the HUNTS Course concludes with a guided one on one hunt, where each student is paired up with an experienced hunter for a guided hunt on publicly accessible land. The HUNTS Instructors rely on strong support from the members to have enough volunteer quides to pair with all the students.

If you enjoy sharing your knowledge, would like to help guide a novice hunter, and would like to be considered for the privilege of a catered weekend away hunting with the course students, then contact the HUNTS Instructors when the next course is advertised.

HUNTER BUDDY PROGRAM

We need experienced hunters to help mentor novice hunters. For details, see the section of this newsletter on the Hunter Buddy Program.

BECOME A RANGE OFFICER

Our Range Officers (NROs) are NZDA Nationally Qualified Range Officers. We require Range Officers to support our club range shooting activities and Range Open Days (public days).

To become a NRO you must pass the required theory and practical assessments. You will also require the support of the Branch Committee, usually granted on endorsement by the Range Manager. To find out when the next Range Officers' course is, contact our Range Manager Royce Downes at: range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

BECOME A RANGE ASSISTANT

If being a Range Officer isn't your thing, but you would still like to help with range events and Range Open Days, we need members to assist with the administration side of running range activities.

Duties could include administering the registration process for open days and other events, assisting with the administration of match scoring for scored shooting events, helping with setup and pack up before and after a range event, and helping with the kitchen and BBQ if required.

ANTLER, HORN & TUSK COMPETITION HELPERS

We need to establish an AHT Sub-Committee to plan and prepare for our Annual Antler, Horn & Tusk and Photographic Competitions.

This sub-committee is ideally suited to those who are qualified Douglas Score Measurers, those aspiring to become qualified or those with a strong interest in wildlife photography.

The AHT Sub-Committee will be responsible for all aspects of the AHT and Photographic Competitions. To express your interest in being an AHT Sub-Committee Helper, contact the committee by email at:

secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

BECOME A DOUGLAS SCORE MEASURER

The AHT Competition requires Qualified Douglas Score Measurers to measuring all the heads and jaws that are entered in our annual competition. Normally this is all done on Measuring Night which is usually the third or fourth Tuesday in May.

If you have an interest in learning to use the Douglas Score to measure and score Antlers. Horns & Tusks, then contact the committee to express your interest and find out when the next training day is by emailing:

secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

BILLBOARD HELPERS

The three billboards at the front of our clubrooms provide our club with a good source of income in addition to member subscriptions. This relatively passive income supports as much as one third of our operating expenses, helping to provide facilities for our members while keeping subscriptions low.

From time to time these Billboards require changing, often in a short time window, usually around the end/start of the month. It only takes two blokes 30 minutes to change a billboard skin over so it's not a big time commitment.

We need a handful of helpers that can be called upon at short notice when a skin requires changing. If you live local to our clubrooms, are handy on a ladder with a staple gun and have a flexible schedule then please contact Evan Dines at: skinchange@nzdabop.org.nz.

WORKING BEES

It is commonly said amongst our members and volunteers in other clubs, "it's always the same old people" that put their hands up to help. Be one of those people, put your hand up to help.

When there's a working bee, turn up and give some of your precious time away. Remember, everyone has the same amount of time in a day (24 hours). Others regularly give a portion of their precious time to support the organisations that you benefit from, give some of your own time back and contribute to the collective good of your club and community. Keep an eye on the newsletters and emails for the next opportunity to lend your assistance at a working bee.

ASSIST WITH GROUNDS KEEPING

We require ongoing assistance with property maintenance at the clubrooms. Presently we have a Clubrooms Custodian, and with the support of some committee members the clubrooms maintenance and grounds keeping has been managed ad hoc to date.

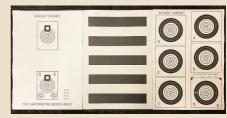
Ideally, we would have a handful of volunteers who together proactively manage the property maintenance at the clubrooms.

If you enjoy keeping a well-manicured lawn or garden, are handy with a few hand or power tools and would like to support our Clubrooms Custodian to keep our premises looking sharp then contact the committee by email at: secretary@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

BENCHREST SCHOOL 101

10TH-11TH FEBRUARY

The branch is running a centrefire benchrest shooting school on Friday evening, 10th February, at the Tauriko clubrooms. It will continue



on Saturday morning at the TECT Park 300m range and finish with a practical reloading and shooting demonstration.

The tutor is lan Owen from Dunedin who recently set a new 200 yard NZDA national record and also holds a world record at 300 yards.

A detailed programme can be found here. You can also contact Baden Prentice for further information on 027 490 8613.

Attendance is free or any small donation to help cover lan's costs would be appreciated.

PEEKING WALLABY MATCH

12TH FEBRUARY

This is a fun and novel benchrest score shooting match that uses 3 different targets. One at 100m, one at 200m and one at 300m. Five scoring shots are fired at each distance with unlimited sighters.



You can expend as little as 15 rounds to complete the match, but most competitors will use 18-24 rounds. A variety of rifles can be used from factory hunting rifles to custom rifles.

Dial-up (target turret) scopes with a minimum of 15x magnification or more, are highly recommended so competitors can see their shots on the target and compensate for drop and wind effects.

More information can be found <u>here</u> on our webpage or contact the Match Director - Baden Prentice on 027 490 8613.

RANGE NEWS:

RANGE FEE CHANGES FROM 1 MARCH 2023:

Effective from 1 March 2023 (the start of the NZDA membership year) our various range fees will be increasing. The new firearms legislation has contributed to our operating costs, plus we have ongoing maintenance and fixed costs such as insurance, power and internet to recover and lease fees to the council.

We are also increasing the public day fees to give more incentive to join NZDA so we can represent more of these occasional shooters that make up the silent majority of licenced firearm owners.

The facilities on offer at our 300m TECT Park Range are fantastic and are a great asset to our club and region but it does cost a lot to have these facilities available and range fees need to cover the costs or the range is not financially viable.

NEW FEES:

- Annual range ticket \$100
- Range access tag \$30 (one-off cost on application)
- Range Open Day non NZDA member fee \$50
- Range Open Day NZDA member (any branch) without range ticket \$25

RANGE MAINTENANCE

Thanks to our members that attend our working bees at the range - as they say, few hands make light work so it would be good to see some new faces assisting at working bees.

We have a core group of members putting in most of the hours but we know there are many more active and regular range shooters out there that should be helping.

We are currently working on extending the 100m, 200m and 300m target lines so that each firing position (1 to 15) will shoot more directly straight down the range as opposed to the slight angle that is currently needed.

This will require an extension and rebuild to the target lines. Initial earth works have been completed and the final tidy up of dirt will be completed in February.

RANGE WORKING BEE

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR NEW WORKING BEE DATES AND INFO - COMING SOON!
Royce Downes
300m Range Manager

WE NEED YOU!

We are now on the look out for someone to take on the project to build the backstop and target extension. We need someone who can lead this project, organise materials and equipment and make it happen.

We also need a small group of willing members, ideally those who can work at the range during the week, to join this "extension build" team. Ideally some DIY or building experience but that isn't essential. If you are keen please email range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

RANGE TICKET HOLDERS REFRESHER COURSES:

Refresher courses for Range Ticket holders are reaching the end. If you do not complete a refresher by the end of May your range ticket will be cancelled. If you have emailed advising that you can not make one of the Wednesday evening courses then we will be in contact with a weekend date for the course to held at the range.

Remember that you MUST attend one of these sessions to retain your range ticket. If the dates for these courses do not work for you then you must email range@deerstalkers.org.nz and let us know so that alternative arrangements can be made.

All of these courses will be held at our NZDA BOP Tauriko club rooms (on State Highway 29) and will start at 7.00pm:

- Wednesday 15th February
- Wednesday 1st & 15th March
- Wednesday 5th & 19th April
- Wednesday 3rd & 17th May

The revised Range Standing Orders are on our website, please review them now so you are familiar with them for your next visit to the range and in advance of attending your Range Ticket refresher course. You will find these under the Rifle Range information page.

300M RANGE WEATHER – NOW ACCESSIBLE VIA OUR WEBSITE:

As you know the weather up at TECT Park can often be very different from that in town.

If you want to check out the weather at TECT Park before going there, go to our website i.e. www.deerstalkersbop.org.nz, select the RIFLE RANGE menu and then TECT PARK WEATHER STATION.

Click the hyper-link for TECT Park Weather Station to get a 10 day forecast, and if you click on the day, you will get an hourly forecast for that day.



NZDA BOP CLUB CHILLER

CHILLER USE RULES

- Chiller use is a privilege that may be removed if access is abused or rules not adhered to.
- Clean up after yourself, every time you access the chiller.
- Use a fish bin or other suitable container to catch dripping blood etc. and remove from site when you take your meat away.
- No skinning or butchering on the NZDA premises. The chiller is for hanging only, no processing of any sort is allowed.
- All waste must be removed from the premises when you take your meat away, including any part of an animal, blood, and all wastewater.
- All animals/meat must be tagged with a label denoting the date hung, name and contact number of the person who hung it in the chiller. Any meat without a label will be considered a donation to the club.
- The maximum time for hanging any meat or animal is 10 days.
- Do not hang any foul meat or contaminated carcasses.
- Take care not to contaminate anyone else's meat with hair, blood, dirt etc.

It is preferable to hang all carcasses with the skin on and to hang any partially processed meat in a breathable bag or muslin cloth. Hanging carcasses and meat should not touch the chiller walls or they may (partially) freeze.

Respect the facility and other members meat.

For more information or if you need to report any issue, misuse, or abuse of the facility you can contact Reuben on 027 482 8969 or at reuben@deerstalkersbop.org.nz.

FULL VEHICLE WRAPS FROM \$3,995 + GST













RANGE STANDING ORDERS REMINDER: "THE RANGE RULES"

Range ticket holders CANNOT allow other non-range ticket holders or non-members to shoot at our range. The name, date and time start time of shooters shall be recorded each time they use the range. Range flags and warning signs are to be enabled at the following locations prior to firing:

- The Range status sign's "Caution Range in Use" warning shall be displayed when the range is open for use.
- The red firing line flag shall be hoisted when the range is open for use.
- The firing line flag must be lowered, and the range status sign closed when the range is closed.

An empty chamber indicator (ECI) MUST be inserted in the chamber at all times except when the Range Officer allows the shooter onto the firing point and gives permission to remove the ECI.

To review the full Range Standing Orders please go to: www.deerstalkersbop.org. nzlrange and click the link for App 6.1.3 Range Standing Orders

RANGE GEAR CHECK LIST:

Print this out and put it in your gun safe or shooting box!

- Range key
- Range membership card
- Firearms license
- Paper targets
- Stapler & spare staples
- Rifle
- Bolt
- Magazine (empty)
- Suppressor

- Muzzle brake
- Ammunition
- Empty chamber indicator (ECI)/ empty chamber flag (Have 1x ECI for each rifle and insert them before leaving home)
- Ear muffs/Ear plugs
- Safety glasses and/or whatever prescription glasses you may require
- Personal first aid kit
- Gun cases/bags/storage bins/trolley
- Bipod
- Front rest
- Rear rest/sand bags
- Slings
- Shooting mat
- Chronograph (charge any batteries)
- Phone/ballistic calculator
- Spotting scope
- Timer
- Cleaning rod
- Patches
- Bore solvent
- Tools
- Shooting diary & pen
- Ruler/tape measure
- Water & snacks
- Warm clothing

021 286 1109

Royce Downes NZDA BOP Branch Range Manager

range@deerstalkersbop.org.nz



TAHR LODGE:

SOUTH ISLAND HUNTING

Check out this great Tahr, Chamois and Red Deer hunting destination to kick back and relax and shed some of that North Island stress (the South Island is stress free!).

Built in the stunning Mount Cook National Park, near the Mount Cook Village, this is the jewel of our 'huts'.

A fabulous place to relax. Book it to have the lodge to yourself. Hot and cold running water, shower, 14 beds in 3 bunk rooms and a double in a separate room. New log fire, solar lighting, fridge freezer and all cutlery, cooking etc provided. Just linen and food required.

INFORMATION:

Sleeping up to 16, this hut has gas cooking and hot water. Very comfortable and recently updated with a new kitchen, it's a great place to stay.

To book this excellent club facility please phone Jim Kroening. 03 688 7641 evenings, or 027 276 0905 anytime.

FEES:

- Members \$15 per night.
- Members and immediate family \$25 per night.
 Max of \$150 per night (capped).
- Non Member \$35 per night.
- Non Member and immediate family \$50 per night.
 Max of \$250 per night (capped).

BOP BRANCH PERSONAL LOCATOR BEACONS (PLB'S) FOR HIRE

AVAILABLE TO BRANCH MEMBERS FOR HIRE. THESE DEVICES CAN SAVE LIVES BY DRASTICALLY REDUCING SEARCH AND RESCUE TIMES.

Members will need to:

- Book the units in advance.
- 2. Be a current member and show their membership card when picking them up.
- Fill in an Outdoors Intention Form to be held by the Branch custodian issuing the unit.
- 4. Pay a \$40 cash bond, refundable on return, in original condition and on time.
- 5. Pay a \$10-20 donation per trip, on return, for hire of the unit.

Hire will be on a per trip basis, based on a maximum of a 21 day trip. The units will not be insured because of the cost, so any damage or loss will be payable by the user (approx. \$640).

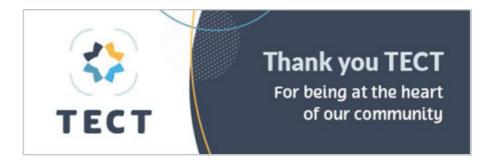
There is no cost for the renewal of the unit if it is used in an emergency but if possible we will need it returned. Any costs incurred for rescue by emergency services or false PLB activation will be the sole responsibility of the user.

BRANCH PLB CUSTODIANS:

Dean Maisey, Welcome Bay 07 544 2207

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We are encouraging anyone who wants to bring a head or jaw in for measuring on club night to do so. If you bring a head to measure you'll get a free beverage.

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Don't forget the library is open for club members to borrow books and DVDs. See Richard McEwen on club nights between 7.15pm - 7.30pm.

RANGE NEWS

Royce Downes NZDA BOP Branch Range Manager 021 286 1109

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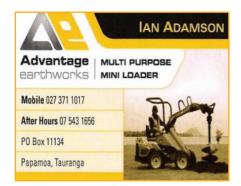
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