

# Whitefish Rifle and Pistol Club News Letter

## March 2011

P.O. Box 3542, Kalispell, MT 59903

[www.whitefishriflepistol.org](http://www.whitefishriflepistol.org)

Meetings are held every other month (March, May, July, Sept, Nov, Jan) on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm, Snappy Sports Senter, unless notified otherwise.

The annual meeting was held at the Elks Club in Kalispell on March 2, 2011.

Old business included talk about our current situation in reference to our neighbors. We currently have some breathing room, but make no mistake about it our position is still not perfect. We need to keep vigilant of safety while shooting. We are still looking at making more safety improvements as money permits. To this end we are still working to redo our bylaws, and reestablish our incorporation, along with making the club a 501(c) 3 tax exempt organization. I have been working with a lawyer, Duncan Scott, and an accountant Steve Stalberg, to draft new bylaws to this end.

As of this writing we do have a draft of the bylaws. The board has met and done an initial change of the bylaws with Steve about the requirements for tax exempt status. We are going to meet again in the next couple of weeks with Duncan to go over the incorporation part of the bylaws. We will then present them to the members at the May meeting. At that point the membership will be able to comment or make changes to the bylaws. We can then do a final bylaw change and possible vote on adopting them at that time. If that is not possible we will vote on the bylaws at our July meeting.

We are doing this for several reasons. One is to make the club a corporation so if we get into a legal battle our liability is limited to the club's assets and not the board or members personally. The other item is so we can obtain money to make improvements to the range.

Another item discussed at the meeting was the recommendation at the January meeting to hold an "open house" at the range sometime this spring to attract new members. It was decide that a date for this "open house" will be set at the May meeting, along with the spring clean-up due to the large amount of snow presently on the range.

The last item discussed was the implementation of a requirement of membership to the club where every person will be required to attend an orientation/safety briefing before becoming members. We have decided that we will implement this after our meeting in July. The orientation/safety briefing will be held regularly, and may be an outdoor event, or maybe an indoor slide presentation. We are still working on how often to hold these orientations, and where. Another item is that if you are a regular member and maintain your membership this briefing will only have to be attended once every couple of years or so. If you do not obtain a membership for one year you will have to repeat this orientation. If you have any questions on this please attend the May meeting.

We also held an election of officers. The following people now are on the board.

Gavin Corrigan	President
John Eder	Vice President
Treasurer	William Etter
Secretary	David Bricker
Executive Officer	Leo Anderson
Instructor	Dave Speer

As of this writing, we do not have any large scale projects planned on the range this spring or summer, other than normal maintenance. We do plan on seeding the new excavation for the 300yd range this spring and also spraying the range for Knapweed. Please do not get upset if this interrupts your shooting as we are required to do this per the DNRC and can only do it when we have volunteers or can get someone to do it. We will try to do these things when we have the least effect on the members, but it could affect you. Please be patient.

We have also been told by the DNRC that they plan on starting the logging operation around the range this next winter. They also told us that they will probably start opening/widening the roads around the range sometime in September and October. We will keep the membership informed when we hear for sure when they intend to start.

One other item I will mention is we need you, the members, to think of a shooting “event” that we can hold in order to make money and attract members. This could be a Turkey Shoot or some other kind of match, either rifle or pistol. We need you to be more involved so let us know what we can do. Have a great spring and see everyone at the May meeting.

Gavin Corrigan  
President Whitefish Rifle & Pistol Club.