

Welcome to the Manawatu Smallbore Rifle Association

The Manawatu Smallbore Rifle Association (MSRA) was established in 1924, and over the years has encompassed Clubs from Rangiwahia in the north to Otaki in the south. Currently there are six active Clubs – Bulls, Colyton, Marton and the Outdoor Club who all shoot at their own ranges on a Monday night, and Rongotea and Rifle Rod & Gun Club who both shoot at the MSRA range in Palmerston North on Monday and Tuesday nights respectively.

Indoor shooting over 25 yards takes place from March to October, and Outdoor shooting over 50 metres runs from October to March.

New Indoor shooters are welcome to visit a Club and shoot casually 4 times for a small fee before deciding if they would like to officially join the Club. New Outdoor shooters are almost always experienced and independent indoor shooters before moving into the outdoor section.

Club members become members of our National body, Target Shooting NZ, and can then go on to compete at many competitions NZ-wide, and ultimately to represent Manawatu, the North Island, and New Zealand.

Social groups are welcome to contact the Association or Clubs to arrange a group shoot at an indoor range at any time of the year.

Trying Indoor Shooting:

Smallbore target shooting uses .22 single-shot rifles, so there is no recoil. Shooters lie prone and beginners will rest the front of the rifle on a block, shooting at stationary paper targets. Shooters generally shoot two separate squads, each with a card of 3 sighting shots and 10 counting shots, and time allowed is 12 minutes per card.

Due to safety requirements and the size of the rifles, it is expected that shooters will be at least 13 years old and 1.6m (5'2") tall. All visitors will be closely supervised by NZ Firearms Licence holders.

Contact the Association or Club directly to check start times, fees, and any conditions they may have for visitors. Contact details are on the back of this sheet.

What you will need:

Gear:

The Club will provide all the gear you need to start shooting — rifle, block and mat. You do not need to hold a Firearms Licence as you will be closely supervised by a Club Member who does. You will need hearing protection and can buy earplugs from the club if you don't already have something to use.

Ammunition:

Only .22 sub-sonic ammunition is able to be used on our indoor ranges, and the Club will provide ammunition to be used by club members and visitors. Those without Firearms Licences are supplied with only what they need for each squad.

Clothing:

To make yourself most comfortable while shooting please wear long trousers and a long sleeved top – reasonably thick and snug if possible to protect your elbows. No hoods on tops please, as they can interfere with the rifle.

General:

- If you have long hair or a fringe, tie your hair back in some way.
- If you wear glasses or contacts please make sure to bring them with you. You may have trouble seeing through the correct part of the lens while shooting but your coach can help with this – there are lots of little 'tricks of the trade' to help you out.
- If you bring along your cell phone, make sure the volume is off so as not to disturb other shooters. Phones are allowed in the general area only, not the range area.

Joining a Club:

Each Club runs their activities a little differently, as each range and Club membership is different. For example, the MSRA range where RR&G and Rongotea shoot has 20 mounds, while Bulls is a small range with 8 mounds, Colyton runs out of the local Community Hall, and Marton is currently the only indoor range in NZ running electronic targets.

If you find you enjoy Smallbore target shooting you are welcome to approach any of the MSRA Clubs to find one that suits you, your locality, and your available night.

Annual Fees for each Club differ, so please check those with them directly. Fees will include membership to Manawatu Association and Target Shooting NZ.

Safety:

- Always treat every rifle as if it is loaded.
- Always have the rifle action open with the safety flag inserted when not shooting.
- Keep your rifle pointed in a safe direction - to the floor or ceiling when carrying it, or down the range once on the mound.
- DO NOT handle your rifle or shoot if the red light on the range is on.
- Always have the rifle in your shoulder before final closing of the action.
- ALWAYS follow the instructions of the Range Officer and your Coach.
- Wash your hands after shooting.
- Those aged 12 or under are not permitted in the target changing area.

Range Etiquette:

- Make sure your name is on the squad card (and is legible) and that you are setting up on the correct mound.
- Stay within your mound area with both gear and body.
- Get ready as soon as you are able.
- Call out if you are not ready when the Range Officer asks.
- Stop shooting immediately if the Range Officer says to, or if the red light comes on.
- Stay lying on your mound quietly once finished shooting and until instructed to clear the mound by the Range Officer.
- Do not push any brass off the mound until instructed by Range Officer.
- Leave your mound clear of all equipment and brass for next shooter.

TSNZ Shooter Grading:

New shooters start by shooting off a 'rest', or block. They then move onto using a sling to shoot, at which point they start in D grade. Scores of all cards shot once in D grade are kept by the shooter on their Shooters Performance Card, and at the end of the season the average score will decide the shooter's grading for the following year.

TSNZ Indoor Grades: D = up to 89.99 C = 90 – 93.99 B = 94.00 - 96.49
A = 96.50 - 97.74 Master = 97.75 -100

Next steps - MSRA and TSNZ Competitions:

- MSRA Ladder – all Club scores are automatically entered into this.
- Club Championships – 20-shot cards, shoot 5 rounds during the season with the best 4 scores to count. Winner of each grade shoots MSRA Champion of Champions.
- Interclub—once per month, against other Manawatu clubs - Bulls, Marton, Colyton, RR&G. Some matches will be at the ‘home’ MSRA range, others will be at ‘away’ ranges. Check the calendar.
- Nobel Cup / Youngman Pairs / Jones & Collinson / Titipounamu / Aitkin Shield - these are different graded and team competitions shot by Club representatives. Shooters are selected by each Club.
- NDC – NZ-wide National competition with Open, Composite and Junior teams, shot monthly, then a Semi and Final. Manawatu Marauders are in Division 1 and team shooters are selected by MSRA based on Ladder scores.
- North vs South - teams are Open, Women, Men, Juniors and Veterans. Selection is based on Championship scores up until mid-June and is done by TSNZ Island Selectors. The best shooters will qualify for NZ teams from this competition.
- Teams of Ten - North Island-wide competition, shooters trial during April to shoot the match in May. The Manawatu Association selects teams.
- Open Championships - these are run on most weekends during the indoor season, by TSNZ Clubs all around NZ. Any shooter can enter, from D grade right through to Master. Usually 3 cards of 10, shot in grades, with the top 10 shooting an additional 20-shot final. Check the TSNZ website for details.
- Postals – shooters can choose to enter Individual and Seasons Aggregate Postals, and may be selected to shoot for Club and/or Association competitions too.

MSRA and Club Contacts:

MSRA President	Jackie Lindsay	msrapres@gmail.com
MSRA Secretary	Christian Hayes	msra4171@gmail.com
Bulls Club	Christian Hayes	Bullssbrclub@gmail.com
Colyton Club	Kerry Williams	kerry@twbframing.co.nz
Marton Club	James Jewell	jimij72@gmail.com
Rifle Rod & Gun Club	Bruce Marchant	bruce.marchant@xtra.co.nz
Rongotea Club	Janet Hunt	janethunt@xtra.co.nz

MSRA Bank account number: 06-0746-0251746-00

MSRA – www.msra@inspire.net.nz

TARGET SHOOTING NZ – www.tsnz.nz