

## **Policies for the selection of the annual Canadian Rifle Team to Bisley**

By a mail, fax and e-mail vote, the DCRA Executive Committee has approved the following policies and procedures for the selection and formation of the Bisley Team. The two vital sections are contained in paragraphs 3 and 4. The former deals with the selection of the TR Team, and the latter with the addition of F Class shooters to the Bisley Team. We hope that all DCRA members will now be aware of the opportunities available to them to become members of the Bisley Team.

1. **Appointment of Team Officers:** The object is to have the Team Officers (Commandant, Vice-Commandant, if required, and Adjutant) formally announced at the DCRA AGM in the spring two years before their tenure. The appointments for 2012 have been made; for 2013, the process is under way; for 2014, nominations will be invited during the winter 2011-12, and so on. Nominations are made by, and a vote held as required, members of Council. However, there is no requirement that a nominee must be a member of Council. All team officers and members of Canadian Teams must be full (annual or Life) conjoint members of the DCRA.
2. Once appointed, all Team Officers will be placed on the appropriate DCRA mailing lists and kept informed of the development of each year's team. There needs to be a greater continuity of effort and less need to "re-invent the wheel" each year. Having, for example, the 2012 and 2013 Team Officers familiar with matters to do with the 2011 Team could significantly assist their work for 2012 and 2013.
3. **Formation of the TR Team:** It is a fact that, in recent years, it has become very much more difficult to fill the Bisley Team. With a smaller base of TR shooters, increasing costs of travel both in Canada and overseas, and the lure of other shooting events, such as the World Championships, simply choosing 18 shooters from the list of the Canadian Target Rifle Championship (CTRC) is no longer feasible. And yet, the CTRC as a primary means of selection of the Team is an important aspect of maintaining the entry into the Canadian Fullbore Rifle Championships (CFRC), which is such a vital aspect of the overall DCRA annual operating budget. The Commandant is already given considerable discretion to fill out the team, and increasingly has to use this discretion. However, it is perhaps not clear to the general membership what options are open to them for joining the Bisley Team. Here are criteria to be followed for the formation of the TR team:
  - a. **Primary selection from the CTRC:** The number of shooters to be approached immediately after the CFRC will be reduced from the top 50 to the top 35. If 18 people (accepted in order of placing in the CTRC) from this 35 accept, the team is then filled. Letters would be sent out immediately after the CRFC, with a return date for acceptances, including first deposit, by 15 October.
  - b. **Applications** from individuals who are part of the National Training Group: By notices in the Marksman (see below) and on the DCRA web site, and by the encouragement of the Coordinator for the National Training Group, such individuals would be invited to apply for the team whether or not they compete in that year's CFRC or if they finish out of the top 35 of the CTRC. Such applications must be sent to the DCRA for the attention of the Commandant not later than 30 September following the CFRC.
    - i. The National Training Group must be supported and coordinated by the DCRA.
    - ii. It must represent an ongoing commitment to Canadian Team shooting.

- iii. The DCRA Executive shall appoint a Coordinator for the National Training Group. In the interests of continuity, the Coordinator will normally be the DCRA appointed Captain of the next Team to World Long Range Championships. The Captain may designate another person to act as Coordinator. Any such designation must be approved by the Executive Committee.
  - c. **Nominations** from Provincial Rifle Associations of shooters who have not competed at the CFRC or who finish outside the top 35 of the CTRC: Such nominations, which must include the agreement of the individual to join the Team if selected, must be sent to the DCRA for the attention of the Commandant not later than 30 September following the CFRC.
  - d. **Applications** from any other individuals wishing to be considered as a member of the Team: Such nominations, which must include the agreement of the individual to join the Team if selected, must be sent to the DCRA for the attention of the Commandant not later than 30 September following the CFRC.
  - e. Any nomination/application for any individual who has not shot the CFRC during the previous five years should contain a brief summary of recent shooting history, e.g., performance in PRA events, participation in goodwill teams, etc.
  - f. Once the replies from the initial invitees (i.e. from the top 35 in the Canadian Target Rifle Championship) have been received, the Commandant has a free hand and may take whatever steps that he/she may deem to be appropriate to fill out the team from any other applications or nominations.
4. **F Class shooters:** It is approved that F Class shooters be made members of the annual Canadian Team to Bisley. Ideally, since the F Class International Match at the Imperial Meeting is for four shooters, there should be at least four or more F Class shooters. However, if there were fewer than this, they would compete as individuals in the F Class matches. The F Class shooters will be full members of the Bisley Team, pay the same assessment and have all the same responsibilities and privileges. They will take their share in Team duties, and while not normally being able to shoot in the TR team events, they could do any other sort of duty, such as coaching, plotting, and support. Currently, the Bisley F Class International Match is on at the same time as the Kolapore, but there may be a small number of TR shooters available to assist the F Class Team in that match. **It is, therefore, agreed** that the total number of shooting members of the Bisley Team be increased from 18 to up to 22 with the addition of four or more F Class shooters.
  - a. **Primary selection from the F Class Canadian Championship (FCCC) at the CFRC:** The number of shooters to be approached immediately after the CFRC will be the top 6. If 4 people (accepted in order of placing in the FCCC) from this 6 accept, the team is then filled. Letters would be sent out immediately after the CRFC, with a return date for acceptances, including first deposit, by 15 October.
  - b. **Applications from individuals who have applied for membership in the Canadian Teams for the next F Class World Championship (FCWC):** By notices in the Marksman (see below) and on the DCRA web site, and by the encouragement of the DCRA-appointed Captain of the FCWC Teams, such individuals would be invited to apply for the team whether or not they compete in that year's CFRC or if they finish out of the top 6 of the FCCC. Such applications must be sent to the DCRA for the attention of the Commandant not later than 30 September following the CFRC. If a

National Training Group for F Class shooters is eventually established, the criteria will be similar to those outlined in 3 (b) above.

- c. Nominations from Provincial Rifle Associations of shooters who have not competed at the CFRC or who finish outside the top 6 of the FCCC: Such nominations, which must include the agreement of the individual to join the Team if selected, must be sent to the DCRA for the attention of the Commandant not later than 30 September following the CFRC.
  - d. Applications from any other individuals wishing to be considered as a member of the Team: Such nominations, which must include the agreement of the individual to join the Team if selected, must be sent to the DCRA for the attention of the Commandant not later than 30 September following the CFRC.
  - e. Any nomination/application for any individual who has not shot the CFRC during the previous five years should contain a brief summary of recent shooting history, e.g., performance in PRA events, participation in goodwill teams, etc.
  - f. Once the replies from the initial invitees (i.e. from the top 6 in the FCCC) have been received, the Commandant, with advice from the FCWC Captain and others, may take whatever steps as may be appropriate to fill out the team from other applications or nominations.
  - g. Initially, applications from F(Open) and F(F/TR) shooters will be treated equally. However, in the future, some split of these F Classes may be used in the selection process.
5. **Publicity of Selection Process:** In the Spring Marksman of the year before the team in question (i.e. in Spring 2011 for the 2012 Team), the Commandant will write a short article outlining the selection procedures as above, and inviting all those interested to be in touch with him/her. At the same time, the Commandant may wish to announce the names of Coaches, if these have been selected, and to outline any special events. This information will also be placed on the DCRA web site.
6. **In summary,** team selection will remain primarily on the basis of scores made in the CTRC and FCCC at the CFRC, while other opportunities for selection are made more apparent to the membership. F Class shooters are added to the Canadian Bisley Team. The Commandant is given a free hand to fill the team if 18 places are not filled from the top 35 in the CTRC or if at least 4 F Class places are not filled from the top 6 in the FCCC.
7. **A comment on Finance:** The DCRA has only very limited funding to support any of its teams, including Bisley. This situation is likely to continue until new sources of outside funding can be found. Although, potentially, the Macdonald Stewart Pavilion might be a source of funding for the Team, it will be years before this becomes a reality. Much work needs to be done on the building and there is a large debt payable to the DCRA. From the relatively meagre operating profits, it is not likely that there will significant income for the Team any time soon. Hence, the Bisley Team must continue to be largely self-supporting. The Team is not charged for accommodation in the Pavilion, and there are small grants from DCRA Committed Funds for each year's team. Appointing Team Officers somewhat further in advance should provide them with a bit more time to seek outside support.

Jim Thompson  
Chairman, DCRA International Teams Committee  
February 2011