

## March 2011

### **Ontario**

When you read this article, the spring target season will be just about to start in Ontario. If you win an event (in Ontario), you may be eligible for a Delegate pin, depending upon the number of shooters in the event. Please resolve any ties. For eligibility for all-star teams, you must shoot sufficient Ontario targets in each discipline, and it is your combined average that determines your eligibility.

For in-province and out-of-province shooters, you just *have* to get your hands on the 2011 provincial program when it becomes available. The OPTA board has done some very innovative things, some of which I have seen nowhere else throughout my travels. I won't steal the board's thunder, but when the programs are ready, I will be pleased to share their contents with you and encourage attendance by resident and non-resident shooters.

I wrote this article in late January, and like many of you, I was looking forward to a winter break shoot, which for me is often the Dixie Grand. My winter break came a little earlier than anticipated and was not pleasant. In my typical (so says my wife) haste in doing 10 things at once, I unsuccessfully negotiated the descent of my office stairs. I thought I had reached the landing, but was springboarding in mid air. When my foot did hit the landing, it was over-extended, and the sudden pressure snapped the ligament right off the top of the patella (kneecap). The surgery was painful, and there will be some restrictions pending recovery, but at least I hope to make a full recovery (and I hope to do some shooting too, possibly from a stool or chair; we'll see).

I don't recommend breaking something to have genuine empathy for people with disabilities, but have you ever tried crutches or a wheelchair? Try getting in and out of vehicles, up and down steps, carrying something or using the washroom facilities. Having a facility that is accessible for people with disabilities is greatly appreciated by people just struggling to do the basic things that others take for granted.

Good shooting to everyone.

*Paul Shaw*  
*ATA Delegate*