



THE OPTA CLUBHOUSE February 2018 Edition

www.ontariotrap.com

Ontario 2017 All Star Team

1st Men's Team

Dan Gris	95.02
Lloyd Beecraft	94.50
Joe Di Francesco	93.61
BJ Jackman	93.51
Tom Batsos	93.04

Senior Veteran Team

Terry Jordan	93.73
Keith Saunders	92.88
George Iliopoulos	91.44
Charlie Boggis	86.76
Wayne Higgs	86.66

Lady's Team

Dianne Wood	83.56
Emily Brown	82.94

2nd Men's Team

Billy Zager	92.93
Mike Otte	92.31
Paulo Sampaio	91.96
Dave Storring	91.91
Frank Bonaiuto Jr	91.24

Veteran Team

John Costa	94.22
Ed Wilmott	91.56
Myles Jackman	90.25
Bert Blackburn	89.94
Neville Henderson	88.14

Junior Team

Autumn Bergeron	90.39
Ana Tsementzis	90.80

Sub Junior Team

Yuvraj Walia	73.28
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Hi Singles Average

Dan Gris	98.24
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Hi Doubles Average

Peter Tsementzis	96.93
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Hi Handicap Average

Ana Tsementzis	92.60
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Hi Composite Average

Dan Gris	95.02
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Annual Award Nominations

Your Board is looking for nominations for the Hall of Fame inductee and the Mike Fulop Award.

Have Gun Will Travel – Ed Wilmott – Congratulations Ed for attending 9 different clubs throughout Ontario.

Mark Edmonston Award – Lew Hummason – With an improved average of 20.0% over 2016

New Shooter Award (64 new shooters in 2017)

Lisa Bennett 87.29% (600 singles, 500 handicap & 300 doubles)

Message from your OPTA President

The Canadian shooting fraternity has always been fragmented which has limited its input into the legislation and regulations that affect the shooting sports. There was an element of luck when the Conservative government repealed the long-gun registry that was unilaterally implemented by the Chretien Liberal government a few decades earlier at an exorbitant cost to Canadian taxpayers with no apparent value.

Contrast our situation with that in the United States where the National Rifle Association (NRA) has considerable influence over potential legislation that could affect firearm ownership rights. The long-gun registry would never have been implemented if the shooting fraternity in Canada had the voice and lobbying savvy of the NRA. It could be argued that the NRA has excessive lobbying ability but the Canadian shooting fraternity has limited lobbying strength through the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), other provincial organizations, and the National Firearms Association (NFA). These organizations are very effective at what they do though they do not yield the clout of the NRA but they also do not have the funding. Complicating matters is the ability of the Provincial governments to impose their own legislation. A recent example being the Quebec government's attempts to re-establish the long-gun registry in that province after it had been dismantled nationally. The Ontario government was considering following Quebec's initiative but that seems to have died down, at least, I hope it has.

The only voice for the shooting sports in Ontario has been the Ontario Council of Shooters (OCS) and its primary function was to co-ordinate the base funding provided by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports (the Ministry) among the various shooting organizations. The OPTA continues to benefit from that annual funding. There were few requirements with respect to the funding and little or no accountability for fund usage. However, and quite appropriately, that is changing as the OCS becomes an established organization representing the shooting sports in Ontario.

The OCS's member organizations (Members) include the: Maple Leaf International Muzzle Loading Association; ONTarget – rifle and pistol alliance; Ontario Olympic Trapshooting Association; Ontario Provincial Trapshooting Association; Ontario Rifle Association; and, Ontario Skeet Shooting Association. Among the OCS's objectives are promotion of safe participation in the shooting sports. It will be the representative for the target shooting sports in Ontario in all matters relating to national and international target shooting while promoting adherence to the relevant national and international rules for that discipline. This allows us to be governed by the ATA while being a member of the OCS. The OCS will unite the six member organizations and liaise with the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sports as well as consider other funding opportunities on behalf of its members.

Member Organizations (Members) are bound by certain Terms and Conditions of the Ministry. The terms and conditions include:

- Providing independently prepared financial statements;
- Maintaining valid insurance;
- Reporting on performance of objectives;
- Providing budgets;
- Providing AGM minutes;
- Verifying risk management policies; and,
- Providing recognition and visibility to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sports in written materials.

The OCS has a number of policies relating to harassment, concussion, and other issues. The relevant policies have been adopted by the OPTA and we are in full compliance with the Terms and Conditions of the Ministry.

The OPTA will pay a fee to the OCS to fund their endeavours. The fee is currently \$10.00 per member which is about half of the base funding.

The benefits of membership in the OCS will be better access to provincial funding, in addition to that from the Ministry, and more consistent and focused representation of the shooting sports in the province. The value will exceed the cost of membership in the short and long term.

The OPTA Board has decided that participation in the OCS will be a benefit to the trapshooting fraternity. Consequently, this will be discussed at the AGM in August and a motion put forward to ratify the Board's decision to participate in the OCS and amend the Bylaws accordingly.

In addition to the above, the OPTA has contacted a large number of Ontario trapshooting clubs to ascertain the desire for continued discussion on issues relevant to the trapshooting community. A letter and survey has been sent to Associate Members of the OPTA as well as a large number of unaffiliated clubs to determine the level of interest, establish a time for the meeting, and obtain a preliminary sense for the desire to continue this process. There are a great many small trap clubs in Ontario and it will be interesting to get a sense for their issues and determine whether we can organize the fraternity better and share solutions to common issues.

The OPTA Board believes we are on the right path to preserve and advance trapshooting in the province and provide a unified voice on social issues relating to shooting with the provincial politicians either through the Ministry or directly. The Board is looking forward to our discussion at the AGM.

President OPTA

Neville S. Henderson

Message from Your ATA Delegate

As most of you know, the ATA Executive Committee meets face-to-face for several days in December (this year we met in Sparta at the ATA head office), we meet again in the Spring (this year will be at Tucson to coincide with some of the Spring Grand) and we meet every day during the preliminary and main week of the Grand American (in Sparta). In addition, we telephone conference on matters of urgency or convenience and we regularly communicate by telephone and email.

The ATA is a multi-million dollar business and I am pleased to say there are intelligent, conscientious and dedicated unpaid volunteers from coast-to-coast and a hardworking and competent staff.

The ATA was hugely impacted with the recent sudden passing of our in-house I.T. staff person, Stan Stramel. The EC usually does not intervene in staffing issues. However, our Executive Director, Lynn Gipson, invited our input. We were impressed with a young, qualified local fellow Ben Bauer. He was hired and we hope Ben will be able at some point fill the huge shoes left by Stan.

For some time I have advocated for a scholarship that is firearm industry specific. We need gunsmiths in Ontario and throughout the ATA. The EC approved a gunsmithing scholarship at the December meeting.

The Oversight and Accountability Committee is working well. The EC and Central Handicap Committee expenses are all within the Accountable Plan caps.

Executive Director Lynn Gipson is doing a good job and has agreed to extend his current contract that was to end December 31, 2020 for an additional period of time at the same compensation terms through to December 31, 2023.

For all our Ontario clubs don't forget that you have assigned to you for your disposal five free annual ATA memberships and five free AIM memberships.

Under the new All American Team point system, points are no longer tied to trophies. There is a thorough explanation of how the point system has been simplified. You can find it in Trap & Field magazine or on the ATA website. Or talk to me if you prefer. I am the Chair of that committee and am pretty familiar with most of the issues you may encounter.

My hat goes off to the OPTA for their defibrillator initiative. We have a lot of older shooters – this is a device that just may save someone's life. Thanks to Seamus Tynan whose company Ward and Burke Microtunnelling Ltd. has offered to supply the OPTA with a portable defibrillator.

Please note that the ATA now offers a Career Attainment Certificate to send to the family or friends of a deceased member to recognize their contribution to the sport. Please contact Kait Giacomo at the ATA office at kgiacomo@shootata.com to request a certificate.

If there are any issues you have, let me know and I will try to help.

Paul Shaw

Ontario Delegate



ATA ONTARIO DELEGATE
Paul Shaw Box 280

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(h) 705-445-6230

Message From Emily Brown

While the weather is not the best to get out and shoot trap, the many winter leagues in the province attract a lot of hardy shooters, and of course there is the excitement of spring just around the corner with a great season of OPTA/ATA shooting opportunities ahead of us. Other shooters travel south to warmer weather for shooting and we look forward to seeing their successes at registered shoots there, consistently putting Canadian shooters in the record books.

➤ Website and Facebook update

The OPTA website continues to be a great source of current information about trapshooting in the province. The Buy and Sell page is very active with new postings being added every week, and items being sold very quickly. Lately, I have heard that guns have sold to shooters in other provinces as a result of them seeing an ad on this page.

Other recent additions to the OPTA website, are biographies for our Hall of Fame honourees. A sport is stronger when it remembers its past and this is one significant way to do that. The biographies are being added as they are completed, and I have reached out to the more recent honourees to ask that they share their stories with me so that I can include them on this page. I am always looking for information or photos that folks may be holding onto which help tell our story.

There is also new information on the OPTA honouree page which outlines what the Hall of Fame is all about, and how to nominate a deserving shooter through the nomination form provided. There are opportunities to nominate in two categories, shooter and contributor.

A list of registered historic high averages over time for both men and women was compiled and is now posted to the website, which makes for an interesting read.

A compiled list, with information about 65 clubs in the province which have at least one trap is available on the website. It is great to support all of those clubs, as that is where our OPTA shooters start!

On the social media front, in the past year since the last OPTA Clubhouse newsletter, the number of people who have joined the OPTA Facebook group page has risen from 349 to 525, an incredible increase of 176 people who want to be informed about the sport of trapshooting.

- Toronto Sportsmen's Show, March 14-18, 2018

The OPTA has once again booked a booth at the Toronto Sportsmen's Show which will take place from March 14-18, 2018 at the International Centre. The dry fire system will be there for visitors to try and dates for new shooter events will be available for those who want to try the sport at one of our clubs. There are volunteer shifts still available, 2-3 hours per shift over those five days if you would like to help out, have some fun and share your love of the sport.

- Funding and grants

A grant application was submitted in November for funding from the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women in Sport and Physical Activity, and the Women in Sport Encouragement Fund, to support a women and girls trapshooting program. As yet, there has been no news about whether the grant has been approved.

For those of you involved in club management or who influence those who are, there are club or event grant, there are grants available for club upgrades or events through the Amateur Trapshooting Association, the Trillium Fund in Ontario, and a variety of other sources.

- Canadians Trapshooting Association Championships, June 27- July 1, 2018 at Brandon Trap Club

The Canadian Trapshooting Association Championships will be held at the Brandon Trap Club from June 27- July 1, 2018. The program for this event will be available shortly and will be shared widely. Camping reservations for those needing them, are already being taken.

I was invited to speak at the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Area J, Annual General Meeting, about the shotgun sports in the province.

I spoke to several challenges, including:

- Pressures on gun clubs from encroachment, bylaw changes, financial health, and the need for upgrading or expanding facilities.
- Reaching new members (hosting new shooter events, marketing, sportsmen's show, social media outreach)
- Capacity building (volunteers, facilities, coaching, expanding funding base)
- Clubs accepting, welcoming and mentoring new members.
- Changes in provincial Ministry requirement for sport recognition and funding

With the support of all OPTA members and clubs, it is hoped that these challenges can be addressed and mitigated to ensure a strong, and growing future of trapshooting in Ontario.

For regular updates, visit the OPTA website at www.ontariotrap.com and/or the OPTA Facebook group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OntarioTrap/>

Written and submitted by Emily Brown

Message From Your CTA Delegate

Hello fellow shooters!

Happy New Year and salutations. It is currently January and the weather has been less than favourable for fair weather shooting. As many of you know, the Canadian Championship will be held in Brandon, MB this year June 27th - July 1st and as usual I want to extend a warm invitation to all shooters.

It has been my privilege in the past to attend the Brandon club for this great shoot and the Lamont's run a very fine event. Please consider adding this shoot to your summer travels as it will be fun and it is basically next door. With many great things including added money and wonderful hospitality I encourage you all to consider attending.

If anyone has any questions or concerns please contact me and I will answer them. Until next time Happy shooting.

Josh Faubert
CTA
Ontario Delegate

ATA Raffle



Ontario has 60 tickets available this year. The St Thomas Gun Club has 20 tickets available and Pam Muma/Paul Shaw have 40 combined. If you wish to purchase a ticket please contact Pam Muma.

Funding and Grant Opportunities

For OPTA members and especially Affiliated clubs. There are financial resources available to improve your clubs so that you can better serve your club members and the OPTA/ATA. These are from within the ATA as well as from government and government associated organizations.

We will start with the ATA. This link is to the ATA website where the purpose of the Grant is explained, and the application is available to fill out. If your club has thrown registered targets during the current or previous year you are eligible. There is nothing to lose by applying. http://www.shootata.com/Portals/0/pdf/Gun_Club_Fund_App.pdf

The Ontario Government through the Ontario Trillium Foundation has money available for several streams of support. The most relevant to clubs is the capital grant area. I have the link to this specific area as a place to start your investigation. They have a lot of lottery money available to distribute. If you meet the criteria you should be successful especially if your project is increasing availability of recreation to minorities of any description. There is paperwork that must be completed before the project has begun. <https://otf.ca/what-we-fund/investment-streams/capital-grants>

If your club is hosting a national or international event, the Ontario Government has a sport hosting grant program. You would have to work with your Provincial Association like the OPTA to access these funds. The Sport Hosting Program will provide project-based funding to help applicants deliver international and national amateur sport events in Ontario. This program requires at least 4 months lead time with applications being accepted in January and July. Here is the link for more information. <http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/PRDR014384>

If you are interested in applying for any of these programs, your OPTA is willing to assist with the application.

Bert Blackburn

Vice-President

SPONSORSHIP AND ADVERTISING

If you would like to become a sponsor for the 2018 Provincial Championships, the following is a breakdown of the sponsorship levels.

Platinum - \$500.00 and over

Gold - \$200.00 to \$499.00

Silver - \$100.00 to \$199.00

Bronze – up to \$99.00

If you would like to advertise in the 2017 Provincial Program the following is the cost for each size of ad.

Inside front cover - \$500.00

Outside back cover - \$500.00

Inside back cover - \$400.00

Full page ad inside the program - \$ 250.00

Half page ad inside the program - \$200.00

Please email Pam at ppmuma@rogers.com by March 30th 2018 if you would like to sponsor or advertise in the program.

From the ATA

A couple of times each year the ATA sends out the Canadian equivalency rates of dues and memberships. Below you will see the costs that came out in January.

ATA Dues	US Funds	Canadian Funds
Shoot Fees	\$3.00	\$3.90
Big 50 Fees	\$1.50	\$1.95
Adult Dues (23yrs old and above)	\$20.00	\$25.85
Jr. Dues (22yrs old and below)	\$12.00	\$15.50
AIM Dues (22yrs old and below)	\$13.00	\$16.80
Life Membership	\$500.00	\$646.10
Senior Life Membership	\$250.00	\$323.05
Trap & Field Subscription (Discount when pd with dues or life member)	\$30.00	\$38.75
Trap & Field Subscription (No discount if pd separate from dues)	\$35.00	\$45.25
Add if Trap & Field Sub. is mailed outside the USA	\$15.00	\$19.40
Average Book	\$12.00	\$15.50
Add if Average Book is mailed outside the USA	\$6.00	\$7.75

2018 Registered Shoot Dates

March

30 – Hamilton Gun Club (**Good Friday**)

30 – Amherstburg Target Sports (**Good Friday**)

April

1 – Oxford Sportsman's Club

8 – Crumlin Sportsmen's Association

22 – Otter Valley Rod & Gun (**Sponsor**)

22 – Hamilton Gun Club

29 – Oxford Sportsman's Club

May

6 – Otter Valley Rod & Gun

6 – Quinte Trap & Gun Club

13 – Hamilton Angling & Hunting Assoc.

19-21 – St Thomas Gun Club (**Federal Shell Shoot**)

27 – Hamilton Gun Club (**Shell Shoot**)

27 – Napanee and District Gun Club

Canadian Championship – June 27 – July 1, 2018 at Brandon, MB

June

3 – Quinte Trap & Gun Club

3 – Amherstburg Target Sports

3 – Crumlin Sportsmens Association

July

8 – Amherstburg Target Sports

8 – Waterford Sportsman's Club

10 – Oxford Sportsman’s Club
17 – Quinte Trap & Gun Club
17 – Hamilton Gun Club (**Summer Blast**)
24 – Oxford Sportsman’s Club (**Doubles Marathon**)
24 – Hamilton Angling & Hunting Assoc.

15 – Oxford Sportsman’s Club
15 – Hamilton Angling & Hunting Assoc.

**Ontario Provincial Championship
July 26-29 2018 held at St Thomas Gun Club**

August

5 & 6 – Hamilton Gun Club
12 – Crumlin Sportsmen’s Association
19 – Oxford Sportsman’s Club
26 – Hamilton Gun Club

September

2-3 – St Thomas Gun Club (**Fall Team Shoot**)
9 – Exeter
9 – Quinte Trap & Gun Club
9 – Hamilton Angling & Hunting Assoc.
16 – Kippen Gun Club
16 – Hamilton Gun Club
23 – Waterford Sportsman’s Club (**Sponsor Shoot**)
30 – Amherstburg Target Sports

October

7 – Napanee and District Gun Club
21 – Napanee and District Gun Club

If you are a member of a club in Ontario and would like your club to host registered shoot please talk to your Trap representative.

2017 OPTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Neville Henderson
Vice-President: Bert Blackburn
Secretary/Treasurer: Pam Muma
Director: Beau Douglas
Director: Bill Drikos
Director: Dominic Gitto
Director: Warren McLay
Director: Emily Brown

YOUR 2018 ATA REPRESENTATIVES IN ONTARIO

ATA Delegate: Paul Shaw - (705) 445-1382 (office) or (705) 445-6230 (home) or shaw@smilaw.ca
ATA Alternate Delegate: Verne Higgs: vhiggs@rogers.com

YOUR CTA REPRESENTATIVE IN ONTARIO

Josh Faubert – joshfaubertcta@gmail.com

CTA Website – www.shootcanada.ca