

# Beloit Rifle Club Monthly Board Meeting

## MINUTES

May 7, 2025 - 6:30 pm

Call to Order by the President – Kyle Schliem

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Roll Call of Board Members – Quorum: 37 /51

Acceptance of Agenda – BRC President Kyle Schliem

Robby Personette so moved.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Ben Remer.

Discussion/Corrections: Robby Personette would like to add Training Opportunities to be presented under new business. It was not on the agenda as distributed, therefore it can be presented and discussed but not actionable until the next meeting.

Motion called and carried unanimously.

Secretary's Report – April Meeting Minutes – BRC Secretary Scott Schoeler

Motion to accept April Meeting Minutes

Scott Schoeler so moves

2<sup>nd</sup> by Harley Whitt

Discussion/Corrections: None

Motion called and carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – April P & E – BRC Treasurer Charlie E. Brown

Motion to accept April Treasurers Report

Charlie E Brown so moves

2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim Kienbaum

Discussion / Corrections: Treasurer statement to directors: We make a budget each year. Directors need to stick to their budget as presented and approved. Also, at a BOD meeting some time ago, a motion was made and passed that a Director cannot transfer any portion of their budget to another budget. Moving forward, if you're unsure of your budget status, you can call the Treasurer to know what's been spent. If you're going to need to spend over budget, you must come to the board for approval. A couple questions from the floor regarding specific items in and not in the report but were answered by the Treasurer.

Motion called and carried unanimously.

### **Board Member Reports:**

Archery – Ben Remer:

Benchrest (BR-50) – Dennis Munn:

Benchrest (Center Fire) – Paul Schuler:

Black Powder Lodge – Harley Whitt:

Past Event Information

We had our Curt VanderVeen Squirrel Shoot this past Sunday April 27, 2025 and everything went great even the weather was great for a change. We had 16 shooters show up to try and win the Curt VanderVeen Memorial Squirrel. I tried but I did not do so well. The winner of this year's Memorial Squirrel was Curt VanderVeen's son Gregg Vanderveen, he brought his wife and 2 children with him. Gregg sure shot well, winning several matches and took home a number of meat prizes. He won the Memorial Squirrel with a score of 47 out of a possible 50 points. Congratulations to Gregg on his fine shooting. I told him later that his Dad would have been proud of him! The winner of the main meat prize was Steve Brown from Milton, WI. He took a nice ham steak from the prize table. Several of the shooters took home meat prizes. I would like to thank everyone that helped put this shoot on we had a number of members get their work hours in. I would like to thank those who brought and donated food and prizes to help make this shoot a success. A big thank you goes out to Diane Halfmann who brought a big cheese and sausage platter that everyone enjoyed. Thanks again Diane!

Financial Information to report:

On the financial side of the shoot the 16 shooters we had brought in after expenses \$175.49. That's great for a 1-day shoot. Like I said before it's not all about the money, it's about promoting the Beloit Rifle Club and Black Powder shooting.

Upcoming Event Information:

The Black Powder Lodges' next shoot will be a monthly shoot Sunday May 18th, 2025. For those members who want to get their work hours in may do so by calling me Harley Whitt, (608) 921-1542 or give Charlie J. Brown a call at (608) 290 – 2978. Leave a message and we will get back to you! For those who want work hours should be at the range around 8:00 a.m. and plan on working until around 3:00 p.m. The range opens at 9:00a.m. and closes at 2:00 p.m. We run 25 minute re-lays. Dress for the weather and bring a lunch, because we have only snack food and coffee. Bottled water is \$1.00 per bottle.

Volunteer Opportunities:

One other opportunity to get work hours in is the Youth Shoot coming up Saturday May 10th, 2025, we will need people to

help load the muzzle loaders for the kids and take them to the shooting benches on the firing line sit them down and have the kids pull the trigger and hope they hit the target. So, if you know how to load a muzzle loader and want to help, give me a call at Harley Whitt, (608) 921 – 1542 .

**Chief Range Officer – Lee Thompson:**

**Civilian Marksmanship (CMP) – Greg Davis:**

**Conservation – Jim Shickles:**

**Cowboy Action – Tina Saporiti:**

**Past Event Information**

We had two matches in April with an average of 37 shooters at each shoot. We turned in \$703. Reckoning on the Rock currently has 100 shooters signed up with more coming in every day. We have turned in an additional \$4375 for a total of \$10,770 so far. We have had three Saturday work parties so far and the range is coming together nicely. The Livery deck and walls are up and during the next few weeks we hope to have the roof on, and it should be ready to use shortly.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

Looking for volunteers for the Reckoning on the Rock – if interested the sign-up sheets are in the Main Building. We also have work parties every Wednesday from 8 to Noon.

**Defense Range – Dean Latka:**

**Past Event Information**

We shot Steel Challenge twice in April with a total of 27 shooters shooting 31 guns.

**Upcoming Event Information:**

We will shoot Steel Challenge on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday in May.

**Grounds Keeping – William Snyder:**

**Upcoming Event Information:**

Grass is growing get your hours in on Wednesday and Thursday starting at eight am both days .mowers are ready to go.

**High Power Rifle – Dave Fatino:**

**Historian – Harley Whitt:**

**Past Event Information**

This month's report is a bit of History! On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1999, the Beloit Rifle Club held its new member induction. Due to the large attendance, the meeting was held in the indoor range. After the Pledge of Allegiance, each of the board members introduced himself and gave a brief description of his duties, as well as a report of what is going on in his area of responsibility. Claude Willoughby then spoke of the importance of following the rules for everyone's safety, followed by the new members taking the NRA Pledge. We had 42 new members this year, bringing our total club membership to 634.

**Upcoming Event Information:**

Our 100 Anniversary banquet Friday June 13th, 2025, at the Holiday Inn Conference Center , 3100 Wellington Place, Janesville, WI. 53546.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

For more information View the email sent from the Beloit Rifle Club. on your face book page.

**Hunter Ed / Firearm Safety – Tim Elliott:**

**Membership – Jon Nortemann:**

**Past Event Information**

As of 4/29/2025, membership in the Beloit Rifle Club is currently at "1146". This is approximately "2" more than last year. We currently have 74 members who have either passed away, moved out of state or have chosen not to renew their membership. I am formally closing the "mail-in" option on membership renewal May 1st. I have found that, in the past, mail service may be a bit tardy, at times. I want to give all members every chance to renew their membership. This year, close to 50 members benefited from this service.

**Upcoming Event Information:**

Putting on my "Match Directors" hat for a moment, I wish to inform the club that we have been authorized, by the National Rifle Association and the Wisconsin Firearm Owners Association to host the Wisconsin Outdoor Open Precision Pistol Championships. We are also authorized to host the Civilian Marksmanship Program's Distinguished Service Pistol and Distinguished 22 Pistol matches. These matches are to be held at the Beloit Rifle Club on August 23rd and 24th, 2025. The outdoor pistol range will be closed to members on those two days, as has been the practice since we started hosting these matches in 1983.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

Anyone interested in helping run this match may contact me for further information.

**Multi-gun – John Bronson:**

**NRA Instruction / Youth – Robby Personette:**

**Financial Information to report:**

Received \$132 from Marine Corp League for shoot that was held in early April. Cash will be submitted at the May board meeting. Raven Creek Training sent a check for \$150 for training that was held in mid-April.

**Upcoming Event Information:**

Youth sports fest is on May 10, 2025. At the time of this report, we have 75 kids signed up. Plenty of volunteer opportunities are still available.

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

May 10, 2025, Youth Day event. There are plenty of opportunities available to volunteer.

### **Pistol George Brunson:**

Upcoming Event Information:

The last Border League match, the Handicap, was on May 1st. Our end of season banquet will be on May 15th. The Outdoor matches will begin in June 3rd.

### **Publicity – Norm Larson:**

Upcoming Event Information:

THE GUN SHOW/ SWAP MEET IS CANCELLED.

I had two (2) members contact me, offering to help put this gun show/swap meet on May 17th. There is not enough time to put this together now, so regretfully I am canceling it.

Volunteer Opportunities:

May 10, 2025, YOUTH SPORTS FEST

0700- 1600 hrs. I'm sure they can use help

guiding all the participants. Contact Brad Mueller or Kyle Schliem if you are able to work.

### **Range Construction – Brad Mueller:**

Past Event Information

We held the first General Work Day of 2025 on April 5th. We had 18 people show up and work. Lots of jobs were completed including:

- \* Repaired target frames and replaced target boards on the Main Range
- \* Installed clear vinyl sound panel strips on west end of Main Range
- \* Repaired target frames and replaced target boards on the back 100-500M Range
- \* Installed and serviced hand wash stations in Port-a-Potties on Front Range
- \* Installed new door operator on main door of Clubhouse
- \* Picked up trash on Philhower Rd
- \* Installed additional shelves in the bathrooms and furnace room of New Indoor Range
- \* Repaired target frames and replaced target boards on the Black Powder Range
- \* Replaced target holders in New Indoor Range.
- \* General range cleanup

Upcoming Event Information:

The next General Work Day is scheduled for Saturday May 3rd. Work Projects for this Work Day are still being compiled as of this submittal, but will probably include some of the following:

- \* Clean lead from the New Indoor Range.
- \* Cleaning rain gutters on the Clubhouse and Old Indoor range.
- \* Salvaging old wood 2x12's from the old CMP Range backstop.
- \* Spraying grass killer in front and around the Outdoor Pistol Range as needed.
- \* Installing a second new parking Bollard near the entrance to the Main Range.
- \* Sort and stack remaining old used lumber near 100 yard berm on the Main Range.
- \* Painting and staining tables and work benches around the Range.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We still need help setting up for the NRA Day Youth Shoot on Friday May 9th from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. Very few people have signed up as of April 28th. Also see Upcoming Event Information section above.

### **Silhouette – Gabriel Zaha:**

Past Event Information

First monthly match of the season was held Saturday, April 19.

There were 5 participants present: 2 members and 3 guests

Standard class match winner was Craig Stevens with 42 points out of 80.

Hunter class winner was, again, Craig with 52 points out of 80.

Financial Information to report:

\$130.00 collected in match fees.

Upcoming Event Information:

May 10th: silhouette group will participate in the Youth shoot

May 24th: Monthly club match

May 31st: The purpose of this event is to allow new shooters get familiar with Metallic Silhouettes. Will include rifle sight in, general presentation, one on one time with experienced shooters and will conclude with a 40 rounds match. Ammo (100 rounds) will be provided for the first 15 participants. Door prize(affle): one brick of 22 rounds.

### **Technical Director – Mike Hevey:**

Past Event Information

Meeting minutes and past Newsletters moved to be under Members Only area on the website.

### **Trap – Jeff Goode:**

Upcoming Event Information:

Monday night trap starts May 5th. The price remains the same at \$20 for 5 rounds.

### **Wednesday Morning – Chuck Sauber:**

#### Upcoming Event Information:

We will be shooting trap. There are 3 classes of competition—410, 3/4 oz and 1 oz. Details are available before Wednesday's shoot. We start shooting around 9

#### Woman's Shooting Group - Julie Wagoner:

#### Youth Air Rifle – Larry Abbott:

N/R

Motion to Accept the May Directors Reports

Scott Schoeler so moves

2<sup>nd</sup> by Gabriel Zaha

Discussion/Corrections: A couple verbal update from the floor.

Motion called and carried unanimously.

## Committee Updates

- BRC Centennial Committee – Publicity

- Current attendance 87
- Entertainment provided by Rainbow Bridge 7:00pm-10:00pm
- Games for chances at additional raffle ticket entries proceeds to go towards the open house event in August
  - 50/50 raffles

The registration deadline was extended to May 26<sup>th</sup>.

- Rules Committee – Lee Thompson:

- Met briefly, discussed the GoCart track development and I understand there will be a presentation & update on this tonight.

- New Range Sound Abatement – Kyle Schliem

- The committee; Brad Mueller, Jim Shickles, Dean Latka, Kyle Schliem, met & discussed. Reached out to vendors to do partial abatement at the firing line and behind it in hopes that this would provide better sound abatement for the firing line and the classroom at a lower cost. They responded. Also discussed was to buy the material ourselves. The two options estimates are below:
  - Troy Acoustics: \$25,000 includes cement board, fiber wool insulation, fasteners, mounting material, installation drawings, delivery and tariff fees
  - Alibaba: \$6,500 includes cement board, delivery and tariff fees
    - Still need to buy insulation (~\$800), mounting materials (steel studs ~\$200)
- Installation is not included in these estimates and would be done by volunteers.
- The vendor stated that to gain any benefit from the materials, the sound abatement materials would need to be installed down the firing line at a minimum of 20 ft.
- This is not a budgeted project for 2025. The plan is to discuss & develop this project to be done in 2026.
- It would be good to establish a baseline of Db sound in the classroom and the firing line & compare after sound abatement is in place.
  - Troy Acoustics states the baseline is established as the number of times sound reverberates within the space, i.e. the length of time sound remains within the space before dissipating. The system and recommendations they employ reduces the length of time sound remains in the space. Their statistics have been proven in the systems they've employed at other ranges to be very effective sound abatement. There is a document that details their study and is available to all members.
- The most unmanageable sound within the new range is from centerfire rifles.
- Discussion from floor regarding various options.

A motion was made to table this topic so we can record the initial sound reading of the range, find out what can be expected with the sound abatement treatment and how much money is available for this project.

Julie Wagoner so moved

2<sup>nd</sup> by Charles Mongan

Discussion: Additional discussion from floor.

Motion called and carried unanimously.

A motion was made to ban centerfire rifle cartridges from the new indoor range for 3 months, until the BOD can complete the study of noise reduction.

Paul Schuler so moved

2<sup>nd</sup> by Charles Mongan

Discussion: Additional discussion regarding both sides of the issue of banning centerfire rifle cartridges from the indoor range.

The motion was called. It was unclear regarding the motion votes. A roll-call vote was called.

The votes were 11 Yea (in favor), 25 Nay (opposed). The motion failed on vote.

## **Unfinished Business**

- **GoCart track development – Tim Kienbaum**

Presentation of the NW Event Range (Northwest Events Range) development by Tim Kienbaum: Since last month's meeting, I was approached by the Chief Range Officer, Lee Thompson with concerns of BOD members outside of the meeting. I was asked to propose a SOP for the range. I was surprised & disappointed that nobody approached me directly to discuss their concerns. In the future, please do so. The NW Event Range SOP was presented:

- This area is an event range only, not a general range. Shooting on this range is only allowed during Club sanctioned activities with prior approval by the Board of Directors.
- All activities are to be supervised by designated Range Officers.
- This area is to be operated as a cold range.
- All firearms shall have open actions with mag blocks or chamber indicators in place except as directed by the Range officer.
- No firearms are to be loaded until directed by the supervising Range Officer.
- Care must be taken when setting targets so that all shots will impact designated back stops.
- At this time, the designated backstops are the north and west hillsides.

Tim has approached the owner of the triangle shaped property regarding potential purchase of the property but has not heard back from him or made any progress of potentially acquiring the property.

Aerial pictures of the (NER) Northwest Events Range with topographic elevation lines, was presented, showing the height of the natural topography of the area, providing proof that a sufficient backstop is present for the proposed and intended purpose for this range. There was discussion from the floor expressing opinions pro and con, regarding the development of this range.

A motion was made:

To adopt the present SOP for the NW Event Range and allow its use for Precision .22 matches / practices and other events as approved by the Board of Directors.

Tim Kienbaum so moved.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Dean Latka

Discussion: Additional floor discussion, expressing opinions and perspectives both pro and con, including comments by CRO Lee Thompson representing the Rules Committee.

The motion was called and carried by majority vote. There were 5 opposing votes of the 37 voting members.

A motion was made:

To allow the Precision 22 match to be held on the NW Event Range on the same day as the Reckoning On The Rock event.

So moved by Tim Kienbaum

2<sup>nd</sup> by Tina Saporiti

Discussion: Discussion of the motion from the floor was limited to a single question and answered sufficiently.

Motion called and carried unanimously.

- **Update on New Range air handling & ventilation – Kyle Schliem**

- To Recap: The current exhaust / air handling system does not meet specs. We've been dealing with this for months, the company sent an entirely new system, which was installed and it still failed to meet the required specifications.
- The company has offered to take the system back and reimburse the club \$65,000. The club spent 72,000 on the system. There is a difference of \$7,000. Their accounting of the refund is that the club has used the equipment for a year and the filters have lead contamination and would need to be disposed of and the filter system would need to be replaced at a cost of \$14,000 which we won't have.
- The company would wire transfer the money to us when their equipment was loaded on the truck to be shipped back to them.
- We would need to have a replacement ventilation system ready to be in place when the current one is removed. Other companies we've researched have a cost range of \$60,000 – \$140,000.
- Currently working with the original architect of our building to configure a new system and they are estimating a cost to be around \$70,000.

This information became available too late to be placed on the agenda for this meeting and therefore the item can be discussed but is not actionable. Discussion from the floor pertaining to the issue of keeping the existing system until we have more information on a new system and other considerations. The item was tabled for additional information and discussion and will be an actionable item at the June meeting.

## **New Business**

- Derek Wegner is requesting 4H gun shoot, Saturday June 14, 7:00am- 1:00pm, Trap Range, Main Range, Silhouette Range, Indoor Range. – Kyle Schliem

Motion to agree to the permit the 4H Gun Shoot to use the ranges as requested.

Alex Kienbaum so moved

2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck Sauber

Discussion regarding the calendar to be clear. Discussion regarding expense reimbursement for the club resources used for this event – good will & club exposure exceed the expenses. We will determine which indoor range will be used for this event.

Motion called and carried unanimously.

- **Camping fees – Norm Larson – Publicity**

Other ranges have camping fees, why don't we.

Motion to establish and charge camping fees for campers attending events at BRC.

No second was acquired. Motion failed to progress.

- **Training opportunities – Robby Personette**

- We were approached for the club to host training events by DefenseDoc from Janesville WI.
  - There are different areas of training, these are non-shooting training sessions.
  - The different training sessions vary in length & cost. 30% of the per person fee will go to the club.
- We have a member of the club who is an NRA Certified RSO.
  - He has materials to train and instruct people in this area.

This information became available too late to be placed on the agenda for this meeting and therefore the item can be discussed but is not actionable. Discussion from the floor pertaining was positive. The item was tabled and will be an actionable item at the June meeting.

## **Close of Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm