

April 2017

As I write this, the first quarter of the new year is drawing to a close. I'd like to share the new developments within the PTAC Shooting Sports Committee.

We have formed a committee for each of the four legacy communities. The Community Chairs are:

- Jim Winicky - Calumet Community winickyj@gmail.com
- Brent Harmon - Chicago Community baharmo@gmail.com
- Mark Huggleman - Des Plaines Valley Community msh14@sbcglobal.net
- Dawson Wallace - Northwest Suburban Community shootist52@comcast.net

The newest member of the committee is Brent Harmon. Brent is a recurve specialist whose qualifications include USA Archery Level 4 NTS Coach. Brent's positions include USA Archery Recurve Junior Dream Team Coach, North Side Archery Club Head Coach, Harold Washington College Archery Club Head Coach, Illinois Target Archery Association Secretary/Collegiate Board Member/Competition Committee Member, USA Archery Certified Judge, Archery Coaches Guild Vice-President/Treasurer. Brent actively participates in training Olympic Archers at the Colorado Springs Training Center.

Brent is putting together a summer outdoor archery program in the Lincoln Park area of Chicago. The program will meet on week nights and will allow Scouts to pursue their Archery Merit Badges. Scouts who have a more active interest in the sport will be welcome to follow through with the JOAD programs that Brent offers.

If all of this activity isn't enough, Brent will be the Tournament Director for the Archery event at the Warrior Games on Monday, July 3rd at McCormick Place. The Warrior Games is run by the Department of Defense, and the Navy is the "host" branch this year. The day will be 9:00 - 5:00. Brent needs volunteers to help with scoring and similar tasks. If you are interested please let me or Brent know.

The PTAC USA Archery and NRA Certified Instructor training programs are moving along nicely. We are hosting our second USA Archery Level 1 Instructor course in early April. We held a very successful NRA Basic Instructor Training class and we are getting ready to host PTAC'S first NRA Certified Rifle Instructor followed up by a NRA Certified Shotgun course in mid-April. The shooting Sports Committee is currently working with the Camp Directors for Both Owasippi Scout Reservation and Camp Napowan to help properly train their Shooting Sports staff. We are also working with the LaSalle Council to provide instructor assistance for their Cub Scout Range Master Certification program.

The Shooting Sports Committee is also working on developing a Cowboy Action Shooting Program for Camp Napowan and a Multi Gun Air Soft Program for Camp Betz.

In order to provide a quality shooting sports program to the 24,000 youth in our council we need your help. We are seeking volunteers to assist with various maintenance and making sure that all of the archery and firearm equipment is in good working order for the upcoming camp season.

We are also seeking support from our USA Archery and NRA Certified Instructors with help in staffing the various Cub, Boy Scout and Venture events that are planned for the upcoming 2017 program season. There are also opportunities to help staff the following:

- Council and Region Shooting Sports events at the OA Conclave
- Camp Napowan and Owasippi Scout Reservation open house weekends in the spring and fall
- Cub Scout Day
- Resident and Family Camps
- Boy Scout and Venture Shooting Sports camps at Camp Betz and the ISRA Range.

The Shooting Sports Committee is looking forward to a very active shooting sports program in the upcoming months. If you have an idea for a new Shooting Sports program that you would like to see offered in the Council program please contact your community chair or send it to me directly.

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Shooting Sports Chairman
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