

AUSTRALIAN F-CLASS OPEN RIFLE TEAM

Dear shooters and future members of the Australian F-Class Rifle Team,

I feel incredibly proud and privileged to be selected as F-Open Captain and to lead our campaign to South Africa for the ICFRA F-Class World Championship in 2021. Most of you would by now have seen the call for nominations which will be due to close at the end of March and not in June as indicated on the NRAA website.

I have already selected a team manager who will be announced by the NRAA in due course and we have been incredibly busy with planning and making all necessary arrangements. Some aspects of the planning process will unfortunately need to wait until a training squad is selected to gain a greater understanding of the team composition and best locations for certain events.

With this open letter, I am hoping to provide anyone thinking of being part of the F-Class Open squad with information of next steps and the progress made to date in our effort to support every person to great Australian success.

In the meanwhile, the NRAA has created a Facebook page where information will regularly be posted. You can find that page here: <https://www.facebook.com/AusFclass>

Event and related information:

The World Championships will be held in Bloemfontein, South Africa between 7 – 17 April 2021 on a military rifle range called De Brug - <https://goo.gl/maps/2S5YoMw7owM2> . We have booked accommodation at a game lodge approximately 20min from the range and security details have been worked on to ensure the safety of every person and their equipment.

Selection Timeframes & Process

Once the nomination process closes, I will be reviewing all submissions with a selections committee to identify a Development squad which will include both shooters and coaches. These members will be provided with a full set of dates, locations, times and process for the selection of their respective roles.

The primary driving force is to select the best possible coaches and shooters to represent Australia, using a merit and results base selection process. Those selected must be able to form part of a dynamic group and will be expected to commit considerable time and effort to ensure that the team has the best possible chance of success. We will achieve this by team members working together both in practice sessions, while "at home" sharing ideas, knowledge and assisting each other in developing team skills and team bonding.

The final team selection will be communicated in March 2020 and will provide enough time for those selected with all arrangements and planning of their own. Once the final team is selected, it is expected that further training and practice sessions will be held to fine tune the inner workings of the group.

Sponsorships

We have approached a very broad range of corporates in and out of Australia and have been very pleased with the willingness of these organisations to support our campaign. The requests for sponsorship cover not only components and shooting related items but broader support in a quest

to limit the financial burden to each member. Ultimately, we are not a professional sports team with huge corporate partners and individuals will most certainly be required to finance the line share of their expenditure. However, my management team and I are doing everything we can do to make it easier for you to participate and to compete at the highest level.

We have already announced McMillian Fibreglass Stocks as one of the major sponsors to the F-Class Rifle teams and we will be announcing many more over the coming weeks and months.

Each of the sponsors represent significant financial benefit to all team members and it will be of equal importance that everyone acts with this knowledge in mind. With these sponsorships, we are supported by these companies to be successful through their genericity and it's this mindset which will be reciprocated by every member of the team.

Finally, I know that many are wondering about calibres, bullets and components. Our past teams have delivered tremendous success with the 7mm RSAUM and 2021 will see a continuation of this approach. Team members will be expected to shoot a projectile of between 180 – 184gn at a velocity of between 2880 – 3050 fps. Team members will be expected to limit the round count on barrels to South Africa to a maximum of 250 – 300 rounds and to have detailed load data. It is very likely that we will ship all team and individual match ammo ahead of time and as a result of this barrel tuners will be mandated on all team rifles.

Given the firearms licensing requirements in South Africa you will additionally be required to have a "serial number" marked in your barrels. Please keep this in mind as you have your gunsmith chamber any new barrels.

In the meanwhile, my suggestion to you is to prepare yourself mentally and to bring your best gear to the line. This is the pinnacle for our sport and I cannot wait to share in our mutual success with each one of you.

Kind regards,

Dennis Shallis

Captain - Australian F-Class Open Team