



Winchester IWLA Newsletter

Woods, water, wildlife - our heritage, our responsibility.

www.winchester-iwla.org

May 2020

Chapter Election June 18; Candidates Needed

The annual election for members of the board of directors of the Winchester Izaak Walton League will be held June 18. Candidates are needed for the nine board positions available in this election. This is your chance to make a contribution to the good work of the Chapter and the enhancement of its jewel of a park. The deadline for announcing your intention to seek election is May 19.

Chapter President Dan Arico officially opened the process with an email to all members on April 25. His message:

Normally, this announcement would have been made at the April Membership Meeting, but because of the response to the COVID-19, we are making the announcement on-line.

Step one is this call for nominations. If you want to run, send an email to board@winchester-iwla.org stating your intention to run. It must be received by May 19, 2020.

Step two is candidates' night at the May Membership Meeting to present your platform and qualifications. Unless the quarantine is lifted early, this will have to be modified to be done on-line. Either way, you should send this same statement to vernon.a.guidry@gmail.com to be published in the newsletter. Please limit this to 200 words.

Step three is Election Night on June 18, 2020 at the Membership Meeting. Assuming we are back to normal operations, this will be as we have done it in the past.

There will be further announcements once we know how many candidates we have and whether the chapter will be open.

Board of Directors Response to Covid-19 Directives

Until June 10, 2020 or as long as the Virginia Governor has an applicable EO in place:

1. The park will remain open for fishing, hiking and for limited range access.
2. Guest privileges are suspended. NO GUESTS in the Park, including ranges, lake or walking – access restricted to members only.
3. 6ft distancing except for family members must be maintained while on the ranges. Firing points will be restricted to ensure compliance. Failure to comply can result in closure of the ranges. Members using the Johnny Blue unit will be required to use the handwashing station that is being installed.
4. Campgrounds will be closed and the Johnny Blue unit removed.
5. Fishing will be permitted but distancing of at least 6ft, except for families, must be maintained. Failure to comply can result in removal from the park. A handwashing station will be placed next to the fish measuring station.
6. Access to the Chapter House will be restricted. Restrooms are out of order and closed as a result.
7. All functions, such as Bullseye, SASP, and TWAW are cancelled.
8. Chapter House reservations are cancelled.
9. Approval of new memberships will be suspended.

Nightcrawlers! Mealworms! At the Park!



There's no longer a need to stop at a store or bait shop on the way to Izaak Walton Park for fishing. Winchester Aquarium & Pet Center (WPAC) has donated a refrigerated case for the Chapter House enabling us to sell live bait – nightcrawlers and mealworms – to benefit the chapter and members who fish Lake Neff. Member Zac Bowers of WAPC has volunteered to check the case and keep it stocked. Proceeds from the sales, conducted on the honor system, will go to the chapter.

Guns & Ammo for Sale by Member

Firearms

Marlin Model 1894 CL, straight stock, .25-20 cal \$575

Bersa semi-auto pistol, .380 ACP, 2 mags and Kydex paddle holster \$275

Ammunition

.300 Savage, 3 boxes, 20 rds per box -- \$15/box

Assorted .30-06, 6 boxes, 20 rds per box -- \$15/box

Assorted .44 mag, 8 boxes, 50 rds per box -- \$20/box

Once-fired brass: .35 Rem, .30-06, .45/70, 7mm-08, .44Rem Mag – Best offer

Call Jim Sherry at 540-336-8441 or email jimamerican@yahoo.com



Chapter House Restrooms Unusable

The drains are clogged and preliminary inspection shows there is no quick fix. We need to do a complete renovation. Until then, the restrooms are closed.

We are arranging for a Johnny Blue portable toilet to be available.

We are getting bids on the project and there will be updated information as soon as we know more. **Dan Arico, president**

Contacts

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**Consult Chapter Website about
Board of Directors and Member
Meetings under COVID-19
restrictions.**

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Range Qualification Remains an Issue

There has been some confusion regarding the Mandatory RQ Gun Handling Exercise now required to use the WIWL Ranges. There have been numerous violations at the range and in most cases the excuse given was the member was told in prior years –once passed it was good for as long as a current member. Due to more stringent insurance underwriting now used that is no longer the case. The renewal of our liability insurance at the range is now dependent on the WIWL new RQ designation process for both old and new members.

Simply stated, *NO PREVIOUS WIWL RQ DESIGNATION ALLOWS YOU TO USE THE RANGE(S) UNTIL YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE CURRENT RQ GUN HANDLING EXERCISE THAT BEGAN IN APRIL 2019.*

The RSO Flying Squad will begin a more active enforcement of that provision in the near future and members who do not have a current RQ sticker will be subject to removal from the range(s) as well as disciplinary action that may result in possible loss of range privileges for a period not less than 6 months.

As soon as Gov. Northam’s restrictions on gatherings are lifted, a one-time session for members not in compliance with this requirement will be offered. A Constant Contact (CC) message will be sent by e-mail when finalized and the information made available on the website and the newsletter. Reservation must be made utilizing the Chapter website and will be done on a first come, first served basis. Sessions will also be available at the conclusion of the monthly New Members Orientation. **No walk-ins—Reservations will be required for all sessions.**

Basic RSO Class Update

The NRA Basic RSO Class planned for April 11, 2020, was cancelled due to the virus pandemic restrictions on gatherings—All students who reserved a seat have received their study /class materials by mail for home study. The class will be rescheduled to the earliest Saturday available after the lifting of the Governor Northam’s restriction and the Board’s approval of reopening the Chapter House for gatherings.

We are considering increasing the size of the class to accommodate four (4) additional students due to the disruption of future scheduled NRA classes at the Chapter. A new schedule is being made up and will be posted as soon as we get notice of the lifting of restrictions. For further information, contact Dave Prater, range@winchester-iwla.org

Shotgun Range still closed for construction of Five-Stand Pavilion. Stay tuned.

New R-P Range Hours	MARCH-OCTOBER	
	<u>Monday-Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday Only</u>
	8:30 AM-7:00 PM	10:00 AM-7:00 PM
	NOVEMBER –FEBRUARY	
	<u>Monday-Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday Only</u>
	8:30 AM-5:30 PM	10:00 AM-5:30 PM

Need-To-Know, Need-To-Go Spot

Make it a habit! Check the Chapter on-line calendar early and often at <https://www.winchester-iwla.org/calendar>. Know when the activities you want are happening, and when the areas you want to use may be reserved for others.



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Winchester Izaak Walton League Newsletter For May 2020

What's Inside:

- Election Called
- Rules for Use of Park
- Restrooms Broken

