



2020 Will Soon be Over !

I don't think it's a stretch to say most of us will be glad to see 2020 in the rear view. Gun clubs in Canada, and even more so in Ontario, already have enough rules and restrictions to impede the sport. Add to them the covid-19 related mandates and the need to check regularly to see if any of our guns appeared overnight on the [banned list](#). and more time is being spent ensuring we're all living within the rules than shooting and enjoying our sport.

In May the Liberal Government chose to implement a ban on what they call assault rifles, which apparently is designed to keep the public safe from all of us legal gun owners. As much as the government claims the intent of the ban is to protect the public, it's only obvious intent so far is to remove legally purchased firearms from law abiding citizens that have never once pointed a firearm in anger, threatened a person with a gun, or acted with any level of violence, period.

Despite a temporary closure, a gun ban, and the on again off again mask mandates, EESA's members managed to see it through and came out a little worn but overall unscathed and ready to continue the fight.

There's no doubt that a 2 1/2 month closure combined with the limitations on crowd sizes both indoors and out, had an effect on many aspects of the EESA. Some programs had to be cancelled altogether, some that are usually held indoors had to be moved to the outdoor ranges, the kitchen was closed, etc etc.....Somehow though, the membership of the East Elgin Sportsmen's Association saw it through, complied with all the mandates whether they agreed with them or not, and showed the rest of Ontario, and Canada, that gun owners are some of the most responsible citizens in this country.

As far as the gun ban goes, thankfully we have many organizations willing to fight for gun owners and their rights. One of the leaders in that fight is the **CCFR** who have been relentless in their attack on all aspects of the gun ban and the idiocy of the Liberal Government's approach to public safety. If you're not already a member of the CCFR, you should be, they're working hard to defend all gun owners and protect our rights. We have also recently received huge support from both the National Police Federation and the RCMP union. Two groups the government would do well to listen to and take their advice into consideration. The ban, basically has an uphill battle to fight so it's important we continue doing what we do, shoot, share the sport, be safe, and continue to support gun related businesses and clubs.



As for the covid virus, we'll either adapt or beat it altogether., one way or the other we'll get it under control.

The interest in shooting and interest from new shooters in joining EESA is as strong as ever, so as they say, keep your head up and your stick on the ice, 2021 is going to be a great year for gun owners.



There's never a bad time to help others, this year however has seen many more families than usual struggling to make ends meet. The East Elgin Sportsmen's Association is part of the community, and as such we

feel we have an obligation to help out when and where we can. With that in mind we will be donating 100 turkeys for Christmas to the [St Thomas Food bank](#) and in case they don't have room for all 100, we will also be donating a chest freezer to assist with turkey storage.



New EESA Employee

A much better title would have been EESA's only employee. Pictured above is 'Ruger' the one and only paid employee of the East Elgin Sportsmen's Association. He lives on the property and works every day at keeping the mice and other rodents to a minimum. His pay is, whatever he catches he keeps.....with the odd can of Tuna or cat food tossed in. He starts at sun up and doesn't stop until it's well after dark. Should you see him by all means say Hi but please don't slow him down or approach him. He's pretty shy and seems to prefer to just keep working.

What Else is New?

- **Range #13 is Now Open**

We have now received approval from the CFO's office to shoot the steel targets supplied on range #13. Please keep in mind that minimum target engagement on this range is the full 25m and ammo is restricted to pistol calibers only.

- **New WiFi and Access control system.**

The club's previous access system has started displaying more problematic issues as it aged and certified techs for the Aurora Keyscan system are few and far between in Canada making required service difficult to find. Our wifi has also been weak and not up to the task since it's initial install. Both have been replaced with newer more dependable equipment that will hopefully last the club for many years down the road.

- **Lump Sum Payment on Loan**

Once again we found ourselves in a position to make a lump sum payment of \$50,000.00 on our loan with the bank. This brings our loan for the indoor range backstop down to less than \$40,000 and puts the club in a position to have it paid off in full within the year.

Membership Renewals Reminder



Don't forget 2021 membership renewals are due on or before December 31st.

As in previous years members will have numerous choices on

how to renew.

1) Renew Online

To renew online just go to

<https://eesa.ca/register/renew-membership/>,

choose your membership package and follow the prompts. Payment may be submitted with paypal, or EMT. Please remember that if you choose to pay with an EMT this process is not automated and you will have to follow through and send the EMT to eesaemt@gmail.com.

2) Call in with a credit card.

Contact the membership committee at 226-927-8831 or 519-773-8868 and we can accept your payment via credit card.

3) Drop Payment at Club

Drop off your completed [renewal form](#) (with cheque, money order, bank draft or cash in an envelope) in the secure mail slot located outside the Office Door in the Club House.

4) Pay in Person

To pay in person, you must attend a scheduled renewal session at the club. These renewal sessions are staffed by members of the Membership Committee and can accept cash, cheques, credit or debit cards. Specific dates that membership personnel will be at the club are listed below.

In Person Renewal Dates for 2021

Listed below are the dates membership committee personnel will be at the club to accept membership renewals.

December : 5th, 12th, and 27th, from 8:00am until 2:00pm

December : 20th, from 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Other dates will be posted on the Range Calendar as they become available.

Renewal #1000 this year will receive the [ATI mini .50 Cal](#) replica pictured below. We'll be counting as the renewals continue to come in and as soon as number 1000 renews that member will be contacted.



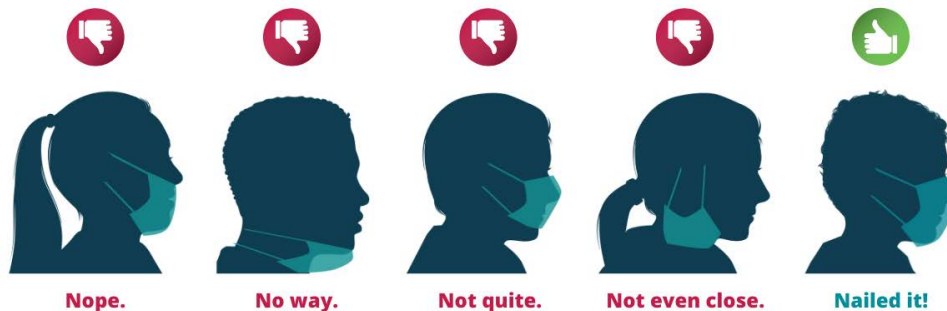
Indoors at EESA and Covid

As of November 20th 2020 the Southwest Public Health region was moved to the Orange Level of Public Health Measures. Exactly what that entails can be [found here.](#)

Please remember we are still under a mandate to wear masks at all times while indoors at the club, this applies to everyone, even when alone.

We also ask that members use the supplied paper towels and sanitizer to wipe down any surfaces they've made contact with while inside. We appreciate your help in keeping the club clean and free of anything that could be potentially harmful to other members.

How to wear a mask properly



swpublichealth.ca/covid19



Every now and then we like to remind our members of some of the guidelines that are easy to overlook or forget when shooting on a range. Not all are directly safety or firearm related, but all do affect the club and it's members if we don't adhere to them.

- **Guests - Until we are clear of the social distancing and covid restrictions members are limited to bring 1 guest at a time.**

[EESA Guest Policy](#)

- **Food and drink is not permitted in the indoor range or viewing area at any time.**
- **Masks must be worn at all times while indoors. Even when alone or with others from your immediate social bubble**
- **During a ceasefire when anyone is downrange you are required to**

- stay behind the red line and do not touch any firearms whatsoever.
- **Minimum Target engagement on all outdoor ranges is 10m. This means you can not be any closer than 10 meters to the target when shooting.**
 - **Members with guests must share the same shooting station.**
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The Board of Directors of the East Elgin Sportsmen's Association would like to wish all our members and their families, all our friends and associates, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy,



Prosperous New Year.

Facility Rentals

Vice President Barry Rawlinson is also our facilities manager, anyone interested in renting the club facilities can contact Barry at brawlinson@eesa.ca for rates and availability or submit facility requests through the [club website](#).

Chief Safety Officer

East Elgin Sportsmen's Association chief safety officer is Peter Sherriff. Please direct any questions or concerns about safety on the ranges or safe gun handling to Peter at psherriff@eesa.ca.

Head Range Officer

East Elgin's head Range Officer is club Vice President Barry Rawlinson. Inquiries about Range Officer courses or any other RSO related questions can be directed to Barry at brawlinson@eesa.ca

The Current East Elgin Board of Directors and contact information

- President - Doug Lighthouse dlightheart@eesa.ca
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- Secretary - Lee Lighthouse secretary@eesa.ca
- Treasurer - Corey Hoffarth choffarth@eesa.ca

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