

## **National Junior Team Coach Report AMM 2020**

The team currently consists of 14 juniors named to the 2020 Junior National Team. Of the 14 we have 4 trap athletes, 7 air rifle athletes, 2 3 position rifle athletes and 1 athlete shooting both air pistol and rapid-fire pistol. Several junior age athletes made scores that qualified them for either the development team or identified athlete status and as such deal with the National Team Coach in their discipline.

I was appointed junior coach in January and to say it has been an unusual year would be an understatement. Things started well and in February several of the air rifle and our 3 Position rifle shooters attended a training camp in Kitchener. This camp was organized by Dave Woolridge as a camp for senior team athletes and there was room for juniors to attend. The camp went well and was a great chance to meet the athletes and see them in action. At the time we did not know that this would be our last camp for the foreseeable future.

As the world began to shut down in late March it became apparent that maintaining normal training schedules was becoming nearly impossible. We transitioned into looking at what each athlete could do during the shutdown. The goal through this is to try to keep each athlete engaged and working to be best prepared for our return to play. Most were able to continue with physical training although in a modified form as gyms were closed. Some had spots where they could at least dry fire or practice gun mounts. A few fortunate athletes had places to shoot air rifle/pistol or access to SCATT technology to train. The athletes have adapted well in dealing with these changes and the additional stress of completing their school years with remote learning for most of them.

On a positive note, the athletes who continue to train and meet the reporting and planning requirements will advance to the 2021 team. The physical prep they have been doing should put them in a good position to advance when we return to the new normal. I'm encouraged by the work the athletes have done and look forward to getting back to the range.

Richard Lanning ChPC

SFC National Junior Coach