Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Inc. 

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS A CANADIAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE, THE NATURAL, RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY, ITS SOILS AND MINERALS, ITS AIR, WATERS, FORESTS AND WILDLIFE.

MIDLAND --- ONTARIO

**February 2022**

In the spirit of giving, a donation box will be permanently set up

In the clubhouse for the local food bank, donations are greatly appreciated by many all year long.

**2022 Memberships and Renewals**

It is now February 2022. GBHA has sent each member, via email and regular mail reminders of renewals since October. Hard copy renewal forms have been attached to hard copy bulletins and mailed out twice. Each email has had renewal forms attached to them as well.

At the end of February, GBHA will no longer be accepting new membership applications. As of March 01 2022, any existing member wishing to renew their membership will be billed a $40.00 surcharge. This will only be available until March 31 2022.

New applicants will be taken in November of 2022, any existing member who did not renew but wished to will have to re-apply in November 2022.

This practice has been in place for a few years now and we will make no exceptions.

Should you require a hard copy renewal form please contact Chair Elyse Birnie. Elyse has updated the renewal form and membership applications. These forms are also available as a link on our website www.gbhuntersandanglers.com , with etransfers available to gbhaclub@gmail.com. As well the form will be attached to bulletin emails.

Elyse Birnie will be available for renewals and new applications at the February General Membership Dinner meeting and again renewals only at the Sportsmen’s Memorial Dinner.

**PLEASE NOTE; For identification purposes your PAL number or a government issued identification will be mandatory, even for renewals.**

**Those not renewing this year and wish to renew at a later date**

**will be faced with the surcharge fee.**

**Rifle Package Draw**

As we had sold off all the tickets, and it was uncertain to the length of the newest lock down, we proceeded to have the draw for the draw. GBHA’s club would like to congratulate Randy Gostick on winning this package. GBHA’s would like to give a special thanks to Daryl Styles of Huronia Locksmith for the donation of the rifle and ammunition in memory of his daughter Ashlie. Daryl and his wife Kerry have been invited as guests at the Sportsmen’s Memorial Dinner.

We would also like to thank Joe Belcourt and Alan Wheeler for chairing this draw, after expenses, GBHA’s club manage to make a profit of $2629.41 from this draw to which it will be used for our conservation projects.

Thank you to all that purchased tickets in support of our club.

**2022 Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner POSTPONED AGAIN!**

**PLEASE NOTE THE POSTPONMENT OF THIS EVENT!**

With the government announcement of re-opening and the restrictions being lessened, we will move the date of this event to **Wednesday March 16 2022.**

This postponement will give our club a better opportunity to fine tune this event and hopefully give our membership an opportunity to feel more comfortable in attending. We will continue to follow all government mandates and restrictions to keep all safe physically and at mind.

The Primary purpose of this event is to gather to remember our fallen members, honorable mentions and to recognize our members and clubs’ achievements.

This event will cover the past couple years, it would be greatly appreciated if anyone is aware of any member or honorable mention, please contact the club (gbhaclub@yahoo.ca )with this information.

It has been extremely difficult to keep track of stay in touch of our membership and our long-time members who were no longer able to be part of the club but are not forgotten.

As well it will give our Chef Claude and his helpers a chance to better prepare some of the wild game meats we have on hand and create a better menu for such a fitting event.

With moving it back another month it also gives our members a chance to nominate co-members for awards and to enter their harvests into the different classes of judging. Listed below is a list of awards that any member can be nominated for.

Please take a moment and put forth your nominations or enter your harvests for judging. Entries and nominations will be accepted until February 28 2022.

Should anyone have any wild game entries to be judged, or any anglers who have an entry to be judged, please forward the information such as length, girth, weight and a picture to Calvin King @ 1-705-734-8043 cktaxidermy@gmail.com.

**Awards:**

**LOYD WILSON AWARD**; For most active new member

**HAROLD KETTLE AWARD**; Most dedicated to conservation

**MERIT AWARD**; Member displaying most dedication and service over the past year

**OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AWARD;** Member showing dedication and service to the club over the years

Wild game donations will be greatly accepted and appreciated as they will be used for Hors D’oeuvre served prior to dinner.

Tickets will be sold at the door for regular price. Doors will open at 5:00 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. Cash Sales Only!

**February General Membership Dinner Meeting**

Wednesday February 16 2022 GBHA’s will be having a regular General Membership Dinner meeting. Chef Claude will be preparing a chicken dinner with all the fixings.

We will still be following the government mandates and restrictions put in place.**PLEASE NOTE** **the Following Restrictions will be in place**;

1)      Masks will be mandatory when not at your table.

2)      Proof of vaccination will be mandatory or a Negative Covid Test **48** hours prior to the event

3)      Social distancing will be in place,

4)      Covid Screening will be completed

5 Contact information will be collected before entering.

**These are the government regulations we must follow!** Failure to comply with these government regulations will lead to denial of entry. Failure for our club to follow these restrictions and regulations could result in our club losing our Liquor License and receiving large fines!

Our bar will be open, but drinking can only happen at your table.

Masks will be mandatory to wear everywhere except while sitting at your table.

We will be calling each table up one by one, plates will be served in the kitchen as usual, again you must wear your mask while up from your table. GBHA Executive appreciates each member and guest co-operation and understanding.

**GBHA’s current policy is this:**

For indoor events such as the upcoming PAL Courses, Monthly dinner meetings we require either proof of double vaccination or, should an individual not be vaccinated, he or she must provide proof of a negative Covid test taken within 48 hours of the event.

In addition, social distancing and masks must be worn unless the activities of the moment such as eating prevent it.

Masks may be removed while sitting at the tables, once getting up for any reason, masks must be worn.

We have no rules or policies other than those set out by the Government and detailed above. Your support and understanding are always appreciated.

Please don’t forget guests are always welcomed. Doors will be open by 5:00 pm and dinner will begin serving at 6:30 pm. Volunteers will be needed in the kitchen. Cash Sales Only.

**Website Updated**

Some may have noticed that we have recently updated our website. The executive tendered out and hired ClientSure Marketing (www.clientsuremarketing.com 705-817-7585) to tend to updating the appearance and performance of our club’s website. We have been ensured this new website will meet all our needs and will be able to assist all our users.

Over the next while Bruce Dunn will be loading pictures and updating contact information of the executive. Please take a moment and have a look at this update and send us any comments.

**Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) program and Hunter Safety Courses**

Larry Ferris will be hosting a PAL and Hunter program on the week end of **Sat February 05 and Sunday February 06 2022, as well again on Saturday March 05 2022 and Sunday March 06 2022**. For more information on Covid regulations during this event or other dates, costs of programs and or to register please contact Larry at 705-529-6364 ferris.larry51@gmail.com

**2022 New Members Mandatory Range Orientation**

GBHA would like to thank all the new members and some of the current members who have signed up for the Range Orientation either as part of being a new member or just as a refresher. Franz has informed us that this program is going really well and is hoping to have it concluded in March. Thanks to Franz and Michael Crawford these programs are able to be held and completed.

Thanks Franz Klingenschmitt and Mike Crawford

Range Chairmen.

**Indoor Gun Range**

The range will be open only to .22 cal or smaller, hand guns, rifles will both be permitted. These chairmen will be looking for volunteers to assist with these evenings. The indoor range will be opened on Tuesday nights starting Tuesday February 08 2022, from 07:00 pm till 09:00 pm, should the demand arise for a second night it will be discussed and possibly added pending volunteers.

For more information, please contact Mike Weimer at 1-705-529-9353 or m2bweimer@gmail.com or

Mike Crawford at 1-705-529-6705 michael.w.crawford@sympatico.ca

**Capital Ontario Trillium Grant for GBHA’s 100 Year Anniversary Projects**

This event was slated to happen 2023, we were planning to celebrate with an open house to coincide with the National Hunting Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day in September 2023. With the pandemic hitting, we have been unable to meet to make any further plans or attempt to do any fundraisers.

The executive is looking at applying for an Ontario Trillium Grant this summer. This grant is for capital expenditures such as air exchange units, air conditioning, structure building etc. GBHA executive would like to invite any members wishing to help out with prioritizing our slatted projects for the 100 Year Anniversary. A date will be announced for a meeting in early March to have some of the executive and members meet to prioritize our project list for the grant. Please watch our web site, emails and Facebook for the date announcement, or email the club at gbhaclub@yahoo.ca to give your contact information for notification of meetings.

**CONSERVATION UPDATES**

By the time this Bulletin gets out to everyone, our club members will have already completed a day of nest box monitoring at Tiny Marsh with members of the from the Marl Tiny Matchedash (MTM) Conservation Association, other H&A and conservation groups. Keep an eye out in the next bulletin, and on our Facebook page for updates on how that day went.

In addition to that day, GBHA Club Member Larry Ferris has stepped up to lead a second day, to visit another MTM site. On February 19th, he will lead a group to maintain and monitor nest boxes at one of the marsh complexes near Matchedash Bay (just outside of Waubaushene). Folks can meet at 11:00 am, on the 19th at 2452 Quarry Road in Severn Township. The lane/entry spot for this activity is just north of the Lafarge quarry. It will be very important to dress appropriately for the weather. We will be accessing this site by walking down a trail to the wetland, and then will be walking over the ice.  Snowshoes and/or crampons may be useful to bring if you have them.

If you would like more details, and/or would like to volunteer for the day, please contact Larry Ferris at ferris.larry51@gmail.com

or call (705)529-6364.

**2022 Junior Club Memberships**

Starting NOW, we will be accepting registrations for the Junior Club.  Anyone who is currently a member of the Junior Club, as well as those interested in joining, are required to complete a registration form with us.

Membership to the Junior Club is free for any youth (4-16 years) that are part of a **GBHA family membership**, but registration is required.  Non-GBHA members are also able to join, with a paid family OFAH membership plus an annual fee of **$25 per child**.

Please contact Karl Gostick at gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com with any questions, or to make sure you are on our email list.

**2022 Executive Nominations, Constitution and By-Law Change**s

D/t the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions GBHA’s were unable to have our 2021 election process. We are planning to proceed with the 2022 election process pending any upcoming restrictions.

GBHA Executive would like to remind everyone it is time for review for the Constitution changes and any suggestions are now being accepted. Any suggested changes will be presented by the March 16th 2022 and if needed voted upon on April 20th 2022.

The nominations for the 2022-2023 GBHA Executive Board will take place in March 16th 2022 and then voting will take place on April 18th2022 at our General Membership Dinner Meeting.

The new Executive will take positions in May 18th 2022.

Please note any changes to our Bylaws can be brought up and voted upon at any General Membership Dinner Meeting.

**Trail Conditions**

Trails at the clubhouse are in great shape for use, please be careful of dead falls and limbs hanging.

**Ladies Intro to Turkey Hunting**

The GBHA has partnered with the Canadian Sportswoman Society (CSS) to bring you the "Ladies Intro to Turkey Hunting" seminar.  This event is geared towards introducing women to the world of turkey hunting.  Whether you are brand new or a seasoned hunter already, this day is sure to be a fun and informative one, with something for everyone (apprentice hunters are welcome).  This event takes place on Saturday April 23rd, 2022, from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, right here at our Club.  The cost to join is $60 per person, and includes: lunch, refreshments, use of equipment, ammo, and giveaways. Topics will include Turkey tactics, archery basics, shotgun basics, blind set ups and hunting scenarios.  There will also be some great door prizes and raffles.  Space is limited to 25 guests, and the CSS' events always sell out, so be sure to register early!

You can register online at www.canadiansportswomansociety.ca and follow them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CanadianSportswomanSociety and/or Instagram @canadiansportswomansociety

Please contact Lori-Anne Horst at (226) 923-0193 if you have any questions.

**Editor’s Note:**

Covid-19! Who knew it would still be around and in different strands! By this time, we have known someone who has been directly affected by it, either physically, mentally and financially! I for one had a recent brush with the newest variant and did not enjoy it! It was a short illness followed up by isolation, followed up with negative tests. Good to go right! Well let me tell you I find myself still optimistic or pessimistic? about being around other, especially in large groups, ie grocery stores, work places etc. But I have also realized that I can not live a sheltered life and stay behind closed doors!

Our government is saying we must learn to live with it, we must move on, open up for business! I agree, but we must also use our caution!

GBHA will be moving on! We will open our doors for some resemble lance of business as usual! We will follow our guidelines, restrictions and laws mandated by the government.

You as a member will have to decide if you feel comfortable to participate. We can not force you to participate, we only ask you to respect those that are or are not participating and the caution that will be used.

We are only trying to keep everyone safe and sound!

I hope to see everyone at some point or another and welcome each of you back to the clubhouse and our events. Till then stay safe, stay well!

**Bruce Dunn - Bulletin Editor**

Please check out our web site [www.gbhuntersandanglers.com](http://www.gbhuntersandanglers.com) for

Club news and updates or “like us” on Facebook.

**PLEASE NOTE!**

 **THE “BUY N SELL” WILL ONLY BE**

**POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE**

[www.gbhuntersandanglers.com](http://www.gbhuntersandanglers.com)