

Nelson and Marlborough Provincial Fire Brigades Association

Quarterly Newsletter – Winter 2025



Rifles are loaded for Inaugural NMPFBA Sharpshooter Competition

This Winter, we have launched our first regional smallbore rifle shooting competition as requested by our members and Blenheim Rural Fire Force is “host”. The beauty of this competition is that brigades can participate at their own pace over June and July to get their practice shoots in, before shooting their



competition card at their local rifle clubs. It's a good way for our brigades to get members who may not usually participate in our challenges

involved. We are presenting a medal to the top shooter in the region and a trophy to highest scoring team. We have opened this competition to all brigades in our area but as always, awards can only be won by brigades that are members of our provincial association. Good luck to all teams participating in this event.

2026 Nelson Marlborough Firefighter Challenge awarded to Blenheim Volunteer Fire Brigade.

This year's provincial firefighter challenge will be hosted by the Blenheim Volunteer Fire Brigade on a date that is yet to be confirmed. Last year was one of the largest events in recent years so Marlborough will look to build on the good work of the Stoke Volunteer Fire Brigade. You can expect communication to come out about this later in the year.

91st Provincial AGM & Conference

Our AGM and conference will once again be held at the Nelson Fire Station on September 20 at 10:00am. All member brigades are invited to send a delegate, and observer if they wish. If your brigade is not yet a member of our provincial association, you can still send an observer to the AGM to understand what we are trying to achieve across our provincial brigade network and any challenge information. Please also contact our executive via nmpfba@fireandemergency.nz and we will endeavour to assist with any queries your brigade has.

Upcoming Events and Challenges

- Provincial Smallbore Competition (June/July)
- UFBA National Drivers Challenge (August 8 & 9)
- 91st NMPFBA AGM (September 20)
- Schollum Shield Golf (October 4)
- 2025 Mountain Bike Race (Nov)

****Keep an eye on your FENZ email account as this is where event**

Got an Event that interests you and your brigade?

If you or your brigade have an event that you enjoy and want to challenge your neighbouring brigades, get in touch with our challenge panel and we may be able to organise a small comp. One of the great things about both our competitions and the ones run by the UFBA and other provincials, is that it's a fun atmosphere for the day with like-minded individuals. There's always the staple competitions like firefighter challenge etc but is your brigade into Darts? What about Bowls? Email our Challenge Convenor if you have any suggestions at

nmpfba@fireandemergency.nz

2025 Rex Schollum Shield Golf Day

Both Collingwood VFB and Takaka VFB are this year playing host the Rex Schollum Shield tournament. This was won last year by Picton VFB but participants decided that this year it would go back over the hill to challenge after two years on the Marlborough side (Seddon



and Wairau Valley). While this shield is a team's event, there is also the individual Stableford Shield on offer the best score (won last year by Steve Anderson of Woodbourne Airport Fire). Last year we had approx. 16 competitors so please start polishing your irons and let's see a good showing over in

Takaka this year from member brigades. Its looking like October 4th will be the date of the challenge this year so keep an eye out for communication over the next few months.

What is the significance of the “Model Rules of Engagement” project?

You may have recently seen articles, meetings and communication about the “model rules of engagement” project. The UFBA has been instrumental in leading the case for brigades to have their say, on what will be included in the new rules of engagement for volunteers when they enter into agreements with brigades. The current state of brigade agreements of service with FENZ means that all volunteers sign up to something slightly different to each other. It means that issues that arise are dealt with in many ways and this can cause confusion. Please have your say when your able to and start conversations around what one set of rules for volunteers would mean for your brigade. This also affects the way that brigades operate with FENZ, so if we don't put our opinions forward, FENZ may decide some of the rules without volunteer feedback. If you would like to know more about this, speak to your UFBA rep or contact us via nmpfba@fireandemergency.nz

The Presidents Brief

From our President, Ryan Grenfell
(Havelock/Woodbourne)

Sadly, this will likely be my last brief with my term coming to an end at the upcoming AGM in September. I have enjoyed my time as president and have been lucky enough to present honours at most member brigades within the provincial over my 2 years as president. The team have put together some new events as well as some of our old favourites so get out amongst it and get involved. With the team moving through the executive the provincial is in a good place, but we still need more to step up in the coming years so get your nominations in and come to the AGM and join the team.

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