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

**January 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.

***Happy New Year! Cheers to you all!***

GBHA’s club hope that each and everyone of you had a very Merry Christmas and brought in the New Year in a cheerful way. The holidays are all about getting together with friends and family, and sharing a moment or two with each other. We are looking forward to 2022 and what it has to bring to all of us.

What does this New Year bring for GBHA’s club? Well truthfully, we are not certain! Like the rest of the world, the Pandemic has us as a hostage to restrictions! Restrictions that appear to change almost on a daily basis!

We try to plan events, often having to alter them or worse cancel them completely. It is very difficult to attempt to make plans for the club membership to attend these events and as well it is very stressful for the executive to not only deal with this pandemic on a personal level but to remain dedicated to the club and its business on a daily basis.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated executive board, chairpersons, and many dedicated members, this makes it possible to run events like turkey shoots, range nights, orientations and of course membership drives and renewals. Amongst this we also have a great group of volunteers dedicating their time to ensure the Junior Club remains as active as possible during these trying times.

On December 01 2021 GBHA hosted their first General Membership Dinner Meeting. We had 35 members participate in this dinner meeting. We were not surprised by this number of participants; we were not expecting a huge number and we fully understand the apprehension that members have by attending these events. Everyone wants to remain safe, especially with the variants coming on as fast as they do and we have attempted to provide the safest environment possible to hold events. Many of the participants made positive comments about the mandatory government precautions we took to ensure safety was upheld.

GBHA’s would like to thank all the volunteers that assisted in the December dinner, Don Gostick and Calvin King made the barriers, Larry Ferris screened entrants prior to coming in to the building, Reid Belfry, Franz Klingenschmitt, Ken Langley for volunteering with tickets sales, Elyse Birnie and her son Graham for tending to membership renewals Sterley Stubbings for bartending and off course the kitchen volunteers!

We can only try to offer events to the membership, and at the same time keep everyone safe.

With that being said, and the constant rise in reported numbers of Covid cases and expected changes in restrictions, especially after the holidays, the executive has made the decision to postpone our next dinner.

The 2022 Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner will be postponed until Wednesday February 16 2022 pending restrictions. The doors will be open at 04:30 pm, dinner will be served at 06:30 pm and tickets will be sold at the door. In preparation of this dinner, GBHA would appreciate if any member would inform us of their intention to attend. This would help our kitchen staff in the food preparation so that we do not over cook.

Our dinners have always been a great fundraiser for our club, we can not afford to lose money on these dinners and would hate to have to suspend them and only have meetings. This type of event allows the membership to share great comradery between each other and get caught up with club news and updates.

We would like to remind everyone that our property has many trails that will remain open for members to independently use for hiking, skiing, tobogganing and snowshoeing, following outdoor pandemic restrictions and guidelines of course.

All other events will continue to be planned and will proceed with all mandated government restrictions in place. **GBHA’s will keep each of you informed the best ways we can, either by emails, bulletin announcements, on our web site, or Facebook page, please keep an eye out for any announcements on restrictions, changes to events or any other club updates we have.**

*Please keep us updated with your changes in contact information*.

We must remind everyone, that failure to comply with the mandatory government restrictions could result in the loose of our liquor license, a very heavy fine or worse, closure of our club!

Your co-operation and understanding are always greatly appreciated.

Your executive is looking forward to any input that the membership would like to offer towards our events and the safety measures we take to keep all safe. Please contact the club at gbhaclub@yahoo.ca or contact any executive board member personally with your concerns or input.

Respectfully

The Executive Board of Directors for Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Inc

**GBHA’s current policy on Pandemic Restrictions is this:**

Again, please keep in mind that the restrictions are government mandated!

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 is always appreciated.

**Condolences.**

GBHA would like to offer our deepest condolences to the family of Harold Nightingale, Harry was a member a couple years ago but has not been able to join us d/t the pandemic and his health. Harold passed with his family at his side December 01 2021.

Our condolences to Don Marcellus and his family in the loss of his wife Verna. Don was a long-time member of our club and was always supported by his wife Verna, who passed December 05 2021.

As well GBHA would like to offer our condolences to Len Hocken and his family in the loss of his wife Eileen. Len is an active long-time member of our club, who was also supported by his wife Eileen, who passed Wednesday December 08 2021.

Gary Priest RIP

Our since deepest condolences to Jean and family in the passing of Gary. Gary was a long-time member, an executive member and past president for many years. He remained in contact with the club even after moving out of town. Both Gary and his wife Jean have been avid supporters of GBHA club which has always been appreciated. Services to be announced in the spring.

GBHA’s membership and friends within the club will be thinking of these members and families during this difficult time.

**Website Updated**

Some may have noticed that we have recently updated our website. The executive tendered out and hired ClientSure Marketing ([www.clientsuremarketing.com](http://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 new 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 January 08 and Sunday January 09 2022**. For more information on 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 will be hosting range orientation sessions for new members. We will have an introduction to the club, a discussion of range safety rules, range opening and closing procedures etc. This will be an outdoor session so please dress accordingly. DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED IN THE BULLETIN, ON OUR WEBSITE, OUR FACEBOOK PAGE OR BY EMAILS.

Should any members wish to attend as a refresher please contact Mike or Franz.

Please notify Range Chairmen if you are not able to attend and to reserve your attendance. Franz Klingenschmitt franz@bell.net or 705-543-0463, or Mike Crawford @ 1-705-529-6705 michael.w.crawford@sympatico.ca Text messages preferred! You will need to leave your name, phone# and or email address so you can be contacted should there be any changes to this event.

Thanks Franz Klingenschmitt and Mike Crawford

Range Chairmen.

**2022 Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner POSTPONED!**
***PLEASE NOTE THE POSTPONMENT OF THIS EVENT!***

D/t the anticipated changes in the Government Restrictions, GBHA Club will be having the Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner on **Wednesday February 16/22.**

This is a regular Wednesday night dinner so that our membership can take the evening to remember our fallen members and honorable mentions. Should any member have a submission of a fallen member or an honorable mention please submit it to Bruce Dunn at gbhaclub@yahoo.ca. We are also graciously accepting photos to be used this evening.

As well we will celebrate the accomplishments of our club and its members. Again if anyone has an accomplishment of a member they wish to submit please forward it to the club at gbahclub@yahoo.ca.

Should any member wish to nominate a member for an award please notify Calvin King by December 18 2021.

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.

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!

**Rifle Package Draw**

***PLEASE NOTE! THIS DRAW WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL February 16 2022.***

Daryl Styles owner operator of Huronia Locksmith (1-705-529-2559) has made a donation to GBHA.

In memory of Daryl’s daughter, “Ashlie” he has donated a new Browning Lever Action 30-06 rifle with 120 rounds of ammunition.

This memorial donation was made so that the proceeds can be used as a fundraiser for conservation projects.

This package also includes a new scope and mounting rings (not mounted) as well a cleaning kit.

The draw will be made at the 2022 Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner **Wednesday February 16 2022**. Daryl and his wife Kerry are invited to this dinner as guests and will make the draw that night.

**This prize package is worth approx. $2400.00.**

Tickets are now on sale and will be sold for $20.00 each with a limit of 150 tickets available.

For more information or to purchase tickets please contact Joe Belcourt at 705-427-2065, joebelcourt@gmail.com. Payments can be made with credit card or debit with Joe or etransferred to the club at gbhaclub@gmail.com Please call or notify Joe with your contact information for the tickets, once etransfers have been completed.

**Indoor Gun Range Closed Temporarily**

We have decided to temporarily close our indoor gun range d/t the covid restrictions. Please watch our web site emails and Facebook page for reopening announcements.

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

**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 Memberships and Renewals**

GBHA has sent each member, via email and or hard copy bulletins 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. 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](http://www.gbhuntersandanglers.com) , with etransfers available to gbhaclub@gmail.com. As well the form will be attached to bulletin emails.

For those whom are interested in coming to the clubhouse **Saturday January 22 2022**from 10:00 am till 12:00 noon. Elyse will be set up to renew memberships or submitting their membership applications. Printed forms will be available.

We will be following social distancing rules and protocols. Masks will be made mandatory to wear. We ask that participants enter the front entrance and then once the process is completed, we ask that you leave through the hall exit using the ramp system.

We also ask those who will be paying by cash to bring the exact cash required, cheques made to Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Inc.

**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.**

**GBHA’s 100 Year Anniversary**

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. Hopefully the restrictions will open up more and allow us to move forward to revamp our plans and attempt to proceed with this celebration.

We will keep everyone posted and will be looking for volunteers to assist in many ways. Please watch for announcements in our bulletin, on our website and social media

**New Front Entrance**

As part of our 100 Year Anniversary and in attempt to keep our clubhouse in good shape, we would like to build a new front entrance on the front of our building. Plans have been drawn up for this new entrance and a smoke shelter off to the north side of the building. As we just mentioned we have had to put all major projects on hold d/t the pandemic.

We will monitor the governments restrictions and evaluate our finances to see if and how we can proceed with this project. Please watch for announcements.

**Conservation updates and reminders**

As the winter settles in on us, blanketing everything in snow, and covering our waterways with ice, you may think that there isn't much we can do to continue to help wildlife through this time of year.  That's not true though, and whether you're hanging out in the back yard, hitting the snowmobile trails, or heading out ice fishing, there are plenty of little ways you can continue to help wildlife and insects, and to try and combat invasive species. Something as simple as piling used Christmas trees can provide needed habitat for birds and small mammals. Have a look at the various links below to find other ways you can help out as the days get shorter, to help out. As always, please share any stories/pictures so that we can keep everyone updated on the types of efforts our members are making (contact me through the information below).

I will also be combining efforts with the MTM Association again through the winter to maintain nesting boxes throughout their various properties (Mathchedash, Tiny and Marl). Dates have not been set yet, but we will be looking for volunteers throughout the winter months to locate, assess, maintain, and monitor current structures. Please get in touch with me if you would like to help out. I can be reached at craiglalonde@hotmail.com or via text/call at (705) 427-3542.

https://thehunterconservationist.com/conservation/should-we-feed-wildlife-during-extremley-cold-weathe

<https://www.wildlifehc.org/5-ways-to-keep-your-conservation-program-thriving-this-winter/>

<https://www.aiwc.ca/blog/watching-out-for-winter-wildlife/>

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/feeding-wildlife-dos-and-donts>

<https://www.ofah.org/issues/baitfish-review/>

<https://choosenatives.org/articles/brush-pile-build-wild-friends/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/pest-control-tips/gypsy-moths.html>

**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:**

On New Year’s Day, I brought in the new year with a walk on our property, with my wife and dog. It was a beautiful day as was the walk in the bush. I was greeted by members getting ready to do the same, people out on the trails with their pets and a few squirrels.

I took a few moments to sit and take it all in. We sat in quietness, other than the shots being fired at the range, and I realized how lucky we are as a club to have such a place for our members to come out to and enjoy. The 100 acres of property littered with trails for us to explore, the ponds to see fish grow, ranges to use and practice with and a clubhouse that one day we can use for many events.

With all the daily changes happening, we can only do what we can do to pass the time and stay safe. With this being said, I suggest you take the time and get out on the trails and enjoy what nature has to offer, take a moment or two and take it all in. It is very relaxing, and enjoyable.

Just a little reminder for all to remember to do your Hunter Reports, check your licenses to ensure they have not expired.

Stay Safe everyone, and enjoy this New Year!

**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)