



**March 2026 Newsletter**

**President's Notes**

*by Steve Podlesny*

Welcome to the year 2026 at the Franklin County Sportsmens club. The club presidency is not a new position for me. This will be my eighth year leading the organization. As has always been my objective, we will continue to monitor our spending and make improvements to the facilities as warranted.

I'm open to constructive comments and helpful information to make our club even better as we move forward. We will have a time change early in March. Hopefully longer days will come with warmer weather. We have had a pretty tough winter so far, and I'm looking forward toS better weather to get back to shooting on a normal schedule without dressing for Alaska conditions.

We will again be sponsoring many of the rifle and pistol events we've had over the years. I encourage you to check the clubs' website and make sure your email is in our database to receive all the coming notices.

That's all I have for now, but any events or information to be distributed to the membership will be sent as needed.

**From The Back Room**

*by Greg Isles*

What a super year we had in 2025. New events were scheduled, such as the .22 Rimfire Challenge, the Shotgun Challenge, the 100 yd .22 rimfire competition and the Long Gong 200 yd competition. I also noticed a lot of activity on all of the other ranges. As you know, the upkeep of the grounds and most maintenance is performed by volunteers. I want to take this time to thank all the members who helped maintain the clubs buildings and grounds last year. From taking a minute off from shooting to empty a filled trash can, policing your brass, working on a scheduled work bee, or sending in a donation for needed supplies. You have made the Franklin County Sportsmen's Club one of the nicest shooting facilities in the county.

The winter has been challenging, but we have made a limited number of ranges available. Number one pistol range has seen extensive use along with the 50 yd range. The 100 yd and 200 yd ranges have had limited access, but the steel plates are available. I am looking forward to Spring and working with you in keeping the range up to its high standard. Again, thank you all for your help.

**Spring is Coming!**



## The Olympic Biathlon Rifle

by Larry Kleinschmidt

In this year of the Winter Olympics, I thought a quick review of the Biathlon Rifle might be interesting. The Biathlon event involves cross-country skiing and precision marksmanship; it is the only event in the Winter Olympics involving shooting.

The Biathlon event includes shooting targets at 50 meters, in the standing and prone positions. The athlete is required to shoot five targets at each stop, with a penalty for missed targets being that they must ski an additional 150 meters for each miss; so, the rifle technology is extremely important.

The rifles used in the Biathlon are extremely specialized .22 caliber, usually built by Anschütz (commonly Anschütz 1827 F). This rifle is customized to fit each competitor. The design includes a straight pull bolt action which can be cycled with one finger so the shooter does not lose their shooting position while cycling the rifle. The rifle uses a five round



detachable magazine. Up to four magazines can be attached to the rifle stock. Only diopter, non-magnified sights are allowed. The rifle has built-in sight and muzzle covers to protect it in the snowy weather. Regulations specify that the trigger-pull for these rifles must be at least 1.1 pounds. The stock (which includes a harness to carry the rifle while the competitor is skiing) is usually a highly specialized chassis built to fit the shooter. The rifle must weigh at least 7.7 pounds per Olympic specifications. It is designed to be totally reliable in bad weather and at temperatures as low as -4 degrees Fahrenheit.

Anschütz is the primary supplier of these rifles, with about 97 percent of the market. Other suppliers include Izhmash (Russian), Savage, Altius. Athletics

3D (a French company) has developed 3D printed chassis for these rifles used by many of the athletes. There are

other 3D printing companies entering the market now.

The “civilian version” of the Anschütz 1827 F rifle goes for about \$5k. The customized Olympic rifles cost in the range of \$8 – 12k.

## Skeet & Trap Reminder

We shoot skeet on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday mornings. Please check the calendar. The fee is \$5.00 per round.

## Current Email Address Reminder

Remember that your FCSC email is being sent to the last email address on record. If you change your email address, please be sure to notify us. Send your new email to [steven.podlesny@gmail.com](mailto:steven.podlesny@gmail.com) so we can update our records and you will continue to receive the Newsletter and other communications.

Keep up with our events on the **FCSC website calendar**  
<https://fclsc.org/calendar>

## Range Cleanup Reminder

Remember, after you are done shooting, **please pick up ALL OF YOUR EMPTY SHELLS (including brass, steel and aluminum)** and put them in the recycle bin and remove your used targets.

We have a beautiful facility. Please pitch in to help keep it that way. Thank you.

**2026 FCSC  
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Hollington Lee, *Newsletter*

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**Call for Newsletter  
Contributors**

Would you like to write for the newsletter? Here are a few ideas. A series of **PROFILES** about firearms inventors (e.g, Samuel Colt, Eugene Stoner, Gaston Glock and firearms manufacturers (e.g. S&W, Colt, Ruger, Glock, CCI, Federal, Eley, SK, plus many more) including their histories.

**Also, short pieces on:**

- Your favorite firearms
- Military branches and their standard issue firearms
- Historic firearms
- Reloading: shotgun and centerfire rounds

A series of **EXPLAINERS**. Here are some ideas.

- Trap & Skeet & other shotgun disciplines
- Rimfire & steel challenge & other disciplines
- Longer range and shorter range precision rifle shooting, benchrest, PRS, NRL22 etc.
- Basics: rimfire vs centerfire, hammer fired vs striker fired, double vs single action
- Types of shotgun shells and shot sizes
- MIL and MOA reticles on scopes

If you have an article idea for the newsletter, please be in touch.

–Holly Lee, *Newsletter Editor*  
<hollingtonlee@gmail.com>

**Temporary Suspension of  
the Sig Sauer P320**

Effective immediately, the use of the Sig Sauer P320 (all variants) is temporarily suspended at the club. This decision is based on ongoing federal investigations and safety reviews of the P320, including by the U.S. Air Force, following recent incidents under review. Several agencies and shooting organizations have taken similar precautionary steps.

This is not a permanent ban. It is a temporary pause while we await further information. Once the results of these investigations are released, we will revisit this decision.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Safety is our highest priority, and we appreciate everyone's commitment to maintaining a responsible environment.

**Clubhouse Security**

When you use the clubhouse, please remember to turn off the lights and set the alarm system when you leave.

If someone else is in the building when you leave, make sure that person understands that they must set the alarm system when they leave. Thank you.