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May 5, 2020

Dear Shooters and Friends,

I hope all of you are safe and healthy.

We're starting to see some loosening of restrictions throughout the country. There are shooting ranges opening up and targets are being thrown. The Western Satellite Grand is still on for June 1-7 in Vernal UT. Here in Colorado, the State Shoot is scheduled for June 17-21. I for one can't wait to get back on the line a break a few targets.

With regards to Satellite Grands, I want to thank ATA Vice President Paul Shaw, the Eastern Zone Delegates and New York State Trapshooting Association for their hard work in rescheduling the Empire Grand for July 20-22. I also want to thank The NRA Whittington Center in Raton, NM for stepping up to the plate and hosting the 2020 Southwest Grand, Sept 29-Oct 4. I can't say enough about the "get it done" attitude by these great individuals and organizations.

I'm sure most are aware that many State Shoots have rescheduled for the 2020 target year. Keep in contact with your State Association, Delegate and the ShootATA.com website for the most up to date information. The Executive Committee authorized States to reschedule 2020 State Shoots as late as Oct 31, 2020. We realize that rescheduling a 2020 State Shoot in the 2021 target should be a last resort. However, we understand that circumstances require flexibility in this area. This should give every state the opportunity to have some form of their 2020 State Shoot.

Keep in mind, that if scheduled in the 2021 target year, all target attainment and All-American points will count for the 2021 target year. State Champions will go on record as the 2020 Champions. Any Singles Champions selected after the 2020 Grand, will be invited to participate in the 2021 Champion of Champions. Additionally, State Associations can waive the 2020 target requirements for Delegate elections if the member is otherwise qualified to become a delegate.

The ATA All-American committee is closely monitoring the All-American system. Should the need arise to adjust requirements for the 2020 target year, the committee will present recommendations to the Executive Committee during the 2020 Grand American.

With respect to the 2020 Grand American, the ATA is committed in holding a Grand American in 2020. We are in contact with the State of Illinois and have requested availability of the World Shooting and Recreation Complex in Sparta, Il beginning on July 20, 2020. We've also requested a response no later than June 15, 2020. After June 15, the Executive Committee will make a decision whether the Grand will remain in Sparta for 2020 or move to an alternate location. The Executive Committee and ATA Staff are working on several contingency plans should the complex in Sparta be unavailable.

The Executive Committee approved a recommendation by the Central Handicap Committee to change how penalty classification is determined at the 2020 Grand American. The change is to the “look window” for target attainment. For the 2020 Grand American only, the “look window” starts on September 1, 2018 rather than September 1, 2019. Effectively adding an additional year to attain enough targets to avoid penalty classification at the 2020 Grand American.

As shoots start up, you’ll most certainly see some changes at the gun clubs. If you’re in the vulnerable category, please check with the healthcare professional prior to attending any large gathering. If you’re an official hosting an event, please work with your local authorities to implement appropriate safety measures. With regards to social distancing, trapshooting can fit very well. Just keep in mind the areas where people tend to congregate and take appropriate precautions. If you feel sick or have symptoms commonly associated with COVID-19, please stay home and take care of yourself.

These are unprecedented times and 2020 will be a year to remember. My hope is we’ll remember 2020 for our resilience and how we emerged better than we were before. Good luck shooting and I hope to see you on the line some time very soon. Be safe!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Herman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mike Herman

President

Amateur Trapshooting Association