

***Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee***

Dear Delegates,

I hope all of you in the northern hemisphere have survived the winter well. Here in the USA, we are most grateful for spring, having had one of the coldest and snowiest winters in a number of years. It's good to be able to get back out onto the shooting range without worrying about having to call someone to dig out your vehicle! While there are not many matters before the MLAIC at this time, there is nevertheless some news to share with you.

**EUROPEAN & PACIFIC ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

Correspondence from Finland shows that the organization of the European Zone Championships to be held there in August is progressing well. I have had communication from both Hungary and Portugal that they intend to field teams at that event and become full members of the MLAIC. We can also expect to see Poland participating for the first time at Halikko, based on the information they gave me in Lucca. We will welcome the participation of all of these countries. The planning and organization for the Pacific Zone Championships, to be held in two locations this summer (USA and Australia) in order to facilitate greater participation, is also progressing nicely.

**4<sup>TH</sup> LONG RANGE MUZZLE LOADING CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

It appears that participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Long Range Muzzle Loading Championships, to be held at Camp Butner, North Carolina, will be good. The entry/registration form for those countries planning on attending can be downloaded from the link on the website. In addition, the following information about percussion caps and powder availability should be of assistance to participants.

1. RWS percussion caps, both high-hat and #11 rifle, will be available at no charge to all competitors.
2. Goex black powder will be supplied, also free of charge, to anyone who wishes to use it.
3. Additional powders can be supplied, if ordered one month in advance of the event, for the following costs:
  - Swiss - \$16.00 per pound U.S.
  - Wano - \$11.00 per pound U.S.
  - Elephant - \$10.00 per pound U.S.Once again, I would ask that anyone wishing to order any of the three powders listed above contact me with their requirements at least one month prior to the Championship.
4. I would also remind everyone to return their completed registration form right away, to facilitate our planning for the program.

**NAMES FOR ARMS INSPECTION & ARBITRATION COMMITTEES:**

I have received names of people to serve on the Arms Inspection and Arbitration Committees from only the following countries, at this point: USA, Canada, Great Britain, Germany and Czech Republic. I would remind all of the remaining member countries to send these names to me right away so that I can send them on to the organizers of each of the Zone Championships this summer. As you know, this is meant to assist the host countries in organizing those committees more easily at the shooting events.

**UPCOMING MLAIC CHAMPIONSHIPS EVENTS (AFTER 2003)**

2004 – 21<sup>st</sup> World Muzzle Loading Championships – USA  
2005 – 11<sup>th</sup> Pacific Zone Championships – USA  
11<sup>th</sup> European Zone Championships – Open  
5<sup>th</sup> Long Range Muzzle Loading Championships – Open

As you will note, we will need host countries for the European Zone Championships in 2005. We can discuss this at the Delegates Meeting in Finland. We will also need a host country for the 5<sup>th</sup> Long Range Muzzle Loading Championships in 2005, which can also be considered at the meeting in Finland.

Finally, I hope everyone is getting out and practicing for the upcoming MLAIC events, and I look forward to seeing all of you in August.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donald W. Malson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Donald W. Malson  
MLAIC Secretary-General