10 October 2016.

Dear

As the time for renewal of memberships for the 2017 year is fast approaching, the committee would like to give you an update of the current contamination issue we are dealing with at the North Wangaratta Recreation Reserve. Further, we would strongly encourage you to renew your membership with our club as a demonstration of your support as it fights to continue its proud and long history.

As most members would be aware, 2016 has been a very difficult year for our club. The club has been closed for shooting since May, due to a complaint lodged by a person to the EPA. The complainant noticed lead shot lying on the surface of the eastern part of the adjacent football oval, deposited there from our skeet shooting discipline.

Much has happened since then with ongoing discussions, many meetings, political involvement and the appointment of both an environmental manager and auditor. Fortunately, members are now allowed access back into the club rooms, however shooting activities are still prohibited at the time of writing this letter.

Our committee knew from the outset, that this entire process of satisfying the DHHS & EPA’s various requirements would not be done quickly or cheaply. We are very confident that the progress we have made and continue to make will conclude with a positive outcome in the not too distant future.
Constant updates have been placed on the clubs website www.wangclaytarget.com.au and also on our facebook site. Both sites have received a large number of visits from interested persons. Also, at our Annual General Meeting this year, members were given the opportunity to ask questions about the contamination issue. Ben Lodge from Ground Corp (our environmental manager) was in attendance to answer any questions of a technical nature as well.

We have adopted the principle of not releasing information publicly until each development has been confirmed. This may have appeared to some members that there was a lack of information being released, however we can assure you that as soon as important facts are confirmed, an update is immediately issued on the website and facebook sites.

We anticipate some important and very positive announcements in the near future. Again, we encourage you to support your club at this most trying of times and nominate Wangaratta as your home club on the ACTA membership renewal form for 2017.

Yours Sincerely,

Phillip Smith.
President / Treasurer.