
Cornwall Target Shooting Association

Registered Charity Number 258147

Affiliated to The National Rifle Association & National Small-Bore Rifle Association



NSRA Shooting Council report 23rd November 2019

Due to health issues Robert (Bob) Newman has stepped down as chairman of the association. John Lloyd has been appointed as his successor.

Following the success of the Scottish meeting the shooting programme is being extended for 2020. However the Bisley small-bore meeting was a financial disappointment again this year, mainly due to the very high costs involved in staging the event at its present location.

The article in the Chief Executive's report concerning the use of lead in ammunition was discussed at the meeting, as it is potentially a serious threat to shooting sports.

All aspects of the membership are currently under review and the restructuring of the membership was discussed at length. Shooting Council members were given a power point presentation on the association's initial proposals and from all the comments and questions it is obvious that a lot more time, thought and consultation will be required before the final format is decided upon. Rebranding of the association is also being considered with the aim of being more representative of the many disciplines that are now covered by the NSRA.

The Rifle Committee has been considering the composition of the Inter County Short Range League Competitions No 610 and 611, recommending to the Shooting Council that competition 610 be open to teams of 12. Counties could enter multiple teams, in division's dependant on averages. The Inter County Reserves League would be discontinued (no decision has been made yet).

The Chief Executive's report to the Shooting Council follows below.

The next Shooting Council meeting is due to be held on the 28th March 2020.

P L Ralph

Club Instructor Benchrest

Following recent work on the materials for the delivery of the NSRA Club Instructor (Benchrest) Course, a pilot course has been run at Okehampton RC in Devon on 16th and 17th October. 15 candidates successfully completed the course which was well received but used handouts and other supporting documents instead of the normal manual.

Considerable work is now required to complete the manual that supports the course. Once completed, the next phase will be to run a course specifically for County Coaches who will then be able to run their own courses at County and Regional level.

Section 11(4)

A meeting took place at the Home Office between representatives of NSRA, British Shooting Sports Council and Jonathon Djanolgy (Conservative MP) on the subject of 11(4). The NSRA case for maintaining much of the current arrangements for 11(4) were discussed along with the system the NSRA uses to administer Exemption Certificates. Although Mr Djanolgy (who is a shooter himself) was quite open minded, the British Shooting Sports Council representatives appeared to favour the idea that anyone who runs a miniature rifle range should have an FAC (as European legislation requires all live firearms to be certificated in some way) and were far less concerned about them requiring a Range Safety Certificate. This is contrary to the NSRA's position.

Lead

British Shooting Sports Council has been putting together an impact assessment for shooting sports on the potential banning of lead. This represents a serious threat to shooting in the UK. The NSRA has produced a response to this outlining the issues it would create for our section of the sport.

The ammunition manufacturers Eley are also responding to this threat from a commercial level and NSRA have shared their response with them.

There is a further threat from this quarter posed by the European Commission who are advocating the banning of lead shot over wetlands. There are major issues with the proposed bill as it allows the potential for being expanded as the definitions have not been fully laid down in particular those relating to possession and definition of wetlands.

FACE (European Federation for Hunting and Conservation) is putting together a response to the proposal and it is important that GB organisations contribute to this via British Shooting Sports Council.

Cadet Training Day

Due to the popularity of the Cadet Training Day planned for November this year a further one is being organised to take place in March 2020 at LRC. The CCRS has again offered to support the day and the NSRA will support with free use of the 25 yard range.

Crossbow YPS

Many Scout groups, some of whom already shoot Air Rifle would like to do crossbow shooting. However, their ranges often are limited to 6 yards by the space they have available. Following discussions with leaders it has been decided to introduce the opportunity to complete the NSRA YPS Crossbow at the shorter distance. This requires advice on safety from bounce back and finding a target that will give comparable scores to the current 10m using a Vegas archery face. It has been found that a PL14/06 – 18 target can be used. A flyer has been produced to include with the YPS materials outlining the new arrangements.

Clubmark

As a result of the review of the Clubmark system by Sport England, it has been decided to cease the accreditation of Clubmark on the 30th November 2019. Sport England say the system was no longer effective in developing clubs and will continue supporting development in other ways. The Clubmatters program of online tools and workshops will continue.

Legislation

New Statutory guidance under Policing and Crime Act 2017 is out for consultation. The guidance is said to be designed to improve consistency across the country in police firearms licensing and that the police will be under a duty to have regard to the guidance when it is issued.

A key element of the guidance is the assessment of the suitability of certificate holders, including their on-going suitability after a certificate is granted. This includes their medical checks. The draft guidance sets

out the checks that should be made, the weight to be given to the evidence and the factors that need to be taken into account.

The Government committed to a public consultation on a draft of the guidance before it is issued. The consultation will remain open for eight weeks, finishing on 17 September.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/statutory-guidance-to-police-on-firearms-licensing>

ISSF

The defeated candidate in last year's election for the Presidency of the ISSF is seeking to annul the result at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). Luciano Rossi, (who is also President of the Italian Skeet Shooting Federation) has appealed calling for the elections to be found "null and void" after losing the vote 144 to 148. He claims that he has evidence that there were irregularities in the election system and the voting was manipulated.

Rossi's sole rival, Vladimir Lisin of Russia, one of the world's wealthiest men, swiftly announced his intention to use \$10 million (£8 million/€98 million) of his own money to establish a development fund for the sport.

ISSF Coaching

The ISSF are in the process of changing their qualification structure. Currently courses are suspended but the existing qualifications stand. The new education system will be introduced after Tokyo-2020 Olympic Games."

Commonwealth Games

Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) President Dame Louise Martin and chief executive David Grevemberg are set to travel to India, to try and persuade the country to drop its threat of boycotting Birmingham 2022 in a row over shooting not being included in the programme.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has warned it is considering not sending any athletes to the Games after shooting was not one of the 19 sports chosen. The IOA has already carried out its threat to boycott the CGF General Assembly in Britain. It is due to discuss whether to boycott Birmingham 2022 at a meeting later this month, but Dame Louise and Grevemberg hope to hold talks with them in November.

BBC Midlands Today was in touch to try to find clubs to speak to about shooting not being included in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. Many shooters are under the impression that shooting organisations missed the opportunity to have shooting included in the 2022 Games, on a reduced programme, due to their 'all or nothing' stance.

<https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1081018/exclusive-shooting-could-have-featured-at-birmingham-2022-but-were-not-willing-to-compromise-cgf-president-reveals>

From a funding perspective, the removal of shooting from the 2022 Games is a major concern.

At this time the shooting sport after the Paris Olympics in 2024 faces considerable challenges to remain in the Olympic programme. Furthermore, relations between the new ISSF leadership and the IOC have deteriorated alarmingly. Losing shooting from the CWG and the OG could lead to further restrictions on firearms ownership as the link to mainstream sport is greatly reduced.

British Shooting Pathway Meeting

A meeting took place at Wigan TSC with British Shooting and coaches/representatives from other organisations to discuss improvements in the shooter pathway for rifle disciplines. Discussions covered:

- Communications – there is a need to improve communications across the pathway elements.
- Coaching - including improvements to courses, opportunities for coaches to develop, clarity in coaching structure, positioning of the ISSF D course, CPD opportunities, cascade of information/good practice from British Shooting to National Governing Bodies.
- Squads - positioning of squads in the overall structure, clarity in the pathway for shooters and coaches, smaller squads that are of a higher standard and how to deal with the "fall-out" Also discussed was the transfer mechanism between squads.
- New UK Sport Policies – including their new emphasis on Podium, Academy and Talent confirmation.
- Great Britain – the focus is now on GB preparation in the absence of a Commonwealth Games.

British Shooting

The following were the main points discussed at the recent British Shooting Engagement Group meeting:

Engagement/ communications - the focus for British Shooting is shifting towards telling athlete's stories with a view to enhancing the visibility of the sport throughout 2020. Also they are seeking to ensure a consistent message is broadcast in a style that is appropriate to the media platform being used.

Athlete awards - British Shooting is holding our annual athlete awards and get together on 16th and 17th November and will invite Board representatives from the NSRA and CPSA to the awards dinner.

Elite Training Centre - the centre at EJ Churchill's Shooting Ground is in development thanks to investment from UK Sport and Sport England.

CPSA - at the Midland Game Fair over the weekend of the 14th and 15th September. Monday 30th September will see the first Olympic Trap and Skeet coaching courses at the NCSC. Beyond that they are also already looking forward to the World Sporting Championships at Churchills in 2020. The Shotgun Series Grand Final is on the 28th/29th September.

Target Sprint National Final - to be held at Bisley from the 31st July to 2nd August. British Shooting are exploring the possibility of having an ISSF recognised international event alongside the national championships.

Tokyo 2020 and promoting target shooting - sports "festivals" and opportunities to showcase the Olympic and Paralympic Sports can be a challenge for target shooting. However, "have a go" opportunities in the Olympic disciplines are being considered. This could be via existing opportunities from our clubs and grounds.

Target Sprint

British Shooting has launched their latest shooting event calendar. This is available at:

<https://www.targetsprint.com/news/1860-2020-british-shooting-event-calendar>

British Shooting Schools Pistol Championships

British Shooting Schools Pistol Championships 2019-2020 calendar of events:

- South West Schools Championships - Leweston School: Tuesday 1st October
- Scottish Schools Championships - Grangemouth Sports Complex: Sunday 27th October
- South East Schools Championships - Woking High School: Tuesday 29th October -
- Welsh Shooting Schools Championships - Bro Dinefwr: Thursday 31st October -
- East of England Schools Championships - St Felix School: Wednesday 13th November -
- North East Schools Championships - Newcastle Fencing & Sports Trust: Tuesday 19th November
- West Midlands & North West Schools Championships - Ellesmere School: Wednesday 27th November -

The National Final will again be held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium: Wednesday 22nd January 2020.

The disability category at the British Shooting Schools Pistol Champs has been widened to encourage disability participation and make the championships even more inclusive. There is only a disability specific class at the National Final; however disabled shooters can attend the regional events to compete in the open age group classes.

- All athletes with any physical disability (with the exception on visual impairment and intellectual disability) who enter a championships regional event can now shoot with a support to their wrist, but not supporting the gun.
- At all events the competition jury will decide if a disabled athlete can compete in the final on that day, if their score is in the top 8, alongside the other able bodied athletes. The decision would be based on their adaptation and if they are deemed to have a significant performance advantage.
- Disabled athletes all qualify for the National Final for the disability class.
- Disabled athletes can also qualify for the open age group categories at the National Final if they win a quota place at a regional event.
- Specific disability category(s) only at the National Final. If total disability athletes exceed 10, there will be one separate Final on the day and Junior, Inter and Senior awards.

British Shooting Staff

Alison Webb has left British Shooting. Alison set up and ran the Disability Hub Club system and latterly was linked to the pathway development group. She is now moving on to do projects on coaching and project management on a freelance basis.

A meeting has taken place with Chris Stott (who used to work in UK Sport Coach Development) who is now employed by British Shooting as their coaching lead. The meeting included discussion on the structure of coaching in small-bore shooting future and joint working opportunities in the future.