
Cornwall Target Shooting Association

Registered Charity Number 258147

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



NSRA Shooting Council report 29th July 2017

The AGM was held prior to the Shooting Council meeting and regrettably the treasurer had to report a loss for the year of over £22,000. On a brighter note sales from the shop for the first part of 2017 are up and the new website is also helping to increase business.

The total number of competitors at the Scottish meeting was down again this year and although the meeting has been confirmed for next year the future of the meeting is in serious doubt. The association has sustained very considerable losses on the meeting in recent years and this cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely, a substantial increase in the number of entries will be required to stem the losses. The running of most competitions and meetings, including the Bisley meeting put a big strain on the finances.

From 2018 there will be a fee for county teams (but not individuals) to enter the Queen Alexandra Cup competition.

The association has received favourable comments about the On Target magazine and intends to increase the content on various disciplines.

With the increase in the number of clubs offering Benchrest (and other disciplines) clubs are reminded to ensure that their Range Safety Certificate covers everything that they offer.

At the meeting there was an interesting display on Sport Crossbow, which due to it's relatively low cost per lane to setup should be a serious consideration for clubs wishing to attract juniors, scout groups etc. Sport Crossbow is a cheap sport to participate in and no FAC is required.

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

The next Shooting Council meeting is due to be held on the 25th November 2017.

P L Ralph

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO SHOOTING COUNCIL

29 July 2017

Obituaries

It is with regret that I report the deaths of:

Vic Morris: A member of Carmarthen Rifle and Pistol Club Vic passed away aged 56 in June. Vic had been a very successful sportsman representing GB at Clay Pigeon Shooting. Vic was involved in an accident 28 years ago that resulted in him being a tetraplegic. After a few years his interest in shooting was rekindled and he joined a club and competed in competition. Having got used to the adapted equipment he was using Vic started to perform well and won numerous medals in various competitions and despite failing health finished third in one of the Eley Finals last year. Vic was an ambassador for the sport and he will be sadly missed.

Lynda Roach: A member of Holwell Rifle Club Lynda passed away after a short illness in June. She was an enthusiastic shooter attending many National Meetings on a regular basis over a ten year period. She was an active member of her club fulfilling the role of Treasurer for many years in a contentious, accurate and assiduous manner. Lynda will be known to many in the wider shooting community by her work as a NSRA Postal Scorer and as a volunteer who worked quietly in the background. She did a great deal to support shooting and the success of Holwell Rifle Club and will be greatly missed.

KEY NSRA MATTERS

Steyr LP50 Pistols

Dave Coutts the Head of Firearms Licensing for North Yorkshire Police has now confirmed that the Steyr LP50 Pistol has been examined by LCG Ltd on behalf of North Yorkshire Police. It is the opinion of the Forensic Scientist that:

The Steyr LP50 Air Pistol DC/1/2017 does not have a self loading mechanism as defined by Section 57(2A) of the Firearms Act 1968. It therefore does **not** constitute a prohibited weapon under Section 5(1) (ab) of the Act. The findings have been agreed with NABIS.

The Pistol performs below the 6ft.lb and is not subject to Section 1 control. This view is opinion only and definitive classification would need to be tested by a court. However it is Mr Coutts view that the Steyr LP50 does not require any classification whatsoever. In the knowledge that it was North Yorkshire Police that started the situation and raised the potential problem it's encouraging that in their view the situation has been resolved.

SHOOTING MATTERS

National Meetings 2017

Scotland

The Scottish Meeting was held at Lauder again this year. The number of competitors was 187 unfortunately down on last year. The majority of NSRA Competitions are seeing a decline in entries year on year. In terms of Competitions and Events the Association cannot accept the losses that are presently being sustained across all of the Events and Meetings and have to review the feasibility of each competition. The Association is proactively trying to increase the number of entries to Scotland and also exploring sponsorship options to reduce the potential losses.

There is an increased entry this year with 603 competitors up from 549 in 2016. Much of this is due to the fact that America is here to compete in the Roberts Cup Match. As with all events the cost continues to rise and alternatives to the Bisley Meeting may need to be explored if the trend of entries continues to fall. Accommodating volunteers is proving difficult because there are fewer rooms available on camp many rooms being rented on a long term basis.

Winter Postal Leagues (2017-18)

New competitions have been added to the Winter Postal Competition Programme including a Prone Short Range Individual League; veterans Short Range Individual League; Veterans Short Range Team League and various Air Rifle competitions.

Eley Competition 2017

Some changes have been introduced to the Eley Competition including 60% of competitors progressing to Round 2, up from 50% in previous years. This is because there are changes to the structure of the Eley Finals in a number of disciplines. Other changes are being explored and will be confirmed at a later date.

Summer Leagues 2017

Everything with regard to this summer's competition is progressing well. Local Scoring is being used as previously. The following have been called in for scrutiny:

- Round 5 50m league
- Round 6 National Long Range League

As previously mentioned it would be very helpful to know the reasons for declining numbers of entrants and what new competitions would be if interest. I would hope that members of the Shooting Council can be a key part of the process that identifies the answers to these important questions by talking to clubs and individuals within their counties. Additionally members of the Shooting Council should be promoting the NSRA Competitions and Events in the hope of increasing entries and preventing the demise of long standing events and meetings.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Rules

Following changes to the rules presented to the Shooting Council the NSRA Rules and Regulations have been updated and published on the NSRA website.

Following the recent meeting of the PACC it has been decided to adopt the German/ISSF rules for Supported Air Pistol. Once an English version has been acquired these will also be published to the web along with the new rules for Visually Impaired shooting as separate annexes.

Crossbow

The NSRA, via the Pistol Airgun & Crossbow Committee (PACC), has launched a National Sport Crossbow Postal Competition open to all (NSRA members and others). Also a new crossbow based club has been started in Pembrokeshire. Known as South Pembrokeshire Sport Crossbow Club (SPSCC) it will specialise in promoting 10 metre Indoor Sport Crossbow target shooting.

Talent Squads

Overview

After squad selections in September and some promotions to the GB Academy 18 shooters are in the Rifle Squad. The coaching team has been through some change over the past 6 months. The current coaches are Andrew Nimmo, Craig Dower, Zoe Bruce, Paul Goater and Ian Potts.

Squad Structure

The squad is moving to a two-tier system, with dedicated coaches at each level. The first level will focus on broadening the shooter's skill set as well as building on their technical skills. This group will be managed with a combination of instruction and coaching; with the aim to develop them to the point where they start to own their own training. The second level will be for those who have started to perform towards the British Shooting MCS level and who we believe have a good all round knowledge. This group will be encouraged to learn from each other, their peers and their coaches. Profiles for the groups are in circulation with the selections for each group to be carried out with the main squad selection in September.

Squad activity

Squad members are being encouraged to attend the UK based British Shooting nominated events as their first priority. Some good performances have been achieved at the Welsh Airgun, the Surrey Open and the British Open Air Rifle events. The squad has attended RIAC in Luxembourg, Intershoot in the Netherlands and for the Isle of Man Easter Shoot.

Training Camps

Bisley will no longer be used as a training venue. It has proven too difficult to arrange suitable facilities for the Rifle Squad and with the joint activity planned with the Pistol Squad will become even more difficult. Dates have been agreed for combined Rifle/Pistol training camps at Aldersley for the remainder of 2017 and for 2018. The squad is looking at using other suitable clubs as training venues to give variety – starting with Rugeley at the beginning of August.

Northern Shooting Show

The NSRA were again represented at the Northern Shooting Show at Harrogate. The show gave the opportunity to meet shooters and club representatives, discuss issues face-to-face, give advice to potential participants on clubs and membership and generally promote the NSRA. It also it gave the opportunity for networking with others in the shooting industry. The NSRA stand looked the best yet - better than other associations.

Feedback from shooters and other stand holders after the event says that they considered the show was successful and has the right “feel” in terms of environment, activity, attendance etc. It is hard to measure effectiveness of attendance at the show directly in terms of increased membership and sales. However in terms of showcasing the NSRA it can be considered in all a worthwhile event.

Pentathlon GB

Pentathlon GB has announced the launch of their new Laser Shoot Coaching Qualification and Pathway. Following its introduction from the UIPM ahead of London 2012, all Pentathlon GB competitions transferred to fully laser shooting at the beginning of 2017. The course will enable coaches to become qualified to coach Laser Shooting and sign athletes off for their Laser Shooting certificates. The first course is being held at Ashville Harrogate on Saturday 15th July. It is presumed that Pentathlon GB will no longer use the NSRA Pistol Coaching courses.

Welsh Postal Competition

The NSRA have been contacted by the Secretary of WSRA (Welsh Small-bore Rifle Association) about a new postal competition they are organising in Wales. The league will be run under N.S.R.A. Postal Competition Rules and will be shot in divisions, each of six teams (Depending on number of entries). Each team consists of five shooters each firing 10 shots per round at, 15, 20 or 25 yards on N.S.R.A. 1989 series targets. The WSRA initially asked for all club contacts in Wales which couldn't be provided directly. However, a mailshot about the competition was sent out to the clubs from NSRA HQ.

Dwarf Sports Association

The 7th World Dwarf Games are to take place in Ontario, Canada in August. Dwarf Sports Association UK has been contacted to help support the shooting events planned for the games using the equipment they have from the UK. The shooting is to take place at the University of Guelph where it is being held in one of their sports halls. In Canada any guns with a discharge velocity over 500ft/sec require a licence and as there is no approved range there the insurance covering the event won't allow standard air rifles. This means the rifles and pistols owned by Dwarf Sports Association UK have been altered to fit the rules in Canada. Dwarf Sports Association UK has been given support through this process.

West Midlands Regional Squad

As the West Midlands Squad is a very successful training squad, young shooters who used to train with the Junior Squad requested to join. This demand and requests for training from other juniors has resulted in Jim Quinlan and Trevor Haynes setting up another section to help junior development and progression. This is proving popular and once established may provide a template for other regions.

Club Support

Support for clubs continues including:

- West Wight Rifle & Pistol Club receiving guidance on how to safely include airgun shooting in their 25 yard range.
- Centurions (based at LRC) have also received support in developing their funding application to Sport England.
- Skegness Target Shooting Club letter of support to access funding for equipment.
- Maidenhead Target Shooting Club letter of support to accompany planning application and further information to Sport England to back the application.
- The newly formed Hartlepool Target Sports Club have been provided with sample risk assessments
- Malcolm Potter (an NSRA Coach) who acts as Chief Range Officer at shooting shows has been working with Air Arms to produce a standard operating procedure for Field Target Ranges at shows. Malcolm has been assisted in putting together the document.

British Shooting

British Shooting Appointments

John Leighton Dyson has been appointed World Class Performance and GB Programme Manager for Rifle. He has attended GB Talent squad training session at Aldersley.

British Shooting has also appointed Kurt Lindley as the People Development Manager. This role will be predominately coach development related and will work to build a coach development support package and coach pathway for the future. This will include the Next Generation Talent Coach Programme.

Following Sarah Daly being removed as lead for British Shooting Safeguarding and Document Development her duties have been passed to other staff.

British Shooting Development Group

Hamish McInnes has decided to step down from Chair of the Development Group. He has been replaced by John Perry. Also, to reflect changes within British Shooting and as part of the review process, the name has been changed to the Engagement Group. Traditionally meetings have focused on updates on various activities. It is proposed to shift away from this towards identifying how the members of the group can work together to promote and raise awareness of opportunities available to people within target shooting. Clearly, communications are critical to this both internally and externally to attract new audiences. The Terms of Reference of the group have been "refreshed" and British Shooting' has produced a Communications Plan for 2017 – 18.

Sport England Outcomes

British Shooting has agreed the measures by which their performance will be measured over the current Sport England Funding cycle (2017-21). There is no outcome to grow the sport required by SE but the sport must demonstrate that it is maintaining participation. The measures are all "in sport" i.e. gathered from data within the sport and not the external (and somewhat ineffective) Active People measures previously used. The headline measures taken from NGBs and other sources will include:

- The number of FACs/SGCs issued Nationally
- The number of Clubs and Shooting Grounds and individual membership of associations
- Competition entries

A "snapshot" of the 2016 figures is to be used as a baseline and then revisited on an annual basis.

Other measures will include diversity (in particular the number of women taking part) and disabled participation – these will be done by survey annually. Also a talent measure which will be based on the number of people on talent programmes.

ISSF D Coaching Course

British Shooting has announced their intention to host the inaugural ISSF D Course in Great Britain for Rifle and Pistol coaches. The course will be hosted at the Henley Business School over 18-20 August 2017. British Shooting say they are, "...looking for willing and able coaches who have the potential to develop into high quality talent development coaches" and that, "We would expect that you are already working at a National and/or Regional level within your respective Home Nation". However, there is no minimum entry qualification and it is not linked to anything nationally. BS has not consulted on the effect of running the course will have on any national systems.

South East Talent Network

Following the South East Talent Network meeting in Guildford much discussion has taken place around the set-up of the network and how it might operate. Key to the project was the development of a website and this is now live and an invitation to support the network has gone out to clubs and coaches in the region. Organisations and individuals can sign up as an SETN Supporter via the website (which is not the finished article but functional) by registering free,

<http://www.southeasttalentnetwork.org/>

The sign up as a supporter allows supporters to publicise their activities on the site.

The second event to take place in the region was held on Saturday 8th July at Normandy Village Hall. The group received presentations on the ISSF, exploration of the talent pathways to international success, electronic targets and a forum about development of the network since March. The event was well received and was followed by a meeting between the Talent Network organisers and BS representatives. The Network organisers were given information on how BS works and asked about insurance issues, ownership of the network, branding and financial support. The next event will take place at Bisley on 13th August and will be on the technical elements of sighting.

Further sessions on SCATT, Trace, training aids and techniques; Firearms Security and the Law; Meet the Shooters and Facilities and Equipment - Funding and Development are planned.

Target Sprint

Following issues with the content of the NSRA Target Sprint Module of the YPS Scheme a meeting took place between NSRA and BS at the LRC. Following robust discussions the materials have been completed and a pilot course took place at Milldale Scout Camp in Cheshire on 17th June. John Dohoo and Gorgs Geikie delivered the Joint BS/NSRA module to a mixed group of 9 Scout leaders and County Coaches. The course included class room sessions and a live demonstration of the event.

During the course there was much discussion about future development including potential development and manufacture of targetry, developing a national pool of equipment to support development and how to access funding. Candidates were also invited to see the event live at The Game Fair as part of the Air Arms Experience-Hatfield House 28-30th July and at the National Final at Yate Outdoor Sports Complex on Saturday 9th September

Schools Pistol Competition

The Competition is now live but further work is being done on the Team Entry process online. People can enter from the British Shooting home page and Facebook events which can be shared are being set up. The qualifying events taking place are:

Wales: Wed 4th October at Bro Dinefwr School, Carmarthen.

South West: Wed 11th October at Leweston School, Dorset.

South East: Wed 15th November at Glyn School, Surrey.

Northern: Qualifier Wed 29th November at Ellesmere School, Shropshire

The final will take place at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on Wed 17th January 2018

Project Pistol

Following the initial meetings at Bisham Abbey, British Shooting has issued a press release relating to Project Pistol. The project is being led by Iain Aberdeen and, "...aims to unearth future Olympic and Paralympic hopefuls for 2024 and beyond."

British Shooting will be hosting a series of talent identification days which will aim to find shooters with potential to be recruited onto the Talent Pathway. Whilst including current shooters the programme also encourages Pony Club, Pentathlon, Cadets and Scouts to apply and they will be provided with opportunities to support them in developing their shooting skills. 101 people have applied for the programme and selection will take place over 2 days in the South and two in the North on the weekends of 26th – 27th August and 2nd -3rd September. Potential venues are still being discussed

Agenda 2020 – Changes to Olympic Programme

As it appears likely that 50m Rifle, 50m Pistol and Double Trap Shotgun will be removed from the Olympic programme Britain will lose some of its top-performing disciplines. British Shooting is supporting the ISSF on the grounds that it protects the place of shooting sports in the Olympic Games and recognises the importance of achieving gender equality.

Lottery funding from UK Sport will only support Olympic disciplines so British Shooting has agreed to give athletes the support they need to transition to other disciplines. This includes Ken Parr (Prone), Matt French and Rio 2016 bronze medallist, Steve Scott. As athletes on the programme they have already demonstrated the behaviours and performance levels of world-class athletes they may be selected to receive support and funding as they change disciplines. They will be required to meet a 'transitional WCP selection criteria' that will be applied in October 2017.

Iain Root
Chief Executive Officer

Schedule July 2017

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO SHOOTING COUNCIL

29 July 2017

Supplementary Report

KEY NSRA MATTERS

Staffing

The Association is still looking for part time staff to support its key operations including the NSRA Shop. Part time staff are particularly useful and important during the Bisley Meeting as well as at other times. The role would suit an active member who has retired and has some shooting knowledge. Anyone interested should make contact with Dee Fuller at the NSRA.

The Association is also looking for someone to take on the role of Minutes Secretary for the Board and National Committees. Experience of the role would be an advantage. Anyone interested in the role should also make contact with Dee Fuller.

SHOOTING MATTERS

European Championships

Jen McIntosh shot exceptionally well at the European Championships held in Baku in Azerbaijan and won the event with a score of 619.1. McIntosh's scores were exceptional throughout and got even stronger in the last two series. Her full scores were as follows: 102.6, 103.9, 101.9, 102.4, 104.2, and 104.1.

Speaking after securing her gold medal, Jen said: "It's incredible to be European Champion, it's not really sunk in yet - this is huge. Hopefully this is an indication of more medals to come.

Jen's sister Seonaid finished 22nd overall and Katie Gleeson 59th.

Seonaid McIntosh won gold at the European Shooting Championships in Baku, Azerbaijan, winning the 50m rifle three positions event with a score of 458.5. Her sister Jennifer finished fifth.

In the three positions event, Great Britain took overall team gold. The McIntosh sisters were joined by shooter Katie Gleeson, finishing in first place with their combined scores. Ukraine was second, with France taking third.

In the Junior Events Cameron Pirouet from Jersey took bronze in Junior Prone Rifle. It was Pirouet's debut representing GB on the international stage and he performed like a seasoned campaigner. With a final score of 226.0 and a grand total score of 617.0 the young shooter was delighted with his performance which saw him beaten by only Hungary's Zalan Pekler and Croatia's Borna Petanjek.

Olympic Shooting

The ISSF held an Extra General Assembly (EGA) at the end of June to discuss the proposed changes to the Olympic Shooting programme. In excess of 100 nations were represented and after four hours of discussion the Assembly voted in favour of the changes. The meeting was somewhat redundant because the IOC moved their Board meeting forward and voted in favour of the proposed changes several days before the EGA. On a positive note there will be a new forum established to look at the programme for 2024 and this will be chaired by the Chair of the Athletes Committee. It has been suggested that there is a possibility that two of the events excluded from 2020 could be introduced in 2024. These are the rifle and pistols events. The events need to demonstrate the merit for inclusion in 2024 in the next two and a half years.

Rules

It was agreed at the Shooting Council Meeting in March that Rule changes and additions needed to be managed in a far more effective way. As a result Rule changes or introductions will be tabled at the November Meeting of the Shooting Council giving representatives an opportunity to go back to their counties and organisations to discuss the proposals before the rules are voted on at the March Meeting.

Iain Root
Chief Executive Officer

28 July 2017