
Cornwall Target Shooting Association

Registered Charity Number 258147



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

NSRA Shooting Council report 26th July 2014

There was a good attendance at the AGM and Shooting Council Meeting despite several people being at the Commonwealth Games and away on holiday etc.

At the AGM a slight increase in membership was reported. A small reduction in the loss for the year was reported in the accounts.

There was a small increase in the number of people attending the Scottish Rifle Meeting at Lauder this year. However a very substantial reduction in entries have been received for the Bisley Rifle Meeting. Several members said at the meeting that they felt that this was largely due to the parking arrangements, new squadding times and new range procedures along with the increasing costs involved.

Requests were made for more Bench Rest competitions to be made available and this is to be looked into by the association.

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

The next Shooting Council meeting is due to be held on the 22nd November 2014.

P.L.Ralph

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO THE SHOOTING COUNCIL

26th JULY 2014

Obituaries

It is with regret that I report the deaths of the following:

J W (Jock) Allen – a former coach who used to run one of the South West Regional Rifle Squads.

Mrs Audrey Balcombe – who for many years was an officer of the AC Delco club, Bedfordshire County and the English SSU. The Association and Board were officially represented at the funeral by Mr Blow and Mr Watchorn.

SHOOTING MATTERS

Dates for 2015

Dates for a number of NSRA and other events next year have already been fixed, as have some external events which may affect meeting organisers.

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| 20-22 Feb | British Airgun Championships, Bisley |
| 28 Feb – 8 Mar | European Airgun Championships, Arnhem, NED |
| 8-16 Apr | World Cup, Changwon, KOR |
| 12-21 May | World Cup, Fort Benning, USA |
| 29 May – 5 Jun | World Cup, Munich, GER |
| 5-7 Jun | British 50m Rifle Championships, Bisley |
| 12-28 Jun | European Games, Baku, AZE |
| 27 Jun – 3 Jul | NatWest Island Games, Jersey |
| 3-14 Jul | Summer Universiade, Gwangju, KOR |
| 19 Jul – 2 Aug | European Cartridge Championships, Maribor, SLO |
| 25-26 Jul | NSRA National Airgun Series Final, Aldersley |
| 6-16 Aug | World Cup, Gabala, AZE |
| 15-23 Aug | National Rifle Meeting, Bisley |
| 18-20 Sep | British Pistol Championships, Bisley |

National Meetings

British 50 Metre Rifle Championship

This year's meeting was a great success. We had a total of 131 competitors and in terms of the competitors we did have the majority of the individuals who will be competing for the Home Countries at the Commonwealth Games at Barry Buddon. The total of 131 is about 10% down on last year but was slightly up on the previous three years.

As the Council may be aware, the NSRA purchased Match Manager to help with the running of the British Airgun Championships. In March this year Ian and Kaz Morris and Phil Martin worked with Arno Brinkman to develop the Match Manager system so it would work at the longer range of fifty metres, and can now produce results through it on qualification events for which the ISSF has introduced decimal scoring. Most of this work was completed in time to run the 50M meeting using Match Manager, the only remaining problem yet to be overcome being the finals for 3 Position events. Following the ISSF's change to a 45-shot final, our Sius targetry and software is too old to cope with this format and therefore cannot provide data in the required format for Match Manager to process.

As part of the meeting we provided the results live to the web and they are also shown on the TV screens around the building; we also provide a live video of the matches. I understand that over the weekend we had approximately 1000 hits on the website. We were also able to stream the final of the Men's 50M prone live to the web with each target showing the shots arriving on the target face in real time.

Scottish Rifle Meeting, Lauder

The Scottish meeting this year was again held in Lauder. There were 205 entries compared with 193 last year. This was a disappointingly small increase although it is known that a number of competitors who normally attend were not able to compete this year. Unusually the weather was good with only a couple of days where there was the odd shower. The meeting itself went without a hitch although the final of The Haig did require a shoot off to decide the Scottish Champion. This was between Bill Copland and last year's champion Tom Hodgson. The shoot off was decided by only one point and Bill Copland was the 2014 Haig Champion.

National Rifle Meeting, Bisley

The planning for Bisley is progressing well. Unfortunately at the closing date of 11th July we had received only 520 entries. This will increase a little, but is massively down on last year (total entry 680). The parking restrictions introduced by the NRA last year will be part of the reason for the reduction, but the new range procedures and timings will also have had an impact.

Summer Postal Leagues

Most of the postal leagues are progressing well and we are keeping the timetable in regard to the issuing of results. The three exceptions are the competitions that are being locally scored (see Below).

Disability Dispensations

Since the establishment of the Disabled Shooting Project the number of NSRA Dispensations issued under NSRA Rule 4 has increased to between 20 and 30 a year. The recent weeks two milestones have been reached when Dispensation Certificates to shoot in air rifle events were issued for the first time to a blind/VI shooter and to a member of the Dwarf Sports Association Team who attended the World Dwarf Games last year.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Staffing

As part of the re-organisation preparatory to the retirement of Brian Woodall as Assistant Secretary, Simon Barber and Brian worked jointly on the Summer edition of *The Rifleman* and Simon has now taken over as Editor.

Scorers Course

A total of 58 scorers' courses have been delivered giving a current number of qualified scorers of 715. Further "B" Class scorers have been provided with materials and have started to deliver courses in their areas.

Scotland

Following provision of information on coaches and instructors, the Scottish Target Shooting Federation National Development Manager has secured funding for coach development in Scotland. As Scotland does not have an equivalent of the Sport England Active People measure, they have also been provided with information on clubs and membership in Scotland to help produce in-house measures to demonstrate the effect of any programmes undertaken. The next stage will be to put together a joint plan to help deliver the coaching development programme.

A Level PE

A set of standards has been put together to allow students to use 10m air rifle shooting as one of their chosen sports to include in the A Level PE qualification. The draft standards have been sent to the school for feed-back and then will go to be approved by the examining board. It is hoped to have the standards in place for use in the next school year.

Lightweight Sport Rifle

Following discussions at the recent Pistol, Airgun and Crossbow Committee, a working group is being formed to look at the development of the LSR discipline, and in particular new competitions. The current NSRA and NRA competitions have been analysed and will form the start point for the group. It is also expected to run a survey of LSR shooters to identify what kind of competitions they currently shoot in (from any National Governing Body, county or club) and what others they would like to see developed. This can be done via *The Rifleman* and a web based survey. Once established and the basic strategy outlined it is proposed to expand the group to include representation from Competitions Department and sales to link into other structures.

Regional Coach Course

12 candidates completed the new NSRA Regional Coach Course at Lord Roberts Centre which took place over the weekends of 29th – 30th March and 26th – 27th April. The course comprised of new materials and was delivered completely by “in house” trainers. This made the course more specific to the needs of shooting coaches and enabled the costs to be minimised.

The course was well received and some candidates have been canvassed for feedback. Following the course a “wash-up” meeting has taken place with the trainers to discuss what worked, what could be improved and any changes necessary to the basic format. It is hoped to deliver another course in the next 18 months.

The candidate’s assessment comprises the submission of a 6-month coaching diary/log of work with three or more shooters. The process is iterative and two coaches have already received support to start putting together their assessment.

Disabled Shooting Project

Following missing the year one targets British Shooting has been formally placed “on notice” and report they have been informed by Sport England of the need to:

- Restructure the disability coordinator’s post,
- Deliver five county-based pilot participation projects and
- Provide National Governing Body membership data from a disability perspective.

To facilitate this change British Shooting is replacing the national Disability Coordinator role with two, part-time “Activator” posts. These Activators will be based in the North and South, with specific responsibility for several counties each Surrey, Dorset, Devon, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Cambridgeshire and West Midlands and working locally to better understand and drive participation. Although labelled a “restructure” the scheme sees the dismantling of the Disabled Shooting Project and the activators will do more general shooting development including disability.

At the recent England Development Group meeting the concerns over this change were put forward together with the fact that it would have potential negative impact - particularly on the NSRA as the organisation that has engaged with the project the most. None of the alternative proposals that have been put forward to British Shooting have been accepted. It also appears that there was concern that the Disabled Shooting Project was perceived as a stand-alone “entity” and not wholly embedded in British Shooting.

As a result the Disability Coordinator post has ceased and the postholder was made redundant last week. A meeting of the Disability Shooting Project Working Group has discussed possible ways of maintaining some of the functions carried out by the project using volunteers.

On a more positive note, the Disabled Shooting Project Working Group has also discussed the development of Supported Pistol Shooting (along the lines of the discipline currently in place in

Germany) and Acoustic Pistol Shooting. Other activities include plans for a Visually Impaired open day in London this August and for a Disability Open Day/Taster session on the 6th September at Bisley.

Spinal Unit

A taster session was organised at the Sheffield Spinal Unit to showcase shooting to the patients. The Laser rifles purchased using the residual Sport England funding, were used to deliver the session. Three patients and several of the staff tried their hand at shooting. Other staff members were present at the session, who although invited to try it, just observed.

The session was organised by the rehab/therapy side of the units work - however, there is a sports and leisure club on site who have some air rifles and pellet catchers (currently not in use) which would allow more activity. A meeting with John Robinson, a wheelchair basketball coach and also a member of the sports club committee, is being arranged to look at the equipment and make some recommendations with a view to possibly restarting shooting as one of the club's activities.

Talent Development

The first talent recruitment day for the British Shooting GB Academy for small-bore disciplines took place over the late May Bank Holiday weekend at the Welsh National Sport Centre in Cardiff.

This completes both the Shotgun and Rifle/Pistol initial selection camps and over the next six months there will be a "confirmation" phase prior to 10 – 15 athletes being selected to the programme. This confirmation group currently contains seven rifle and two pistol shooters.

Successful athletes can expect in the region of 70 days contact time annually with coaches and sports science and medicine professionals. Athlete's personal coaches will be invited to engage fully with the academy, with the option to attend sessions.

A further meeting on the England Talent Pathway Working Group has taken place to discuss the lower section of the pathway and the relative positioning of the NSRA GB Junior Squad and the England Academy. This is making progress and work is currently taking place to ensure the alignment of England Academy and GB Juniors activities and structures. The next stage of this process will be to bring the coaches together and discuss the structure and how it will operate.

British Shooting are soon to launch their 'Target Tokyo' campaign. This is a nationwide search for shooters across all disciplines (shotgun, rifle & pistol). The aim of the project is to identify those shooters that have the potential to be developed for the 2020 Olympic Games. This project is supported by UK Sport and the English Institute of Sport and shooters from all backgrounds (shotgun, pistol & rifle) and from all disciplines (Olympic and non-Olympic) will be invited to apply. The age group being targeted is 14 to 28 years old, however, people with exceptional talent from outside of the age bracket can be considered on an individual basis. The 'register your interest' phase will launch during the Commonwealth Games (23rd July 2014).

The new British Shooting Performance Director Keir Worth is leaving British Shooting to take up a post as CEO of England Squash & Racketball.

Facilities Project

As part of the British Shooting Facilities Project a "Clubs Toolkit" is being developed that will provide ideas, tools and tips that clubs wishing to grow membership can utilise. A draft version has been produced and a workshop is planned to discuss the detail after next month's England Development Group meeting.

Development Round Table

A Development Round Table event took place on 18th March at CPSA HQ. After introductions there were presentations from British Shooting staff on what participation currently looks like and workshop sessions on what might become the priorities moving forwards. Growth, retention and improvement were discussed in the context of National Governing Bodies, coaches and clubs and the feedback gathered together from all the groups to help form British Shooting development strategies. The concept of developing disability, talent and participation hubs was one of the main outcomes of the meeting – this would allow clubs and other organisations to be benchmarked for different purposes. This in turn allows people to be directed to appropriate facilities and give a focus for development for specific tasks. A club's conference was also discussed but thought to be unfeasible nationally – however county or regional based events might be possible. The meeting was generally considered by those in attendance to be a useful event.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO THE SHOOTING COUNCIL

26th JULY 2014

Supplementary Report

SHOOTING MATTERS

IPC World Championships

The Disability Target Shooting Great Britain team has been taking part in the IPC World Championships at Suhl in Germany, which ends today, and met with notable success.

Our new World Champions are:

Matt Skelhon in R6 50m Prone Rifle Mixed SH1, adding 2.6 points to his previous Final World Record.

The team of **Mandy Pankhurst, Di Coates** and **Karen Butler**, in R2 10m Air Rifle Standing Women SH1, who also claimed a new World Record.

Matt Skelhon also took the Silver medal in R3 10m Air Rifle Prone Mixed SH1.

Bronze medals went to:

The team of **Richard Davies, Tim Jeffery** and **James Bevis**, in both R4 10m Air Rifle Standing Mixed SH2 and R5 10m Air Rifle Prone Mixed SH2.

James Bevis in R9 50m Rifle Prone Mixed SH2.

In addition there were three Demonstration or Exhibition events for disciplines that are seeking recognition at International Championship level. In the Visually Impaired 10m Air Rifle, **Michael Whapples** took first place, whilst **Andrew Womble** was third in the Para Shotgun Trap Standing.

Commonwealth Games

Leading British positions from matches on Friday:

Women Air Pistol **Coral Kennerley**, WAL, 6th, having finished 7th in qualification.

Men Air Rifle **Dan Rivers**, ENG, Bronze Medal:

Also **Ken Parr**, ENG, 5th: **Michael Bamsey**, WAL, 7th

Dan Rivers finished in first place in qualification, setting a Commonwealth Record on the new course of fire of 623.6, 0.2 ahead of **Ken Parr** in second place.

There is a quick link through to the Games shooting results at the top of the NSRA website home page.

Dates for 2015

Two further dates can now be added to the list included in the earlier report.

28 Feb – 1 Mar Blind/VI Airgun Championships, Aldersley

4-11 Jul Scottish Rifle Meeting, Lauder

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Shooters with Disabilities

Reference has been made elsewhere in my report to the decision of British Shooting to discontinue its support for the Disabled Shooting Project and its full-time Coordinator, and to divert the funding into more general development work.

The Project had originally been developed and operated by volunteers within the NSRA. After its transfer to British Shooting it became an activity funded through the Whole Sport Plan which was available to help all branches of shooting. However small-bore and airgun shooting remained the major beneficiary of the work done by the project in helping people with disabilities into the sport and helping clubs to develop their skills and facilities to be able to accommodate them.

The decision of British Shooting came about from the results of Sport England's latest survey which suggested, erroneously in our view, that the number of disabled participants in shooting had shown a huge decline over a period of six months.

The Board remains convinced that the work done through the project has a continuing importance in the future and is keen that work on this front should continue, although inevitably having to rely on the dedication of interested volunteers to achieve it.

It will greatly assist the NSRA to have information about the level of participation in our member clubs by people with disabilities. We are therefore asking all County Representatives to help by contacting the clubs within their areas to gather some statistics on the number of shooters with disabilities currently amongst their members and information on how clubs see the trends going.

The primary role of a County Representative on the Shooting Council is to act as a channel of communication and to assist in forwarding the Association's objectives for the benefit of the clubs and shooters in their areas. I therefore hope that all County Representatives will play an active role in this exercise.

I will be writing very shortly to all County Representatives with an explanation of what information we need.

Scottish Airgun Legislation

A briefing note on the proposed legislation on airguns in Scotland was prepared by the British Shooting Sports Council, on behalf of shooting organisations. Copies of the note were available at our Scottish Meeting and will also be at the Bisley Meeting. Anyone who would like a copy, but is not attending these meetings, should contact Brian Woodall.

British Shooting Sports Council

Sir Peter Luff MP has become Chairman of BSSC in succession to Lord Glentoran. Sir Peter is currently the Conservative Member for Worcester, although he will be standing down at the General Election next year. Lord Glentoran has been appointed as President of BSSC in succession to Lord Shrewsbury.

European Week of Sport

The European Commissioner responsible for sport announced last month that the first European Week of Sport will take place in September 2015. The announcement said:

The Commission will coordinate events and activities throughout Europe during the Week. Organisations signing up to its objectives will receive guidance from the Commission and a European Week of Sport label.

The Commission will also encourage national awareness-raising activities. While conscious that no one size fits all and that national traditions and sport structures must be respected, the Commissioner underlined the need for Member States to fully involve regional and local stakeholders in the organisation of the events.

The idea to establish a European Week of Sport originated in the European Parliament as part of the 2012 Fisas Report, named after its author, the Spanish MEP Santiago Fisas. In the same year, Member States called on the European Commission to consider establishing a European Week of Sport to promote physical activity and participation in sport at all levels. The Commission then embarked on extensive consultations with Member States and sport organisations to learn from existing initiatives and to ensure full support for the initiative.

It is assumed that further information on this will be received in due course via British Shooting.

Private Member's Bill

Lord Moynihan has introduced his Governance of Sport Bill [HL], which received its formal First Reading in the House of Lords on 11 June. The summary describes it as a Bill "to make provision about the governance and regulation of sport and public health; safety for cyclists; members' clubs; and for connected purposes".

Lord Moynihan recognises that the Bill will not make progress through all the necessary stages to reach the statute book before the General Election; his aim is to use it as a catalyst for debate inside and outside Parliament. No date has yet been set for a Second Reading debate.