
Cornwall Target Shooting Association

Registered Charity Number 258147



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

NSRA Shooting Council report 15th March 2014

The NSRA have now employed a company to sort out their websites and it is hoped that the work will be completed before the end of the year.

An updated version of the NSRA rules is due to be released in April.

For safety reasons there will be changes to way changeovers between details are done at both the Scottish and Bisley meetings. The changeover time is being extended from Ten to Fifteen minutes to accommodate the new procedure, full details will be made available prior to the meetings.

The hotel site is now fenced and work is now expected to commence in September.

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

The next Shooting Council meeting is due to be held on the 26th July 2014.

P.L.Ralph

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO THE SHOOTING COUNCIL

15th MARCH 2014

Obituaries

It is with regret that I report the deaths of the following during the last few weeks.

Colin Cornwell – the Council member nominated by Buckinghamshire (1980 to 2005).

Bob Maddison – the former National Coach for Running Target.

Bob Cole – who for many years had been responsible for the engraving and repair of NSRA trophies.

SHOOTING MATTERS

National Meetings

British Airgun Championships, Bisley

The British Open Airgun Championships were held over the weekend of 21st to 23rd February. There were just over 270 competitors competing in Air Rifle, SH1, SH2, Air Pistol, SH1 & Sporter, which was down on last year. This was in part because the Junior Open Championships were not run as separate events, but will instead be held in September. However juniors were able to enter the Open Championships at this meeting and they filled nine of the 32 places in the finals and took four of the 12 medals.

The separate finals hall, using equipment kindly loaned for the meeting through the good offices of Ian Harris, was a great success and will now become a permanent fixture. It is hoped to improve the coverage and result service for the finals in future years. However the aggregate matches and the Championship qualification stages were run using the new Match Manager system sponsored by Lapua, and these scores were streamed live to the internet. A few problems did arise with the amalgamation of some of the results and a decision was taken to postpone the presentation at the end of the meeting.

By the Wednesday after the meeting all but a couple of the results were available on line and all medals, vouchers and prize lists were sent out to all competitors within two weeks.

Scottish Rifle Meeting, Lauder

Plans are well under way for this year's meeting; Ian Burton has again taken on the role of local organizer. The entry form will be in The Rifleman and will also be sent by email to anyone who entered last year and gave us a valid email address.

National Rifle Meeting, Bisley

At the moment we have not signed the paperwork with the NRA. Although this is not an ideal situation, the agreement we are hoping to agree will be for three years.

Summer Leagues 2014

All paperwork and stickers are expected to have been issued by 14th March and the last day for shooting round one is either 5th or 12th May.

Local Scoring

The trial of local scoring is taking place this summer season, the competition/s being the National & Scottish Long Range League or the 50 Metres/50 Yards League. The initial paperwork to all clubs taking part in these competitions seeks to ascertain whether they will be using the local scoring option or continuing to send their cards to an NSRA scorer. This information must be back by 28th March, when the final decisions on the trial arrangements will be made. Clubs will then be contacted with the way forward, including details on how the scores are to be sent to the NSRA.

NSRA-Eley Competition

The 2014 Eley competition is well under way and the second stage stickers were issued in January, with the last day for shooting of 15th April. Approximately 2600 entries were received across the nine events, and approximately 1100 people have progressed to stage two.

Electronic Targets

A significant number of Megalink electronic targets are now in use in Great Britain, and as they have received Phase 2 approval from the ISSF they may be used in appropriate postal competitions organised by the NSRA. Megalink has included the dimensions of the NSRA 25 yard rifle (1989 series) target in the software, which means that the equipment could be used in NSRA postal competitions such as the National Short Range League, Standing & Kneeling League, etc. The software is based on the dimensions of the standing/kneeling target, and therefore does not take account of the differences between this target and the Prone rifle target (where the sizes of the 5- and 4-rings are different, and there are no scoring rings for scores of 1 to 3). Advice has been sought from Megalink as to whether this anomaly can be rectified and a response is awaited. In the meantime the Rifle Committee has agreed that pending further information and decisions, Megalink electronic targets which have been registered with the NSRA by their owners may be used for NSRA 25-yard rifle competitions.

It is understood that Meyton are also including NSRA 25-yard rifle dimensions on their electronic targets. However as these targets have only passed the ISSF Phase 1 test, they have not been approved by the NSRA for use in NSRA postal competitions.

Overlay Gauges

Tests have been undertaken with a commercial printer, with assistance from Paul Gumn, on the production of a set of overlay gauges for use in connection with scoring shots in groups and previously-gauged challenged shots. The tests have proved satisfactory in relation to the quality of the printing, and the final test in relation to the accuracy of the printing is awaited. It is expected that the first production print-run will be available in a few weeks.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Staff

Simon Barber joins the NSRA staff with effect from 10th March in the role of Commercial Manager, based at Lord Roberts Centre. Simon will initially focus on developing the Association's commercial websites and building a fresh corporate image for the businesses operating under the 'NSRA Limited' banner. This development work will in time also encompass the Charity side of the organisation. Simon will also shortly take on the Editorship of *The Rifleman*.

For the past five years, Simon has been Commercial Manager with the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association, developing the CPSA's corporate image, commercial partnerships, sponsorship and membership communications. He has been an active small-bore shooter since school and the CCF and has been an NSRA-qualified Instructor and RCO at Lord Roberts Centre since 2006.

British Shooting & Countryman Show 2014

The NSRA presence at the show included a stand in the main hall with an airgun range and Scatt range in the airgun hall. The event (this year over 3 days) saw around 610 people take part in the NSRA 10m have-a-go stand with many more coming to discuss various topics. The range was manned by leaders from Creswell Scouts and this year also included pistol shooting with members of West Midlands Regional Squad and East Bristol R and PC assisting on the range.

NSRA Rules and Regulations

A new edition of NSRA Rules and Regulations has been produced and will come into effect on 1st April 2014. In addition to being available as a download from the NSRA website and in printed booklet form from the Shop, a copy will be sent to each affiliated organisation with the next edition of *The Rifleman*.

Following consultation with officials and members of clubs involved, shooting rules for the blind and visually impaired have been agreed. These are being distributed to relevant clubs as provisional rules for 2014/15 and after review in early 2015 will be incorporated into NSRA Rules and Regulations. The opportunity is also being taken to re-organise the Rifle rules (Section 8) into a more logical format, also for adoption in 2015.

Range Officer Pack

Following discussion on the final draft of the new RCO pack at the Coaching and Development Committee in November, and subsequent changes, the new Range Officer documentation is completed and released for use.

Scorers Course

A total of 37 scorers' courses have been delivered giving a current number of qualified scorers of 471. Further B Class scorers have been provided with materials and have started to deliver courses in their area.

British Shooting – England Development Group

British Shooting will be focusing on four themes from a communications perspective this year, and wish to work with the NGBs on these areas and to collectively promote the sport. The areas are:

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| • Feb – March | Talent |
| • April – May | Disability |
| • June – July | Commonwealth Games |
| • September – October | Women and Girls |

BS has an opportunity to host an event at the House of Commons and suggested the focus for this would be disability/ youth participation in the sport. These appear to be appropriate themes to profile considering the BS programmes and DCMS/Sport England strategic objectives.

Cadet Development

Following the meeting at the CPSA HQ last year Brigadier John Smales has taken the Cadet Development project to the Cadet Council at their recent Board meeting/ AGM. The project was well received and has the go-ahead to start development.

The cadet shooting "hot spots" have been identified and these have been compared with current NGB club activity. It was found that Cadet-club links across the three NGBs could be formed at clubs and units in Yorkshire, Warwickshire, Durham, Northamptonshire, Cardiff, Hampshire and Nottinghamshire. In some cases this will involve formalising current connections, in others developing new links. Further investigation has given five clubs (and potentially a sixth) which have been identified for linking with cadet units for shotgun and rifle disciplines, giving training and talent screening opportunities. For small-bore shooting, pilot projects linking clubs to the cadets could take place at Cambridge and Sutton Coldfield. The projects will involve Cadets and Staff receiving training from Civilian Coaches. The venues and dates for these events are to be confirmed but the project will be launched in April with a view to running the sessions in May-June.

The Talent Pathway for Cadets has also been discussed. It is felt that this is best implemented by firstly, identifying which competitions are key indicators of talented Cadets and forming these shooters

into a long-list who will be given information on how to develop their involvement in mainstream target shooting. From this a short list of talented Cadets will be generated who will be screened before giving access to the talent pathway.

Disability Shooting Programme

The latest Sport England Active People Survey, which has seen no change in overall participation across the sport, but a dramatic decrease from 26,500 to 17,300 participants with a disability. It was first thought that this was due to a change in the questions being asked about target shooting in the survey however it appears they have not been changed. This was considered at a recent SE Review meeting and reflects on the programmes year 1 performance from an Active People perspective and may cause issues due to Sport England payment for results process.

The changes anticipated in the programme would include:

- The need to demonstrate that there is a clear understanding of the target shooting "market" from a disability perspective and that this and the impact of the work can be measured. At the last BS Board Meeting it was agreed that the CPSA, NSRA and NRA would need to improve data collection from a disability perspective. The EDM is to provide information on what data should be collected. As the CPSA/NRA have new databases this is likely to be an easier proposition for them.
- Given timescales for this work (with Sport England asking for a market insight driven strategy for the DSP by June/ July 2014) it was agreed that other indicators should be considered and this could include undertaking a membership survey.
- The need for the DSP to become more "intervention" focused and outcome driven and to demonstrate an ability to influence and facilitate grassroots participation and community engagement. To date a lot of the work done by Liz Woodall, the Programme Coordinator, has focused on building structures and capacity to deliver opportunities for disabled people to participate through the DSP, Focus clubs, partnership agreements with NDSOs and conversations with the NGBs. However, there is a real need to focus on activity delivery in 2014. An example of this would be in the location and organisation of the 2014 Regional Conferences. It is planned to make the events more multi-purpose such as including CSPs in the region and how to engage volunteers on specific projects. This could include things like the recently successful event in Lincolnshire which could become a template for other events. This could start with those in areas where there are Focus Clubs.
- It has been proposed that a "revamp" of the DSP working group be discussed with Liz Woodall, with a move towards quarterly meeting, but, more regular NGB officer level contact.
- BS Board has informed BS staff that there should be greater consistency across the organisation from a communications perspective; this has implications for the DSP, in particular the website in its current format. The DSP website is to be changed to fit the format and style of the British Shooting site. Whilst having the house style of British Shooting the new site must maintain the functionality of the old version.

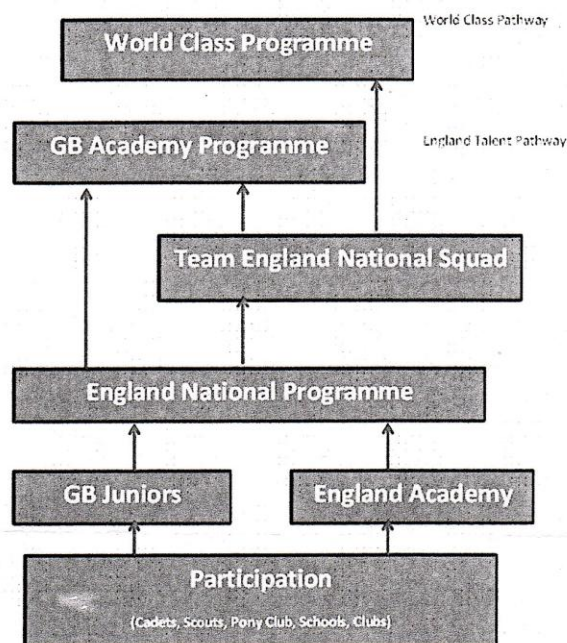
Facilities Project

The EDG has discussed the outcome of the facilities project to date. It was agreed that off the back of the findings, a communication should be sent out to clubs that contributed to the survey to thank them, share key findings and signpost them to potential sources of funding aligned to the findings and also to let clubs know that the NGBs are there to assist clubs wishing to make improvements etc. The remaining £4.5k of funding that had been ring fenced for the Facilities Project (with Sport England's agreement) it was suggested could be invested in developing a benchmarking scheme for clubs/ facilities to help NGBs and most importantly participants in finding the right club/ place to participate for them. The "Clubs Toolkit" that will provide ideas, tools and tips that clubs wishing to grow membership should be available by the end of March 2014.

However, a "Club Finder" map recently appeared on the BS website was discussed at the EDG. This is considered an inappropriate development and should be left to the NGBs. In fact the challenge of keeping it up to date and ensuring it is a comprehensive listing could have a negative effect if someone using the service thought that the content was all that was available to them. Hamish McInnes is actioned to take this up with Craig Davies, the IT consultant.

Pathway Development

Following the establishing of working groups and the subsequent discussions, an executive summary of the proposed pathway has been drafted. It was generally thought that the best outcome is simple pathway that was understandable by all.



It is expected that any other Home Country's talent programmes will feed into the GB Academy Programme in the same way as the ETP. Groups like the GB Juniors will feed into the England Regional Talent Programme. Other groups such as scouts, cadets, pony club, etc. will also be feeder groups.

The details of the programme objectives are still to be finalised with Sport England and it must be noted that the new Performance Director, Keir Worth, has only just come into post and consequently there may be some minor changes made to ensure alignment with wider Performance Programme activity.

The pathway manager informs that British Shooting would be seeking additional funding from UK Sport to support the Academy Programme and that the Coach Development Programme that is being developed. The latter should provide CPD opportunities for selected coaches within the Regional Centre/ Academy set up.

However, following the Sport England review meeting it was clear that BS still have work to do to engage them with the proposed ETP programme. It was noted that the challenge from a small bore perspective is the bottom of the talent pathway and it is the interaction and placement of the current structures of the GB Juniors and England Academy that need to be resolved.

NGB Programmes

Currently NGB programmes have been driven by BS and have been projects which whilst beneficial to NGBs have not been driven by them. The NGBs are keen that that specific projects/ activities embedded in the NGBs are invested in. The EDM supported this approach in principal on the proviso that projects supported wider agreed objectives/ outcomes that we would need to collectively agree and that the focus be on new activity and that the impact of investments could be closely monitored. It was clear that there were a number of common themes for projects that the NGBs would be keen to progress that broadly sit under the headings of coaching, clubs and participation.

To help develop this plan, and map out general development strategy a Development Round Table event is planned for 18th March. NGBs have been asked to nominate two or three individuals for invitation to the day and have been asked to forward contact details to the EDM. The session will focus on the future direction of the sport from a development perspective and the nuts and bolts of supporting this through the SE investment we receive.

British Shooting Stakeholder Forum

A further British Shooting Stakeholder Forum took place at UK Sport on 28th November. The Chairman and Staff of British Shooting updated the group on developments which had taken place over the year since the last event. The Chairman highlighted that the emphasis of British Shooting had now moved from the 2012 agenda of governance, planning and the Olympics to one of funding, audits and action for 2013. Within this the main action points for British Shooting are development, pathway and performance programmes.

Regional Coach Course

The NSRA Regional Coach Course, which is currently under development, is planned to be delivered over two weekends in March and April. The venue will be the Lord Roberts Centre and candidates are to be invited to attend as this is the first delivery of the new course.

Practical Shooting

A meeting took place at Lord Roberts Centre to discuss the endorsement of practical shooting disciplines which may take place at NSRA affiliated clubs and under NSRA insurance. The NRA has attempted to take on the role of the GB representative on the International Practical Shooting Committee – a place already held by the UK Practical Shooting Association and it would seem likely that they would wish to cover all aspects of practical shooting. This would include the small-bore sections of the sport which could be covered by NSRA. It was thought that the NSRA should investigate at how we might develop this type of shooting, discuss what it might look like (competitions/range design/training of RCOs set up etc.) and how the NSRA might work with the UKPSA.

Election Results

The results of the 2014 postal elections, the voting papers for which have to be received by 13th March, will be circulated in a supplementary report at the Council Meeting.