

---

# Cornwall Target Shooting Association

Registered Charity Number 258147

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

---



NSRA Shooting Council report 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017

As I am late issuing this report I am sorry to have to report the recent death of Doug Mottram (Cambridgeshire's representative on the Shooting Council and Chairman of the Special Awards Committee) only a few days after the meeting. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of December the shooting world also lost Lones Wigger.

There was a considerable amount of conversation at the meeting about membership numbers, membership fees, types of membership, competitions, competition entry fees and the costs incurred by the association running them. The association has decided to run a series of workshops starting in late January to review the structure of membership, competitions and events offered. This review will be in several stages and the association has asked for individuals to put themselves forward to assist in the first stage of the review that will be headed by Mike Arnstein. Details of how to apply to take part in the workshop are on the NSRA website (applications close on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2018).

All club CPO's and all persons such as Club Coaches, Club Instructors etc. who have any regular contact with children and / or vulnerable adults are advised to ensure that their DBS checks are up to date. A valid DBS check is an insurance requirement and they are only valid for five years, contact the NSRA for any DBS application forms that are required.

All clubs are reminded that their NSRA affiliation and insurance renewal paperwork should have been received by the NSRA by now to ensure continuance of their clubs insurance into 2018.

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

The next Shooting Council meeting is due to be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

P L Ralph

## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO SHOOTING COUNCIL**

**25 November 2017**

### **Obituaries**

It is with regret that I report the deaths of:

**Chris Boucher:** Chris started shooting at the age of 10 shooting both Small-bore and Fullbore and continued throughout his time at school and university. He came 7<sup>th</sup> in the St Georges in 1959. Having joined the TA in 1959 he served until time 1974 and during this time he won the TA Small-bore Championship. After retiring from the TA he won the \weekend Aggregate at Bisley in 1985. Throughout his life he worked on the administrative side of shooting serving on the TARA Council and on the NSRA's Shooting Council and was County Secretary for Essex and Northamptonshire.

Obituaries for W O S (Bill) Newey, John Menard and Gerald Wayland Cole will be carried in the Winter Edition of "On Target".

### **KEY NSRA MATTERS**

#### **Membership and Affiliation**

All of the papers for the renewal of membership and affiliation have been distributed and are being returned. This is some four weeks ahead of 2016 when the production of all the paperwork was delayed by the Association's new business relationship with Bluefin Sport as broker and XL Catlin as insurer. The Board have agreed a reduction in the cost of membership and frozen affiliation fees. This will hopefully help recruitment and retention which is a major priority for the NSRA. Over recent months the Association has been made aware of an increased number of FAC applications that have been refused or revoked. This is as a result of the changes being made to the licensing process and the involvement of GPs. There have been several cases where members have had the support of Bluefin Sport and XL Catlin and successfully over turned the decisions made by the Police. Individual Membership continues to offer exceedingly good value for money and the cover provided is second to none. I am hopeful that members of the Shooting Council will assist in the recruitment and retention of members and clubs by promoting the benefits throughout the clubs in their counties and beyond. From my perspective the Shooting Council has a primary role in making and maintaining the link between the Association and members at grassroots level.

### **SHOOTING MATTERS**

#### **National Meetings 2017**

##### **Bisley**

The meeting this year was attended by 605 competitors this number did include approximately 30 from the USA. Even with the USA contingent taken out of the entry figures was an increase on 2016. Unfortunately this year we did have a major problem with the accommodation for the volunteers who came to Bisley. There were a number of factors which impacted the accommodation on camp, and as a result we hired 6 Bunkabin units which we used to house some of the volunteers. The results were put on the web site within two weeks, medals will follow in due course once they have been engraved and after all winter paperwork has been distributed. I would estimate that this year's National Meeting will make a considerable loss.

#### **Winter Postal Leagues (2017-18)**

All information was processed in September and the paperwork and stickers were distributed in October. The first round of shooting was during the first/second week of November. There has been a positive response to the new competitions introduced this year.

## **Eley Competition 2017**

The attendance at the Eley Finals was relatively poor essentially as a result of a clash with another competition. This is despite the Eley finals being programmed for the beginning of October for a number of years. Eley are introducing a new Prone Competition for teams of three and information can be found on the Eley Website.

[www.eley.co.uk](http://www.eley.co.uk)

## **Summer Leagues 2017**

The last date for shooting Round Ten was either the 22<sup>nd</sup> August or 29<sup>th</sup> August dependant on the competition. Things were running a couple of weeks behind but it was hoped that everything would be back on track once the preparation for the winter season were complete. Medals will follow in due course once we have been able to get them engraved.

## **Pistol Championships 2017**

Unfortunately this year's Championship had to be cancelled due to low entry numbers. The decision was not easy to make but was necessitated by an entry of 72 despite the closing date being extended. This was a 25% drop in the numbers compared to 2016. In addition the average spend per competitor was also down leading to situation where the loss was going to be substantial.

Fees for the Association's Postal Competitions will be increased in 2018 by 1/1.5%.

In response to declining numbers at the Scottish meeting two very simple questionnaires have been circulated. Response has been relatively good and the information gleaned will be used to introduce changes that will hopefully ensure the longevity of this very well established meeting. As reported at the last meet it would be very helpful to know the reasons for declining numbers of entrants and what new competitions would be of interest. As I have commented numerous times I believe that the Shooting Council and its members have a key role in promoting competitions and also membership and affiliation.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **Scorers Course**

The current number of qualified scorer's is 1124 from 104 courses. Further trainers have been supplied with the new Scorers Course materials to enable them to start running courses in the West Midlands and Aberdeenshire.

### **Club Support**

Support for affiliated clubs and organisations continues including:

**Gloucester Rifle Association** – have been given information on risk assessment and advice on planning.

**Oxfordshire Rifle Association** – have been given advice on incorporating an Oxfordshire Rifle Association home office approved club within their structure to help maintain access to full-bore shooting on MOD ranges.

### **Lincolnshire**

Dave Carter reported that following problems with Fire Arms Licensing in Lincolnshire a meeting took place with the Crime Commissioner and others from the licensing team. The outcome from this is that the Police and G4S have developed a new computer system for processing the applications, and other improvements and they hope to launch the new system in December 2017. It is hoped that all applications will be processed in six weeks. Dave Carter also took part in an interview with Estuary TV to promote Bell Target shooting. The interview went out live on their news programme and was repeated three times in total. This has a potential reach of around 100K viewers. The interview can be seen at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KVjO5137iM&t=25s>



It may be possible to get further coverage later in the year.

The County has also been successful in getting a nomination through to the Lincolnshire Sports Partnership Sports Awards.

### **Crossbow**

The update of the YPS Crossbow Course materials has been completed. The first course using the new materials took place in Hampshire in October. The course had candidates from Scouting and some trainers who will then be able to deliver the new material.

### **NW Regional Squad**

A meeting took place on 18<sup>th</sup> October at Cheadle Village hall to discuss the formation of a North West Regional Association and associated squads. The meeting was attended by coaches, organisers and shooters from the region with presentations from NSRA, Paul Holdstock and Paul Horbury. After some discussion it was decided to form a regional association (to be called the North West Regional Target Sports Association) and the management and coaching structures were outlined for the association and two squads – one for Rifle and one for Air Rifle and Pistol. Coaches and the management team are now being formalised. Once operational this will complete the network of regional squads across England.

### **East Midlands Target Shooting Association**

The EMTSA grew out of the old East Midlands Regional Pistol Squad which was reformed post Dunblane as the East Midlands Target Shooting Association (EMTSA). Since then it has functioned mainly to provide postal competitions in the region – other squad functions being taken on by the Mercian Regional Squad. The postal competitions have now been taken on by volunteers from the Mansfield RPC and at a recent meeting it was decided to fold the EMTSA. The residual EMTSA funds have been donated to the NSRA Pistol Talent Squad.

### **Legislation**

The Home Office has released the consultation relating to .50 calibre and MARS rifles and the impact that banning them would have. These are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/offensive-and-dangerous-weapons-new-legislation>

The Home Office has opened a public consultation on what they consider to be “Offensive and Dangerous Weapons”. This includes plans to apply further restrictions on .50 calibre and MARS (Manually Activated Release System) rifles which are currently used for target shooting.

The policy intends to remove the availability of these firearms for civilian use suggesting they may be used for terrorism. The proposed changes will raise them from Section 1 of the Firearms Act where they can be held on a normal Firearms Certificate to Section 5 and so effectively banned.

The NSRA are opposed to this and other changes to legislation which is not based on evidence but merely applies further restrictions to law abiding target shooters with no apparent benefit to public safety. The NSRA will fight these changes on behalf of its members and affiliated clubs via British Shooting Sports Council and other appropriate national forums.

The consultation document can be viewed at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/offensive-and-dangerous-weapons-new-legislation>.

The document also includes further restrictions proposed on the sale of knives which will only be able to be purchased by face-to-face transactions – severely damaging many internet based businesses.

Also, the proposed air weapons review has been released and can be seen at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-to-review-air-weapons-regulation-in-england-and-wales>

### **South East Talent Network**

The SETN hosted an event during the Bisley meeting on 13th August about the technical elements of sighting. The event was very popular with around 70 people in attendance. A further event took place at LRC on 7<sup>th</sup> October. The meeting included information on equipment control, the SAMS project and an opportunity to meet current

successful shooters. The event was well received in particular the "meet the shooter" section. Following this a meeting took place with the Regional Squad Coaches and the SETN Organising Group to see how they can collaborate further. The SETN organising Committee also met with Clive Garnham about developing their website. The next SETN event is to take place at Normandy Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017 and will cover how to get youngsters into shooting, South East Coaching Development Plan, meet the coaches and SE Talent Network plans for 2018.

### **Running target**

BSRC ran their "Unlimited" competition alongside the Junior International with the invite to give competitors at the Junior International the opportunity to have a go at 10m and 50m Running Target. Although the event was publicised through Face Book prior to the event there was a very low take-up.

For future events it is proposed to develop a closer liaison with organisers and BSRC with better publicity for the event during the Junior International.

Further development will include the BSRC Running Boar Championships (which takes place in August) can be moved to coincide with the main Bisley meeting. This gives a pool of shooters who in their "down time" may be able to have a go at running target.

Also, there are plans to include at BOAG 2018 a minimum of a sweepstake competition at Lord Roberts on the 10m range over that weekend and possibly extended to include a formal 60 shot competition. In fact the British Championships 10m Moving Target could form part of the BOAG event.

On the whole the BSRC are continue trying to attract juniors but realise that in the short term focussing on adults will probably be more productive in attracting those who might actually take up running target.

### **Talent Squads**

The selection for the 2018 Rifle Talent Squad took place over the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of September. The squad numbers have been maintained at around 20 with some changes. The cost for membership of the squad has been increased in order to cover core costs. In discussion with coaches a fresh look is required at the Pistol Squad with more emphasis on developing emerging talent.

### **Northern Ireland**

The two Northern Ireland organisations have now combined and are now considering a plan of development. They have been supplied with information on their current coaching provision and ideas on how to plan and develop coaching in clubs and associations. Also, following discussions with Northern Ireland shooters and coaches at the end of the Junior International, ideas for development of their talented shooters have been put forward. Also during the Bisley Meeting a trainer was taken through the Scorers Course material to enable him to deliver courses in Northern Ireland.

### **Girl Guiding**

The Guide Association has contacted the NSRA requesting support in developing their shooting standards. The association are somewhat behind Scouting in this activity but have upgraded their approach to Section 21 declarations and other areas in alignment with the NSRA.

### **Pony Club**

The Pony Club has changed their safety rules to make eye protection mandatory for shooting in their Tetrathlon events. They have opted for the standard EN 166 safety spectacles which are the standard ones issued by safety providers for general workplace use. Realistic advice on this has been requested by the Pony Club Area 17 coordinator.

### **British Shooting**

#### **British Shooting Disability Hub Club Workshop**

The 2017 Disability Hub Club Workshop took place on Saturday 11th November 2017, at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. The workshop was open to Disability Hub Clubs as well as those working towards becoming a hub club. The workshop topics for the day included:

- Athlete Classification
- The NSRA Dispensation Scheme
- The Paralympic Pathway
- Life as a World Class Programme Athlete
- Shooting for the Visually Impaired – including a chance to have a go with VI equipment

### **Safeguarding**

A new safeguarding poster is being developed for use by the member NGBs. The poster is aimed at raising awareness of safeguarding of young people and signpost to the methods of reporting safeguarding issues.

### **British Shooting Initiatives**

A meeting took place with representatives of British Shooting about the ISSF D course, Project Pistol and other aspects of BS development on 3<sup>rd</sup> October at LRC. The effects of the D Course on the NSRA Coaching Scheme and the lack of communication about Project Pistol were the main topics of discussion. The potential damage to the NSRA Coaching Scheme was not considered to be a problem by BS neither was the fact that that another parallel system for pathway shooters (Project Pistol) would have a negative impact on the NSRA Talent Squad.

### **Target Sprint**

The materials for the NSRA/BS Target Sprint Module of the YPS Scheme are being upgraded. It has been agreed to include more information and support for the running and physical skills section. A running coach is being consulted on this and it is proposed to make a video to support the course material. A course for the trainers who will deliver the course is being held at Yate in January 2018.

### **World Class Selection**

The selections for the various British Shooting Squads have been announced.

#### **Podium**

Shotgun: Amber Hill, Ed Ling, Steve Scott (Transition)

#### **Podium Potential**

Shotgun: Matt Holly (Transition), Aaron Heading, Ben Llewellyn

Rifle: Jen McIntosh, Seonaid McIntosh, Ken Parr (transition)

#### **GB Academy**

Shotgun: Kirsty Barr, Jeremy Bird, Brad Davis, Jack Fairclough, Nathan Hales, Emily Hibbs, Freddie Killander, Caroline Povey, Ellie Seward

Rifle: Dean Bale, Jack Bale, Mike Barger, Katie Gleeson

Pistol: Aedan Evans

#### **Transitional Support**

Shotgun: James Dedman, Matthew French, Connor Gorsuch

Rifle: Cameron Pirouet

### **UK Coaching Performance Foundations Coach Support Programme**

Several coaches have been selected to join UK Coaching Performance Foundations Coach Support Programme. Eight Coaches across Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun have been selected to join a group of 38 from across eight sports over an 18 month period. The programme is designed specifically to develop coaches working with talented athletes.

The coaches are:

Rifle: Zoe Bruce, Andrew Nimmo, Craig Dower

Pistol: Iain Aberdeen

Shotgun: David Dale, John Bellamy, Allen Warren, Chris Dean



## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO SHOOTING COUNCIL**

**25 November 2017**

### **Supplementary Report**

#### **KEY NSRA MATTERS**

##### **Staffing**

The Association is still looking for 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 a Marketing Assistant to join the Commercial Team. This is a full time position.

A vacancy exists for a Centre Assistant at the Lord Roberts Centre. The position involves working a rotational shift pattern covering days, evenings and weekends.

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 any of these roles should also make contact with Dee Fuller.

#### **SHOOTING MATTERS**

##### **World Class Selection**

The selections for the various British Shooting Squads have been announced. Those selected on to the Paralympics World Class Programme are:

Issy Bailey	Lorraine Lambert	Mandy Pankhurst
James Bevis	Ryan Cockbill	Tim Jeffrey
Stewart Nangle	Matt Skelhon	

##### **National Meetings**

###### **Scotland 2017**

All medals and Prize Vouchers should be distributed by mid November.

###### **Bisley 2017**

All medals, prizes and prizes medals will be distributed by the first week of December. I am not that happy with the amount time it takes the department to organize and send out the medals and vouchers but at this moment it is as quick as we can do it. John Elliott who engraves the medals has unfortunately been

unwell over the last few months and has had time away from work. This has delayed the production of the medals to a certain degree.

### **Eley Finals (Oct)**

The Eley Finals were held over the weekend of the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of October and from an organisers point of view the weekend ran quite smoothly. Unfortunately this year the finals weekend was the same weekend as the Welsh Airgun Championships which meant that the number of finalists who attended was down compared to last year. We are in the second and last transition year as we work on increasing the number of competitors who qualify for the finals.

### **Eley 2018**

The closing date for the 2018 Eley was originally the 9<sup>th</sup> November but we have extended it until the 4<sup>th</sup> December. This is due to a lower than expected number of entries being received; paperwork is being distributed as we receive entries.

### **Summer Postal Leagues (2017)**

All medals and vouchers will be distributed soon as possible.

### **Winter Postal Leagues (2017-18)**

The First Round Shoot by dates for club competitions is the first week in November with the county competitions being either the 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> November. We will be endeavouring to distribute the results on the same timescale as the Summer Leagues, i.e. two to three weeks from last date of shooting to the results back in the clubs. We are running some new individual leagues and competitions and this brings the total of new competitions introduced in 2017 to 16. This number does include some county competitions as well.

### **Knock Out Competitions**

A number of the knockout competitions have or are just about to complete their first rounds.

### **Expenditure Medals & Prizes 2018 onwards**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> October the Competitions Team undertook a review of the Prize Structure of all competitions and events organised by the NSRA. A number of elements were reviewed:

- Prize vouchers
- Prize bar awards (Bisley & Scotland)
- Other changes at Bisley & Scotland
- Changes to Postal Competitions

The following decisions have been agreed by the Board and will be implemented from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018.



### **Prize Vouchers**

In 2017 the approximate cost of Prize Vouchers was approximately £12,500. From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 we will half all voucher prizes, this will save approximately £6000. There are also indirect savings which are associated with production of vouchers as well as staff time both in the Competitions Department and Accounts.

### **Prize Bar Medals**

At Bisley 2017 we awarded approx £1100 of prize medals. These are awarded FOC. These medals are awarded dependant on how well a competitor does during the week of the Championship. We did make some changes in 2015 to reduce the number of bars we gave out. The intention is to revert to the pre 2015 criteria and start charging a fee for medal and bars. This will have a double impact on the bottom line for both Bisley and Scotland in that we will save on the expenditure and increase the income.

### **Changes at Bisley / Scotland & BOAG**

The following changes will start at the National Meeting 2018: Championship medals will be awarded on the following basis;

1 to 16 Entries	1 <sup>st</sup> place only
17 to 25 Entries	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> places
Above 26	1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Bisley: Part Aggregate Shoots will be dropped saving up to 30 medals. Over the last 3 years we have had only an average of 15-25 people taking part in the Part Agg shoots.

Bisley: English Match. The prize vouchers will be dropped completely from Shoot 1 & Shoot 2 but vouchers for the aggregate competition will increase slightly. The cost of entering will increase by £5 to match the equivalent cost base of the weekend aggregate.

Bisley and Scotland: A large number of competitions attract an overall prize as well as class prizes. The competitions department will have to look at all these competitions on an individual basis to determine which overall lists can be dropped

### **Changes to Postal Competitions**

Club Knockouts will now only attract finalist awards with losing semi-finalists not being awarded medals (we will award medals until we run out). Then we will award new NSRA Certificates (to be designed).

All team competitions which attract Cloth Badges will only be issued with the actual number of badges for the number of the team. (A Team Captain Badge used to be included in the number of badges issued)

From 2018 the ELEY competition will no longer issue Secretary Medals.

The Competitions department will also look at replacing some medals with professionally designed bespoke certificates.

Envisaged savings	Saving	Income
Prize vouchers	6000-7000	Nil
Prize bar awards (Bisley & Scotland)	1500-2000	500-750
Other changes at Bisley & Scotland	750 – 1250	800-1000
Postal Changes	750 – 1000	Nil
	9,000-11,250	1,300-1,750

All the above will be implemented during 2018. We will also monitor other aspects of competitions and events and assess what other savings can be made. These saving will be on a much smaller scale and any changes can only be implemented at the start of the season in which the competition or event is run.

#### **Autumn News letter from the NSRA Competitions Department**

An Autumn Newsletter has recently been by email. Phil Martin has attempted to communicate some of the changes that have been made in terms of the 2018 Programme. A copy of the Autumn Newsletter which was sent out to all those on our competitor's database was as follows:

#### **Summer League 2018**

Over the last two seasons the Competitions Department has added a number of new competitions to the programme of events. For the summer 2018 we will be adding some new Individual Competitions to the program. The following competitions will be available and are new for 2018:

50 metre Competition – Two courses of 60 shots in spring/early Summer  
Crossbow- Three courses of 30 bolts over 3 months in early spring

#### **Individual Leagues:**

Prone Short Range League - 10 rounds shot in divisions of six people.  
50 Metre League - 10 rounds shot in divisions of six people  
50 Metre Bench-rest League- 10 rounds shot in divisions of six people

## **British Open Airgun Championship**

In the last edition of the "On Target" magazine Iain Root said "The Association is eager to ensure that it organises and offers a comprehensive programme of competitions and events". To ensure that we can offer comprehensive coverage of all competitions it has been decided that the British Open Air-gun Championships will move permanently from its February date to April. This is so that we can offer more competitions within the BOAG timetable specifically giving those competitors who shoot 25 Metre Events another opportunity to compete using the 25 meter Outdoor Range.

## **50 Metre Championships**

Due to the changes which have been agreed and implemented by the ISSF and the exclusion of prone rifle from the Olympics, the NSRA believe that this provides an opportunity to make a change to the British 50 Metre Prone Championship. This change will make the Prone Championship Event more competitive and hopefully draw more entries. Therefore from 2018 the 50 Metre Prone Championship will become a mixed event. There will be a number of qualification rounds, an elimination round and a final.

## **OPC – Open Prone Competition**

This is a new club team competition which is being supported by Eley and being run under NSRA rules. The competition is for teams of three. There are three rounds shot on home ranges with the scores being uploaded to give real time results that everybody can see and then decide whether they want to re-enter and avoided being knocked out. Teams shoot the first round and submit their scores. They are then put into 1 of 5 divisions and shoot the second round. The combined scores from both rounds are added together and the top 25 teams progress to round three. The top 10 teams progress through round three to the shoulder to shoulder final to be held at Bisley in August 2018. There is over £5000 in cash prizes to be won plus a prize token system for winning teams which can be used by their club to either exchange for items or the points can accumulated over time to potentially be exchanged for a lane of electronic targetry (Meyton). Please visit the Eley web site for more information.

## **NSRA - YouTube Channel**

The NSRA has a channel on you-tube; it already has a number of videos which may be of interest, including videos from last year's National Meeting at Bisley. There is already a teaser video from this year's Meeting and the main video will be available in the next week or so. If you subscribe then you will get notified when it is released. Please use the link below to access the channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk8DONxIUtvqC02ZPFUxf5g>



## Programme of Competitions and Events

A decision has been made on then programme for next three years which is as follows:

Event	Ranges	2018	2019	2020
BOAG	All	April 13-15	April 26-28	April 24-26
50 Mtr Championship	50 Mtr Range	June 1/3	31May/2 June	5/7 June
Benchrest Short range Competition	25yds	9th June	8th June	7th June
Benchrest Championships 25 Yds/50M	25 yds/50 ranges	10th June	9th June	8th June
Scottish Championship	Lauder	30 June/6 July	TBC	TBC
Bislev Championship	Century /50 Mtr ranges/25	11/19 Aug	10/18 Aug	15th/23rd Aug
Pistol Championship	All	TB	TBC	TBC
Elev	All	12/14 Oct	11/13 Oct	9/11 Oct

Iain Root  
Chief Executive Officer

24 November 2017