



LOTHIAN SMALL-BORE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

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Minutes of the 102nd Annual General Meeting of the Lothian Small-Bore Shooting Association, held at the Balerno and Currie range on 31st May 2007.

Chair: J R Buchanan

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mrs. A. M Hamilton, Mr K Karle (Balerno & Currie) and Mr W Buchanan (Prestonpans)

2. Minutes of the 101st AGM on 15th June 2006.

Adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM was proposed by C Mackenzie and seconded by D Allen. The motion was approved nem con.

3. Matters arising from Minutes of the 101st AGM on 15th June 2006.

J R Buchanan commented that the Commonwealth and Cities match did not take place in 2006 as only 2 entries were received by the NSRA, but this year target stickers have been received and it is planned to shoot the cards sometime in September.

J R Buchanan apologised that no meeting had been held to look into the rules of the shoulder-to-shoulder league, but said that the rules had been published on the LSSA website.

4. Chairman's Report

J R Buchanan reported the sad loss of both Dave King and Roy Gibb. Dave King had done a marvelous job for the association over many years, running the individual postal league. The association will send a cheque to a cancer charity in memory of Dave King.

The county team has recently shot the Cities and Bouroughs competition and returned another record score of only 35 points (estimated) dropped. It is hoped that this should be enough to secure victory once again.

Mr Buchanan commented that at the Scottish Meeting, to be held at Lauder this summer, help would be required in the catering tent and that if there were any volunteers they should contact Ian Stevenson. Donations of home baking would also be gratefully accepted.

5. Shoulder-to-Shoulder League Secretary's Report.

W F Hamilton reported the results from the shoulder-to-shoulder competitions. Division 1 was won

by Watsonians with Pathhead as runners up. Watsonians also won division 1 matchplay competition with Redcraig in second place. Division 2 was won by Lauder and Selkirk who also won the matchplay. Prestonpans came second but Herriots came runners-up in the matchplay. The individual average was won by W F Hamilton in division 1 and by W Vaughan in division 2 with W Vaughan taking the best overall average prize.

Mr Hamilton said that results had been published on the LSSA website as they became available and asked whether this was appreciated by the competitors. C Mackenzie said that it was very much appreciated and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Hamilton for keeping the website updated.

6. Treasurer's Report.

As Mrs Hamilton was not present, there was no Treasurer's report but J R Buchanan said that he had had a conversation with Mrs. Hamilton and could report that the accounts had not yet been inspected but that a recent bank statement showed that the association was solvent.

7. County Captain's Report.

W F Hamilton reported the success of the county team in the County Sextette at the Scottish Meeting at Castletown in July 2006. Unfortunately the county main prone team did not fare well in division 1 over the winter and ended up last. The women's team did better finishing third, only 2 points behind the winners. The Junior team was the top county team winning division 1.

Mr Hamilton thanked everyone who participated in the county teams over the season and congratulated the junior team on their success. He particularly congratulated Matthew Thomson who became the World Junior Prone Champion in Zagreb last year and proposed that the Association recognise this outstanding achievement by presenting him with some kind of memento.

8. NSRA Representative.

No report. J R Buchanan stated that the NSRA would welcome volunteers to score at the Scottish meeting.

9. Election of Office Bearers.

The current office bearers are:

J R Buchanan - Vice Chair

C Broughton - Secretary

Mrs A M Hamilton - Treasurer

W F Hamilton - County Captain, Shoulder-to-Shoulder and Team Postal League Secretary

D Duff - Awards Secretary

The following positions are open:

Chair

Individual League secretary

County Vice Captain

J R Buchanan asked for volunteers to put themselves forward for the open positions and stated that it was essential that a secretary for the Individual League was found to allow this competition to continue. No volunteers were forthcoming. Mr Hind proposed that the current incumbents were re-elected for another year. This was seconded by Mr Scott and passed nem con.

10. Inspection of Accounts.

No accounts were presented.

11. Other Business

1. Association Communications - The Secretary proposes that the Association should make greater use of electronic methods of communication to reduce both costs and workload.

C Broughton explained that he would like to use email where possible, to communicate with affiliated clubs as this would significantly reduce the work load. A significant amount of the secretaries time is taken up with printing and mailing documents to all of the clubs. If electronic documents could be emailed then the secretaries workload would be reduced. Given the difficulty the association faces in getting volunteers to fill positions. Anything that can be done to reduce the amount of work could help to reduce the reluctance of potential volunteers. Using email would also have the additional benefit of reducing postage costs.

Mr Hind remarked that using email would not reduce costs for the clubs as they still had to return cards for association competitions. He asked whether the Association should move to self scoring. W F Hamilton said that 10 years ago the Association agreed that it did not want self scoring due to scoring inconsistencies. A discussion ensued comparing the experiences of self scoring in competitions offered by both the Perth and the Borders Associations

2. Changes to the rules for Shoulder-to-Shoulder matches - Mr C Mackenzie proposes that the Shoulder-to-Shoulder matches in the LSSA League are shot with 6 competitors per team with the best four scores to count. Only one card to be shot per match.

Mr Mackenzie said the purpose of his proposal was to introduce more people, particularly inexperienced shooters, to shoulder-to-shoulder shooting. He explained that Herriots club had entered a 'B' team of inexperienced shooters last season and they all improved their average over the season. He believed that shoulder-to-shoulder shooting was a good activity for developing shooters.

In the discussion that followed, several people commented that it might be difficult to persuade people to travel away to shoot just one card in an evening. J R Buchanan said that the six man team format had been dropped a while ago because many clubs found it difficult to raise a team of six.

Mr Mackenzie acknowledged that the feeling of the meeting was that people preferred to shoot two cards in a shoulder-to-shoulder match and that this was not practical with a team of six.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Attendees:

Lewis Downie - Edinburgh University
Douglas Allan - Edinburgh University
Jim Michael - Selkirk
Stewart Mackenzie - Heriots FP
Graeme Fraser - Edinburgh Civil Service
J. W. Scott - Pathhead
D Duff - Prestonpans
Carl Broughton

Ruth Harrison - Edinburgh University
Gavin Walker - Balerno & Currie
Robin Macmillan - Lauder
Charlie Mackenzie - Heriots FP
Jim Hind - Pathhead
David McConnell - Redcraig
W. F. Hamilton
J. R. Buchanan