



# LOTHIAN SMALL-BORE SHOOTING ASSOCIATION

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*Vice-Chairman*

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Minutes of the 104<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Lothian Small-Bore Shooting Association, held at the Balerno and Currie range on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

Chair: J R Buchanan

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mrs. A. M Hamilton, Mr I McAlpine and Mr R McAlpine.

2. Minutes of the 102nd AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

Adoption of the minutes of the previous AGM was proposed by S R Mackenzie and seconded by R Macmillan.

3. Matters arising from Minutes of the 103rd AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

J R Buchanan said that, contrary to his comments in his Chairmans Report last year, the Commonwealth Cities competition was held last year and we won it with a score of 2941.

Mr Buchanan said that Mr Chris Paul (of Masonic RC) had been co-opted to inspect the accounts this year.

4. Chairman's Report

J R Buchanan reiterated the we had won the Commonwealth Cities competition, having beaten Melbourne, Auckland and Douglas. We will shoot this competition again in September this year. In the Cities and Boroughs match, our team achieved a score of 2357 and results were expected in the next few weeks.

Mr Buchanan welcomed Mr Mowat from Pentland RC, the most distant of our affiliated clubs. He then went on to express his dissatisfaction with the number of entries into this season's Championship competition. There were only 11 entries and there are 16 places in the final. Of these only four people turned up to shoot the final. Only one non-attendee sent apologies. Mr Buchanan said this was most unsatisfactory and asked that everyone should try to encourage greater participation by members of their respective clubs.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer distributed copies of the accounts and thanked Mr Paul for inspecting them. Having been appointed at the last AGM, the new Treasurer only received control over the bank account in October 2008 and therefore the accounts only reflected the period from the 27<sup>th</sup> October to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. Over that period the association made a profit of £177.99, but Mr. Broughton pointed

out that there were annual expenses for trophies etc. which did not show up as they had not been paid during the period of the accounts. Therefore the Association was probably running at a small loss. The largest expense was the NSRA affiliation at £511.25, compared to affiliation fees received of £210.00. Mr Buchanan proposed that Affiliation fees be increase by £5 for all club categories. This was seconded by Mr C Mackenzie and was passed with no opposition.

Mr C Mackenzie asked whether association prize medals could be engraved to indicate the competition and year. There was some discussion about the feasibility and cost ending with Mr. Duff being asked to find out the cost implications. There was a discussion about the amount of insurance that was paid as part of the NSRA affiliation with some members suggesting that we should not buy the extra insurance for trophies. Mr Duff was asked to obtain an up-to-date valuation of the association trophies with a view to making a decision before the end of the year about insurance.

Mr N Baker asked how this year's accounts compared to last years and Mr Broughton said that there were no accounts last year, or the year before that to compare with.

#### 6. County Captain's Report.

**Scottish Meeting, Dumfries, July 2008.** The County Sextette team was a mixture of youth and experience, with three from GWC (Rory McAlpine, Fraser Cheetham and Ian McDougall), two from Watsonians (Bev Burnside and myself) and Carl Broughton of Masonic. Rory was top scorer in the team with 393, but it wasn't enough to prevent us finishing in 5th place. Rory also had the distinction of winning his first full Scotland cap, while still only 17, and at the Scottish meeting to boot. He was 3rd in the A Class Unsquadded Aggregate and was promoted to X class, surely one of the youngest to achieve that level. Rory must also be congratulated in winning the Bronze Medal in the Commonwealth Youth Games in India last October, and following that up with the Gold Medal at the Youth Olympics in Australia in January. Two magnificent achievements for this young man with so much potential. Unfortunately we shall be losing him as he is off to St Andrews University later this year.

**Bisley August 2008:** Unfortunately there were insufficient numbers attending to enter any sort of competitive team in the Sextette and County 50m comps. I represented Lothian in the County Champions match, and came 14th out of the 36 entrants.

#### **Indoor Leagues 2008-09**

Main Prone: We were again placed in Division 2 on our submitted averages, and finished one place lower than last year, in 5th place with only three wins. Once again, I'd like to congratulate Alasdair Home of B&C for his average of 99.7 in this team even higher than last year's 99.5.

Main Reserves: After a couple of years in Division 5 and finishing well down both times, our submitted averages put us in Division 4 this year for some reason. Once again, the team struggled and finished in 5th place with much the worst average.

Women: After a couple of unhappy seasons in Division 2, the team with the same personnel was put into Division 3 and had a much better time. Despite taking three points off the eventual winners, the team tied with them on points at the end but came second on aggregate. Beverly Burnside again topped the team's averages, improving her average of last year to 98.1 .

Juniors: Our Junior team continues to lead the way in the County Leagues for Lothian as it again won Division 1 of the Junior league. It was a hard-fought win this time as it came right down to the last round - one point at least was required against the second-placed team, and one point was duly delivered, thanks to a timely 100 by Ian McDougall. Lothian have won this Division for the last three years, and three shooters have been in all those teams - Finlay Craig, Rory McAlpine and Ian McDougall. Congratulations to them.

3P: After a period where we won this league for several years, followed by a couple where we came second to an improved Hampshire team, we have now also been overtaken by Forth & Clyde as we finished third behind both these counties this season. I'd like to thank former Commonwealth Games shooter Lynda Sinclair for coming into the team this season - if she had not then there would have been no team. Top average was again Graham Rudd, with 282.7.

KO : After scraping through Round 1 against Cornwall by one point, we were up against the mighty Hampshire in Round 2 and duly got cuffed as they put in a score that we can only dream of 1971x2000 is an average of 98.5 for each shooter, which is awesome for a team of 20.

### **One-off shoots**

BSA Cup: The result of the 2008 competition came out in November, and we were 3rd, after a couple of years being 2nd. We could not shoot the 2009 cards in April as there were too many call-offs to make a competitive team, so we shall shoot this in September at the start of next season.

Women's Indoor: The team for the 2008 competition came 11th out of 14. The 2009 cards will also be shot in September.

Cities & Boroughs We shot this in April and the result should be out soon. Our estimated score is not quite so good as in recent years but still stands an excellent chance of winning.

Commonwealth Cities We shot the 2008 competition in September after the NSRA managed to scrape enough entries together, and we won it again. Both Alasdair Home and Martin Sinclair scored 200, and Martin now has not dropped a point in this match for two years. We shall also shoot the 2009 match in September.

**SSRA Inter-Region shoot:** This took place at Denwood in Aberdeen on 19th April. I had a great deal of trouble finding a team for this competition as nobody round here seemed to want or be able to attend. Eventually I had to resort to selecting two students at Aberdeen University who, because of their dual residential status, were eligible to shoot for Lothian. One other team member was Ian Thomson who works in Wigan but also maintains a residence here, so only three of the team of six actually live in the region.

We won the Indoor match last year, but this year's makeshift team managed to win the Outdoor match instead and tied with Forth & Clyde for the Indoor title, but lost on countback unfortunately. We keep our record of having won at least one of these matches each year in recent times.

### **Conclusion**

On the County's behalf, I'd like to thank everyone who participated in all these teams this season, and congratulate the Junior team once again for being our only league winners.

W F Hamilton - County Captain

7. NSRA Representative.

Mr Buchanan said that he had attended two meetings so far in his capacity as NSRA rep. He asked whether anyone had any questions but none were forthcoming.

8. Items of Business

8.1. Historical Records - The Secretary proposes to dispose of a large quantity of historical records and would like to ask the meeting which records should be kept and by who.

After some discussion the meeting agreed that the Secretary could use his discretion and dispose of papers which appeared to be superfluous.

8.2. Competition Entries - Competition entries were low this season. How can we ensure a higher level of entries for the 2009/10 season?

Mr J Hind asked for a universal entry date. Mr N Baker asked if reminders could be sent out.

9. Election of Office Bearers.

J R Buchanan asked for nominations and for volunteers to put themselves forward for the open positions of President (Chair), Secretary or Treasurer and executive committee members. The following office bearers were elected unopposed:

Chair - no proposals

Vice Chair - J R Buchanan, proposed by G Fraser, seconded by D Cummings

Secretary - C Broughton, proposed by J R Buchanan, seconded by J Hind

Treasurer - C Broughton, proposed by J R Buchanan, seconded by W F Hamilton

County Captain - W F Hamilton, proposed by J Hind, seconded by S Mackenzie

Shoulder-to-Shoulder League Secretary - W F Hamilton, proposed by J Scott, seconded by J R Buchanan

Team Postal League Secretary - W F Hamilton, proposed by D Duff, seconded by J R Buchanan

Awards Secretary - D Duff, proposed by J R Buchanan, seconded by S Mackenzie

County Vice Captain - no proposals were received and Mr Hamilton said he was happy to continue to run the county team on his own.

NSRA Rep. - J R Buchanan, proposed by W F Hamilton, seconded by J Hind.

Mr N B Baker and Mr B Atkinson volunteered to be executive committee members and Mr C Mackenzie said that he would try to find someone from Heriots FP club to volunteer.

10. Other Business

10.1. The Secretary distributed a letter from Mr G Doe of the NSRA asking for help in identifying a site for the Scottish Meeting in 2010.

10.2. Mr Buchanan announced that there would be a Border Field Day this year on the 9<sup>th</sup> August at Thirlestane Castle.

The meeting closed at 9:10pm. Mr Buchanan thanked the Balerno and Currie Rifle Club for the use of their club house for the meeting.

Attendees:

David Cummings - Dalkeith  
David Mowat - Pentland RC  
Jim Michael - Selkirk  
W Vaughan - Selkirk  
S. R. Mackenzie - Heriots FP  
Graeme Fraser - Edinburgh Civil Service  
Jim W. Scott - Pathhead  
D Duff - Prestonpans  
Niall Georgeson - Pathhead  
Carl Broughton

Frank Gifford - Balerno & Currie  
N Baker - Watsonians  
Robin Macmillan - Lauder  
Jimmy Scott - Pathhead  
Keith Karle - Balerno & Currie  
Jim Hind - Pathhead  
C. W. Mackenzie - Heriots FP  
Brian Atkinson - E.U. Alumni  
W. F. Hamilton - Watsonians  
J. R. Buchanan