

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

## **28th JULY 2012**

### **HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee**

On behalf of the Association, the Chairman wrote to Buckingham Palace to present our compliments to Her Majesty and congratulations on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee.

A reply has been received for Her Majesty, as follows:

*I send my grateful thanks to the Members of the National Small-bore Rifle Association for their kind message of congratulations, sent on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of my Accession to the Throne.*

*In return, please accept my good wishes for a most memorable and enjoyable Diamond Jubilee Year.*

*ELIZABETH R*

### **David Lattimore**

Council members will already have heard of the death of David Lattimore, one of the Association's Joint Honorary Treasurers, which occurred on 31 March, a few days after the last Council Meeting.

## **SHOOTING MATTERS**

### **International Matches**

#### **Pershing Match**

Following the Scottish Rifle Meeting at Dumfries, the number of shooters who have qualified for the Pershing Match Trials has now risen to 27. The remaining trialists will be the top five shooters in the Roberts, the top 20 from the Bisley Class X Grand Aggregate and those invited to the trial on Captain's Wild Cards. The trials take place in September and October, so by the time of the next Council meeting in November the 12 members of the shooting team for Camp Perry will have been decided.

What will continue through this and next year will be the efforts of the team management to raise sponsorship and other financial support to help pay the team's expenses. The existing fund means that the self-help contribution from each team member should not exceed £750, but it is hoped to reduce this. An offer has already been received from Bill Phelps to hold an auction of donated shooting articles later this year, details of which are being circulated through various routes. A copy of the donation form for the auction is attached.

#### **Mayleigh Match**

Following the cancellation of the Northern Ireland Pistol International in June, it was decided to transfer the shooting of the Mayleigh Match to Bisley during the NSRA Pistol Championships Meeting. This is possible because some years ago the NRA of America adjusted the match conditions to remove the minimum trigger weight requirement. As a result the match can be shot on the Malcolm Cooper Range, with team members using .22 longarm pistols.

The Gallie Trophy Match, the British Individual Pistol Championship, was also due to be shot in Northern Ireland. As this is shot with standard pistols over 50 yards, it was not possible to transfer this to Bisley as well. We are therefore most grateful for the offer from Jersey to incorporate this in their Open Pistol Championships to be held at the Crabbe Ranges on 13 to 16 September.

## **National Meetings [from Phil Martin, Shooting Manager]**

### **Scottish Rifle Meeting**

The Scottish Meeting was held at Dumfries at the end of June on the same site as when we were last there in 2008. The total entry this year was 193. This number was about the same as last year but since this year's meeting was just over the Scottish Border and not as far north as last year's I would have expected more entries. I would like to thank the local organizers, Cyril De Jonckheere and Graham Shedden who with a team from the local clubs, had worked hard over the preceding four days in some difficult weather conditions. The weather played a big part in the meeting but I would like to say that over the Tuesday/Wednesday prior to the start of the meeting I did in fact get sunburnt.

Thursday has always been the Scottish police shoot and they came and shot, but by the lunch time they were all soaked to the skin. Rain persisted throughout the day and into the evening and continued during Friday. At this point the range was mostly under about 2 to 3 inches of standing water and the weather was forecast to get worse during the Saturday and Sunday. A range committee was assembled and after a long discussion (1.5 hours) a decision was taken to postpone the shooting for Saturday and Sunday. We then set about contacting the competitors who were shooting the weekend only and informed them of the decision. We spoke to approximately 95% of those weekend shooters during the Friday afternoon. Roughly thirty people chose not to attend because they were only shooting the weekend (all these people will get a refund) but due to the hard work of the admin team we did take extra entries for competitions which we normally do not allow. This is a complex and time consuming process but we felt that on this occasion was worth the extra effort. This helped to recoup some monies. The remainder of the week went without any major problems.

On Friday the weather deteriorated and the rescheduled first stage of The Earl Haig was shot in heavy rain, and both the Home Countries Internationals and the final of the Haig were shot in gale force winds and torrential rain.

I would like to thank Edward Kendall for all his help during the week. I would like to also thank Ian Burton who agreed to do the presentation, and a special mention must be given to the Admin team of Gloria and Charlotte who work very hard behind the scenes to make sure the results were produced as quickly as possible.

### **Bisley Rifle Meeting**

Entrants to the August Bisley Meeting have been sent, where possible, an email acknowledgement of their entries, the same as last year. For the first time this year, we are planning to try and distribute individual results after the Bisley meeting by email instead of the normal mail out. Those competitors without email will still get the result by post. In time I would hope that all results will be sent by email, thus saving the Competitions Department a substantial amount of postage bill.

### **International 50 metre Rifle Championship/ Bisley Pistol Championships**

Entry forms for both the above competitions are now out and we have had a number of entries for both. The change of date to late September for the 50m Rifle Championships has necessitated some re-timing of events and in particular there will be only one elimination relay for the Men's Prone event on the Saturday, with capacity for two on the Friday if required. Competitors who are unable to shoot on Friday need to submit their entries urgently, as they will be dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **Postal Competitions**

### **Summer League**

The summer leagues are now well under way and the last day for shooting round seven is next Monday, the 30 July. We have already issued round 5 results. This means that there is approximately 2 to 3 weeks between last day for shooting and the results arriving back at the clubs.

### **Winter Leagues**

All winter postal leagues entry forms are now out. The club and individual entry forms were posted out with the paperwork for the A.G.M. and the county paperwork went out in the post on Friday, 13 July. The closing dates are Wednesday 8 August for individual/club competitions, and Friday 31 August for the county competitions.

### **Benchrest Shooting**

A conference was held on 7 July at Bisley, to which a number of people closely involved with benchrest shooting were invited. The purpose was to discuss with NSRA staff the format of benchrest shooting in Great Britain and internationally, with a view to identifying how NSRA Rules and Regulations might be adjusted to better meet the needs of shooters and competition organisers. There will be further consultation before proposals are brought for approval to the Shooting Council.

Progress is also being made on putting in place arrangements for international participation. A provisional entry has been submitted for the European Championships and World Cup to be held at Pilsen, CZE, in 2013 and a number of shooters have already indicated their interest in being selected for the team, which will be funded through self-help contributions, plus any sponsorship that can be arranged.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **Staffing**

In line with his plans when he joined the Association, **Allan Boosey** will be retiring from his position as Chief Executive with effect from the end of August, following which he will be returning to Australia. Allan has already left the office to undertake some family commitments in this country and the United States over the next few weeks, although he is maintaining contact with Board Members and staff on some matters. An interview short-list for his replacement has already been prepared, following the advertising of the vacancy during June.

Shortly after the last Council meeting, **Grant Dorrall** resigned from his position as Competitions Manager. However special arrangements were put in place for him to continue to organise the NSRA retail activities at Woolwich during the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

**Phil Martin** was appointed to take over as Competitions Manager and we have been most fortunate that he was able to take up the position with very little delay and in time to complete the preparations for the Scottish Rifle Meeting.

Following the secondment of our Coaching and Development Manager, **Dave Froggett**, to British Shooting to act as their National Development Manager Dave will now be returning to his original post from 1 October 2012.

**Mrs Fiona Rhodes**, who joined us earlier this year as our new Membership Manager, has had to tender her resignation for personal reasons. This has left an unexpected void in Membership Services, exacerbated by the current absence on sick leave of **Mrs Tina Hennessy**, who looks after the administration of coaching and RCO qualifications and licences. We are therefore particularly grateful

that Fiona's predecessor, **Mrs Helen Robins**, who retired in March, has offered to give us some help on a part-time basis in keeping the work of the department moving.

## **Sport England**

### **NSRA's implementation of its undertaking re the Sport England Plan**

The three Regional Development Managers (RDM) are now in place and working in the three target regions. The North East Region has courses planned and some have been run including a second Scorers course. This course is now being rolled out to other regions starting with a course at Holwell in September.

In the West Midlands Region courses have started with Prone and LSR Club Instructor courses. 13 more instructors have been qualified as a result. Work is due to commence on the Regional Development Hub at WMRSC this month. The RDM has attended county meetings to inform them of the project.

In the South East Region systems for the reformed South East Regional Squad are in place ready to start the recruitment and training of the squad. A meeting has taken place with the SE Regional training team to plan support for courses.

### **Forward Plan - Sport England bid for 2013-17**

The 2-page synopsis of the new Whole Sport Plan was submitted to Sport England and a full plan to bid for funding was put together and submitted before the 14 May deadline. Sport England is now considering the plans from all sports and *British Shooting* will present the plan to an assessment panel in October.

Following the submission *British Shooting* have been contacted for more information on the financial details of the plan. Further requests for information are anticipated during the build-up to the presentation.

### **Ipsos Mori Survey**

The 2012 Sport Satisfaction Survey has been completed. Shooting is ranked 8 out of 46 sports with an 83.2% satisfaction rating against an average rating for all sports of 80.6%.

### **Disability Shooting Project**

Since the employment of Liz Woodall by *British Shooting* as Disability Shooting Coordinator the project has moved on at pace. Work has taken place in the following areas:

**A. Communications:** – one of the key areas of the project is to improve communications. Following the establishment of the DSP Website, Facebook and Twitter Pages have been set up. Info-packs on disabled shooting have been constructed and over 100 hard copies have been posted or handed out. These are also being made available electronically. The leaflets on disabled inclusion have been expanded to include other disciplines.

The DSP is now included in several magazines including the NGB Journals. These include The Rifleman, Target Shooter and NRA Journal.

**B. Disabled Shooting Year:** 1 April saw the launch of this event to provide a focus on disabled shooting in the Olympic year.

**C. Links to Other Organisations:** – the project has been in contact with organisations both inside and outside shooting to raise awareness of the project and to hopefully enhance partnership working. These include for example DTSG, Dyscover, Scouts, Sportability, UK Deaf Sport and Wheelpower.

Also the DSP has been represented by the Disability Shooting Project Coordinator at the Dwarf Sports Association UK Day at Aldersley, Inter Spinal Unit Games at Stoke Mandeville, the School Games, the NRA Open Day and the NSRA West Midlands Region Development Project meeting. Further to this have-a-go days and stands at events such as the Disabled Awareness Day at Warrington and the DSAUK South East and South West Taster Days have been set up.

**D. Field Target:** – the BFTA is keen to better provide for shooters with disabilities in their competition structure. A general meeting of BFTA was attended on 16 June to discuss provision for disabled participation in field target. After lengthy debate agreement was reached on proposed a course of action, but there will be a further drafting and consultation process for the new rules which will be necessary to implement the changes.

#### **E. Sport England Inclusive Sport Funding**

The Inclusive Sport Funding bids must be submitted by 31 August and NGBs have been asked for information on what they would like to include outside that which is currently covered by the DSP.

#### **F. Focus Clubs**

The criteria for the benchmarking of focus clubs for disabled shooters are being developed. This will be based on those clubs which are currently providing good facilities and service to disabled shooters. It is hoped to launch the criteria in September.

#### **G. Club Support**

Diggle Ranges – A letter of support for the planned development and improvement of the range facilities has been requested.

Keighley R&PC – The initial meeting of the club members was very positive, and the Disabled Shooting Centre project is going ahead.

#### **Talent Development**

Following Neil Tunnicliffe's analysis of the talent pathway in shooting, draft versions of the proposed talent pathway for Small-bore, Clay Target and Full-bore disciplines have been developed. Pathway development working groups are being formed in these disciplines to discuss the pathways and look at how they may be implemented. The proposed talent pathway for small-bore shooting has been accepted by ESSU. No further information has been received yet from the clay target and full-bore disciplines.

#### **Equality**

As part of the self-assurance process required by UK Sport and Sport England a new *British Shooting* Equality Policy is being developed.

#### **Surrey Police Firearms Licensing**

From September, Surrey Police Firearms licensing will be converting to a paperless office. This will involve scanning the contents of some 13000 files and running the paper-based and paperless systems in parallel. There are likely to be delays to their service for about 6 months. Accordingly plenty of time needs to be allowed for FACs renewal applications in Surrey to be processed between September 2012 and about March 2013.

#### **Olympic and Paralympic Games**

##### **Quota Places**

Great Britain relinquished three of its Host Quota Places, all in pistol events, but did receive a Quota Place for Men's Prone Rifle in compensation. The full calendar for the Olympic and Paralympic shooting events, including the British participants in each, was circulated in the NSRA News edition issued with the NSRA Annual Report.

In the first shooting event, held this morning, Jen McIntosh finished the 10 metre Air Rifle in 36th place of the 56 competitors, with a score of 392 ex 400.

For the Paralympic Games Great Britain received one further Quota Place, which has raised the number of British participants to 12.

### **Legacy**

It is now known that there is no legacy in terms of electronic targets, as these have only been leased from Sius. However we hope that the Association will benefit with the acquisition of some items of smaller equipment, but the final decision on its disposition will rest with *British Shooting*.

### **NSRA Ltd Websites**

The new e-commerce website for the NSRA shop, [www.nsrashop.co.uk](http://www.nsrashop.co.uk), went live in June, although some aspects need further attention.

### **Committees**

The results of the elections were announced in the previous report to Council.

Subsequently the Board of Management approved the following appointments to Committees:

#### **Rifle Committee**

Mr. M.J. Chapman  
Mr. E. Kendall  
Mr. D. Poxon

#### **Pistol, Airgun & Crossbow Committee**

Mr. R. Monksummers  
Mr. I. Morris  
Mrs. K. Morris

#### **Referees Committee**

Mr. R. Heath  
Dr. P. Holdstock

#### **Coaching and Development Committee**

Mr. R. Evered

# GREAT BRITAIN TEAM, PERSHING MATCH 2013

## FUND RAISING

### ORGANISED BY THE CENTIPEDE CLUB & WELSH ARMS

As you are no doubt aware, there is no funding for this prestigious match against America, which takes place in Camp Perry in 2013. In order to help relieve the financial burden on the individual, and get the best possible Team, we have come up with a scenario, WHICH WILL NOT COST YOU ANY MONEY, although donations would not be refused!

We are asking you to donate any unwanted rifles; airguns; scopes; sights; etc. from Individuals; Clubs or Businesses. We will then auction them in our specialist Gun Auctions, and the full amount received will go to the Pershing Team fund via The Centipede Club. Welsh Arms ([www.welsharms.co.uk](http://www.welsharms.co.uk)) hold 4 auctions per year, and will waive their selling commission, so the full hammer price will go to the Team. Items donated will be auctioned on Sunday, 9th December. Catalogues will be available online, or as below, three weeks before.

You can bid by post; email; telephone or in person, at the auction, in Cardiff.

Anyone with items to donate, please contact:  
Carl Taylor (01244 812519; Bill or David Phelps (02920614712)  
or via the Welsh Arms website.

Items Donated:

From: