

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

### **19th MARCH 2011**

It is with great regret that we report the recent death of Denis Giuseppe at the age of 96. Denis was Chairman of the NSRA for a period in the early 1980s and served for about 30 years on the Rifle Committee.

We have also been notified of the death of Dick Sims, who for many years was the Invited Observer on the Council, representing the Civil Service Rifle Association.



## **SHOOTING MATTERS**

### **National Meetings**

The Airgun Championships had 294 competitors enter, however there were nine 'no shows'. There were some slight fluctuations in entries in each of the competitions/disciplines the most obvious one being Sporter rifle. It appeared to be that there are now enough Sporter Rifle competitions being run throughout the country to enable competitors to shoot more locally to them than Bisley. The separation of Class X SH2 air rifle competitors passed without comment. The Masters Class was poorly supported with most competitors opting to enter the main Championships.

Twelve athletes (six in air rifle and six in air pistol) from the Turkish North of Cyprus with a small support staff entered the competition. The highest placed individual took fourth place in the Men's Air Pistol Olympic Final.

### **International Matches**

Neil Gibbons has accepted the offer from the Rifle Committee to Captain the Great Britain Team for the Pershing Match at Camp Perry in 2013.

### **Summer Competitions**

Progress has been made in setting up an electronic system for the submission of scores by NSRA scorers to the NSRA and the ongoing emailing of results to the clubs for publication. All summer competition scores will be handled electronically which will hopefully speed up the submission and publication of scores. Work will continue on this project to improve and widen the use of electronic media as the trial continues through the summer.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **Staffing**

**Alistair Aitken** will step down as Shooting Manager as soon as a suitable replacement has been found. He will then continue working part time (three days a week) for the NSRA, concentrating on Range inspections, Firearms and Insurance matters and remain as the RFD for the NSRA Group. He will also be in a position to assist the new appointee in the Competitions Department role take over that job and has agreed to provide some holiday and weekend cover for the new appointee.

The advert for the new post has been published under the provisional title of Shooting Manager on the websites of the NSRA, NRA and CPSA. Applications close on Monday and interviews will take place in April.

**Denise Doe** has left the Association, having worked in Membership Department and subsequently Competitions Department for about 20 years. Denise's arm injury has continued to cause her very considerable discomfort, making working at a computer keyboard for much of her day very difficult.

Her "official" last day was 18 February, although typically she continued through the weekend entering the scores at the Airgun Championship Meeting.

### **Sport England Whole Sport Plan**

Work in many areas of the Whole Sport Plan (WSP) has commenced. The Clay Pigeon Shooting Association has re-engaged with the Whole Sport Plan to allow the interventions to cover all target shooting disciplines.

### **Working Groups**

To implement some of the interventions from the plan several cross-discipline working groups have been formed. These have representatives from the NRA, NSRA and CPSA together with other specialists to cover all target shooting disciplines.

**Participant Development Group** - This group has worked on producing a model which illustrates the way that people get into target shooting, identifying the feeders and ultimately helping us to better provide for them. The first models have been drawn up and these are being refined to show the numbers of people in each area of the sport.

Club surveys are a big part of this research and completing these will benefit all clubs in the future.

**Coaching Working Group** - This group has drawn up and compared the different NGB coaching schemes to discover if there is common ground and opportunities for standardisation. From this the group completed a standards-matching exercise across the disciplines. It has been found that the only match occurs at Club Instructor level. The focus has now turned to the way in which we train educators – i.e. the people who train coaches which is perceived as one area where we can standardise delivery.

**Disabled Working Group** - The disabled project, formerly a wholly NSRA initiative has been expanded to cover all target shooting disciplines via GBTSF. This will enable more effective work to take place using some of the funding available from the WSP.

### **Other Activities**

**Benchmarking** - As a Whole Sport Plan sport we are linked into external support structures that can benefit shooting. The Sport England Club Mark is one example. This benchmarking which can be achieved at local level via the County Sports Partnerships (CSPs) shows a club is operating to a specific cross-sport standard and can be useful when working with outside agencies.

Other opportunities, generally in the form of funding rounds (such as the upcoming Sportivate Program) are accessible as a WSP sport.

**Showcase** - Some of the National Shows which involve shooting are planned to be attended by all three NGBs to show the full spectrum of target shooting opportunities available. The first of these was The British Shooting Show at Newark in February. Others later in the year are the CLA Game Fair and the Midland Game Fair.

Other showcase activities are the inclusion of shooting in the "Memory 4 Teachers" project, which provides school teachers with memory sticks pre-loaded with information on sports and the "Gold Challenge" which is an initiative which encourages people to try various sports and raise money for charity.

**Regional Development** - This is a key area for shooting development and three pilot regions have been identified. The first is Yorkshire and the North East where a development hub has been set up at Easingwold R and PC. The West Midlands and South East will be the next regions to benefit. It is

hoped to run courses, help Regional squads and generally improve communication in these regions. This will help to identify best practice, which can be used in the other regions in the future.

**County Sports Partnerships (CSP) Engagement** - All English Counties have a County Sports Partnership which coordinates and helps the development of all sports in the county. As a WSP sport we can benefit from working with CSPs to promote shooting. In the pilot regions CSP Engagement days have been run for the CSPs to help them to understand shooting better and what we require to help.

**Website** - A GBTSF website is under discussion. This is not to replace NGB websites but to act as a "front door" or entry point to the sport. This would then lead people into the discipline specific NGB websites once users have found an area of interest. Tenders are being considered for the development of the site.

### **Firearms Matters**

The new Crime and Security Act 2010 (Commencement No.2) Order 2011: Air Weapons became active on 10 February 2011. The aim of the Order was to formalise and clarify the rules for the possession and use of an air weapon. The detailed information is available on the NSRA website and in the next edition of *The Rifleman*.

Discussions are taking place to identify the penalties associated with the slow response by police to the applications for renewal/issue/variation of FACs. The main topics covered in the discussions with the Home Office and ACPO is the length of time taken for HO Approval and FAC issues/renewals. In addition, it has been proposed that fresh approaches to licensing are investigated. These include:

Fees for FACs – to try and set national fees

Ages for possession/use of firearms to be standardised

The reorganisation of the Firearms Licensing Departments to improve customer service.

The issue of an electronic version of the FAC application form has been produced and advice on the processes used with the form will be released once final discussions have taken place.

### **Transport of Firearms by Rail**

There is no intent on the part of National Rail to prohibit the transportation of unloaded firearms on their trains, however local rail companies may impose a ban on their own routes. The advice to those who use this form of transport is to check before you travel.

### **Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults**

Following the government's review of the work of the Independent Safeguarding Authority, a number of recommendations have been made. These include the widening of the portability of criminal record checks "within employment sectors", but the effect of this for sports organisations yet to be defined. The implementation of this and other recommendations, which have been accepted by the government, for part of the Protection of Freedoms Bill, which is currently being considered in the House of Commons.

The suspension last year by the government of the registration of volunteers with the ISA does not affect the arrangements which the NSRA already had in place with the publication of its policy and guidelines in November 2009.

### **Surrey Task Force** (Includes NSRA as the shooting venue)

Recent visits have been hosted for the following Olympic delegations:

Bangladesh

Nigeria

Malta  
Singapore

Only 65 Pre-Olympic Training Camp agreements have been signed across the UK, therefore the taskforce is anticipating a very busy period ahead.

### **2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Legacy**

An announcement is expected next week from LOCOG that the NSRA has been appointed as a major supplier of shooting equipment for the London Games 2012.

### **Targets**

We have been advised by Sykes, our principal target suppliers if the likelihood of MM13 targets and backers and BM1003 targets and backers (the 50 metre and 100 yard triple cards) being supplied in packs of 200 instead of the current 300. This is as a result of the application of Health & Safety (Lifting) regulations at Sykes' premises, but existing stocks of the packs of 300 may be sufficient to last until the end of this year.

### **Election Results**

61 voting forms were issued, of which 20 were returned.

The outcome of the elections is as follows:

#### **Chairman**

Elected unopposed Mr. R.W. Newman

#### **Vice-Chairman**

Elected unopposed Mr. R.B. Loughridge

#### **Board of Management**

Elected Mr. K.I. Nash

#### **Administrative Members**

Elected unopposed Mr. A.E. Dougliss  
Mr. R.W. Johnson

#### **International Committee**

Elected unopposed Mr. W.J. Dallimore  
Mr. D.A.M. McIntosh  
Mr. D.R.V. Parish  
Mr. P.C. Scanlan  
Mr. P.F.C. Underhill

The Board has re-appointed Mr. Parish as Chairman.

#### **Rifle Committee**

Elected Mr. K.I. Nash  
Mr. F. Jennings  
Mr. H.C. Taylor  
Mr. P.N. Peters

The Board has re-appointed Mr. Nash as Chairman and has approved his recommendations for additional appointments to the Committee.

Appointed Mr. M.J. Chapman  
Mr. D.R.V. Parish  
Mr. D. Poxon

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

Elected Mr. A.E. Dougliss  
Mr. D. Poxon  
Mr. J.A. Mallows  
Mr. R. Green  
Mr. J.O. Lloyd  
Mrs. E. Twyford

The Board has re-appointed Mr. Dougliss as Chairman and has approved his recommendations for additional appointments to the Committee.

Appointed Mr. C. Aston  
Mr. A. Lawrence  
Mr. R. Monksummers

### **Referees Committee**

Elected Mr. K.I. Nash  
Mr. A.E. Dougliss  
Mr. M.J. Chapman

The Board has re-appointed Mr. Nash as Chairman and has approved his recommendations for additional appointments to the Committee.

Appointed Mr. W.N.G. Gilmour  
Mr. R. Heath

### **Coaching and Development Committee**

Elected Mr. E. Kendall  
Mr. A.E. Dougliss  
Mr. H.C. Taylor  
Mr. A. Collick  
Mr. D.R.V. Parish

The Board has re-appointed Mr. Kendall as Chairman and has approved his recommendations for additional appointments to the Committee.

Appointed Mr. R. Evered  
Mr. M. Woodhead

### **Special Awards Committee**

The five current members, Messrs. A.W. Batten, D. Brigden, G. Lawson and D.A.D. Mottram and Mrs. J. Nicholl, were re-elected unopposed. The members of the Committee will elect their own Chairman at their first meeting after 1 May.