

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO THE SHOOTING COUNCIL

30th JULY 2011

It is with great regret that we report the death of Eric Dougliss on 8th July at the age of 60. His funeral was held in Birmingham on 22nd July when the Board and staff were officially represented. There were also a number of shooting friends present, particularly from Oxfordshire and Lancashire, and a number of shooters, parents and coaches from the NSRA Junior Squad.



There is not sufficient room here to mention all his activities, but he was Oxfordshire County Secretary and its nominated member of the NSRA Shooting Council since 1981 and a member of the NSRA Board of Management for the last 16 years. He gained his first County Coach qualification in 1983.

It was the wish of Eric's family that any donations which people wished to make in memory of him should go to the support of junior shooters at Eric's club, Wantage. A short form is given at the end of this report which can be used to pass such donations to the club.

SHOOTING MATTERS

National Meetings

The 50 metre International Rifle Championships were held on 10 to 12 June, for which the entry of 119 was 27 fewer than in 2010. The outstanding results were from Jen McIntosh, who won the Women's 3x20 match and set three British and four Scottish records in the process, and from the Welsh team of Jenny Corish, Siân Corish and Helen Warnes, who won both the Women's Home Country Internationals.

On the same weekend the British Long Range Pistol Championship for the Gallie Trophy was shot at the Jersey Open Meeting. It was won by Tara Laine of Guernsey who in the 60th year of the competition became only the second woman to win the Championship.

The Scottish Meeting was held at the beginning of July on the Thurdistoft Airfield near Castletown in Caithness, a venue last used in 2005 and 2006. The entry was disappointing at 180, compared with 231 at Lauder in 2010. The weather conditions were variable and at times not at all conducive to high scoring.

The opportunity was taken at the Scottish meeting to trial new arrangements in firing point control by the range officers. In particular range officers were relieved of the need to go down range between details to strike off the stickers on the cards, leaving them free to maintain full control of the firing point whilst competitors were moving about with their equipment. The marking of stickers was carried out before competitors entered the firing point. Arrangements at the Bisley meeting will revert to stickers being marked after the card has been mounted on the target frames, although the intention is for this, if possible, to be undertaken by volunteers other than the range officers.

Entrants to the Bisley meeting have been sent, where possible, email acknowledgements of their entries and letters will be posted shortly. The posting will also give them forewarning that there may be some traffic congestion in the area towards London on the Sunday 14 August when there will be an Olympic Test event, the London-Surrey Cycle Classic road race, taking place.

Entry forms for the Pistol Meeting on 9 to 11 September will be available from next week.

Rifle Meeting Questionnaire

At the Scottish Meeting a questionnaire was issued to competitors. In the light of the fall in entries at the Scottish this year, together with the special circumstances of 2012 which may significantly impact on the availability of regular participants and volunteers at our meetings, the questionnaire sought comments on how competitors viewed their own participation intentions next year. The responses will assist the Board in coming to rapid conclusions as to the viability and venues of the options for 2012. Responses to the questionnaire already exceed 50% of the 2011 competitors and continue to be received.

It is the intention to issue a similar questionnaire to competitors at the Bisley Rifle Meeting in August.

International Matches

The 2011 World Cups were events where Olympic Quota Places were available. Unfortunately our British rifle and pistol shooters were unable to secure any. Both James Huckle in Men's 3x40 and Michelle Smith in Women's 3x20 reached finals (at Changwon and Munich respectively), but missed out on the Quota Places, each being third amongst the eligible competitors for the two places available. However both of them set new British records in the process. Shotgun shooters fared better, winning an additional two places to the one place won last year and the nine places we receive as host nation (four for shotgun, three for pistol and two for rifle).

The last British opportunity to win Quota Places is at the forthcoming European Championships in cartridge rifle, cartridge pistol and shotgun events, to be held in Belgrade between 2nd and 13th August. The last Quotas for the airgun events will be awarded at the European Championships in Finland next February.

Summer Competitions

This season Competitions Department introduced a new system for issue of league results, based on Excel charts and which enables results to be issued to clubs and scorers by email. The system has been well received by the clubs involved and the number of results which still have to be issued by post is now very small.

Regional Squads

The Mercia Regional Squad, formed a couple of years ago has now set up a pistol section. Pistol Squads have also been formed covering the Yorkshire and the North East of England and South West England, based at Easingwold and Charmouth, Dorset respectively. The formation of an Eastern Regional Pistol Squad is under consideration.

Electronic Targets

The International Shooting Sport Federation has just announced that three models manufactured by Megalink, the 4K187 and 4K300 for 10 metre air rifle and pistol and the 4K560 for 50 metre rifle and pistol, have been tested and given Phase I and II Test approved. Under the terms of NSRA Rule 1.10.9.1.1, the Board of Management yesterday approved the addition of these Megalink systems to the existing list of Sius Ascor, Polytronic and Speith systems which may be used in NSRA postal competitions. Further information on the Megalink systems is being obtained and will be published as soon as available.

Organisations which use electronic targets for NSRA competitions are required under Rule 1.10.9.2 to register the equipment with the NSRA. The registration application form may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary.

The approval does not extend to the Sius Laserscore and the Meyton MF4R1 and MF4R3 systems, which have only passed the Phase I test.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Staffing

Grant Dorrall was appointed as the Competitions Manager. Grant was the Retail Shop Manager for NSRA Limited, but has experience in competitions organisation and management in previous employments. His employment in his new position in June enabled him to attend and work at the Scottish Meeting.

Alistair Aitken has now stepped down as the Shooting Manager and is working in a permanent part time role previously described and reported to the Shooting Council at its March 2011 meeting. As a reminder, Alistair is now responsible for Ranges, in terms of safety, inspections, and maintenance; keeping up to date with and reporting on Firearms legislation; Insurance; and he will be the NSRA's representative at relevant external agencies such as the British Shooting Sports Council, ACPO, etc. He will also remain as the RFD for the NSRA Group.

Apart from now being fully responsible for the organisation of NSRA's various competitions, Grant will be shadowing Alistair on the duties now being undertaken by Alistair to enable Grant to take over when Alistair takes his holidays.

Supporting Grant in his new role as Competitions Manager is newly appointed full time Competitions Assistant, **Gloria Lynn**, who joins permanent part time Competitions Assistant, **Anne Davis**.

Terry Le Cheminant has been appointed as the new Retail Shop Manager, replacing Grant Dorrall. Terry has worked for a number of years in the Retail Shop at The Lord Roberts Centre, and his knowledge of the products has been very helpful to a large number of customers. He has taken up his new role with enthusiasm and the NSRA Limited Directors are confident that he will adapt to his management role very quickly.

Lynn Thomas has been appointed as the new Operations Manager for the Lord Roberts Centre. Lynn previously worked as the Customer Services Officer for LRC, but since last November Lynn has worked well with Dee Fuller, who had been overseeing the operations of LRC.

Sport England Whole Sport Plan

Following the Sport England Self Assurance process the governance of the project is under review. As outlined in the section under the British Shooting heading of this report, Sport England has now stated that, like UK Sport, they also want to fund the Whole Sport Plan programme via British Shooting.

However, again, as outlined in the report on British Shooting, the move of Whole Sport Plan funds to British Shooting will not take place until all parties are happy with the new format of British Shooting, and discussions are underway to ensure that the deadline of the end of September 2011 for all parties to agree on the restructured British Shooting organisation is met.

During this period, Sport England have held back funding for the Whole Sport Plan. Work has continued but sections of the project which require large or continued expenditure are on hold.

Sport Satisfaction survey

Following the latest round of the IPSOS Mori Sport Satisfaction Survey, Shooting registers an 84.5% satisfaction rating. This is one of the highest rated sports second only to Goal Ball and shows an increase from the original 83.7 rating in 2009.

Regional Development Managers

The posts for RDM for the South East and West Midlands regions have been advertised. These positions are currently being reviewed and a decision will be made shortly.

Funding Rounds

Several new funding opportunities are available via Sport England. Details are available on the SE website County Sports Partnerships are a good source of further information and support.

Sportivate - Sport England have announced another funding opportunity for sports which is aimed at encouraging young people (13 to 25) to become involved in sport. £35 million is to be invested in sports until 2015. The scheme will be based around sports being supported to deliver 6 to 7 week introductory courses to young people. The funding is likely to operate at local level and require NGB benchmarking and approval of the clubs that deliver the programmes. An initial outline of the way that shooting could deliver this has been sent to SE for discussion.

Iconic Facilities - Sport England will invest in a small number of strategic multi-sport facility projects that will significantly contribute to an increase in mass participation in sport across England. These facilities will be regionally significant for at least two sports and demonstrate long term financial viability.

Sports Match - Sportsmatch makes awards to not-for-profit organisations that have secured sponsorship to deliver new community projects to grow or sustain participation in sport. Awards of between £1,000 and £100,000 can be made to match funding from no more than five sponsors, with each sponsor contributing a minimum of £1,000.

Inspired Facilities - Inspired Facilities is focused on making it easier for local community and volunteer groups to improve and refurbish sports clubs or transform non-sporting venues into modern grassroots sport facilities.

Working Groups

Participant Development Group - The group have highlighted the main feeders for shooting sport and prioritised them. These are now produced as a Participant Development Model for each NGB. The numbers of participants in each section of the model is now being investigated. Also, a club survey is being put together to find out the ways that people find out about and become members of clubs. A cross-discipline "Had-a Go" leaflet is also being produced which will give an over view of shooting to people who have taken part in taster sessions.

Coaching Group - The group are now looking at the training of Coach Educators. A generic coach educator course is being considered based on the Sportscoach UK course but delivered in-house.

The clubs in Yorkshire and the North East have been contacted to scope out the numbers of people who are interested in the subsidised courses made available by the SE funding. This will enable the venues and final organisation of the courses to be determined.

Disabled Project - The group now includes representatives from NSRA, NRA and CPSA and has had several meetings at WMRSC (Aldersley). Further work was done on the disabled inclusion spectrum to better map out how disabled people are catered for in shooting.

The publicity of the project has been discussed and expansion of coverage of project to NRA and CPSA journals as well as other publications considered. Already the project is included in the online magazine Target Shooter. A laptop has been purchased to help administer the project and a specific

email set up via GBTSF to recommence communications. Also a mobile has been acquired to give a single, portable contact point for the project.

The timing of the Disabled Shooting year has been discussed and a start in January 2012 agreed. A plan for the year is being constructed.

Sport England Strategy

2011-2015 and 2013-17 Funding Consultation Events are taking place. Representatives from NGBs have been to the events which will discuss the strategy and development of plans going forward from the end of the current funding round.

2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Legacy

In January 2010, the NSRA, having taken the lead on this matter, submitted to the Government Olympic Executive (GOE) on behalf of the Disability Target Shooting Great Britain (DTSGB), the British International Clay Target Shooting Federation (BICTSF) and itself, a detailed outline of the Shooting Sports legacy plan to develop target shooting participation opportunities on the back of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games; and to seek agreement on the redeployment of post-London 2012 shooting technical equipment and facilities.

Apart from one meeting in June 2010 with GOE and LOCOG at which no decision was made we have had no response to our proposal. In June 2011 we heard via Mr Peter Underhill, Shooting Competitions Manager at LOCOG, that it would be prudent to send a business plan to GOE by the end of June 2011 as a decision was likely to be made then on the future deployment of the electronic equipment following the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Accordingly, the NSRA met again with representatives from DTSGB and BICTSF to agree on the contents of the business plan which was submitted to GOE and Mr Underhill on 24 June 2011. Whilst we have heard that GOE is leaning towards providing the equipment to the organisers of the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, after which it may become available to us, we have not as yet received any response from GOE to our business plan.

In June 2011, we also heard via Mr Underhill that GOE will be progressing and inviting bids and tenders from interested parties within the next few weeks for the range enclosures from the Royal Artillery Barracks at Woolwich, and we have lodged our interest in receiving an invitation to tender for the materials.

In regards to the report provided to you at the March 2011 Shooting Council meeting I can confirm that an agreement has been reached with LOCOG and the NSRA has been appointed as a major supplier of shooting equipment for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London.

British Shooting

Both, UK Sport and Sport England, have made it clear that they wish to have only one body through which they would channel any government funds allocated to a sport. The World Class funds from UK Sport for the preparation of Clay and Small-bore has already been provided by UK Sport to British Shooting for at least the 2008 and 2012 Olympic Games.

When Sport England approved development funds for the implementation of the Whole Sport Plan programme, it provided the funds to the NRA and NSRA via the shell company, Great Britain Target Shooting Federation which was accountable for the funds and responsible for the implementation of the programme.

Sport England has now stated that, like UK Sport, they also want to fund the Whole Sport Plan programme via British Shooting.

As a result of an audit undertaken by UK Sport on British Shooting earlier this year, British Shooting was required to address a number of governance shortfalls in order to be labelled a fit for purpose organisation and so continue to receive government funds. A temporary part time Acting Chief Executive was appointed by British Shooting in April whose task is to redress the shortfalls and we understand that this work is continuing at the present time.

As part of the changes in British Shooting, the structure of the Board was also changed in March, but the attendees at the meeting in March were not provided with the opportunity to take the proposed changes back to their respective National Governing Bodies for consideration before changes were made.

For this reason, it has been agreed with Sport England that the Whole Sport Plan funds be moved to British Shooting, but this will not take place until all parties are happy with the new format of British Shooting. Accordingly discussions are taking place at the present time amongst the UK National Governing Bodies in regards to the most appropriate structure, purpose, and remit for a reformed British Shooting organisation.

Sport England has given a deadline of the end of September 2011 for all parties to agree and the reformed British Shooting organisation to be in place.

Olympic & Paralympic Games

Aside from his part-time work with the NSRA, Ali Aitken is now fully engaged with the preparation for the three events at Woolwich next year, the World Cup in April plus the Olympic and Paralympic Games. This includes the processing of firearm permits for competitors and the design and inspection of the ranges.

Coaching Courses

The first YPS Tutor Trainer course in **Crossbow** was held at Aldersley in early June. The second course, also at Aldersley, is planned for November.

The second Club Instructor course for **Lightweight Sport Rifle** was held at Bookham Rifle Club, Surrey in April. Plans are being made for a further course or courses, following additional requests from clubs in the Surrey and Hampshire areas.

Civil Nuclear Constabulary

CNC has now taken up residence at Lord Roberts Centre using part of the NSRA office space together with other some other dedicated facilities on the ground floor. In addition they have become a major user of the meeting rooms on the first floor, where midweek bookings in the past have been very low and irregular. The arrangement will have a very positive impact on LRC revenue in the future.

The late Eric Dougliss

To: The Chairman, Wantage Target Shooting Club

Flt. Lt. R.A. Evans (Rtd)
23 Hardwell Close
Grove
Wantage
Oxon, OX12 0BN.

Please accept the attached cheque, payable to Wantage TSC, as a donation in memory of the late Eric Dougliss, to be used for the benefit of the junior shooters at your club.

From:

Name: _____

Address: _____

GIFT AID

Wantage TSC is a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), and therefore entitled to claim Gift Aid on donations. If you are a UK tax payer and would like the club, if they are able, to claim Gift Aid on your donation, please sign the declaration below.

It will increase the value of your donation to the club by 25%.

I want Wantage TSC to treat this payment as a donation for Gift Aid purposes. I confirm that I pay an annual amount of income tax or capital gains tax equal to the tax which may be reclaimed by Wantage TSC.

Signed _____

Date _____