

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT TO THE SHOOTING COUNCIL

19th NOVEMBER 2011

SHOOTING MATTERS

National Meetings

Attendance at the Bisley Rifle Meeting fell from 869 last year to 786. Michelle Smith's third win of the British Prone Rifle Championship means that the Roberts has now been won by women in four of the last five years and she becomes the first woman to successfully defend the title. She also became the first woman to achieve the double of the Roberts and the Class X Aggregate at the same meeting.

The entry for the Pistol Championships fell from 89 to 74 competitors.

The total number of competitors entering the five principal National Meetings was 1453, a reduction of 172 compared with 2010. The Scottish entry was down by fifty, for which the location will have been a contributing factor. However it may be that the 2011 National Meetings are the first where we have been significantly affected by the economic downturn.

Meeting Dates for 2012

The programme of dates for next year is (at Bisley unless otherwise stated):

24 – 26 February	British Airgun Championships
3 – 4 March	Blind Air Rifle Championships, Aldersley
8 – 10 June	British International 50 metres Rifle Championships
23 – 29 June	Scottish Rifle Meeting, Dumfries
7 – 8 July	Sporter Air Rifle Open Meeting, Aldersley
10 August	Sporter and Precision 3P Air Rifle Championships
11 – 19 August	Bisley Rifle Meeting
7 – 9 September	British Pistol Championships

Other relevant dates are:

16 June	Dewar Trial and Match, Appleton
15 – 16 September	Pershing Match First Trial, Sywell
13 – 14 October	Pershing Match Final Trial, Thorn

International Matches

Olympic and Paralympic Quota Places

At the European Championships, shortly after the last Council Meeting, Georgina (Gorgs) Geikie won a Quota Place for Great Britain in 25 Metre Pistol. This is in addition to the Quota Place which Great Britain had already been given in the same event as the Host Country. Britain has two shooters, Gorgs and Julia Lydall, who currently have Olympic MQSs in 25m Pistol, but who will also have to hold the *British Shooting* MCS, which is higher than the MQS, in order to be considered by *BS* and BOA for selection to the Olympic Team.

Of the 48 shooting Quota Places awarded world-wide so far this year for the Paralympics, four were obtained by British Shooters – Karen Butler, Di Coates, Nathan Milgate and Matt Shelton.

Postal International Match Officials

The Rifle Committee has appointed Mr Martyn White as Captain of the Dewar team for 2012 and 2013.

Reg and Kay Hankey have been appointed respectively as Captain and Adjutant of the Mayleigh team for 2012 By the Pistol, Airgun & Crossbow Committee. The matches will be shot during the Northern Ireland Pistol Meeting on 7 to 10 June.

Pershing Match

The Rifle Committee has appointed Mr Phil Strong as Adjutant of the Pershing team for the Match to be shot at Camp Perry in July 2013. The arrangements for the trials for selection of the team, and the qualification route to reach the trials have also been agreed and will be published in the next edition of *The Rifleman*.

Commonwealth Games

At the recent meeting of the Commonwealth Games Federation in St Kitts and Nevis, the 2018 Games was awarded to Gold Coast, Queensland.

Following pressure from the European Division, the Federation also agreed to return some shooting events to the programme, including Women's Prone Rifle. It will be a matter for decision next year whether Women's Prone is added to the programme for Glasgow 2014, but with Scotland being the host of the Games and the holder of the current title, they may find the decision quite easy to make. However the Federation has decided not to overturn its earlier decision to discontinue the Pairs matches.

YPS Sport Crossbow

Following the development of materials and a pilot course the 2nd YPS Sport Crossbow course took place in November at West Midlands Regional Shooting Centre. Eight candidates successfully completed the course. In attendance were two delegates from the French Federation and the IAU who presented information on their training systems. It is hoped to align Sport Crossbow shooting through the IAU and further develop crossbow coaching.

LRC 25 Metre Outdoor Range

It is anticipated that the 25 metre outdoor range in the Lord Roberts Centre will be certified as a Section 5 range by the Home Office, which will allow the GB Pistol Team to train in the Lord Roberts Centre as well as being able to store their pistols on site. It is hoped that dispensation will be approved by the end of the year.

External Events

The NSRA will again have a presence at The *British Shooting* & Countryman Show, to be held on 25 and 26 February at the Newark Showground in Nottinghamshire. The show is being further expanded, although unfortunately it clashes this year with our British Airgun Championships at Bisley. Copies of the Show leaflet will be circulated in *The Rifleman*.

The BSSC F&GP Committee decided to recommend to Council that the BSSC should not financially support a National Shooting Week in 2012. This was agreed by the BSSC Council. It is understood that the Countryside Alliance may continue to run a NSW in 2012.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Membership

Fees for 2012

I sent a letter to all Council Members last month giving advance information on the Board's decisions regarding the restructuring of affiliation fees in 2012 for clubs and associations. These incorporated two principal changes:

- The introduction of four levels of fee for clubs instead of the previous two (the dividing line for which was 30 members).
- The reduction of the affiliation fee for county associations to that paid by Category B, D and E organisations, and the re-introduction of entry fees for inter-county competitions.

The fees for 2012 were agreed by the Board of Management as:

Clubs

Over 75 members	£240
31 to 75 members	£190
16 to 30 members	£140
15 members or fewer	£110 (£20 reduction)
County Associations	£170 (£220 reduction)
Cat. B, D & E organisations	£170

The 2012 fees for Individuals are:

Annual	£80
Junior and FTE	£40 (no change)
Associate	£60

Insurance

The 2012 insurance brochures are with the NSRA and will be distributed to affiliated clubs and individuals in the Winter edition of the *The Rifleman*. In addition work is ongoing to publish on the Perkins Slade website (with a link from the NSRA website) the insurance brochures, the Policy Summary, Risk Assessments for Bonfires and Mobile Ranges and a FAQ section. Claim forms will also be published; however these still have to be processed through HQ NSRA to enable the auditing process to be maintained. When assessing the value of equipment and fixtures and fittings, it is important to remember that insurance values are to be based on replacement value.

2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

The ranges at the Olympics Venue are progressing well and will be signed off by 3 January 2012. The first shooting event held at the venue is the ISSF World Cup, known as 'LONDON PREPARES' which will take place between 17 and 29 April 2012.

The Royal Mint has just announced the issue of £5 coins, one each to commemorate the Olympics and the Paralympics. The Paralympic coin was designed by a graduate of Hereford College of Arts. The reverse is split into four sections featuring a target for accuracy, a spoked wheel for maneuverability and a stopwatch for speed and includes the face of Big Ben to represent London.



Sport England

Sport England Plan/GBTFSF Secondment

Governance changes have taken place at *British Shooting* to make the organisations structure fit the Sport England requirements for governing bodies of sport which receive public funding. As part of the process the Sport England Whole Sport Plan (initiated by NSRA and run under the GBTSF banner) was transferred to *British Shooting* at the end of September.

The final accounts have been received and approved by the GBTSF Board and the final payment to NSRA has now been drawn down. This now allows the remaining award to be transferred to *British Shooting* and the project to be managed by them.

During this process work on the project was largely suspended until Sport England funding recommences through *British Shooting*.

Planning

During the process of the award being novated to *British Shooting* several changes have been made to the original plan. Some of the funds have now been directed to support *British Shooting* operations but several changes in the way the plan is being carried out have taken place.

The main changes to the plan involve a shift away from cross discipline regional development. The NSRA will still follow the regional development model and have part time small-bore Regional Development Managers operating in three key regions. The CPSA and NRA will have full time National Development Managers embedded within their organisations.

Also a full time Disabled Coordinator is to be employed rather than a part time post. This is due to the short time scale left for the project.

These changes are in addition to the talent development part of the project which is cross discipline.

Sport England Review

The 30-month review meeting for the project took place on 4th November. The progress of the WSP was discussed to date together with the milestone objectives for the next six months.

These include:

1. Ensuring quality governance
2. Employment of a DSP Coordinator
3. Start of NGB projects
4. Start of Excel project
5. Planning for next cycle of funding

SE has suggested that a critical six months was ahead and tangible outcomes need to be demonstrated during this period.

SE Consultation Document

Following the national forums on the new SE Strategy for grass roots development a consultation document has been circulated to NGBs. The final strategy document is expected to be released soon and the final NGB planning deadline in May 2012. A reduction in funding across the board of around 15% is expected and plans must be based around Grow and Excel programmes. Some funding may be available to support basic administration of the body receiving the award but an emphasis on the need for the body to demonstrate good governance will be essential.

Disabled Coordinator Interviews

The interviews for the full-time post of Disability Shooting Coordinator took place on the 8th November 2011. A panel from NRA, BS, NSRA and Wheelpower interviewed the four shortlisted candidates. It is hoped following the decision the successful candidate will be appointed at the beginning of December.

Talent Lead Seminar

A seminar for the talent lead officers of NGBs funded by Sport England took place in London. Following an address by Jennie Price, Chief Executive, Sport England there was a review of Sport England talent development activity. The seminar covered the key elements of an effective England talent development system and talent development work taking place in the next 18 months. Also coach development and developing athlete and player profiles was discussed together with prioritising future talent development work.

These developments together with the changes in the relationship between Sport England and UK Sport will have an effect on future talent development.

SCUK

Due to the reduction in funding to SCUK they will not be able to provide direct support to all NGBs. The support for shooting will now be via multisport coaching "clinics" where advice on coaching systems can be obtained in place of direct work with the organisation.

Sports Coach UK have launched a new course on disabled inclusion. This replaces the course for coaching disabled performers.

Sportivate

The new round of Sportivate has commenced with applications being invited via County Sports Partnerships. Clubs and associations are invited to apply for grants to help deliver introductory shooting sessions to 16 to 25 year olds.

Renewal of Firearms Certificates

Due to the current delay in individuals receiving their FAC renewals in a timely manner, some police forces have adopted a policy of renewing the certificate by the due date, even if investigations are not complete, and, if necessary, subsequently revoking the certificate if enquiries uncover something sufficiently adverse. It is stressed that this is NOT national policy by police forces and that the onus remains with the individual to submit their renewal request, with the correct paperwork duly completed, in a timely manner.

Licensing of Airguns in Scotland

The Scottish Government's Safer Communities Directorate Police Division is forming a Firearms Consultative Panel which will meet for the first time on the 29th November. The panel is meeting to discuss the possibility of licensing airguns in Scotland with effect 2012, and if the introduction of such a system will reduce airgun incidents/crime in the country. The Scottish Office has declined the offer made by the NSRA to attend the panel citing that they preferred to discuss this matter with Scottish organisations and that they felt there was adequate representation from target airgun shooting. The Scottish Office has undertaken to include the NSRA in any wider discussions in this matter.

Certification for Using Military Ranges

The MOD requirements for the civilian use of military ranges have been amended to increase the duration of Shooter Certification Cards from one year to four years. With immediate effect, the NSRA will issue cards with a currency period of 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2015.

Clubs who require Shooter Certification Cards for the above dates are to contact the NSRA's Range Safety and Firearms Officer, Ali Aitken, with a request for cards. The application form (available from Ali) is required to be signed by the Club Chairman and a list of those members requiring cards needs to accompany the application form.

Dispensation Certificates

The British Field Target Association has been in contact to organise dispensation certificates for Field Target Shooting. Currently disabled versions of the standing kneeling and sitting positions are in use but dispensation for disabilities outside this is not available.

The first candidate has been submitted to NSRA for consideration to test out the system. Information and pictures of the modified shooting positions have been sent into HQ for consideration. The subject is to be discussed at the next BFTA meeting.

Christmas/New Year Break

The Offices and Showroom will close for the Christmas/New Year break at 5.00 p.m. on 22 December, and will reopen at 9.00 a.m. on Tuesday 3 January 2012.

Shooting Council Meeting Dates

Council meetings in 2012 are scheduled for 24 March, 28 July (plus the Annual General Meeting) and 24 November.