

**69<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD AT THE BROOKLANDS HOTEL, BARNESLEY  
ON SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2005 14:00 HRS**

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**Present:**

Ms K Hoey MP Honorary President  
Mr A D Brazier Chairman  
Mr W A Heeks Vice Chairman & N/Regional Director  
Mr P J Boakes Chief Executive Officer

**In Attendance:**

Mr J Kitson	WM/Regional Director
Mr T W D Blaney	National Director
Mr J Perry	Operations Manager
Dr D Jolliffe	Marketing Manager
Mr G Dorrall	Technical Officer
Mr J Parks-Young	Courses Manager
Mr G Davis	Auditor
Mr R Doubleday	Honorary Insurance Advisor
Mr M Martin	Honorary Solicitor

In addition to the above, there were 57 current members in attendance

**Minutes Secretary:** Mrs K Dodd

**01. Meeting Opens**

The Chairman declared the 69th Annual General Meeting open at 14:00 hrs. He welcomed all Members present and introduced and welcomed our Honorary President Ms Kate Hoey MP.

**02. Opening Remarks by our Honorary President**

"It is good to be in the North and I welcome the idea of the meeting moving around the country. Whilst I am trying to become more involved in the sport I have regrettably not been able to visit as many clubs as I would like to.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of The Board for their work on behalf of the Members. Much work is being done to support the sport in the areas of the environment, noise etc, this work will continue so that we can be proud of our sport and look to the long term future.

I will do all I can to support shooting, our Membership is growing and there is a need for this to continue. Thank you to the Chief Executive Officer and all the Staff at HQ, but not forgetting that it is the Members who make the CPSA strong."

**03. Obituaries**

The Chief Executive read the names of friends and members who had passed away during the last 12 months. This was followed by a silent tribute paid by members in respect of their memory.

#### **04. Apologies for Absence**

S. Halfacre, A Halfacre, J Halfacre, M Halfacre, M Weight, C Winstanley, B Winstanley, K, Newton, B Carter, J Hugill, D Webb, C Potter, J Sparrowhawk, P Green, G Cave, M Conway, K Stoker, A Bate, J Brown, I Ainsley, R Foster, K Foster, J Winn, N Lovatt, P Carsons

#### **05. Minutes of the 2004 AGM**

The Draft Minutes of the AGM held on Saturday 20 March 2004 had been published in Pull Magazine. The Minutes were adopted as a true record on behalf of the Members by Mr C Haynes and seconded by Mr P Brown.

#### **06. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous AGM**

There were no matters arising.

#### **07. Report from The Chairman of the Board of Directors**

The Chairman gave a summary of his Annual Report, which had been published in full in Pull Magazine.

The Chairman reported that this AGM is his fourth year in office as the East Midlands Regional Director and his second year as Chairman of The Board of Directors. It was commented that particularly during the last year we have seen significant changes, which The Board felt appropriate to make.

2004 was a very busy year for shoots, with the World Down The Line at Bywell and The World Sporting at Southdown in particular providing some exceptional results eg Hendi Hume 300/900 in his first World Championship event and the unbelievable George Digweed winning his 13<sup>th</sup> World Title.

Thanks were expressed to The Directors and especially the HQ Staff for the many hours and weekends of their time.

#### **Board Business**

Publication of The Board Meeting Minutes in Pull Magazine and on the Web Site will continue.

We are grateful to Mike Barnes our Publishers of Pull Magazine for their fine work and for the recent proposal to expand our magazine by a further 8 pages at nominal additional cost to The CPSA.

The next AGM will be in the West Midlands as we continue to rotate the venues.

During the year our CEO attended a major meeting on the subject of the use of Lead Shot in ammunition. A recent follow up meeting attended by representatives of your Board of Directors and representatives of the Premier Plus Grounds ensures that we maintain our declared commitment from last year.

The most controversial issue initiated by The Board relates to the compulsory wearing of protective eyewear at all Registered shooting events. After an anticipated reaction to change, the majority of Members have actively supported the policy, (more on this subject later).

Another initiative of The Board relates to rule changes within the English Skeet discipline. A survey was conducted, which enjoyed incredibly high levels of response. Two proposed changes received very favourable support. Some experimentation will take place at a volunteer ground in respect of a third possible change. Consultation with the other Home Countries is to take place before any change is implemented. Results will be published in Pull magazine.

The concept of Premier Plus Ground status was introduced and a formal specification was prepared with considerable input from the two Board Members who own/manage shooting grounds. The status recognises the considerable effort and investment made by those grounds that conform to the specification as relates to facilities and the quality of the shooting. The initial list of Premier Plus Grounds has been published.

The Board's initiative in respect of the Ground (Safety) Audit Programme was successfully completed with very few problems and great cooperation from all concerned. Initial fears and concerns over unknowns were discussed on a one to one basis and resolved.

### **Membership**

Total Membership has increased from 20,893 in November 2003 to 23,349 in November 2004 and in excess of 24,000 as of this moment. We are particularly pleased with the Clubman Membership. Our overall target Membership for 2005 is 25,500.

### **HQ Restructuring**

Additional staffing at HQ has been approved as we seek to accommodate the administration of the BICTSF and broaden the activities and focus of our CEO as he concentrates on the longer term planning and goals that have been designed for our Association.

### **Sponsorship**

The identification of major sponsors is still a priority. We worked through 2004 without a major sponsor but were generously supported by a number of product sponsors. Many of the 2004 sponsors have pledged themselves for 2005.

### **Financials**

From an approved budgeted loss of approx £20,000 for the year, the final performance for 2004 was a modest surplus of £3,700. This was a noteworthy achievement by the HQ Staff, not least Brian Yates our relatively new Accountant. Thanks to our CEO and HQ Staff were expressed on behalf of The Board and the Membership.

An increase in membership Fees from January 2005, will allow us to record a break-even performance for 2005.

### **Board Structure**

During most of the year we operated with one Board Member less than full compliment as Derek Wilson decided to step down as a national Director. Thanks were expressed to Derek Wilson for his contribution and for his continued support of The CPSA. During today's proceedings, as appropriate, an announcement will be made regarding other changes to The Board structure.

### **Future of the Sport**

Our Association is stable and progressing from strength to strength. External forces are to be watched carefully. This government has and will no doubt continue to take decisions that disrupt the country way of life eg the Ban on Foxhunting with Hounds. We must be alert to the potential interference of legislators as they may next target fishing and live quarry shooting. As Clay Target Shooters we must continue to make our case in defence of our sport. Your Board are pledged to do just this and we are very pleased that our President has declared her willingness to work with us to this end.

The Chairman wished all Members present and the Membership in general, good, enjoyable and safe shooting during the year.

Mr Wallis Sayer asked for clarification of guidelines for a Premier Plus Ground. The Chairman reconfirmed that Mr Dave Peckham and Mr Kevin Newton, compiled a document, which details the specification for Premier Plus Grounds. It was further commented that the

document has not yet been published, but if any Member present wishes to look at the draft document a copy of it is on the front desk of this meeting.

**08. To Receive and Adopt the Annual Report and Accounts for the Year Ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

Mr G Davis, Auditor presented the accounts as published in Pull Magazine as being a true and fair record of the financial position of the Association.

The Board were pleased to entertain a variety of questions from Mr Clive Hames, all of which were declared to have been answered to the satisfaction of Mr Hames and those Members present by Mr G Davis and our CEO.

Mr D Wilson proposed adoption of the accounts and was seconded by Mr Wallace Sayer. There was a show of hands and the accounts were adopted.

**09. To Announce the Results of the Election to the Board of Directors**

Mr Andy Kirkland had been elected unopposed as the West Midlands Regional Director.

Following the postal ballot, Mr Nigel Bough has been elected as a National Director. The results of the election were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Votes</u>	
Nigel Bough	1135	46.3%
Dennis Webb	769	31.4%
John Nightingale	548	22.3%

Both New Directors gave a brief, impromptu address to the audience.

**10. To Elect the Officers of The Board in Accordance with The Articles of Association**

**Chairman**

Mr T Brazier was proposed by Tony Heeks and seconded by Joe Kitson. Mr Brazier declared his willingness to offer himself for re-election.

Mr T Blaney was proposed by Ms S Buckler and seconded by Mr T Woodam to contest the position. Mr G Davis enquired as to whether Mr Blaney was prepared to offer himself for election and received a positive response.

It was decided that there should be a paper ballot instead of a show of hands. Members present were provided appropriate forms, which were completed and returned to Mr G Davis who adjudicated. The result of the ballot was announced by Mr G Davis:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Votes</u>
T Brazier	31
T Blaney	16

Mr Brazier was reappointed as Chairman

**Vice Chairman**

Mr Tony Heekes was proposed by Mr W Sayer and seconded by Ms A Dupree. Mr Heekes confirmed his willingness to stand for re-election.

There were no other candidates. Mr Heekes was reappointed as Vice Chairman.

**11. To Ratify the Appointment of the New Life Vice**

Ms S Buckler was appointed Life Vice President. Ms Buckler was invited to address the Membership present. She advised that she was very honoured and grateful to The CPSA for this recognition of her work for our sport. Ms Buckler declared that she will continue to be actively involved and support the sport for as long as she is able.

**12. To Appoint an Auditor**

Mr N Bough proposed Mr G Davis to continue as auditor and Mr D Wilson seconded the proposal. Mr Davis was unanimously re-elected as Auditor for a further twelve months.

**13. To Appoint the Following Honorary Officers:-**

**Honorary Legal Advisor**

Mr J Hugill was proposed as Legal Advisor by Mr D Wilson and was seconded by Ms S Buckler.

**Honorary Solicitor**

Mr M Martin was proposed as Honorary Solicitor by Mr W Sayer and seconded by Mr J Kitson.

**Honorary Insurance Advisor**

Mr R Doubleday (Perkins Slade) was proposed as Insurance Advisors by Mr M Plant and seconded by Mr P Brown.

**Honorary Noise and Planning**

Mr M Kenyon of Martec was proposed as officer for Noise and Planning by Mr K Jones and seconded by Mr D Wilson.

**Honorary Shotgun Licensing Advisor**

Mr B Kibblewhite was proposed as officer for Shotgun Licenses by Mr J Nightingale and seconded by Ms A Dupree.

All of the above proposals were adopted and approved by The Members present.

**14. The CPSA Grand Draw**

The Grand Draw took place during the Interval. A list of Winners will be published at a later date in Pull magazine and on the Web Site.

**15. Chief Executive Officers Report**

The Chief Executive Officer presented a review of the Year supported by visual aids. The focus of the presentation being the "Five Key Issues" that drive the Management and Direction of The Association. These are listed below along with the precise definition provided by the CEO:

**Image**

Perception of Membership, Regulators and Public

**Communication**

Efficiency and Effectiveness of Information Flow

## **Protect The Sport**

Maintenance of Freedom to Participate and Enjoy

## **Membership**

Encourage New and Retain Existing Members (Individuals, Clubs and Trade)

## **Sponsorship**

Pursue and Attract New Sponsors

The presentation expanded on items mentioned by The Chairman and covered new topics:

## **Image**

HQ Restructuring, BICTSF Administration, Classification, Olympic Games, Pigeon versus Target, Financial Performance, Premier Plus Grounds, Quality of Championship Events.

## **Communication**

Pull Magazine, The New Web Site, (demonstrated for the benefit of Members), CPSA Presence at Events, (Championships, Game Fairs, County and regional Meetings), Ground Owners Sub-Committee, Discipline Sub-Committees, Rules Survey.

## **Protect OUR Sport**

Control of Firearms Consultation Document, (Members were asked if they contributed to the response – too few declared having done so) Insurance Package, Safety Audits, Shot Fall Out Study Report, Eye Protection, (Mandatory for Registered Events Highly recommended for All Shooting Activities), Courses, (Competency, Safety, Coaching, Referees), Lead Shot and Noise Issues.

This Key Issue will have elevated priority in future.

## **Membership**

Statistics, (tables showing Excellent Growth of Individual Membership and Disappointing Reduction in Clubs Membership were shown). Recovery of Lapsed Members Programme, Establishment of Colts Category, Incentives to Recruiters, Increase in Membership Fees, Expanded Offerings, (Private Health, RAC Membership)

## **Sponsorship**

Sponsorship Programme, (Major Sponsorship as well as Trade Sponsorship), Government Funding.

The CEO expressed thanks to all members who take the time to telephone, write or approach to discuss constructive ideas and to express support to the CPSA HQ as well as the many volunteers who work on County and Regional Committees as well as to The Chairman and The Board of Directors who provide support to the HQ Staff.

## **16. To Discuss and Vote on Proposed Alterations to CPSA Articles in Accordance with the Companies Act 1985**

There had been no notification received of any proposed alterations for discussion.

## **17. Any Other Business in Open Forum**

Mr G Sentence presented his argument regarding the mandatory wearing of protective eyewear at all registered events. He referred to Section 3 of the Articles of Association.

The CEO replied that as an association we have a duty of care to our members and the Board will not retract its decision and will enforce the rule. The audience demonstrated support for the position taken by The Board with spontaneous applause.

Mr N Bough and Mr D Wilson gave accounts of experiences they have encountered during shoots involving damage to either eyes or spectacles they were wearing and that the rule is sensible and should not be challenged.

Mr R Doubleday and Mr M Martin provided separate comment and support to the position taken by The Board on this matter. From an insurance point of view, our sport could be further penalised with even higher premiums or in fact become uninsurable were we to experience claims that result from injuries caused by Members who disregard the rules.

Mr C Holmes made the request that Trap Shooters should be encouraged to put spent cartridges in the bins provided by introducing a policy.

The CEO promised to look at this issue.

Mr W Sayer passionately requested that The Board address the common problem of Non-Members attending and participating in registered events, which is contrary to the CPSA Rules.

The CEO advised that this is a matter currently under discussion at Board level and it will receive priority attention.

Mr K Jones voiced his concerns that due to Premier Plus Ground rules, and the lack of these in his area, he is being forced to shoot at Unregistered Grounds. Mr Jones also asked for details of the specification for Premier Plus Grounds.

The CEO replied that as already mentioned earlier in the meeting the document showing the criteria for these grounds was available to view at today's meeting and that the report will be published in due course.

Mr M Rusher voiced that he is present at the meeting to support Mr G Sentence and that he also objected to the wearing of safety glasses being mandatory.

The Chairman advised that The Board are resolute on the matter and would not consider it any further unless there is some new information that would encourage them to do so.

Once again the audience applauded the answer.

The Chairman advised that he would however make it an agenda item at the next Board meeting to discuss the issue of exception to the rule "on medical grounds". Feedback will be provided following that meeting.

There being no other business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 16:40 hrs.