

Minutes of the CPSA Board Meeting held on 6th May 2020.

This meeting was held remotely using Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing and commenced at 10am.

Those Present: -

John Martin – Chairman & east Midlands Region Director
Carl Smith – National Director
Michele Conway – National Director
Nicola Heron – National Director
Richard Faulds – South West Region Director
Miles Machin – West Midlands Region Director (Co-opted)
Dave Rollason – Independent Director
Ben Moorhead – Independent Director
Tony Heeks – Deputy Chairman & North Region Director
Peter Saich – South East Region Director

Iain Parker – Chief Executive
Stuart Oldman – Operations Manager & Minute Secretary

Apologies: -

None

Declaration of Interests

None

Quorum

Declared

Minutes of last meeting

Proposed by NH and Seconded by DR

Matters arising from minutes

None

CEO Update

Membership

An update was given of the current membership numbers, which are showing a current reduction of 691 in the last five weeks. Although this is a large number and will impact our budget, it should be noted it is less than anticipated and everyone thanked our members for continuing to support the association to help ensure it comes through this pandemic.

Championships

All have now been cancelled or postponed up to August 2020 after discussions with shooting grounds and other associations where required.

Staff

8 members of staff continue to work from home, while 6 continue to have been furloughed.

Pull Magazine & Social Media

This continues as normal but with a reduction in the number of pages, due to no reporting of events. However, Grant, Richard and the team at Fellows Media are working harder to fulfil as much as possible.

Social media reporting of plans and news items on a number of topics are constantly being created and posted, with numerous comments this is being received well. Board members advised this was being seen as positive and that members are grateful. Directors were thanked for assisting with asking high profile shooters/members with providing valuable and excellent videos related to shooting to keep our members informed and entertained. It was noted that big viewing figures could be seen.

Communication with the Government directly and via BSSC continues regarding proposals to reopen shooting grounds and easing restrictions. There has been an increase in communicating with members, grounds and trade, including sponsors during lockdown, with our website and social media being key in these times. Directors were thanked for also helping with this.

Events

We have confirmed our attendance at the Northern Shooting Show for 28/29 August and The Game Fair 18-20 September with a Have a Go line and Trade Stand. Will be reviewed in conjunction with CV19 guidance/if the events do go ahead.

The only remaining major championships are the BO ESK & BO ESP/STR. If CV19 conditions allow we will try to reinstate other CPSA Championships and are making plans to do so.

We are developing plans to hold an NHS charity shoot in September/October. Further details to follow once known.

Operations Update

The rescheduled date for the 2020 AGM was advised (24th October). We do need to reopen the proxy voting process to allow members to submit votes with the normal deadline dates as per our articles. A question was asked if this would involve additional costs. SO advised it would not. (*Post meeting, please note this is incorrect as we will be charged for CIVICA to continue their process of issuing email and reminders to members*).

We continue to receive requests for VSP's but have to advise applicants the police are not currently accepting either new applications or amendment requests. Surrey/Sussex police are proving very difficult to get hold of.

Marketing & Development Report

A substantial increase in our social media activity has been positive for both information and entertainment. Input from directors and some members was appreciated.

A discussion took place regarding current pressures Fellows Media were seeing with regard to outstanding finances from advertisers and the reduction in advertising requirements. Pull! magazine is solely funded by Fellows Media, excluding postal costs. We need to be sensitive to this with them.

Return to Shooting Guidance Document

A draft of this document was distributed by email before the meeting.

Questions raised were: -

The government 'Test & Tracing App' was discussed regarding it being a requirement at shooting grounds and events particularly as some are saying it must be installed. Questioned were asked about privacy matters but it was thought the app only included private data if the user entered full address details.

The document is draft and feedback would be sort from shooting grounds.

Depending on the level and timing of the lockdown release, travel restrictions may apply, particularly with regard to traveling with guns.

A photo of a shooters score card should be allowed with regard to getting scores back to admin.

High risk groups are not necessarily by age but by health.

We hope to be advised by Government to help in draft any guidance.

We need to think about the PR side of shooting. Possible noise related issues from neighbours following such a quiet period.

It was agreed we should 'hold off' on registered shoots for a while longer.

A snake system to feed shooters through was an option. Also, smaller squads would work with a larger than normal timed gap between each squad.

Pay & Play safety issues re cash handling and ground staffing etc

Prize Monies / Booklet One Review

A paper was put forward for board discussion by RF/NH requesting clarification of the rules and changes for the future with regard to Targets Only. The recommendation was to remove the rule allowing Targets Only shooters to be able to receive trophies, medals & sponsored prize monies. They should only be shooting the event to obtain registered scores as they are not taking part in the competition. "You must be in it to win it" and the mindset is different between Competitor and Target Only.

The discussions were split between those agreeing with this and those stating they are part of the competition wanting to do their best, just not part of the prize fund. The argument being unless you are in the prize fund you are not a serious competitor. Some stated Targets Only shooters expect to be able to receive medals etc.

This is not a request to remove Targets Only but just to take away any form of prize.

A question was asked regarding Sponsored Cash and the sponsor stating who it was for, which may include a Targets Only entrant. Would we or a ground turn away sponsored cash if it was offered for this purpose? Some thought 'yes'.

Discussion developed regarding the different levels of competition from Major, Minor, Regional, County and Registered levels and that we may have to consider amended rules for each of these categories. Discussions then moved to the collection of levies at some shoots and who pays what etc.

It is also hard enough to get shooters at Region & County level.

The prize fund is considered a bet to win cash. Discussions then took place regarding gambling issues, including those under 18. Gambling rules and licensing needs to be checked.

We also need to consider sponsored goods. Can Targets Only shooters win these or not?

A question was also asked as to whether prize money should stay in class. It was noted this does happen at CPSA Major championships.

Badges and trophies also need to be paid for and this is part of the entry fee, whether Targets Only or Competition.

A question was asked if the Shoot '08 program can display Targets Only entries in the results.

After much debate and a number of points being raised it was agreed this would be carried forward to a separate meeting or the next board meeting.

AOB

Shooting Grounds reopening must not push it to hard but must wait for Government guidance.

Selection shoots at Region & County level with regard to entries for the National Inter-County championships may not be able to be held. Therefore, Regions and Counties may need to consider alternative measures.

A risk register needs to be looked at regarding Covid 19 impact on CPSA business and finances etc. BM is happy to assist with this.

CS thanked NH and all regarding social media videos.

The meeting closed at 13:45