

ENGLISH SKEET SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on 29th October 2016 at Nottingham and District Gun Club

Committee Members present

Carl Smith –Chairman
Tony Heeks - North Region
Paul Fallon – West Midlands Region
Bob Meadows – East Midlands Region
John Dunne – South West Region
Rob Hiron- England Skeet Team Manager
Tony Randall- Representing Referees
Joy Hiron- England Team member

Linda Heeks- Note taker

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Carl Smith opened the meeting at 3 p.m. and thanked everyone for giving up their time to attend.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Sean Severn, Johnny Walker, Frank Arico and Martin Brister

AGENDA ITEMS:

TARGET SETTING USING SPEED GUN

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the use of a speed gun for setting Skeet targets. Paul Fallon discussed his findings from some recent testing he had undertaken at several different skeet layouts and locations (see attached report document). The Sub- committee discussed the benefits of using a speed gun to provide greater consistency when setting skeet targets. It was felt that the use of a speed gun along with the use of existing distance markers would reduce the number of complaints from shooters regarding the speed of targets and distance travelled.

It was acknowledged that further work would need to be done to provide some guidance notes for ground owners to use in how to calibrate their equipment and set the speed of their targets. An amendment to the Skeet Rules would also need to be made.

DECISION

The sub-committee unanimously agreed that the use of speed guns was a good idea and it would be desirable that they should be used when setting Skeet targets at Championship events.

ACTION

Carl- please take to the CPSA Board to seek their approval. If the Board is happy with the proposal the Skeet sub-committee will prepare guidance notes for ground owners and suggest suitable wording for an amendment to the Skeet rules.

SELECTION OF CATEGORY FOR ENGLAND TEAM SELECTION

A discussion took place regarding the current selection process. The sub-committee felt that the selection process should be uniform across all disciplines. The general opinion was that they were happy with the current selection procedure of choosing one category only.

DECISION

The sub- committee decided (5 votes for, 2 abstentions) that the existing selection procedure should stay as it is.

SIDE BY SIDE EVENTS AT CHAMPIONSHIPS

The sub-committee discussed a proposal to allow a shooter to compete in the side by side event at major championships in addition to shooting in the Open event. It was recognised that there is currently spare capacity on Friday and Saturday to allow shooters to shoot both.

It was suggested that the side by side category should be run as a separate competition and a shooter must shoot in the Open event for their first entry. The side by side category would be shot on the Friday and Saturday only with prize giving and any shoot off's taking place on Saturday.

DECISION

The Sub-committee decided (4 votes for, 2 votes against and 1 abstention) to allow the above to be trialled at this year's Major Championships to see whether there is an appetite for shooters to take part.

REFEREE'S DISCRETION (VIEWING TARGETS AT EVENTS)

The rules relating to the viewing of targets was discussed. The sub- committee was happy with the current wording in the rule book. They felt that should any shooter have any difficulty in viewing targets they should raise the issue with the referee at the time and if they are unhappy with the outcome should then present a case in writing to the Jury at the event.

SPONSORED SKEET WEEKEND (THREE DAY SOCIAL EVENT)

Carl Smith asked whether there would be an appetite to run a shooting weekend for Skeet shooters. The event would take place somewhere in the Midlands and would be held over 3 days with various competitions taking place over the weekend. The sub- committee felt that skeet shooters would welcome something like this and suggested it could be held at the end of April or beginning of May between the Skeet selection shoot and the English Open. Carl will take forward discussions with sponsors etc.

ABUSE OF REFEREES

There seems to be a worrying trend where referees and other shooting ground officials are being subjected to severe verbal abuse by shooters. A discussion took place to say that this should not be tolerated. Where it does happen the incident should be reported in writing to the CEO of CPSA and the CPSA's disciplinary procedure followed.

A suggestion was made that the CPSA via PULL magazine and its website should run a high profile campaign to say that the CPSA will not tolerate abusive behaviour of any kind and that individuals found guilty of this will be subject to the CPSA disciplinary procedures which may result in a ban.

ACTION

Carl – Please take this suggestion to the Board.

AOB

RULE BOOK AMENDMENTS

Two amendments were suggested regarding rules.

Booklet Number 1 (12th August 2015):

Page 39: Rule 22.8 change from:

"During the shooting of singles it is compulsory to load two cartridges."

to

"During the shooting of singles it is compulsory to load two cartridges, except when repeating the second single (option or other valid reason), when only one cartridge should be loaded."

Page 57: Rule 27.1 last paragraph of page, change from:

"There must be a maximum of 5 shooters in a squad as per technical rules for DTL and English Skeet."

to

"There must be a maximum of 5 shooters in a squad."

ACTION

Carl- Please take to the Board for approval.

USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

A discussion took place regarding the use of social media by shooters who are putting comments on facebook etc. which could be seen as derogatory and putting the sport into disrepute. It was suggested that these incidents should be reported in writing to the CEO of the CPSA and for the CPSA's disciplinary procedure to be followed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was decided not to fix a date for the next meeting as one should be held when required.

Carl Smith thanked everyone for their contribution and closed the meeting at 5.45 p.m.