

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE CPSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Held at Edmonton House, Bisley Camp, Brookwood,
Woking, Surrey, GU24 0NP**

On Tuesday 1st December 2009 at 09:00am

PRESENT:

Mr TR Bobbett	Chairman / National Director
Mr WA Heeks	Vice Chairman / Regional Director - North
Mr C Fielding	Regional Director – West Midlands
Ms N Heron	Regional Director – South East
Mr KJ Newton	Regional Director – South West
Mr TWD Blaney	National Director
Mr G Walker	National Director
Mr PJ Boakes	Chief Executive Officer

GUESTS:

Mr CD Butler	Regional Director Elect – East Midlands
Mr G Davis	Graeme Bruce & Partners, Auditor
Ms C. Pierre	Financial Controller, CPSA (attended part of the meeting)
Mr S Oldman	Operations Manager, CPSA (attended part of the meeting)
Mr S Barber	Commercial Manager, CPSA (attended part of the meeting)

APOLOGIES: Mr BD Curtis Regional Director – East Midlands

MINUTES SECRETARY:

Ms M Voller

1. FORMALITIES

TRB opened the meeting at 9.03 am and welcomed all present especially Colin Butler and Graeme Davis. Apologies had been received from BDC

a) Minutes of the 22nd September meeting

Read and agreed. Proposed by WAH, and seconded by CF. All in favour, carried.

b) Matters Arising

11 (c) DTL weekend. Mr.R.Hails had read the minutes posted on the website, and is unhappy as he feels it is not a true and accurate record of the events as they occurred. He still contends that there were no angle posts on the layout in question. On questioning by TRB, KJN insisted the posts were in place. PJB stated he could not confirm whether this was so, as he had not physically checked them.

10 H/I badges WAH had spoken with Andrew Oakley of Coventry Silvercraft who has confirmed that there will be no additional costs involved in changing year dates etc. It is included in the price quoted.

2. CEO UPDATE

a) CSF Games 2010 In the Double Trap event there will be men's teams only, but in OTR and OSK there will be teams for both men and women. Only one girl had obtained the MQS in OSK. Pinky le Grelle unfortunately had not participated in all the shoots so was therefore ineligible. However, a request has been made for us to step outside of our normal selection process to make up a pair team. Pinky is number one in the rankings, and a

potential medal winner. PJB therefore proposed that she be invited to make up the team which the Board passed unanimously.

Action: PJB to contact P. le Grelle

b) Commonwealth Games

Confirmation that there will be no ladies OSK team participating. This has highlighted the need to introduce another selection procedure following the Games, and Peter Underhill has asked us to put together a similar procedure to that used by pistol and rifle.

c) ETSF and CGCE The sum allocated to us to prepare for the CG and CSF is £23,000 out of £433,000, and is held on our behalf by ETSF. ETSF and CGCE (Sport England) both need to approve the selection procedures, and related to this we have been granted £5,000 to cover the time and work involved on PJB's part in writing them. By June 2010, the draft for 2014 has to be submitted which will involve the TENS system. ETSF are instructing us on how to choose our teams, who will be sent to Cyprus around July time to prepare. In the CG there will be men only in DT, men only in OSK, and men and women in OTR. England is not judged on medals obtained at the CSF event, only the CG.

d) Level 1 course at Doveridge in September A complaint, 12 pages long, had been received from Dr. N. Murray representing the eight people who failed the course. The pass/fail rate at the course was 50%, considerably below the lowest pass rate to date which had been 80% and was often in the 90%. One week ago a meeting was held at HQ to discuss the matter, following which Dr. Murray was written to with an offer which he has subsequently rejected. Possible dates have now been supplied to Dr. Murray for a meeting, and his reply is awaited. PJB confirmed that should the course be rescheduled, nobody who had assessed on the original course would be present. The outcome from the meeting with Dr. Murray would be reported back to the January Board meeting.

e) Corporate Shotgun Trainer course A complaint by telephone has been received by PJB following a recent CST course held at North of England CTC. The complaint involves a husband and wife who failed the course and are allegedly taking us to court for sexual discrimination claiming £200,000. They have been requested to put their complaint in writing, and this is awaited. GW observed that the certificate which is awarded to successful participants at the end of the course does mention the word "coaching". Both he and NH felt there was a need for clarification and amendment to the certificate as a CST course is not an instructor course, but a perquisite to one.

f) Possible injury claim A letter has been received from the solicitor of one of the helpers on our clay line at the Game Fair, claiming for an injury which he alleges was incurred at the event. It has been placed in the hands of our insurers, and we will be advised by them.

g) CCPR letter PJB had received a letter from the Central Council of Physical Recreation regarding possible relocation. An initial approach had been made when we were part of the NATSS project, and there was the possibility of accommodating all three members of the project into one building. PJB to reply saying we are no longer interested.

h) British Shooting meeting During our involvement with NATSS, we were in discussion with Sport England for possible funding towards a British Shooting Academy programme which would include rifle, pistol and shotgun. PJB has had a recent conversation with Amanda Scriven-Purcell, the Coaching Systems Manager at Sports Coach UK who has confirmed that we are unable to use their services for free. However, if British Shooting is happy for us to continue along the route originally outlined, they are happy to support us. The NRA and the NSRA are continuing their involvement with Sport England through GBTSF. PJB has been invited to a meeting with BS on Friday 11th December to present on how we wish to progress with the idea of a British Shooting Academy programme, and obtain UKCC funding. The cost of purchasing the Framework outright is £20,000. We do not currently have a course that is recognised by the UKCC. Agreement reached amongst the Board for it to be discussed in more detail at tomorrow's meeting.

i) Shotgun World Cup 2010 Agreement for PJB to attend a meeting on Friday 4th December at Southern Counties Shooting Ground when Dorset County Council and Active Dorset will also be in attendance. Liz Pill, Sport Development Manager of Dorset County Council is keen to promote the sport within the County's schools.

3. MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATES

a) FINANCE – Connie Pierre

CP highlighted the changes which had occurred in the proposed Budget since the previous Board meeting.

- Lottery income has been removed since it was announced the system had been cancelled due to insufficient numbers participating.
- The rental income from British Shooting will reduce as they no longer require the use of the armoury
- The Championship income has been increased as per the explanation contained within the summary sheet
- The Commercial budget has been increased as the flags, banners and stands required replacement in order to incorporate the new logo.

i) Courses NH had requested that netted figures were not shown for Courses in the financial breakdowns, but the actual income and expenditure. CP agreed to supply an amended version.

ii) PULL! Magazine NH asked for further clarification on the figures relating to PULL magazine. It was confirmed by CP and PJB that we were still being charged less than we had previously been paying with BPG. They had requested a £2,000 uplift two years ago, making Deeson's still the cheaper option. If the advertising revenues are met, there will not be a requirement on our part to pay the differential agreed.

iii) Championships CP explained the Championship breakdown sheets and the potential savings to be made in 2010. A new supplier has been found for the badges and medals ensuring savings in the region of £6,500. Sponsorship for the World Sporting has also been confirmed.

iv) Membership Membership numbers at the end of November were 25,052, a loss of 450.

TRB asked for a proposal to adopt the budget.

Proposed by: KJN Seconded: WAH All in favour.

b) OPERATIONS – Stuart Oldman

SO reported on

i) 2010 Championships The draft calendar had been enclosed in the Board pack. Following the decision taken by the Board earlier in the meeting with regard to the World ESP, the venue for the EO ESP scheduled for May will require amendment. Dates were also awaited from BICTSF for their events.

ii) Air conditioning at HQ Now installed and operational.

iii) Safety railings Scheduled to be fitted this week. A slight delay was incurred in the manufacture of the upright posts as they were of a non standard height and had to be delivered from Germany. Total cost for this work is £2,000.

iv) Classifications – Issue 37 Posted out on the 27th November. No problems are anticipated.

Events 2010 – Attendance Rota

PJB requested that all Directors check the draft rota which had been enclosed in the Board Pack and see if they are available for the events which have been provisionally allocated to them. Any changes that are required should be informed to SO as soon as possible.

c) COMMERCIAL – Simon Barber

i) PULL! magazine – Jan/Feb 2010 Upgrade in the paper stock should produce an improvement in the “look and feel” of the magazine. There have been no additional costs to the CPSA for this upgrading. Clay Shooting magazine has downgraded their paper quality/weight, so the perceived quality gap between the magazines has been closed.

ii) Director elections Ballot paper for National Director Elections has been inserted in the Jan/Feb issue of the magazine. Closing date is the 19th March.

iii) Advertising Although January and February are traditionally quiet months, it appears to be holding up well. SB acknowledged that advertisers are more difficult to find during the current difficult economic climate. He is intending to talk to potential advertisers including lifestyle clients, 4WD manufacturers, outdoor clothing manufacturers etc.

iv) Editorial The intention is to cover a broader range of editorial topics in 2010 with a fair balance of news and feature articles. A meeting has been arranged with Deeson's early in the New Year, as well as a separate meeting with Don Brunt.

v) Fixtures In the September meeting it was proposed that the Fixtures section of the magazine be published in a different format. A detailed analysis has been carried out, and the recommendation is that we should not make this change as it would probably detract from advertising revenues. There is also a significant amount of change on a month-to-month basis, and the booklet would be out of date quickly. A decision has therefore been taken for it to remain as an integral part of the magazine.

vi) Members benefit programme 2010 Progressing very well, and much improved member benefits will be launched in the New Year. The Virgin Wines promotion is now on the website in time for Christmas ordering. Full presentation of the new benefits pack will be made at the January Board meeting. The new programme will be launched with the April 2010 issue of PULL! and will include a prize draw. In future the prize draw will take place in September at The Midland Game Fair, rather than at the Annual AGM.

vii) HQ Signage/flags and banners Outdoor signage at HQ has been updated, and flags and banners will be updated in readiness for 2010 events.

viii) Membership Application leaflet Work is in hand for the membership leaflet showing new subscription rates and insurance details. It should be available within the next month.

ix) Booklets 5 & 7 Reprints of both booklets will follow after necessary changes to their contents have been made.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

i) Oxton Shooting School – Premier Plus E.mail had been received from Reg Bates of Oxton Shooting School requesting that the ground now be considered for Premier Plus status following the various changes and improvements they had made to their catering system. PJB stated that he and Tony Brazier had visited the ground in the past, and nothing has been heard from them since. As far as he was aware, Oxton had the necessary forms for completion which is required for this upgrade. It was agreed that WAH and CF would visit the ground on a Wednesday, and that PJB would contact Reg Bates informing him of this.

Action: PJB to contact Oxton Shooting School

ii) Lakenheath Prize Money Report received from BDC on the action taken within the E.Midlands Region regarding the complaint mentioned under 11(d) on the 22nd September

2009 Board minutes. The Board reiterated its view that the contract is between the ground owner and the shooter.

iii) CPSA/ICPSA Banned members
Co – noted.

Copy of reply from L.Cox to Lewis Nedas & Co

(iv) English Skeet Club Complaint received from Sara Chambers (96485) regarding an English Skeet Club event held at Northampton Shooting Ground on the 25th October. She had gone to the ground on that day to shoot practice only, but her scores were subsequently registered. J.Walker had also checked the status of the shoot with the ground on his arrival, and was given an apology by Martine that they had forgotten to register it. However, within the Fixtures section of PULL magazine it was advertised as Registered, and therefore some of the shooters shot under the impression that their scores would count, and others shot under the impression that they would not.

PJB explained that four layouts should have been used, of which 2 would have accommodated the CPSA registered event, and the remaining 2 which would have been shot according to ESC rules. Unfortunately the scores received by the CPSA did not differentiate between layouts, and therefore all scores were entered on to our system. It has not moved any of the shooters into a different class, but it would have effected the position of some people within the Top 20. Three people in the office have subsequently spoken with Northampton SG on the problem.

CDB confirmed that the weather was appalling on the day and shooters that enquired had been informed the event was not registered and scores would not sent in. CF said he had been told that 4 ranges had not been used; a fact again confirmed by CDB who additionally stated that the ground was at fault and not the shooters a fact Northampton Shooting Ground freely acknowledge.

PJB stated that the rules to run a registered shoot are clearly laid down in Booklet 5, and as it had been registered with the CPSA, it should remain so. He also acknowledged that whatever decision the Board took, it was in a no win situation. However, TRB queried this statement saying that if it was not shot according to CPSA regulations but ESC rules, it cannot remain as a registered event. He therefore proposed that a vote should be taken as to whether the event should be regarded as Registered or not.

Vote: Registered x 1 Not registered x 6

Action: PJB to write to Northampton, and to arrange for the scores to be removed from our records.

Subsequent addendum 2.12.09 PJB confirmed that the scores had been removed from each shooter's record. He alerted the Directors to a possible challenge from those people who believed they were in the Top 20, or those who believed they had taken part in a registered event. He also confirmed that it did not alter any of the classifications.

v) ICTSF World Championship Copy of e.mail for information purposes from Malcolm McClelland of the CTSASA requesting the ICTSF to reconsider their decision regarding World Championship rotations which currently run on a three year cycle in DTL, ESP and Skeet. PJB said that the decision to run only one World event per year was taken because of the cost implications to some of the countries for teams etc. South Africa, whose teams receive no funding, are now proposing that each of the three disciplines hold a World Championship event on an annual basis alternating between the Northern and Southern hemispheres. In the ensuing discussion, it was acknowledged that for those countries who enter full teams, there could be potential funding problems. If no funding was available, teams would have to be self funded, with the potential for even fewer or no teams attending. It is on the Agenda for discussion at the ICTSC meeting next week, and PJB will report back to the Board at the January meeting.

vi) DTL selection shoot Correspondence received from K.Shynn (10819) expressing concern that the first DTL England team selection shoot in May 2010 had been allocated to NCSC, and cited the problems encountered when a selection event was last held at the ground. PJB said that NCSC had declined the invitation to hold the event, and it had

therefore been awarded to EYGC.

vii) Avon/Somerset County Championships E.mail received from M.Taylor (119949) from Avon regarding his disappointment at the lack of an Avon ESK team in the Regional or National Intercounty Championships. He requested the possibility of Avon and Somerset teams merging, particularly as Avon, as a county, was abolished in 1996. TRB referred to previous discussions between the two Counties, the most recent in 2008, and stated it was a matter of self determination for the members of Avon. From Avon's perspective, should the "county" be abolished by the CPSA, some members would be transferred to Somerset and some to Gloucestershire depending on where they lived. Meanwhile, the Avon Chairman had contacted Mr. Taylor and asked him if he would be interested in becoming the Avon ESK Team Manager and forming a team for 2010.

viii) PJB has received a complaint from a Somerset shooter who claims that an Avon member had won the Somerset OSK Championship held at Brook Bank SG in August. PJB will forward the complaint to the South West Regional Committee for action.

ix) NH highlighted a problem within the South East whereby a member of the Sussex team shot on a day ticket in an Intercounty event. PJB confirmed that it is clearly written in Booklet 5 that all County team members must be Full members of the CPSA.

x) Life membership Correspondence received from B.Meadows (11003) suggesting a possible change in the Life Membership Payment Scheme. Following a discussion, the general consensus was that it was not a feasible proposition.

Action: PJB to reply to Mr.Meadows

xi) Skeet acoustics E.mail received from P.Fallon regarding the September Board meeting minutes and the decision made on the use of acoustic release systems for skeet. He observed that KJN appeared to have unduly influenced the decision taken by the Board, plus inaccuracies recorded regarding costs which are lower than quoted, and number of suppliers as he has agreed to become Canterbury's second agent. KJN defended this by stating that, in his opinion, grounds are limited if only one system is available, and in the event of a breakdown have to be returned to New Zealand for repair. Regarding the cost quoted, PJB confirmed that we were informed it would cost £6,000 for 4 layouts, which is a high cost for some grounds. There was a need to ensure the grounds could or would be able to afford them. The general consensus was that there were not enough skeet shooters to warrant installing the number of systems required in order to cover both the Major and Minor Championships plus selection shoots, and it was agreed unanimously to take no further action at this time.

5. REGIONAL REPORTS

a) North Region

WAH reported that no Regional Committee had been elected at their AGM held in November. An EGM has now been scheduled for the 7th January in an attempt to resolve the problem, and to hopefully elect representatives from the Counties of Durham, Lancashire, Merseyside and Northumberland to the Committee. A meeting is to be held in December and later ratified by the new Regional Committee at the EGM. WAH had telephoned around and several people are interested. He will chair the meeting, but is aware that if not enough people are prepared to join the Committee, responsibility will revert to Head Office until a new Committee can be formed. PJB confirmed that the North Region had been requested to sort their house out, and ensure County Committees are set up.

A long discussion followed regarding County, Regional and National Articles plus quorums required for each

b) South West

i) KJN reported that the South West had rejected the idea of a Regional Technical Officer which carried a possible income of up to £1,500 pa.

ii) The problem with establishing a County of residence for a member had now been resolved using the Electoral Role database as the criterion.

c) South East

- i) NH reported that the possibility of a Regional Technical Officer had been discussed within the South East, and although they liked the £1500 on offer, objections were raised on being answerable to HQ.
- ii) County teams – it was confirmed that team members must be Full members of the CPSA, and resident in the County they are representing.
- iii) It was also confirmed that shooters can only practice on the pool shoot or spare stands at Registered events.

d) West Midlands

- i) CF reported that they were expressing an interest in the £1500 on offer for a Regional Technical Officer, but required more details.

e) East Midlands

- i) CDB said the possible position of a Regional Technical Officer or the £1500 remuneration was not mentioned.

6. AOB

a) CF outlined the case of a West Midlands member of an Intercounty team who had competed whilst allegedly lapsed. He had admitted to completing the first page of his renewal on the website, but did not progress to the second page. Therefore no payment has taken, and no membership card issued. His membership status was queried at the time of the competition, and subsequently confirmed by HQ that he was lapsed having expired on the 30th June. In the member's opinion, the problem lay with the CPSA although he admitted he had not checked on the non arrival of his membership card. He subsequently renewed over the telephone on the 3rd September for two years, and his membership now runs from September 2009 – September 2011. His Intercounty scores have been removed from his record.

b) GD confirmed that the Final Accounts will be finalised for the Board Meeting scheduled for the 26th January.

c) GW and Paul Rendell had travelled to Northern Cyprus to attend the Dr Fazil Kucuk Sports Grand Prix and to promote the CPSA. They returned with 5 new Club members and 3 silver medals for S.East shooters. GW reported that North Cyprus would like to get a foothold on the World stage. They have £500,000 to spend next year, and are looking to become part of the shooting scene. They had wanted to join the ICTSF, but unfortunately Northern Cyprus is not a recognised country. PJB said it had been an almost unanimous decision at the previous ICTSF meeting not to admit them. NH proposed that we ask ICTSF to allow North Cyprus to come on to the International scene by joining ICTSF, and was seconded by GW.

Voting: For x 3 Against x 3 Abstention x 1 Casting vote by the Chairman was against. The proposal was therefore not carried.

d) Nominations for Life Vice Presidents made and agreed upon.

Action: PJB to arrange

e) WAH asked for clarification of the England ESP team selection procedure for 2010. Following discussion it was agreed that scores to be considered would be from the 2009 BO ESP, the two selection shoots to be held at Wyllye Valley in March and Grange Farm in April, together with the EO ESP to be held in May, with 3 out of the 4 scores to be submitted. PJB confirmed that the teams and Manager will be funded in the usual way.

f) WAH announced that he would be standing down as the England Sporting team Manager following the Home International in September next year.

The meeting closed at 3.50 pm
