

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

**Held at Edmonton House, Bisley National Shooting Centre,  
Brookwood, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0NP**

**on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

PRESENT:

Mr TR Bobbett	Chairman/National Director
Mr WA Heeks	Deputy Chairman/ Regional Director – North
Mr CD Butler	Regional Director – East Midlands
Mr R Kibblewhite	Regional Director – West Midlands
Mr J Offord	Regional Director – South East
Mr KJ Newton	Regional Director – South West
Mr G Walker	National Director
Mr N Fellows	CEO

MINUTES SECRETARY:

Ms M Voller

APOLOGIES:

None

**1. FORMALITIES**

TRB opened the meeting at 0915 hrs, and welcomed all present. He confirmed that there was a quorum present, and no apologies had been received.  
Declaration of interest: None.

**a) Minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 meeting:**

CDB stated that he did not agree with parts of the Addendum quoting the second line attributed to TRB "Is anyone standing against me as Chairman?" TRB confirmed he had already communicated with CDB on this point and did not see how CDB considered it particularly relevant in the overall context of the Addendum. CDB continued that, in his opinion, there were several additions and omissions in the version contained within the Board Pack. He had been quite happy with MV's original version being put on the website, but took issue with others adding to this on what they might have said or hoped they had said. TRB stated MV's summary version was, as ever, only the starting point and was, as is the usual practice, available for amendment by Directors as they deemed appropriate in the interests of accuracy before acceptance/publication - as CDB had himself done on numerous previous occasions. GW also acknowledged that he could not recall the sentence in question being uttered. CDB continued to state that he was unhappy with the final version as so many changes had been made, and proposed that the original transcript replace what is currently being shown. He also wished it to be published in PULL! magazine. RK agreed he had said that whilst it would have been good manners for a declaration of intent to have been made before the pre-AGM Board meeting, he did not know if anyone had actually done so. In reply to a question from TRB asking if the Addendum needed to be further amended in any way, WAH queried whether anyone present could state 100% whether TRB had asked the question that was disputed by CDB. With no reply from any of the Directors, WAH proposed that the Minutes be adopted. This was seconded by RK, and all were in favour. Whilst agreeing with the main thrust of the Addendum CDB wished it to be recorded that he did not agree with certain aspects of the Addendum but refused to specify which.

**b) Matters arising:**

i) 2:4 Disability Shooting Project CDB said that the Association had already confirmed it would give Sportrap a trial this year at the BO ESP Championship at Fauxdegla as it was the more realistic discipline for disabled shooters to attempt. RK replied that during the ground grading visit, the manager had stated that occasionally some shooters needed to compete from outside the cages because of an inability to accommodate the size of some of the wheelchairs. WAH said the size stipulated for the cages had changed approximately ten years ago in order to make access possible for all chairs and all grounds should be adhering to this rule. NF confirmed that the size of the cages at Fauxdegla would be checked to ensure they conformed to the rules.

**Action: NF**

ii) 2:9(i) Membership NF had followed up the complaints regarding the manner in which underpayment of Direct Debits had been dealt with by Head Office, and was confident it was no longer a problem. WAH had also followed up the complaint by a member who felt he had been harassed regarding his lapsed membership, and confirmed that the member had now rejoined. RK had spent some time with the Membership Development Co-ordinator at the recent Schools Championships, and had been impressed by the manner in which he communicated with people.

## **2. CEO report**

2:1 Staffing NF explained the fact that Michelle's resignation had not been advertised. Her replacement, Cheryl Mathers, who had been interviewed originally for Sophie's post, was settling into the role very quickly. Sophie has also settled in well and is making good progress. Compliments were paid by CDB to CA for her performance at her first major event, the EO ESP. In his opinion she had been very professional and had coped excellently. NF and GW are finalising details of the advertisement for the new Coach Development & Training Manager, who will work closely with the Education and Training Steering Group under GW's Chairmanship.

Following a comment by CDB on how occasional telephone calls are answered by HO, NF said the problem could lie in the inability to quickly identify whether the call was from an outside source or internally. A meeting has been arranged for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June with Bistech on how the current telephone system, which has been unchanged for several years, could be upgraded.

In reply to a request for clarification of the new 28g rule for OTR, TRB stated that the rule applied to C and D class shooters only. Shooters from these classes who used 28g cartridges were not entitled to compete for the High Gun title, or titles in the Ladies, Juniors or Vets categories.

2:2 CPSA Annual Awards A debrief has been held, and the possibility of two new awards was discussed. These will be for Disabled Shooter of the Year, and a Special Achievement award. RK stated that he was very uncomfortable with the possibility of Directors winning any of the awards. NF reported that it was also proposed that a separate room should be used for the evening event away from the one that would be used to hold the AGM in the afternoon. There would also be an increase in the capacity available for the dinner so that up to 150 people could attend, and it was hoped that JGP would agree to comper the event. NF raised the question on whether LVP's, who had earlier been presented with their award at the AGM, should be invited to attend the dinner to celebrate. In principle all present were in agreement with this idea.

The prize for Best Website had recently been awarded to the Association at the IPC Media Shooting Industry Awards event, and credit for this success is attributable to Peter Tomlin and our IT support company for the significant development that has gone into the site over the last twelve months. 50% of our members now have e-mail addresses registered, and regularly receive the newsletter.

2:3 National Shooting Week This has been promoted hard to our member clubs, and a special event is being arranged at the NCSC following a proposal by Paul Rendell. As a special membership incentive for the week only, all our clubs will be offering a 20.12% discount to new full members and this is applicable to either one or two year memberships.

Clubman membership is excluded from this offer, and the clubs will still receive their normal commission rates.

2:4 Clubman Classic League NF reported that introduction of the League was progressing well with BASC also expressing an interest. Following discussions with them, they are now offering their support for it, as well as a contribution towards medals or trophies. It has been proposed that whilst acknowledging them as a supporting partner for the league, they will promote it to their membership (both individual and clubs). RW will expand on this in his presentation later on the Agenda.

2:5 Club Insurance package This is also progressing, albeit slower than anticipated. WWSI have encountered delays in dealing with their underwriter, Sagicor, as well as their own lack of claims experience in the shooting arena. However, discussions with a third party are being held, of which WWSI are aware, and NF stated that he would keep Directors updated on any progress made regarding this package.

Regarding the provision of possible shotgun revocation insurance, NF reported that it was proving to be a slightly difficult exercise. Legal expenses type cover would only work if a large number of members signed up to it because of the cost to the Association. The NSRA have a scheme called "After the Event Insurance", and details of this have been passed to WWSI to investigate further. Whilst BASC have people in house who give advice they were not lawyers and BASC did not fund legal defences. NF considered it advantageous to the Association if it were able to offer this type of cover to its members.

2:6 Championship update Feedback from the EO ESP held at Southdown GC during the previous weekend had been very good. Dartford had also done a great job in hosting the EO ESK, and there had been a great atmosphere at both events. Entry numbers for both these Championships had shown an increase on last year, with 742 having attended the EO ESP. RK reported that Steve Lovatt's Westfield SG had also done an excellent job in hosting the EO FITASC Championship.

NF announced that Edgar Brothers are to become the headline sponsor for the BO ESP and Sportrap event. Zoli will be the headline sponsor for the CPISA/NSCA World Sporting Championship scheduled to be held at Sweetslade near Cheltenham and hosted by The Clay Shooting Company. NF confirmed that this news would be published on the website as well as in PULL! magazine, and extra money would be added to the prize funds which would enhance both events. The forthcoming 3 day DTL weekend at Bywell was being sponsored by Hull in addition to the guns being supplied by main sponsor GMK.

2:7 British Shooting update/England Development plan Plans for funding for 2013-2017 have been submitted by British Shooting to UK Sport and Sport England. A new source of funding is likely to be made available in the short term for disability projects which British Shooting will also co-ordinate. The GB Olympic squad was announced on the 28<sup>th</sup> May with 7 of the maximum 8 shotgun places being taken up. An agreement to devise and publish a common selection procedure for the next four years has been made between BICTSF and British Shooting, representing a significant step forward for shooting.

2:8 Tru-Shot demonstration and proposal Following an online demonstration earlier today in NF's office of this computerised coaching aid, together with the proposal distributed to all the Directors beforehand, a discussion took place on the merits and affordability of the offer made to the Association by Dennis Stepney and Adam Twine. It was subsequently proposed that Tru-Shot was rejected on the grounds of cost and all were in favour. NF stated that he would communicate the decision back to the company.

**Action: NF**

2:9 Disabled Shooting Project and DSG NF has expressed his concern at the lack of progress relating to clay shooting to both the DSP and British Shooting. Julie Sperlberg, Chairman of the DSG, has joined RK as the second CPISA representative on the DSP. Another group meeting is scheduled for next week. Following an agreement to establish focus clubs, Southern Counties, Nuthampstead and Orston have been nominated on our behalf.

2:10 CPSA Governance NF reported that he had attended a workshop last week, and there was further work for him and TRB to do following this. The first two workshops are being held in London, with the third being held in Stratford-upon-Avon. RK has expressed his interest in attending the second and third meeting together with NF.

2:11 Edmonton House maintenance Following a discussion between TRB and NF recently, it had been agreed to undertake a structural survey of the building in order to ascertain what issues need to be addressed, and in order to minimise unexpected maintenance bills. Additionally, quotes are being obtained to upgrade the telephone system which was installed 12 years ago. The Reserves policy has a sum allocated to cover significant maintenance costs.

### **3. Financial Update – C. Pierre**

CP enquired whether there were any questions relating to her Monthly Finance report which had been included in the Board pack. Membership in April stood at 23,700 which was a decrease of 102 members compared with the previous month. Club membership figures are now at 353, one fewer than last month. The bank balances closed at £770.8K which was £214.5K more than this time last year, and RK remarked that although membership numbers were still falling finances remained healthy.

i) Championship Prize money With a predicted surplus for the year, it was considered to be an opportune time to put some additional revenue back into the prize funds for the championships. CDB enquired whether this should be proportional. NF replied that it was intended to give a standard pay out for the first four places, and from there on it would be proportional, so that no class would pay out less than had been paid in. In reply to a question from RK asking for an assurance that this would be publicised in PULL! magazine, NF replied in the affirmative. He stated that it was also intended to purchase additional trophies in order to fill some gaps which had occurred in various championships. CDB observed that it would be useful to carry out a trophy audit as some were now in a very poor condition, which was very embarrassing when presentations were made. NF replied that some trophies were refurbished last year, but there was an ongoing problem when recipients took them home immediately after presentation and the trophies were therefore not seen again until one year hence, in the same poor condition. CP suggested that for the winners of the valuable trophies which are retained annually by the Association, replicas could be purchased for the winners to take home. NF additionally suggested the possibility of awarding each of the referees a boxed medal as a memento of the event. CP confirmed that an extra £1,000 had been put into the EO ESP prize fund, with a total of an additional £14,000 funding being spread across ten championships.

ii) England team vests. TRB, following an approach from an England team member, introduced the possibility of a summer type England team vest made by Castellani. As almost all the International competitions are held during the summer months, these would be more comfortable for the team members as well as looking the part. A discussion followed on the cost of such an exercise taking into account the number of England vests currently held in stock, and NF would contact John Heading who had provided the sample.

iii) Charts. A short discussion took place on the layouts of the various statistical charts normally enclosed with each Board pack. With Directors liking different combinations of the charts, it was agreed that CP would continue to produce them in the current format.

iv) Courses. Concern was expressed on the number of courses being cancelled, and in particular the ITC (Instructor Training L1) which has had five courses at various venues cancelled between the 30<sup>th</sup> March and the 1<sup>st</sup> June this year. WAH queried the fact that a projected course to be held at Cottdale was still not advertised either in PULL! or on the website, although one to be held at Southern Counties later in the year is. NF replied that the office had been awaiting cost projections from the ground for holding the event, thereby ensuring that the course would break even and be viable, but it was confirmed that it is now advertised in the current edition of Pull! and on the website. KJN asked whether it was possible for HO to stipulate the costings as grounds were encountering difficulties, adding that from his point of view, it would be easier if HO informed the grounds how much they would be

prepared to pay for the running and hosting of a course. GW stated that if the costs submitted to HO did not pan out, then the course would have to be moved elsewhere.

The possibility of running some courses centrally was again raised and discussed. The new Coach Development & Training Manager will organise this with Cheryl Mathers assisting him/her. NF confirmed that it would be approximately three weeks before the job description, person specification and advert for the new position was completed. WAH queried when there was likely to be a meeting of the representatives from each Region. GW confirmed that meetings would only take place between himself, Mike Williams and Tony Highams – the Education & Training Steering Group. The Rules & Refs Panel will only meet when a change to the rules is considered, with the Technical Advisers contacted via e-mail for their comments. NF confirmed that details of the Steering Group had been disseminated to the Regional Co-ordinators.

#### **4. Operations Update – S. Oldman**

i) Life Disabled Membership rate SO reported that it was proposed to introduce a Life Disabled Membership rate for the sum of £725. The current Life rate is £850 and the Life Vet rate is £425. WAH therefore proposed acceptance of the sum of £725 which was seconded by KJN. All present were in favour.

ii) IT Update A summary had been included in SO's report in the Board pack on the progression of this project. It had been decided to go down the modular route as this would make it far more flexible, and the first module transferred, i.e. Championships (from Magic to the Website), has now successfully completed one year of service.

iii) Classifications These should go live on the website tonight.

iv) Championships SO reported that the EO ESK at Dartford and the EO ESP at Southdown had both been very successful championships. He also reported that 75% of championship entries had been made on-line, and just 6% have been target-only entries.

v) In-house Policies Two new in-house policies, e-mail Acceptable Use Policy and Internet Acceptable Use Policy, have been added to HO controls to bring them in line with current practice.

#### **5. Commercial update – Simon Barber**

In addition to his comprehensive three page report supplied in the Board pack, SB introduced the following items for discussion:

i) Membership Although overall membership had dropped again during April, 21 Life Memberships had been purchased in the year to date, as compared to only 3 at the same time last year. Two year renewals, on all categories except one, had also shown an increase.

ii) PULL! magazine CDB queried the total amount of wordage which each County or Region can submit monthly for publication. It is currently 400 words per Region, and 600 words for per County. Because activity at Regional Championships and Inter County events tends to wax and wane throughout the year, CDB considered that the allocation of 200 fewer words per Region compared with the Counties could, at certain times of the year, compromise a Region's reporting needs. SB replied that they would try to accommodate the variations in report sizes, but it was important to consider all types of members and their interests. CDB also asked if the problem regarding the increase in advertising prices had been addressed. SB replied that Argent's response to the contributors had been a more realistic one.

CDB additionally considered it very poor that the Association's own Major and Minor Championships were not highlighted in the fixtures section, either as a header/footer or as a separate Diary inclusion at the beginning of Fixtures such as occurs with Regions and Counties. SB replied that this information had previously been supplied by PT who was now

fully occupied with the IT project. NF undertook to investigate how easy it would be for this information to be included in future editions of the magazine.

**Action: NF/SB**

iii) Sponsorship SB spoke of the sponsorships obtained to date including Edgar Brothers, Zoli and GMK. Mitsubishi would be providing transport vehicles at the World.

iv) CLA Game Fair SB reported that arrangements and planning of this year's event was very much behind schedule due to restructuring within the CLA organisation. No meetings had been held pre Christmas which usually occurred, and no site meeting had yet been held with us and John Bidwell. However, it was understood that all stands were now sold. RK stated that his County and others were hesitant regarding the manner in which the Champion of Champions event had been run previously, together with the quality of the refereeing. Originally it was only the County Champion who could attend the event to represent the County, but WAH now understood that the rules have been changed to allow an alternative shooter to be nominated if the actual Champion could not, or did not, want to attend.

v) National Shooting week SB said posters have been distributed advertising the one-off new members discount of 20.12%.

vi) CPSA flags and posters were requested for Fauxdegla, and SB said he would supply them with same.

## **6. Development Brief Intro – R.Worthington**

RW gave a brief report of the grounds he had visited and which had been listed in his report - totalling 12 to date. His efforts had been concentrated on building relationships with existing ground members and developing a format for the Clubman League. His visits have been reported on the website under the title "Richard's Diary" and over 4,000 hits had been made to it. He had been made very welcome by the grounds visited, although had experienced a small degree of negativity towards the Association initially. TRB asked about RW's objective on such visits, and whether it was the same for all the grounds. RW replied that his aim was to improve communications and to establish a working relationship between them including promoting any special days that the grounds intended to hold. CDB enquired if he was taking into account the level at which the clubs were promoting the Association. RW replied that he was taking the opportunity of stocking up with leaflets, posters etc, and also talking about the League. TRB observed that by talking to clubs who are already members of the Association, he was preaching to the converted and enquired what steps had been taken to approach clubs that were not members. In reply RW confirmed that focus is currently being placed on making the club membership scheme more attractive, offering compelling value to clubs before it is being pushed to non-member clubs. WAH was of a similar opinion to TRB in that there was no point in visiting existing members, and had previously held the same opinion when it was part of Bobby Watkins's remit. He then suggested that maybe RW should have the use of the trailer instead of BW. NF stated that BW was currently more involved in chasing up lapsed members as it was proving more cost effective, adding that volunteers from the County Committees could attend local events to promote the Association. TRB enquired what steps had been taken to elicit which clubs/grounds are non members and NF replied that part of the Sport England bid includes a club audit. RW considered that there was a need to encourage lapsed grounds back into the Association. Replying to a question from KJN regarding his ultimate aims, RW replied that they were to establish the Clubman Classic League, increase the number of member clubs and to come up with other ideas to promote the sport such as Have A Go days etc. KJN responded that he considered it would be very difficult to get the League to work as clubs were giving one reply to RW and presenting another viewpoint amongst each other. In KJN's opinion some of the smaller clubs would not join the League because it would cost them money. NF stated that it would not suit all clubs but also that he hoped BASC clubs and other current non-members would in the future join the League.

## **7. Chairman/EMRC Complaint**

TRB gave a brief synopsis of events following CDB's actions both at and since the AGM on 31 March, and enquired again where CDB stood following the complaint made to the Board by the East Midlands Regional Committee concerning the manner in which the Board had allegedly treated CDB at the pre AGM Board meeting. CDB confirmed that whilst he had not instigated the complaint, he was supporting it. TRB stated that he had asked four weeks ago for copies of the Minutes from both the E.Midlands AGM and the April Committee meeting but that they had not been forthcoming despite a statement to the contrary. CDB confirmed that these had been produced as he had a copy, and suggested TRB approach the E.Midlands Chairman again with his request.

TRB also referred to what CDB had described as "pressure being applied from all quarters of the Board", and although acknowledging that whilst the pre AGM meeting had no doubt been uncomfortable for CDB as no Director was supporting him it had, in TRB's opinion, been a very civilised affair. This fact had been borne out by Laura Saunbury's subsequent statement. CDB commented that voices did not have to be raised for a person to feel pressured. GW enquired whether CDB considered that he had been put under pressure by GW's comments at the time. CDB replied that he had not been impressed with the reference made about ego massaging. He also stated that he had felt pressured by a subsequent e-mail he had received from KJN who had been absent from the meeting.

Both GW and RK expressed the opinion that this Agenda item should be concluded without further discussion as it could be construed as harassment and intimidation. However, CDB further stated that he had found himself in an emotional state following the comments made at the March Board meeting, and had left for the sake of his own sanity. He considered that all parties would be best served by the matter being dealt with via the East Midlands complaint. TRB agreed that there was nothing to be gained from further discussion, other than how the complaint should be dealt with and suggested that an independent panel be appointed by an independent body such as Sport England or a legal body. CDB concluded that he had given his report to the Regional Committee and had left it to them to decide on further action. He also expressed his regret for the situation in which he and his fellow Directors now found themselves.

#### **8. BO ESP Sponsors Day**

WAH queried whether it was still intended to hold a Sponsors Day, as previously discussed, on the day prior to the commencement of the British Open ESP. NF confirmed that it had been included on the plan for the event, with KJN observing that a sum of £5,000-£6,000 would need to be ring fenced in order to cover the costs. WAH said that the day should include a buffet lunch for the invited guests, plus the shoot and a trophy to be awarded to the High Gun of the day, and he was confident that Fauxdegla would contribute towards the cost. In reply to TRB's query regarding the catering for the lunch, RK stated that Fauxdegla could easily accommodate this as they currently do so on all their Corporate Days. NF stated that he would investigate the feasibility of such a day further, together with a list of possible invited sponsors, and would report back to the Board.

#### **9. Director contact details**

It had been brought to TRB's attention that Directors contact details were disparate between what is held at HQ and what is publicised via the Regional/County websites. He therefore asked each Director in turn which contact details they wished to be made public via HO so that he could pass this back to SO for action

**Action: NF and SO**

#### **10. County of Residence**

JO had been asked by a shooter if he/she could only represent the County in which their residence was situated, although this may not necessarily be the County which appears in their postal address or post code. It was reaffirmed by all that a member's county is defined, for CPSA purposes, by the location of the local authority to whom the Community Charge is payable on his/her usual residence.

## **11. Shotgun Skills Course**

JO identified a recent event whereby a shooter appeared at a ground in his Region, and asked to hire a gun to shoot some clays. He stated that he had completed the Shotgun Skills Course during which he had shot 25 clays, and felt he was now qualified to shoot on his own. The ground refused his request. KJN stated that guns are not hired out at Southern Counties, with Section 11 requirements stating that non shotgun certificate holders must be accompanied by a member of staff at all times. All agreed the ground had acted correctly.

## **12. ESK declining numbers**

WAH reported on the declining number of ESK shooters, and asked for ideas on how the discipline could be promoted. CDB commented that the North Region generally consisted of more trap shooters than ESK, with the East Midlands showing a reverse pattern of more skeet than trap shooters. RK stated that the West Midlands could claim a fairly healthy number of skeet shooters. TRB commented that entries were generally down across all the disciplines, with RK adding that economic factors played a major part in this downturn. CDB suggested that skeet shooters themselves, as well as the England team manager, be asked for suggestions of how the discipline could be made more appealing to the general populace.

## **13. Strategic plan**

RK suggested that a separate day, apart from the Board meetings, be chosen in order to discuss the strategic plan. After a consulting of diaries, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> July was agreed upon.

## **14. Adopt a charity**

It was suggested by WAH that a different charity be chosen each year for support by the Association. GW considered Macmillan a good choice as this would cover everybody who shoots. NF said that he would contact Macmillan to check if they would be willing to accept monies from a shooting association, and highlighted the fact that well over 1 million pounds had been raised for different charities in the last year via sponsored shooting events. NF also hoped that Counties would come on board, and organise events in order to raise additional funds. RK reported that Rugby & District GC make substantial donations to the Air Ambulance.

## **15. Ground grading**

WAH and RK had visited Fauxdeglia on the 24<sup>th</sup> May. Leaflets and slides were shown, and a write up of their visit was distributed. Following this visit, they recommended that the ground be upgraded to Premier Plus. This was proposed formally by RK, seconded by WAH, with all present in favour.

CDB queried the fact that the ground had been assessed under the current grading system, when he had understood that a move had been proposed of changing to a star system instead. RK commented that in his opinion such a change would be very difficult to sell to the grounds as they are familiar and comfortable with the Premier and Premier Plus system, and the very prescriptive feed back forms. CDB said he considered that members would more easily understand the star system. RK replied that some shooters still thought that the grading applied to the quality of the targets and not the facilities. GW suggested the possible introduction of a new grade, i.e Premier Prestige, for grounds such as E.J.Churchill, Southern Counties and the Royal Berks. It was agreed RK should proceed, instead of the star system, to draw up a narrative method of grading, under then existing grades, plus perhaps "Prestige".

TRB and GW raised the question of whether Dartford should also be upgraded to Premier Plus as it had been assessed previously and held in abeyance pending the grading system review. This was formally proposed by GW, and seconded by CDB. All present were in favour. WAH and RK will also visit Manchester SG.

## **16. Correspondence**



E-mails had been received from three members regarding the recent change to the rule of discipline sequence in All Round, and the various difficulties they could foresee, especially for some grounds, because of it. Following a general discussion, it was agreed that the grounds who hold an All Round registered event could decide in which order the sequences would be shot. This was formally proposed by GW, and seconded by RK. All present were in favour.

## **17. Regional reports**

A report from the West Midlands had been included in the Board Pack, and KJN distributed a report he had brought from the South West.

KJN left the meeting at 3.20 pm.

### West Midlands

i) RK additionally reported that two Counties within his Region could not attend their Regional meetings because of the travelling distances for their representatives. The geographical size of the Region appears to be the problem combined with the current cost of travelling. TRB stated that some counties help their representatives with travel costs from county funds.

ii) RK had also been asked to raise the subject of Academy decisions and who makes them. GW replied that the more people who are involved in this process, the longer it takes for a decision to be made. RK queried if all the Regions had now recommended their Technical Advisers and reported that West Midlands had. The South West confirmed they had informed HO in February of their choice, and RK collected the names of the North and East Midlands advisors. JO confirmed that the South East would choose their two representatives at the next South East Regional Committee meeting.

### North

WAH had nothing to report.

### East Midlands

CDB had nothing to report.

## **18. AOB**

i) RK reported that he had attended the Schools Challenge event when over 100 children had been present. In RK's opinion it had been a good example of gun handling and etiquette with excellent shooting, and he considered that the Association had been really fortunate to be involved in it. This was due entirely to the efforts of NF, and many compliments had been received. RK also took the opportunity to compliment the skill and enthusiasm of BW whom he had observed at work dealing with membership questions from young and not so young alike.

ii) CDB asked for a clear definition on the category of Seniors. The answer was that it covered members over 20 yrs and under 60 yrs and was for anybody who is not included in any other category, i.e. Lady, Junior, Vet, Colt.

iii) NF had been approached regarding the possibility of introducing a Side-by-Side class for ESK championships. After discussion it was agreed to leave the classes as they now exist.

iv) A short discussion was held on whether it is obligatory for CPSA qualified referees to hold a current shotgun certificate. RK will approach his County Firearms Department for an opinion.

The meeting closed at 3.50 pm

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