

# Minutes of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013

held on

## Present

Dave Hargreaves, John Rogers, Mark Bellringer, Pam Webber, Karen Webber, Chris Hunter, Mo Morrish, , Iris Bennett, John Bennett, James Bennett, Keith Bates, Paul Kennett, John Madgwick. (13)

## Represented clubs

Seeco, Halesowen, Dudley, Kidderminster, Stourport, Smethwick, Worcester West Unit, Down Hatherley. (7 + 1 not affiliated)

## The meeting opened at 8.08 pm

## Apologies

Hugh Webber, Harry Thomson, Alan Jennings, John Grove, Steve Williams, Alistair Norman, Tim Hardwicke

## Approval of minutes

The Chairman asked if those present had read the minutes of the 2012 meeting, after which he asked if it was considered that they were accurate.

Chris Hunter proposed that the minutes be accepted this was seconded by Mark Bellringer and agreed by the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

## Officers Reports

### Chairman's address

Dave Hargreaves started by saying that he wished that he could give a good Chairman's report but had some difficulty. Information had not been forthcoming from the NSRA, partly because the NSRA meetings had been very badly attended, and the meeting results and reports were not published. The website had been hacked and the links on the new website were not all working.

The NSRA have struggled with the meetings this year, the fees have increased and the numbers competing have dropped. This is at least in part due to the NRA significantly increasing the charge for the use of their facilities. The NSRA are looking to find another venue.

They have not yet published the results of the August meeting.

Within the county things are not going well. In recent weeks we have heard that Wyre shooting club have closed, Roger Lewis has circulated the information that he is retiring, the Wyre shooters who are continuing to shoot will join Halesowen club.

Worcester West unit have had to change range and are shooting at Abberley Hall school. Paul Kennett was available to enlarge on this. They have lost some of their club members but are still able to shoot prone on a 15 yd range, and can manage 20 yard air pistol.

Malvern club are not able to shoot at Malvern College as they had hoped as the college are asking for too large a fee.

There have been successes. We will hear about Karen's achievements later, and the County team have shot quite well.

Hoping for a better year next year

## Secretaries report

Only one meeting this year, held here at Millfields.

Somers club seem resistant to letting us use their premises.

Apology for not performing secretary duties as well as we know it should be done and notice from the secretary that it is now time to step down from the post.

## Treasurers report

Mark Bellringer circulated copies of the financial statements, a summary of the accounts which had been examined and approved by the independent accountant.

In brief the County made a profit during the last year of £164.90.

The current account stands at £1,625.26 and the savings account at £1,218.26

The total net worth of the county association including trophies, trophy centres, cards, etc. stands at £4,550.02.

In the coming year there will be the costs of cards, both indoor and outdoor.

Trophy expenditure has risen, (by 20%), and Mark is now looking for another trophy supplier.

There will be a reduced income from Clubs for their affiliation, Wyre and Malvern having closed and WWU struggling. Paul Kennett was able to confirm that despite this Wes Unit would affiliate.

The reduction in this income is offset very slightly by the NSRA having changed the way they charge counties, (separating affiliation and competition entry fees), although this has not changed things much.

He plans to continue using the same auditing firm as they are very reasonably priced and he is also happy to stand as Treasurer again this coming year.

He asked if the meeting would accept the accounts, Keith proposed, Mo seconded and the accounts were unanimously passed.

In the course of his report Mark apologised for lack of trophy centres this year. He has them at home but he had a very early start and had no time to collect and fix them. This will be sorted out during the coming weeks.

## The reports re. the County and reserves teams and the Ladies team were presented by Pam Webber.

Pam presented her report, a copy was sent to me and is reproduced below.

Starting at the end of September last year, the County had a remarkable few weeks shooting. We won Division C of the County Cup and Division C of the BSA Cup earning promotion in both competitions and medals will be distributed to team members later. We followed this up by retaining the Three Counties Cup for the fourth consecutive year. However unfortunately I have to report that we lost it last weekend in what turned into a two counties cup when Gloucestershire failed to turn up.

By contrast the winter was less impressive. The County team won 3 rounds and finished 5<sup>th</sup>, the ladies also only won 3 and finished 6<sup>th</sup> but the reserves performed better winning 7 rounds and finished 2<sup>nd</sup>. The star of the winter with an average of 99.0 and the winner of the Wilf Elmes Trophy is John Grove.

On to Bisley this year, where County shooters certainly gave a good account of themselves. Mo Morrish started off in great form, winning two trophies and promotion to B class. Shooting brilliantly at 100yds in the wind, Karen Webber was selected to shoot for the GB Randle team. Having got up at the crack of dawn to shoot that competition she promptly got down again at 8.30 to shoot the last aggregate comp at 100 yds winning it and the meeting's overall 100yds trophy. This led to selection for both the England and England Ladies team while also gaining promotion to X Class. As usual she and Alistair Norman teamed up and they won the Open Pairs competition. Not to be left out, John Grove fought hard all week and also clinched the last promotion place to X Class. Not finished yet, John was our Champion of Champions representative where he scored 584 and qualified for the Olympic final in 8<sup>th</sup> place and there improved to 6<sup>th</sup> overall. This has to be the best ever finishing position for our County.

As always I would appreciate the names of any prospective county shooters of any standard. We still can only field one reserve team due to lack of numbers.

## **Worcestershire County Open Meeting 2013**

Hugh Webbers report was read in his absence By D.H.

This year we had a total of 43 entries, 9 up on last year. At the risk of sounding boring I always ask for more County shooters to come and support the meeting, especially in class C where the chance of winning a prize is high, given the low entries. This year again we only had 8 County shooters, down from 11 last year and I know we have more people who shoot outdoors. As before Ellesmere school brought the only juniors, 14 this year, they are a significant boost to the meeting.

This year we made just under £280 profit, which helps keep cost down for County Clubs. The stock of targets for is well down, so next year we will have to buy more, which is a significant outlay..

Again we anticipate holding the meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in May 2013, which is the 18<sup>th</sup>.

The overall Worcestershire Champion was John Grove, taking revenge for having been beaten in 2011 by Karen Webber, she was pushed back to second place this year. The other trophy winners were:

Class A	John Grove
Class B	H Webber
Class C	W Willetts
Open Pairs	Karen Webber & Alistair Norman
C&D Pairs	No County entry this year
Veterans	John Grove
Ladies	Karen Webber
Dewar	Karen Webber
English Match	John Grove
Carton Bulls	Karen Webber
Best 100yds	Alistair Norman

Our thanks, as usual, go to all those without whom we could not run the meeting, Bob Cooper for running the range (with help from Dave Hargreaves), Alan Jennings, John Grove and Keith Bates scoring, Mark Bellringer taking entries Pam and Karen Webber, refreshments and all the rest who filled in doing the odd jobs needed around and about.

As I said before can we see more of the County shooters competing? It helps to support the county and keeps our costs elsewhere down.

Hugh Webber

17 October 2013

## **Air rifle Captain**

No report available

## **Report re the Lightweight Sports Rifle discipline**

Steve Williams has apologised for not being able to attend tonight and for not having managed to complete the running of the league.

D.H. explained to the meeting that Steve has had a variety of work and personal pressures that he had needed to deal with.

In his absence Chris Hunter had done a good job in rescuing the situation and getting the scores out. Steve will not be able to run the league in this coming year, but with 56 shooters in 6 divisions it is a popular contest and worth continuing. The entry fees have been £5 for adults and £3 for juniors, so it raises some income for the county.

## Junior Captain

Mo Morrish gave her report.

Over the last year Mo has contacted the Scouts association, the British Horse society and a variety of other organisations and has had no interest from them.

She has emailed our own clubs and has had no responses to say that there are juniors interested. At Dudley Bob has resumed running a junior section but so far with no one who would be able to contribute to a county endeavour.

Mo's grand daughter is very promising with air rifle.

She understands that the Scouts have a national event at Aldersley (and M.B. said that the National Associations of Boys Clubs also do). She hopes to do some networking when this next happens.

Other than this she has nothing to report. It was commented by others that it is an ageing sport.

We are aware as a county of a variety of schools that have had a range, Abberley Hall, Kings, Royal Grammar, Malvern College, Bromsgrove School and Old Swinford were mentioned.

John Madgwick was aware that WBA had an initiative to encourage youngsters to enter sports and he has some details. Mo took his number. He was also aware that the Sandwell Council for voluntary organisation and change might be a good resource.

## NSRA Representative

Dave Hargreaves gave his report.

Last year there were changes in affiliation which entailed paying separately for the competition entries.

The NSRA shop opened a new web site but it keeps going down due to hacking

The next meeting in November is likely to be dealing with complaints from around the country.

The NSRA benchrest is currently run under different regulations to the national rules. They are in discussion whether to change this.

Dave asked if anyone else had anything to report.

Paul Kennett asked if he could mention visually impaired shooting.

He works with visually impaired kids from NEW College Worcester through W.West unit.

There is a national championship at Aldersley for 10M air rifle. The rifles have modified sights that convert the light into an audible signal. They have been entering these competitions over the last 5 years or more.

There are about 8 kids that shoot regularly at Worcester and they entered 3 in the National Championship in March. They took the first 3 places in the under 18's and came 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> overall.

2 of their past trainees are current national champions

There are about 30 or 40 clubs that are involved in v.i. shooting. If anyone knows anyone who might be interested Paul said that there are people within Hereford & Worcester that can

## Competition Secretary

Chris Hunter reported that in the county competitions we had 16 teams compete in the summer league and 18 wishing to shoot in winter. It is being considered that the costs for individual competitions are increased. It currently is £3.50 per entry.

In the winter leagues he has looked outside the County for entries and had interest from other clubs, Oxford University submitting teams. He plans to continue looking out of county for other clubs that may be interested.

He thanked the scorers.

## Election of Officers

The first officer to be elected traditionally has been the Chairman.

The secretary asked if anyone would be prepared to stand as Chairman and as there were no other volunteers he suggested that Mr Hargreaves should again be proposed as Chairman he was seconded by C.H. and was voted in unanimously.

Alan Jennings was proposed as Vice Chair in his absence by DH, seconded by MB and voted in.

As JR is not standing as secretary this year D. H. asked for any volunteers, and having had her arm twisted Karen accepted the responsibility, was proposed by C.H. seconded by M. M. and voted in.

The election of officers progressed with the en bloc election of

Hugh Webber. Open Meeting Organiser, Air rifle/ Pistol Captain.

Pam Webber. County M & F Captain

Mark Bellringer Treasurer

Dave Hargreaves NSRA rep,

Proposed by DH , seconded J.R. carried

The posts of LSR Captain and Prone competition captain were offered and accepted by J.R. and C.H.

The meeting voted to accept this.

## Other business

Competition organisers etc need to circulate information to a variety of people in each club to ensure that it is passed on to the relevant people

Pam asked about the scoring courses that were being run by the NSRA. It seems that they are considering running self-scoring leagues. DH said that when the courses are arranged the details should appear on the NSRA website. Clubs have also enquired whether the county could run self-scoring leagues. This was discussed but in view of many self-scoring errors that we have seen historically there was not much support for the idea.

## The time being 21.20 a break was called. Restart 9.35

## Presentation of Trophies

Pam was asked to start and presented medals for the County Cup and the BSA cup to the members of the teams who were present.

**Trophy winners in the winter league 2012/13 were as follows.**

### LSR League

Medals were awarded to;

Div 1	Gold	Gareth Rowlands, Malvern	Silver	Adam Boothroyd, Glevum
Div 2	Gold	Kevin Knight, Seeco	Silver	E. Stevens, 8 <sup>th</sup> Warwicks
Div 3	Gold	Phil Knowles, Glevum	Silver	Robert Rendall, Glevum
Div 4	Gold	J. Tromans, Leominster	Silver	W. Stanley, 8 <sup>th</sup> Warwicks
Div 5	Gold	Ian Rigby, Glevum	Silver	Gabor Oltyan, Leominster
Div 6	Gold	Aide Davies, Leominster	Silver	Viktor Oltyan ,Leominster

### Winter League 2012/13

**Div 1** Down Hatherley (P. Webber, R. Lygoe, D. Stainforth, J. Cresswell): *The Rose Bowl trophy*

Top average, N. Hill, Leominster (99.2)

**Div 2** Dudley (N Jones, Alistair Norman, Steve Gough, T. Beeston): *The News & Times Challenge cup*

Top average, Alistair Norman, (98.3)

**Div 3** Old Silhillians (E Asquith, K, Westwood, D. Neal, M Faber): The J.C.Baker Challenge cup

Top average, D Neal, Old Silhillians (96.0)

**Individual competition**

Div 1 Dave Brown (798) Halesowen  
Div 2 K. Webber (779) Down Hatherley  
Div 3 Chris Rogers (958) Worcester West Unit

**County Champion**

The County Champion was John Groves. He will receive the Wilf Elmes Trophy

**Winners in the summer league 2013 were as follows**

Div 1: Seeco	J Rogers, D Hargreaves, C Hunter	Top shot: D.Hargreaves (98.5)
Div 2: Smethwick	J Madgwick, C. Partridge, C. Griffiths	Top shot: C. Griffiths ( 96.6)
Div 3: Kidderminster B	M Royall, N. Grazier, R. Donnell	Top shot: D. Neal Old Sills, (96.4)
Div 4: Leominster B	J.Horlock, L. Hill, Z. Roberts	Top shot: J Horlock (94.2)

The County open winners were listed above in Hugh Webber's report.

The trophies were not available but would be passed to Alistair, John and Karen when engraved.

**The meeting closed at 10.05pm**