



# **Worcestershire Small-bore Rifle and Pistol Association.**

*Chairman Mr M Bellringer. Secretary Miss K Webber. Treasurer Mr P Kennett.*

[wsbrpa.org](http://wsbrpa.org)

## **Minutes of the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Held on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

### **Present**

John Rogers, Paul Kennett, Karen Webber, Mark Bellringer, Pam Webber, Hugh Webber, Keith Bates, Rob Blank, Rob Townsend, Steve Williams, Kevin Marshall

### **Represented clubs**

Kidderminster, Secco, Halesowen, Smethwick, Down Hatherley

### **Apologies**

John Grove

### **Approval of minutes**

The Chairman asked if those present had read the minutes of the 2021 meeting, after which he asked if it was considered that they were accurate.

Proposed Hugh Webber, Seconded Mark Bellringer

### **Officers Reports**

#### **Chairman's address/NSRA report**

Mark Bellringer presented the Chairman's address

Firstly I'd like to welcome you all in person to the meeting, its nice to see a number of friends for the first time in a good while.

As you may know with the sad passing of David Hargreaves my predecessor was somewhat of a shock to all of us and was thoroughly unexpected by us all, so much so I had accepted the position of vice chair having stepped down from treasurer a few years ago. (Hugh and Pam had entrapped me in the vice chair roll). As may know I've also taken on the regional NSRA reps role which David also undertook.

Having been in the mist of the unprecedented times which have unfolded since the advent of covid, I believe were now heading to some element of normality however the current economic situation may prove otherwise. In terms of actual shooting our activities are now proceeding in there usual summer and winter fashion. However, on a somewhat reduced entry basis, which I'm sure John Rogers will appraise us of within his coming report.

I'd like to thank the current officers for their efforts in keeping the association going through the course of events even the most optimistic crystal ball could not have foreseen.

In terms of my dealings with the NSRA I'd like to say that everything has been rosy, however in

reality I'm fast becoming aware that they are an archaic organization with a stoic attitude to change, this can be born out that its taken two years for them to finally update the email list for county reps to include my email address!!! Its also sad to report that the nation meeting at Bisley this year was substantially down on overall entry's at circa 400 despite the Bisley 100 anniversary.

However It's not all doom and gloom at the NSRA it appears that their work on the portal continues to gather pace having now sorted the issues around concurrent scoring and a few other glitches, it also appears that the county fees may actually become payable by BACS transfer as the NSRA slowly join the 21st century.

Some other developments are expected locally in regards to the Aldersley facility which is now effectively open for use at 25 yards, 50m and 100 yards etc, currently the NSRA have the facility in use by both the former Goodyear and Lucas clubs with a plan afoot to form a new west midland club based at Aldersley which is something I'm personally involved with.

And on the subject for a wider west Midlands basis some of you may have spotted the agenda item concerning the possible amalgamation of local county organisations for which later in the meeting we will have the opportunity to discuss.

I therefore ask the meeting to formally commence with the issue of the existing officers reports.

### **County Captain's Report**

Pam Webber presented the County Captain's report.

Last winter we were finally able to return to some form of normality and completed the season. The County team finished 4<sup>th</sup> and the Veterans 3rd in their respective divisions. It has been noticeable that shooters all around the country and including our County have suffered from the time away and individual averages have fallen a little.

Congratulations to Karen Webber for being the winner of the Wilf Elmes Trophy for highest average.

I had hoped to enter a B team for the coming winter season but again it was not possible to get 24 shooters and so there will only be one County team and a Veterans team. I apologise to anyone who feels left out but I could only take the top 12 averages in the County.

The NSRA hope to get stickers out soon but they seem to be playing catch up most of the time. I will distribute cards as soon as I receive stickers. Hopefully there will be no more interruptions this winter but can I stress if you have a problem let me know as soon as possible. I can get extensions but not after the shoot by date has passed.

Good shooting all

### **County Air Captain's Report**

As there are no County Air teams there is no report to present.

### **Treasurers report year end 2021/22 i.e. up to March 2022**

Paul Kennett provided the Treasurer's report.

Acceptance of the accounts proposed by Pam Webber, seconded by Steve Williams

Steve Williams has proposed thanks to Paul for running the accounts through a very difficult period.

Paul explained that the accounts need to be inspected by someone other than him but we do not meet the legal category that would require them to be audited so we took the decision to save the money we were spending on accounts.

### **Secretary's Report**

Karen Webber gave the Secretary's report.

There were no actions for the committee from last year's AGM. The committee has continued to hold it's regular meetings through the year. As always, if anyone wants anything to be raised during the year then please let me know. The calendar is available on the website if you want to know when the next one will be. The minutes from the meetings are also put on the website and if anyone wants to raise anything in relation to the matters discussed then let me know.

The Junior Captains post is still vacant. If anyone present knows of someone willing to take up this role then please let one of the committee know.

### **Worcestershire County Open 2022**

Hugh Webber presented the County Open report

After 2 years of lock downs it was good to have a meeting again. We were very encouraged by the numbers who turned up and it was great to see friends again. This was a common theme in conversations during the day.

The weather was quite kind to us, with only the lightest amount of rain in the day (despite the forecast). However most of us had problems with the fickle wind, that is other than Karen who just mastered it, making a clean sweep of all she entered.

Class A Karen Webber  
Class B Andy Lee  
Class C No County entry this year  
Open Pairs Karen Webber & Hugh Webber  
C&D Pairs No County entry this year  
Veterans Graham Milligan  
Ladies Karen Webber  
Dewar Karen Webber  
English Match Andy Lee  
Carton Bulls Karen Webber  
Best 100yds Karen Webber

The raffle winners were Al Norman taking a bottle of wine and Pam Webber the box of chocolates.

As always I have to thank those who help to make the meeting a success. To all who entered, without competitors there could be no meeting, Bromyard Rifle club (and their work party), without the range we could not hold a meeting, Pam and Karen Webber for keeping us fed and watered, John Grove and Mark Bellringer for helping out with Range Officer duties, keeping everyone safe and in good order and lastly, but most importantly Keith Bates and John Grove for their sterling work in scoring, dealing with cross shots and other problems. A measure of their prowess is the fact that there were no challenges.

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.

### **Prone Competition Secretary's Report**

John Rogers gave the Competitions Secretary's report

We ran a concurrent team and individual competitions.  
There were 11 team entries and I arranged these into 3 divisions  
There were 42 individual entries that were arranged into 7 divisions  
These entries are very significantly down on previous years, ie in the 2019/20 season we had 17 teams and 57 individuals

#### Winning teams

Div 1 Halesowen Top shot Chris Hunter Down Hatherley 98.8  
Div 2 Dudley B Top shot Brandon Cooper Dudley 96.4  
Div 3 Halesowen C Top shot A. Jackson Beech, Market Drayton 94.9

#### Winners individual leagues

Div 1 Chris Hunter Down Hatherley  
Div 2 Alastair Norman Dudley  
Div 3 Chris Griffiths Smethwick  
Div 4 Brandon Cooper Dudley  
Div 5 Dorothy Harrison Strathearn  
Div 6 Paul Kennett Seeco  
Div 7 A. Jackson Beech, Market Drayton

#### Summer 2022

#### Winning teams

Div 1 Halesowen Top shot D. Anderson Bickley Bristol Invicta 97.8  
Div 2 Torfaen Top shot S. Gurner Torfaen 95.8

#### Winners individual leagues

Div 1 D. Anderson Bickley Bristol Invicta  
Div 2 Andy Lee Seeco  
Div 3 R Hayward Halesowen  
Div 4 S Gurner Torfaen  
Div 5 T Ives Kidderminster  
Div 6 F. Kingscott Bristol Invicta

Discussion regarding how many medals we hand out in order to encourage more entries. Could fund a second place medal for the individual league by putting the entry fees up to £5. Steve

Williams suggested the second place could be a certificate rather than a medal which would bring costs down.

## **AP Committee to look at the options for competition prizes**

### **Lightweight Sports Rifle and Benchrest Competition Secretary's Report**

Hugh Webber gave the Lightweight Sports Rifle and Benchrest Competition Secretary's report.

This last year we have managed to run competitions despite the disruption caused by Covid. In the winter we had 10 divisions of bench rest, 8 of LWSR and 1 pairs competition. This was an increase on the previous winter, but still down on historical figures.

The summer competitions again were a lot more successful as a most competitors managed to complete 10 rounds. We had 10 divisions of LWSR, but no pairs competition, plus 11 divisions of benchrest.

#### Light Weight Sport Rifle Winter 2021\_22

##### Div Winner Club

1. Greasley J Highfield
2. Godsell J Glevum
3. Meadows B Bedford
4. David R Trackside
5. Clements C Glevum
6. Wood C Keelby
7. Payne R Bedford
8. Wools J Glevum

#### Bench Rest Winter Winter 2021-22

##### Div Winner Club

1. Goulsbra G Trackside
2. Evans C Glevum
3. Woodhead M Crookham
4. Hancock K GEC
5. Day J Crookham
6. Johnson D R Keelby
7. Cloke K Down Hatherley

8. Sheead K Bedford
9. Smith B Trackside
10. Wilkinson J Trackside

#### LWSR Summer 2022

1. Greasley Miss J Highfield
2. Godsell Z Glevum
3. Eckhardt R Bedford
4. Ramsden P Keelby
5. Webb K Glevum
6. McManus J Highfield
7. Wade J Trackside
8. Dunn P Glevum
9. Tandy A Glevum
10. Dunn K Glevum

#### Bench Rest Summer 2022

1. Clements C Glevum
2. Evans C Glevum
3. Rogers J Seeco
4. Townsend R Seeco
5. Love D Colbury
6. Smith J F Crookham
7. Wools J Glevum
8. Beak G Glevum
9. Majewski J Down Hatherley
10. Marshall J Bedford
11. Shepherd S Keelby

#### **Junior Captain's Report**

No Junior Captain's report was submitted for the AGM as the post remains vacant.

#### **Election of Officers**

Mark Bellringer was proposed to resume his post by Hugh Webber. This was seconded by Paul Kennett.

It was suggested to elect all other officers on block except for the Junior Captain and Vice Chair roles which are vacant. This was proposed by Mark Bellringer, seconded Kevin Marshall.

Steve Williams was asked to take up the Vice Chairman role and he was willing to stand. Proposed by Pam Webber and Seconded by Mark Bellringer. Unanimous vote from all present for the appointment.

Mark suggested Lord Chobam as the President for the County Association. It was agreed this would be taken forward.

### **AP Mark to contact Lord Chobam**

### **Any Other Business**

There has been an approach to the committee to see if Worcestershire would like to join into a West Midlands wide county association formed of Staffordshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Mark has also had a conversation with Warwickshire.

It is believed Worcestershire are the only county of the 4 that are legally able to affiliate to the NSRA as there needs to be 5 affiliated clubs, though Worcestershire is only just making this level.

Some of the big counties are apparently opposed to counties merging. It will need to be agreed via the NSRA which will take negotiation.

It would have to be done by the individual associations being dissolved and then a new association formed. There would need to be negotiations as to how the assets etc would be manage. The proposal at the moment is that each county would retain assets but merge from the shooting perspective.

There was a concern raised that the area might be too big. It would be that we would benefit from a conversation with just one or two nearby areas instead.

The benefit was raised of joining a bigger amalgamated association at the start rather than joining further down the line.

Mark asked the meeting if it gave permission for the committee to go away and investigate the opportunities. Hugh Webber proposed the Committee is empowered to investigate. Steve Williams seconded. The meeting voted unanimously in favour.

### **AP Committee to investigate the proposals for a merger of county associations.**

### **Presentation of Trophies**

Trophy winners were presented in line with results on the website: [wsbrpa.org](http://wsbrpa.org)

**Meeting Closed 22:20**