

HAMPSHIRE SCOUT RIFLE CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING

24/09/2018
19:45 to 22:20
Hiltingbury District Room

Attendees: Terry Metcalfe (TM) *Chairman* Tony Moles (TMO)
Andy Travell (AT) *Secretary* Stephen Batchelor (SB) *County Shooting Advisor*
Pat Killen (PK) Trevor Draper (TD)
David Alderman (DA) John Barnes (JFB) *Armourer*
Chris Ward (CW) Tony Perrett (TP)
Fraser Skirrow (FS) Doug Millard (DM) *County Shooting Advisor*
Roger Monksummers (RM) Jess Burrige (JLB)
Chrissy Monksummers (CM) Lorna Knights (LK)
Craig Knights (CK) *County Shooting Advisor*

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from John Westerman, Kevin Earl, Chris Draper, Clare Young and Andrew Pudney.

Minutes of last meeting

- The minutes from the Annual General Meeting of 25th June were approved.
- The minutes from the Committee Meeting of 25th June were approved.

Work Towers

- TM advised that there are three of the identified work towers that are currently being worked on. These are for the National Squad, the National Championships, and Training.
- AT gave an update regarding the National Squad work tower. Comments had been received from CM and RM, all of which are entirely reasonable. AT will work up a third version of the documentation to address these comments and distribute for final review, and subject to agreement we will 'launch' the work tower as a functioning operational document. The timing of this is to be agreed.
- AT also gave an update on the National Championships work tower. The second draft has been produced and sent to the Match Director for comment. It is not expected that there will be any significant progress until after the 2018 National Championships, but in principle this will follow the same process as the National Squad work tower in that there will be further drafts produced as required until we have a final draft available for wider review and subsequent launch. RM suggested that a Deputy Match Director is appointed for 2019 who can 'shadow' the weekend activities. AT commented that it would be worth trying to do this for 2018 to establish familiarity as soon as possible.
- TM described the progress of the third work tower, which is being 'walked through' at present. It is agreed that there should be a 'Training Administrator' role which will coordinate all aspects of the training programme, albeit not necessarily delivering any training sessions, and that filling this role is becoming increasingly important. TM will draft and circulate a list of suggested dates for courses to be arranged in 2019, which can then be discussed in detail prior to creating a formal version for publication to the wider Scouting community.

National Championships

- TM advised that there is a possibility that the Match Director will not be available over the weekend of the 2019 championships (see above regarding a deputy). The succession issue has been discussed but this brings it into sharp focus. Further planning and action is urgent.

- JLB gave an update on the entries to date. There are approximately 730 entrants in approximately 125 Groups. Each of these has been entered manually because 'cut & paste' has not been usable within the spreadsheets as they are configured. This has resulted in a massive workload, with the potential for error adding to the need to double check, thereby increasing the workload. The whole process of collecting data, verifying it and formatting it for submission to the squadding process has been fraught and needs to be significantly improved.
- Whilst it was agreed that it is too late to make changes this year it will be important to learn the lessons and implement an improved process for 2019. TM agreed to establish a working group, to include an IT expert, to address this once the 2018 championships are finished.
- AT provided a brief overview of the finances of the event. Assuming costs will not increase dramatically in comparison with 2017 then the fees received and already banked will cover costs and fees yet to be banked will represent the margin made on the event which allows support of the National Squad, equipment replacement/renewal, etc.
- JLB confirmed that the camp site allocation has been completed. This will be input to the communication with Team captains prior to the event.
- All rifles and pistols needed for the Championships should be delivered to JFB as soon as possible for checking and repair where possible.
- CM advised that equipment returned from the recent Squad weekend at Aldersley included rifles that had been out on loan. It is not known at present if that covers all loan items, but certainly all loaned rifles will be needed and should be returned as soon as possible.
- It is also noted that the Lord Roberts Centre are short on trained staff. Hall E has been booked for 50m rifle on Thursday so that will constrain the ability to set up on the 50m range until at least the end of day. It is possible that we will need to support some of the actions normally performed by LRC staff, such as opening partition doors, moving electronic score consoles, changing ranges from 10m to 6 yards. However, these activities must always be lead by LRC staff and our involvement would only be to support those staff where needed.
- Following a problem last year RM reminded the meeting that the Olympic Finals should all start from a zero score for all competitors rather than carrying forward a competition score to the final, and requested that the scoring system be checked to ensure that this modification has been included.
- A list was compiled of who would be available on which days, for set-up, the weekend, and for clear-up on the Monday. This also included accommodation and food requirements. AT will advise days/times, etc.

National Squad

- CM reported that invitations to join the Squad have been sent out. There have been some acceptances but some replies are still outstanding.
- It is intended that there will be a significant sort-out after the National Championships in respect of membership of the squad, and review of systems, as below:
 - Progress has been made to date on personal coaching plans; structured training; development of structured elements of training as recorded in the shooter's diary, and access to and update of shooting diaries by coaches. This will be continued alongside the proposed systems review, taking one step at a time to ensure that changes to systems are properly embedded in the development programme for all shooters.
 - Further emphasis will be given to looking at how we bring on adult support, both for regular leaders with coaching qualifications and for occasional attendees with YPST or RO.
 - Also, the 'shape and size' of the Squad training sessions will be reviewed. There have been issues with attendance, with changes observed in the way people approach the weekend. It is acknowledged that for some it is difficult to attend a full weekend, and that Saturday attendance is probably better than none at all. However, this is starting to have a noticeable impact on logistics and organisation of the weekend. There is a need to ensure that sufficient staff are available to support both days and to resolve the potential logistics issues (such as transport between shooting and accommodation sites). This is starting to

have an impact on coaches and on administration.

- Despite the above ideas for review and improvement, CM reported that there is a good work ethic in the Squad, and the members are as motivated as ever and are showing as much potential as has been seen in the past.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary had nothing to report that was not covered in the other agenda items.

Treasurer's Report

- In the absence of the Treasurer AT gave a brief update of the account status.
- This year to date there has been income of £33.3K and expenditure of £24.6K. This gives a current balance of £45.1K. However, this is a volatile period where entry fees for the Championships greatly exceed expenditure, and there will be some significant bills to come. Therefore we should not read too much into the current balance as this will change substantially. For the Championships approx £16.5K had already been paid into the account, and JLB confirmed that there would be at least £2K more expected. The total outgoings for 2017 Championships were £15.8K, so if costs do not escalate disproportionately we should already have covered the costs for this year. However, a final Championships statement of account will be established later in the year.
- There has also been some expenditure for replacement smallbore rifles, and the costs of this are working through the system. Nevertheless, it is clear that the account is in a healthy state and after the Championships we can review our procurement programme.

Open floor discussion

- Further investigations had been undertaken with regard to HSRC-badged clothing. TM advised that a range of clothing can be made available at reasonable cost. A choice of colour and logo has to be finalised. A discussion ensued and SB drafted some example logo formats for review. The fundamentals were agreed – the clothing should be a 'Forest Green' colour. The logo should have the club name in yellow and the individual's name in white. The logo itself should be similar to that of the National Squad clothing with small changes to differentiate it as the club clothing.
- TM will distribute a price list by email. All orders for HSRC-badged clothing should be submitted to TM by email.

Equipment

- We have invested in two additional smallbore rifles; an Anschutz 1903 Junior (right handed) and an Anschutz 1903 (left handed). The cost has been in the order of £1800. These are much better quality than most of our section 1 rifles and should help those Scouts looking to further develop their skills. We will continue to look for better quality rifles, but will need to remove some of our older stock from the FAC to accommodate any more newer rifles. CM advised that we should advertise those rifles we wish to remove on 'GunTrader', and if there is no response within a reasonable period then to pass those rifles on for decommissioning/destruction, and have the FAC updated accordingly.
- The discussion inevitably looked at rifles for the National Championships. JFB reported that there are some springer rifles that are very doubtful for the nationals and one HW25 that will definitely need to be scrapped. Once again this brings into focus the need to replace the (very old) springers we use for the Nationals. Clearly we will have to manage with the current rifles for this year because that is what has been advertised to entrants. However, the replacement of rifles should be actioned as a priority following the event.
- In addition there was a discussion of consumables needed for the National Championships. AT reported that an order has already been placed with the NSRA Shop, but with reduced

quantities compared with previous years. It was suggested that we might obtain better value for money if we were to procure consumables from alternative sources. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

Events, Publicity, PR

- TM requested that at the November committee meeting we should confirm the dates for events which are to be run in 2019. This will include the County competition, Field Target, Target Sprint, Clay Pigeon, and any other event that we might expect to run. Would those who have organised these events in previous years please discuss with other committee members as necessary, consider possible dates, check availability of location and any external support required. Where dates are not entirely within our remit, such as the Inter-County competition, please investigate with the organisers of those events. Awareness of proposed dates will help to fill in the overall calendar of activities for 2019.
- Regarding Publicity and PR, LK reminded the meeting that she can only advertise club activities if she is provided with relevant information. A note to all – when you have information to get out to the County or a wider audience, please provide LK with details and she will then be able to assist with the appropriate publicity.

Development and Training

- Earlier discussions have covered much of the training activity, although (like Events) it will be necessary to establish dates for planned training courses (YPS, CI, other) to add to the calendar and so that publicity activities can proceed.
- TD made the point that there is little 3P Air Rifle activity scheduled and that we should use our capability. As things stand support for 3P Air is vulnerable. We should encourage the discipline, and give our qualified leaders the opportunity to exercise their skills and knowledge in delivering 3P Air, at least within the County. For example this may include offering taster sessions, training, and competitions.

Any Other Business.

- The issue of loan equipment was raised. What logging is done for any loans and what degree of responsibility is asked of the loanee? There is a concern that equipment returned from loan is not always complete, and not always in good condition. To try and address this concern it was suggested that the loan agreement includes a local Scouting contact – the Troop or ESU Leader for example; that a parent who signs the loan agreement is made aware of the responsibility to use and to look after the loaned items; and that a deposit is charged which will be refundable on return of all the loaned items in good order. It was agreed by all that the deposit should be £50, and that these changes should be applicable to all loans after the 2018 National Championships.
- CM thanked the Committee for the support she had received in sponsorship for ISSF training. It was noted by TM that the club has already experienced the benefit of that support.
- SB reported that an upgrade to our website support now allows many more email addresses to be available through 'hampshirescout rifleclub.org.uk'. The accounts for Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and FAC holder have already been established, and asked which other accounts should be set up. If applied to events, for example, 'Clay.Pigeon@hampshirescout rifleclub' might be viable. Please submit requests to SB.
- No other business was raised and so the Chairman closed the meeting at 22:20.

Date of Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 26th November 2018.

The meeting ended at 22:20.