



Worcestershire Small-bore Rifle and Pistol Association.

Chairman Mr D Hargreaves. Secretary Miss K Webber. Treasurer Mr M Bellringer.

wsbrpa.org.uk

Minutes of the 67th Annual General Meeting Held on 25 September 2014

Present

Dave Hargreaves, Karen Webber, Mark Bellringer, John Rogers, Hugh Webber, Pam Webber, James Bennett, John Sedgley Bennett, Alan Jennings, Paul Kennett, Mervyn Len, Harry Thompson, Chris Hunter (13)

Represented clubs

Seeco, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Worcester West Unit, Bromsgrove, Down Hatherley, Stourport (6 + 1 not affiliated)

Apologies

Keith Bates, Iris Bennett, Alistair Norman, Frank Fletcher, John Grove, Steve Williams

Approval of minutes

The Chairman asked if those present had read the minutes of the 2013 meeting, after which he asked if it was considered that they were accurate.

Alan Jennings proposed that the minutes be accepted and this was seconded by Mark Bellringer.

There were 2 matters arising:

Hugh Webber apologised for not doing an air rifle captains report the previous year. The meeting was informed that Worcester West Unit has folded as a club. They will exist in name only until the end of the year. The assets will be liquidated and then the club will close. Mark Bellringer said it was nice to have a team this year and wished them all well for the future.

Officers Reports

Chairman's address

Commonwealth Games raised the profile of shooting during the summer of 2014 with 22 medals going to UK shooters, six gold's to the England squad. Even TV covered some of this.

Unfortunately this does not translate into increased club membership in Worcestershire, with at least two clubs unable to continue to function, and facilities difficult to find, we are at a low point in the county. After the formal business of the AGM perhaps some ideas may be shared as to how this can be reversed.

Development of Stourport range was setback this year because of flooding in the spring which has not yet fully drained away, but I understand the plan for a .22 range on the site has not been forgotten.

Despite this, some of the county shooters have performed quite well this year and I will leave it to our captains to report on recent successes later as well as summarising the 2013 seasons.

Secretary's Report

Karen Webber gave the Secretary's report.

There have been 3 meetings through the year.

Overall there has been good progress with a website for the county up and running – the address can be found on the agenda.

The committee is looking to formalise the record of contact names so if anyone would like to have their details or the details of a key contact for a club or team added please let me know.

Treasurers report year end 2013/14 i.e. up to March 2014

Mark Bellringer provided the Treasurer's report.

Ladies and Gentlemen, firstly may I take this opportunity to personally thank a number of Committee members and more importantly my friends and team mates for their help and assistance in for what for me I can only describe a truly depressing year.

The personal effects of which can be seen by you all in the accounts I place before you today, and I take full responsibility for my own lack of performance this year. For those of you that don't know I've been at the centre of family health problems, my mom having been diagnosed with secondary / terminal breast cancer late last year which eventually resulted in her passing away in April this year, to add to this I've also been responsible for sorting out moms estate whilst arranging care for my disabled mother in law who has also been diagnosed terminally ill with a similar cancer.

On the whole either my own shooting or the county accounts have not been my first priority over the last 12-18 months a situation I know a number of you only know to well, again my apologies for what is about to come...

Firstly let me explain the item "Trade Debtors" on page 4 of the accounts as I'm sure this is where most questions will arise, firstly it's an accounting term used to describe payments either non-received by the county, or those which should have been received within the financial year but banked after the close of accounts, in this case we banked a substantial amount of entry fees after the 31st march 2014 which is our official year-end closure date. Our auditor is a very honest and straight accountant (?) who would not let me bend the rules to absorb this issue into the general accounts, the £644 sum referred to, is made up as follows:

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| 1. Affiliation fees paid to the treasurer at the AGM and not banked, cheques from Bromsgrove, Seeco, Worcs West Unit and Smethwick (cash from Kidderminster) | £175 |
| 2. missing payments for team entry fees WFRA Worcester | £10 |
| 3. payments which should have been made before year end and were banked late i.e. summer prone and LSR entry fees | £459 |

Our general trading position over the year (assuming we can recover items 1 and 2 above) is positive with a cash gain of £321.44 and an overall operating net profit of £357 which includes our asset values and stock etc. this net operating profit increased from £132 in the 2013 year-end figures, the improvement can be accounted for by the strong performance of the LSR entries and the profit produced at the open shoot, again I thank Chris H, John R and Hugh W for their combined efforts in this respect.

In terms of the coming year I also attach a copy of our current balance sheet for your information, we have invested heavily this year in terms of the production of a county website, and the updating of county open shoot trophy engraving and new trophy bases, we will also need to purchase a stock of targets and trophy centres in the near future. To offset some of these costs we have decided to source this year and the next two years supply of medals via a new internet based supplier at a much cheaper cost to the county in the future.

My crystal ball currently predicts a circa £400 pound reduction in our cash at bank at year end but this is heavily dependent upon the entries of the coming winter prone and LSR competitions, something I can't predict, although it should be noted our summer league income has dropped by £90 to date.

County Captain's Report 2014

Pam Webber gave the county captain's report

Starting with last summer's inter-county competitions, we came 6th in both the BSA Cup and the Western Counties Bowl, the two indoor competitions. We did however excel in the County Cup winning for the second year running and so going from the C division to the A division in two years.

That is rather where the good news ends. Both Bromsgrove and WRA Worcester lost use of their ranges at the beginning of last winter's season resulting in my having to re-jig both the main team and the reserves quite significantly. As entries had already been made the averages for the teams were already fixed.

The County team finished fourth, very narrowly losing several rounds. The shining light of the team was Chris Hunter and with an astounding average of 99.5 is winner of the Wilf Elmes Trophy.

The reserves fought very hard and finished 3rd on aggregate with at one point 3 teams on the same points.

The ladies team unfortunately had to be scratched as two members were shooting at Worcester.

We have an impending problem in the County with clubs closing and current team members getting older and hence prone to injury/illness. Last week I regrettably had to make the decision to not shoot the three summer competitions, despite having entered them, as for many varied reasons I couldn't collect together a competitive team. If we are to shoot them next year they will have to be organised such that most of the top shooters are available.

Despite all these problems, county shooters did very well at Bisley. Chris Hunter and Dave Hargreaves won promotion to A Class in the weekend aggregate. However Dave stayed on to shoot the week as well and obviously having warmed up, won the B Class aggregate along with several trophies on the way. Tim Hardwick won competition 1 on Monday. Karen Webber survived her first year in X class and again shot for the GB ladies in the Randle and England Ladies in the home internationals.

As always I would be very pleased to hear of any new team members.

Worcestershire County Open 2014

Hugh Webber provided his report on the open meeting.

This year we had a total of 25 entries, 22 down on last year. As always I 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 had a mere 6 County shooters, down from 9 last year and I know we have more people who shoot outdoors. It was a shame as we had good weather this year, apart from a tricky wind.

This year we did not have an entry from Ellesmere school who have in the past been a significant boost to the meeting. Hopefully this is a one off blip, but they did not attend any other meeting held at Bromyard.

Because of the reduction in numbers the profit this year we made just under £110, this helps keep cost down for County Clubs. A new stock of targets was bought and this is a significant outlay for future use.

Again we anticipate holding the meeting on the 3rd Sunday in May 2015, which is the 17th. Please put this date in your diary and come next year.

The overall Worcestershire Champion was Chris Hunter, closely challenged by Karen Webber in second place. They both had the same score of 768, but Chris had the better score at 100 yards, by one point. The other trophy winners were:

Class A	Chris Hunter
Class B	H Webber
Class C	No County entry this year
Open Pairs	Chris Hunter and John Rogers
C&D Pairs	No County entry this year
Veterans	John Rogers
Ladies	Karen Webber
Dewar	Chris Hunter
English Match	Karen Webber
Carton Bulls	Chris Hunter
Best 100yds	Chris Hunter

Our thanks, as usual, go to all those without whom we could not run the meeting, Dave Hargreaves for running the range, with help from Chris Hunter and myself, Alan Jennings and Mark Bellringer scoring, Mark, Pam and myself 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.

County Air Rifle Captain's Report 2013-14

Hugh Webber provided the Captain's report.

Sadly we struggled this year with a number of rounds being lost because of either cards not being shot, or shot out of order on different dates. In the end we ended up 5th, having won 4 rounds and lost 6. Karen Webber was again top scorer in the team, averaging 278.9 per round. I was second, closely challenged by Chris Hunter.

For the coming season we still have a team as Chris Hunter has agreed to shoot again and has also supplied another two shooters from Seeco.

If required I am happy to continue as Air Rifle Captain. If re-elected I will ensure that all the team know what is required of them in order to comply with NSRA rules.

Lightweight Sports Rifle Captain's Report

Chris Hunter provided his report.

The leagues continue to be well supported and are a very good source of revenue for the county.

Unfortunately I am standing down from the captaincy as I am moving to Cheltenham, which is outside of the county.

Junior Captain's Report

No Junior Captain's report was submitted for the AGM.

NSRA Report

Dave Hargreaves provided the NSRA report.

British 50 Metre Rifle Championship

This year's meeting was a great success. There were 131 competitors.

Scottish Rifle Meeting, Lauder

The Scottish meeting this year was again held in Lauder. There were 205 entries compared with 193 last year. This was a disappointingly small increase.

National Rifle Meeting, Bisley

The planning for Bisley is progressing well. Unfortunately at the closing date of 11th July there were received only 520 entries. This will increase a little, but is massively down on last year (total entry 680). The parking restrictions introduced by the NRA last year will be part of the reason for the reduction, but the new range procedures and timings will also have had an impact.

Scorers Course

Over 58 scorers courses have been delivered giving a current number of qualified scorers of 715+.

Lightweight Sport Rifle

Following discussions at the recent Pistol, Airgun and Crossbow Committee, a working group is being formed to look at the development of the LSR discipline, and in particular new competitions. The current NSRA and NRA competitions have been analysed and will form the start point for the group. It is also expected to run a survey of LSR shooters to identify what kind of competitions they currently shoot in (from any National Governing Body, county or club) and what others they would like to see developed. This can be done via The Rifleman and a web based survey.

Bench Rest

Rules and club instructor details for bench rest are also being considered

Facilities Project

As part of the British Shooting Facilities Project a "Clubs Toolkit" is being developed that will provide ideas, tools and tips that clubs wishing to grow membership can utilise. A draft version has

been produced and a workshop is planned

Dates for a number of NSRA and other events in 2015 have already been fixed, as have some external events which may affect meeting organisers.

20-22 Feb British Airgun Championships, Bisley
5-7 Jun British 50m Rifle Championships, Bisley
27 Jun – 3 July Scottish Meeting, Lauder
25-26 Jul NSRA National Airgun Series Final, Aldersley
15-23 Aug National Rifle Meeting, Bisley
18-20 Sep British Pistol Championships, Bisley

Finally the website is a mess as is most of the IT that the NSRA uses- Communication with members is therefore ancient, late and restricted. Changes at the top do not seem to have brought it into the 20th century yet let alone the 21st.

Competition Secretary's Report

John Rogers gave his report.

Entries for the Worcestershire leagues are down on their recent numbers and this is a concern for the future of the leagues. It is recommended the committee look at options for trying to increase numbers over the next year.

Election of Officers

It was suggested to elect all officers on block except for the LSR Captain. This was proposed by Alan Jennings, James Bennett seconded.

Hugh Webber was proposed for the LSR Captaincy by Dave Hargreaves. This was seconded by Chris Hunter.

Any Other Business

Mark Bellringer raised county clothing. The company that we have been using has no minimum order and orders can be made with no costs for postage and packaging as they are based in Halesowen. There are 5000 items of clothing available, so plenty of choice and it is not restricted to the colour green.

Alan Jennings asked if it was possible to have a personal name added. Mark confirmed that this was possible.

It was suggested to do a mailshot regarding the options and place the details on the website. The company being used is called Colour Cubed.

Payment can be made to Mark by cheques made out to the county. The county makes a small profit of about £1 per shirt. Hugh Webber proposed this should be increased to 10%.

Presentation of Trophies

Trophy winners in the winter league 2013/14 were as follows

LSR League

Medals were awarded to:

Div 1	Gold	D Loftus, Fareham	Silver	R Spencer, Fareham
Div 2	Gold	C Cook, Tetbury	Silver	J Whitworth, Tetbury
Div 3	Gold	J Baranski, Fareham	Silver	P Balmer, Tetbury
Div 4	Gold	T Read, Fareham	Silver	S Thomas, Telepost
Div 5	Gold	I Shanks, Fareham	Silver	J Read, Fareham
Div 6	Gold	N Mills, Luton	Silver	G Minett, Fareham
Div 7	Gold	O Russell, Fareham	Silver	D Brown, Fareham
Div 8	Gold	K Walker, Fareham	Silver	I Bromley, Leominster
Div 9	Gold	B Tranter, Leicestershire Police	Silver	S Scantlebury, Fareham
Div 10	Gold	J Pratt, Bedford	Silver	K Marshall, Smethwick
Div 11	Gold	C Lamb, Fareham	Silver	J Madjwick, Smethwick

Winter League 2013/14

Div 1	Down Hatherley A (R Lygoe, C Mills, R Jarvis, H Webber)	<i>The Rose Bowl trophy</i>
Div 2	Down Hatherley B (J Cresswell, Mrs J Grassham, Mrs C Hunt, N Hunt)	<i>The News & Times Challenge cup</i>
Div 3	Bromyard (S Foster, J Stuart, H Nickless, J Rollo)	<i>The J.C. Baker Challenge cup</i>

Individual competition

Div 1	C Hunter (791)	Seeco
Div 2	D Love (764)	Halesowen

County Champion

The county champion was Chris Hunter, receiving the Wilf Elmes Trophy

Summer League

Div 1	Seeco A (D Hargreaves, C Hunter, J Rogers)	Top shot: C Hunter (98.4)
Div 2	Telepost (I Smythe, J Humfray, P Gore)	Top shot: R Blank, Kidderminster A (96.7)
Div 3	Kidderminster B (R Donnell, T Ives, N Grazier)	Top shot: N Leaver, Dudley (95)

County Open winners were as in Hugh's report above

Meeting Closed 10.15