



BFTA Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the The Beacon Way Public House, Bloxwich On Saturday 17th November 2012

Meeting open at 10am

1. Chairman's Report and welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave his report. See **Appendix A**.

2. Persons Present and Regions Represented

BFTA Officers Present

Name	Title
Jonathan Noon	Chairman
Roger Moy	President/AMTA Rep
Phil Gee	Secretary
Simon Evans	Grading Officer/SWEFTA V Rep
Andrew Slade	Treasurer
Shaun Shore	Competition Manager
Beryl Noon	HVP
Alan Forrest	HVP
Lyndeen Calvert	Development Officer
Sam Reece	Minute Secretary
Mike Noon	HVP
Tony Cook	HVP / MFTA V Rep
Mick Woodhead	NSRA Rep/ CSFTA V Rep

Regions Represented

CSFTA	Rob Farnworth	Rep /EFTA
FFTA	Liz Moy	V Rep
SEFTA	Barry McDonald	V Rep
WAFTA	Pat Isaacs	V Rep
WAFTA	Anthony Burnell	Rep
MFTA	Ian Stoddart	Rep
NWFTA	Carl Knapper	V Rep
NEFTA	Trevor Ryan	V Rep
NEFTA	Andy Calpin	Rep
NEFTA	Dave Robinson	Rep
CSFTA	Neil Long	Rep

24 members present and 8 regions represented. (V Rep = voting rep)

3. Apologies for Absence

Received from:-

Graham Ellis – SARPA

Kev Sayers – Trade Liaison



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4. Minutes of Last Meeting held on 16.06.2012 to be Read and Accepted

Add Liz Moy apologies.

Item 6 – AP2 – should read ‘countries’ not ‘regions’.

The Minutes from the GM in June 2012 were read and accepted as being a true record.

Proposed by MFTA and seconded by FFTA. Unanimously agreed.

5. Any matters arising from last meeting.

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

6. Fees and Subscriptions for 2013.

It was proposed that the fees and subscriptions for 2013 remain the same as 2012.

BFTA Registration Card - £3.50

GP Entry - £10

Inter Regional team entry - £75

Constructors and Associated Trades - £60 per team

BFTA Masters - £5

BFTA Championships - £5

Euros - £30

Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by SEFTA. Agreed unanimously.

7. Officers' Reports

Treasurer's Report - see **appendix B** for a summary of the accounts. The treasurer presented an excel worksheet that detailed the accounts of the BFTA for the year ending October 2012 and a copy that has been audited and signed by John Lewis.

Secretary – see **appendix C**

Competition Manager. – see **appendix D.**

Development Officer

Lyndeen has been in contact with several people interested in starting new clubs, including Denmark, but none from the UK. Has been asked by representatives from several countries about the disabled positions.

Dave Froggett has a budget to organise and run a marshalls course and wants to produce a training video.

Lyndeen will be the contact point.

Grading Manager – see **appendix E**

Tony Cook asked that the grading list be supplied as a single list rather than tabulated sheets, Simon confirmed that he now supplies the list with a single list as requested.

It was agreed that Simon would provide:

- a rolling 20 twice a year for uploading to the website.
- a rolling 20 monthly to the regional competition managers.
- add new members at the bottom of the list for ease of identification.

Trade Liaison Officer



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In Kev's absence, Sam gave a report on his behalf.

2012 was a difficult year as Kev took on the role at short notice. However, he believed that 2012 proved to be a successful year.

He has more notice for 2013 and hopes to provide a better range of sponsors.

He already has some new sponsors for 2013 and has requested that the BFTA provide the same level of support as 2012.

NSRA Representative

The NSRA representative explained that the NSRA now better understand Field Target shooting and meetings now include discussions on FT. Recent discussions with the WFTF regarding international FT have included NSRA expertise.

AMTA Representative – see appendix F

Roger continued to attend the AMTA meetings on behalf of the BFTA although he has to sign a confidentiality agreement, so much of the discussions cannot be shared with the committee.

Web Manager – see appendix G

8. Election of Officers

Nominations for Officers:

Chairman	–	Jonathan Noon
Secretary	–	Neil Long
Treasurer	–	Andrew Slade

The election of officers was proposed by SEFTA, seconded by SWEFTA and agreed unanimously

Nominations for Co-Opted & President:

President	–	Roger Moy
Comp Manager	–	TBC @ Jan 2013 EGM
Development Manager	-	Lyndeen Calvert
Grading/Registration Manager	–	Simon Evans
Trade Liaison Officer	–	Kev Sayers
NSRA Delegate	–	Mick Woodhead
AMTA Delegate	–	Roger Moy
Web Manager	–	Rob Farnworth
Minute Secretary	–	Sam Reece
Accounts Examiner	–	John Lewis
BFTA Photographer	-	Simon Evans

The election of co-opted members & president was proposed by SEFTA, seconded by SWEFTA and agreed unanimously

Honorary Vice-Presidents – confirmed as:

Alan Forest, Elizabeth Moy, Tony Cook, Beryl Noon, Mike Noon

9. Correspondence

Correspondence received from SARPA Chair and Robbie Black.



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Hi Shaun hope you are well sorry but I can't make the meeting on Saturday, but if possible the FT shooters in SARPA would like the committee to know that with regards to the disabled shooting position we vote for a separate disabled class. The FT shooters would also support the idea Of a double header weekend, we would also support the idea of reduced kills in the discipline lanes .If you or any of the committee need to contact me

Please feel free to phone me.

Best Regards

Robbie Black

Sorry folks

Unfortunately SARPA will not be able to send a rep for tomorrow's meeting.

We have our own AGM in two weeks and the invigorating of ft north of the border will be high on the agenda.

On the political side we're asking BFTA be added to the constitution list to bolster the pro lobby.

Best regards

Graham Ellis

SARPA

10. 2013 Competitions, Dates, Venues etc.

The dates and venues are shown in the Competition Manager's report and reproduced below for information. A finalised list will be issued prior to the January EGM.

Event	Date	Venue	Region
BFTA Championships	6 th April 2013	Newbury	
BFTA Inter-Regional	7 th April 2013	Newbury	
GP1	21 st April 2013	TBC	MFTA
GP2	12 th May 2013		FFTA - TBC
GP3	26 th May 2013		NWFTA - TBC
GP4	9 th June 2013	Nelson	WAFTA
GP5	23 rd June 2013	Bisley	CSFTA
GP6	7 th July 2013	Redfearns	NEFTA
GP7	21 st July 2013	Iceni	SEFTA
GP8	4 th August 2013	East Devon	SWEFTA
GP9	18 th August 2013	Sywell	BFTA
BFTA Masters	24 th August 2013	Newbury	
BFTA Showdown	25 th August 2013	Newbury	
European Champs	14 th /15 th or 21 st /22 nd Sept 2013	Weston Park	

For info, 3 regions have confirmed that they would be prepared to hold a second GP if requested. They are SEFTA (@ MAD), MFTA (probably Castle) & CSFTA (venue TBC).

11. Finalise and accept any rule changes for the coming season



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An extensive discussion took place with respect to a letter received from Liz Woodall regarding the proposals to change the disability rules – **see appendix H.**

- a. Modify the Main Shoot Rules to include NSRA dispensation up to and including regional level and remove the rule 10 annex, assuming this change is confirmed as legally acceptable and does not expose the BFTA committee to legal challenge.

Proposed by FFTA, seconded by SWEFTA.

WAFTA abstained, agreed by all other regions.

- b. Modify the main shoot rules to not include dispensation

Proposal not voted on.

- c. Introduce a freestyle class to the GP series.

Proposed by FFTA, seconded by SWEFTA.

WAFTA abstained, agreed by all other regions.

In addition to votes on points a & c, it was proposed to change the definition of kneeling lanes so that they can also be taken from the Standing position if desired.

Proposed by FFTA, seconded by MFTA.

Agreed by all regions.

- d. End SFT Class

Proposed by MFTA, seconded by FFTA.

Voted for: MFTA, FFTA, SEFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA

Abstain: NWFTA

Against: SWEFTA, WAFTA

- e. Change the format of BFTA Masters from 40 target course to 2 x 30 target courses.

Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by CSFTA.

Voted for: MFTA, WAFTA, SWEFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA, NWFTA

Abstain: FFTA

Against: SEFTA

- f. Change the format of the BFTA Championships to a shotgun start.

No proposer

- g. Change the format of the BFTA Championships from 40 target course to 50 target course.

No proposer

- h. Grading.

- i. Change grade thresholds to

Grade	C	B	A	AA
Percentage (P)	$P < 65\%$	$65\% \leq P < 75\%$	$75\% \leq P < 85\%$	$P \geq 85\%$

Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by MFTA.

Voted for: FFTA, MFTA, WAFTA, SWEFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA, NWFTA

Against: SEFTA

- ii. Alternatively, SEFTA propose that AA grade % to start at 85%.
All other grading % to be left unchanged as currently set.



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Proposed by SEFTA, no seconder.

- i. Introduce the option to fix grade, i.e. a shooter can elect to be put in to AA grade.
Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by MFTA.
Voted for: FFTA, MFTA, WAFTA, SWEFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA.
Abstain: NWFTA, SEFTA
- j. Change the bonus bunny to a raffle.
Proposed by MFTA, seconded by FFTA.
Voted for: unanimous.
- k. Assuming the Main Shoot Rules change, it has been proposed that the kneeling to standing ratio changes from 6:4 to 4:6.
Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by NEFTA.
Voted for: FFTA, SWEFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA.
Against: SEFTA, MFTA
Abstain: NWFTA, WAFTA
- l. Accept proposed changes to Bylaws and Constitution.
Proposed by MFTA, seconded by SWEFTA.
Voted for: unanimous.
- m. Change GP rule 2 to: List frozen after the Inter regionals (current says March 31st). This proposal is covered in the modified constitution.
- n. Change Rule 8 i to: There may be 0 - 2 15mm kills on a GP course, min distance 8 yards max 25 yards.
Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by MFTA.
Voted for: NWFTA, MFTA, WAFTA, SWEFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA.
Against: FFTA, SEFTA
- o. Change Rule 8 ii to include: "There may be 0 - 2 25mm diameter kills used in the kneeling position, min distance 8 yards - max distance 30 yard"
Proposed by SWEFTA
No seconder
- p. Change rule 8 iii to include: "There may be 0 - 2 25mm diameter kills used in the standing position, min distance 8 yards - max distance 20 yard."
Proposed by SWEFTA
No seconder
- q. Change Main shoot Rule 7 (Course of fire) to include new "rule": "Positional lanes must have a flat area at the firing line from which the shot is taken. Lanes with sloped shooting lines (ie hills) should not be used for positional shoots, unless the firing point has been flattened between the gates."
Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by WAFTA.
Voted for: SEFTA, SWEFTA, WAFTA, NEFTA.
Against: FFTA, MFTA, NWFTA, CSFTA
As the vote is a draw, the Chair used his vote to keep the Status Quo.



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- r. Inter Regionals: Propose that the number of "counting" scores be dropped from 10 to 6. The 15 man team to remain the same.
Proposed by SWEFTA, seconded by NWFTA.
Voted for: SWEFTA, NWFTA, WAFTA.
Against: MFTA, NEFTA, CSFTA, FFTA
Abstain: SEFTA
- s. SEFTA propose to keep the BFTA CHAMPS and INTER REGIONALS at Newbury for 2013.
Proposed by SEFTA, seconded by SWEFTA.
Voted for: SEFTA, SWEFTA, MFTA, WAFTA, NWFTA, FFTA.
Against: NEFTA, CSFTA
- t. SEFTA propose to allow shooters who qualify for the GP Series end of series prize draw to be entitled to receive a major prize in their absence.
Proposed by SEFTA, seconded by SWEFTA.
Voted for: SEFTA, SWEFTA, WAFTA.
Against: MFTA, FFTA, NEFTA, CSFTA, NWFTA.

12. Items from Regions

- a. NEFTA – People drinking alcohol during a shoot and in photos published gives a bad image of the sport.
NEFTA should bring a proposal to the EGM.

13. Any Other Business

- a. Does a course have to conform to the BFTA main shoot rules to allow the scores to be used for grading? If not how far outside of these rules do we accept and who makes the decision?
In the past it has had to, this was to allow as close as possible a national standard for grading, one region has already moved outside of these rules and another wishes to but still have the shoot graded. Currently this is around the stand, kneel, take zero's issue but could in future be other issues and a consensus now could save future problems
A course must conform to BFTA main shoot rules. However, each region should highlight any discrepancy to the BFTA so that they can be reviewed by the committee.
Discussion was held as to the NEFTA Winter League scores to be submitted to BFTA grading. Accepted with one abstention.
- b. For info, A European field target organisation is being discussed and there may be an EFTO open held annually.
- c. £1500 was allocated for banners for the Euros, is this money still available?
Yes
- d. What percentage will be allocated to the Freestyle class?
Simon Evans will allocate a separate percentage to anyone who takes part in the Freestyle class.
- e. NSRA Insurance for Regional Reps. Make sure you read the front page of the NSRA



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Insurance and confirm the information requested.

- f. Airgun shooter magazine will be carrying reports of the Clubs Cup in 2013.

14. Date, time and place of next meetings.

- a. EGM – Saturday 19th January 2013, 10am start, The Beacon Way, Bloxwich.
- b. GM - Saturday 15th June 2013, 10am start, The Beacon Way, Bloxwich.
- c. AGM - Saturday 16th November 2013, 10am start, The Beacon Way, Bloxwich.

Meeting closed at 5.15pm
Phil Gee



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Appendix A – Chairman’s Report

Another successful years shooting has passed with many of the major shoots being oversubscribed, despite the current controversy that surrounds the debate of the use of “alternative” shooting positions we still have a strong following across the British Isles.

My only concern going forward is that we forget what the BFTA was originally set up for, the masses, and instead we only focus on the few, major competition shooters, distancing us further from the club shooter and watering down our kudos within the wider shooting fraternity by being seen as narrow minded and competition focused organisation.

Hopefully in the coming year we can work together to reach a mutually agreeable outcome that will further the sport of Field Target within the UK and continue to be viewed as a flag ship organisation across the world of field target and raise the bar even higher for future years.

Jonathan Noon
BFTA Chairman 2012



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Appendix B – Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to report that the BFTA accounts have been audited again this year by John Lewis. I would like to express my thanks to John Lewis for his assistance in helping me prepare and audit the BFTA accounts, as I have now been in post as BFTA Treasurer for 2 years and about to start my third year in post.

I am happy to report that the BFTA accounts and reserves of money still remain healthy, and everything is in order, accountable and auditable.

The BFTA has three (3) banks accounts, two (2) with Bank of Scotland (BoS) and one (1) current account with National Westminster.

The Bank of Scotland **Current** account is effectively dormant and contains **£25.18** and the only change has been when I transferred £50 from the deposit account to the current account to cover the BoS cost of renewing a new electronic access card for Roger Moy (£30.64), which is used to obtain balances and statements as and when required. The electronic cards last for three years and mine will need renewal in 2015.

The Bank of Scotland **Deposit** account again has not been accessed over the year apart from the transfer mentioned above. The account contains **£35,010.37** and earns approximately approx. £22 per month in interest, which is not remarkable but certainly better than nothing. The BoS Deposit account has earned **£261.84** since 1st November 2011 to the 9th Oct 2012. There is Capital gain tax of 20% payable on this interest, last year (2011) this amounted to **£50.42**.

The National Westminster **Current** Account contains **£4,737.38** but this does not account for several cheques that Simon still has to pay in (not possible because I had his paying-in book ready for the audit). So the corrected balance should be **£4,737.38**, not including the £44.00 I have in cash for emergencies. I note that I am expecting a bill from Colin Richardson for engraving, but as of this time I'm not sure for how much.

The total monies paid into NatWest account by Tony, Shaun, Simon and myself is **£15,735.00** and the total withdrawals is **£18,137.44** so BFTA reserves of monies has decreased by **£2,402.44**.

£2,507.03 was contributed by BFTA from reserves to fund end of season raffle prizes, which Mark Bassett and Kevin Sayers worked hard with sponsors and suppliers to provide at trade prices.

Other notable items purchased include £390.00 for the Butt Hook obtained from Intershoot for this year's GP1 prize; the purchase of a new BFTA Championship Cup £500.00; a laser rangefinder for checking that courses are properly set out £195.99 and hire of a marquee for GP9 prize giving at Far Coley £300.

A breakdown of expenses claimed, is provided on the expenditure sheet, with the amount of **£946.47** in total.

The only other items worth mentioning are the stock of stopwatches/timers and batteries we have purchased (130 in total amounting to £419.95) and the three years' worth of assorted BFTA printed score/silhouette score cards amounting to £830.00. BFTA also paid out to WAFTA, SARPA and EFTA the following amounts (WAFTA £94 [minus their Inter-regional fee of £75] = £19, SARPA £55, EFTA £605.50), this was equivalent to 50p for every shooter that a BFTA card had been purchased for in 2011 season.

Very little has been paid regarding Web and Portal services. BFTA have paid out a total of £597.82 in this year's accounts, of which £485.00 was payment to Steve Hughes for his services from 18th May 2010 until Nov 2011 when Rob Farnsworth took over running the BFTA web-site. This is the major source of Competition pre-booking which earns BFTA its monies. Monies paid out for the new web site etc. amounts to only £112.82. I need to check out if we owe Rob any monies, but then again he has not asked for any (I now have an invoice for £73.80 paid by RobF, this will go into next year's accounts).

In summary, (without pre-empting the Competition Secretary's Report) most of the monies in the BFTA funds has been generated by the national GP Competition series and most of the money paid



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out is also in Competition Trophies, prizes and end of season raffle draw prizes. Income from BFTA cards is £4,720.00, not accounting for any monies agreed to be paid back to the national bodies (WAFTA, SARPA and EFTA) for 2012. This figure is down from previous years when most clubs considered it mandatory for all members, not just those involved in competition and tied to BFTA insurance.

BFTA received a very substantial discount on the Laser hologram glass block trophies obtained from SDL; Shaun and I were both expecting the amount we pay out for trophies to increase significantly.

BASC again sponsored the BFTA Showdown and Masters Championships, with the £500 sponsorship monies being split with £275 to the Showdown and £225 to the Masters.

I have been asked in the past, what the monies are received and paid out for the European Championships. Tony Cook paid in £3,900 in instalments as received over the course of the summer; this is shown separately on the spreadsheet. Harriers receive a payment of £1,000 for setting up and organising the Euros. £2,150 is paid out in prize monies down to 15th place. This means a profit to BFTA of £750 but it does not take account of the cost of the trophies provided, which are accounted for under the general SDL trophy invoices.

Attached to this report is a multi-worksheet spreadsheet which provides full details of the BFTA accounts, along with a simplified overall balance sheet, as in previous years, which has been audited and signed by John Lewis.

Andrew Slade

BFTA Treasurer - 17th November 2012



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Appendix C – Secretary's Report

Firstly, I'd like to thank all you, the officers and representatives of the BFTA for your hard work this year. It's easy to focus on the disagreements and issues we face, but we should also remind ourselves of some of the successes.

We have the World Champion, infact we have the top 5 in the world, the world team champions, and the European champion all shooting in the BFTA GP series.

With regard to the GPs, I'd like to thank Shaun for another hugely successful series, but I'm sure he would be first to highlight the support he receives from the likes of Sam, Cedric and Tony.

Thanks also to Berty and Kev for their tireless work in keeping existing sponsors happy and bringing new ones into the sport.

Also thanks to Rob for all the hard work he has put into creating the new website and GP booking procedure, and the work he is continuing to do to expand the site and its content.

And let's not forget the contribution a lot of you have made to try and resolve the issue of disabled shooters. Let's hope for the sake of our sport we come to a resolution today.

On a personal level, my two years as general secretary have flown by. I think I'll find it quite difficult to be 'on the outside looking in', and I'd like to think that maybe one day, if elected, and when personal circumstances allow, I'll come back to the Committee.

However, I hope to be at some, if not all, of the competitions next year and all of you have my email address, so I'm sure I'll be around and available to help if needed.

It's been a massively enjoyable time, and I've been fortunate to meet and be helped by many people. I'd like to thank all of them, and in particular all of you on the Committee and I'd like to wish you all the best for the future.

Phil Gee



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Appendix D – Competition Manager Report

GP Series

I thought the GP series was excellent. The overall winner was not decided until the end of the afternoon session of GP9. It was a very tight finish with John Costello winning by 0.27 points from Andrew Gillott who was 0.04 ahead of Neil Daniels; congratulations to them all and the trophy winners in each of the grades.

The move to percentage for points has proved popular but for interest John Costello would have won by either method.

In other grades the competition was less tight with one reason being low numbers and this is reflected in my proposals for boundary change to the grades.

Congratulations to all those involved in organising a GP. All courses this year were within the rules and caused no discontent. However, the 15mm targets placed high up were against recommendations. The lane length of kneelers and standers continues to be debated; I did notice that the standing lanes were becoming a little predictable.

The new clocks proved popular and effective. The one rainy GP highlighted their desire to be in a warm kitchen. We have bought 30 more, thanks to Barry, and perhaps if a second season proves to be as good then we could look into investing in a waterproof model. Only gripe about the clocks is the inconsistent instructions at briefing; there are plenty of clocks provided please announce at briefing that the clocks should be carried from lane to lane.

The chronographs are proving to be inconsistent, was it ever thus, and sometimes breaking down. I have one in my garage that I will replace the batteries in for next season but do the chronographs need maintenance or possibly replacing?

The trophies this year were late in arriving and now our supplier has changed ownership. Presently we have an order for 200 cubes for next season but this is a new venture so fingers crossed.

Thanks to all those that assisted me this year, in particular: Tony – always available for advice and Ian Stoddart and Jo Phipps for sorting the scorecards during the car journeys home.

The BFTA GP series highlights the excellent standard of shooting in the UK and this was shown at the World Championship in Norway. Well done to all UK competitors and in particular Andrew Gillott for returning the title to England.

BFTA Masters and Showdown

Thanks to Andrew Slade and the Newbury team for their hard work in creating and maintaining the courses over the weekend.

The Masters attracted 65 competitors this year. There was an attempt to change the format of the day shared via the internet and some disinformation as well.

Congratulations once again to John Costello for his victory and commiserations to Ian Taylor, Andras Fekete-Moro and Dean Burfoot who all tied with John but lost in the shoot-off.

The Showdown was, as always, a tremendous competition. There is great desire amongst shooters to qualify for this event and so it is very disappointing that shooters withdraw so close to the event; perhaps it was ever thus!

Congratulations to Neil Hague who beat Neil Daniels, Andy Calpin and James Osborne on his route to victory! Congratulations also, to Rob Farnworth who has now added his name to the winners of the Plate and the Showdown.

Thanks to the BASC for their sponsorship of the event.

Many thanks to Sam Reece for her help at BFTA events. Without Sam the BFTA comps would simply not run as smooth as they do.



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BFTA European Championship.

A huge thanks to Tony and his team for organising an excellent event and providing a course that was both enjoyable and testing. In such conditions it amazed me that Conor and Andy only dropped 6 targets; well done to Conor McFlynn on winning the shoot-off.

Proposals

I have proposed a number of changes at this AGM; none of these is merely my opinion. The proposals are formed from analysis of the data produced from BFTA events and listening to the many and varied views of shooters across the season.

Competition Manager 2013

Initially, I had agreed to continue in the role if no volunteers came forward. However, recent developments have led me to question my position. As my role is not an officer but a co-opted member from the committee I withdraw my offer until there has been time to consider the outcomes of this meeting.

It is my view that we should move to a dedicated field target committee that is tasked to make decisions for FT shooting etc.

Finally

My personal thanks to Phil Gee for his contribution to the BFTA as its Secretary.

Shaun Shore



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Appendix E – Grading Managers Report

My first year as Grading and Membership secretary has been one of constant learning. I'll start with the bit I was not expecting to do! The Bfta Cards / membership. There was some trouble in getting the required insurance documents from some clubs, and indeed SARPA as a whole by print deadline (Inters weekend). Indeed, a few of the larger clubs I would have expected to be on the ball actually got lists to me after print deadline, which meant I had to write out a lot of blank cards this summer.

For 2013 /14 I am of course much better prepared and so will contact clubs / regions in December to start the ball rolling to get next year's docs and lists sent direct to me early, plus of course cheques!. A cut off date of March 1st 2013 seems ample.

This year (so far) we have sent out the following number of cards / numbers to the various regions, Wafta 206, Swefta 30, NWFTA 51, Sarpa 50, FFTA 211, Nefta 230, MFTA 226, CSFTA 242 and Sefta 124, totalling 1,370. However, as requests for new Bfta numbers come in weekly, it's a constant increasing figure. Despite having spare blank cards printed, we have actually run out of the physical card. If we are to continue with the card, I shall order far more blanks next time.

However, I am not entirely convinced we need the card at all. Through the summer I have liaised with each region at the various Gp's and sent updated Memberships lists out while checking entry lists for the various events. On the whole it has proved far better to check entry lists "electronically" rather than asking for cards.

It is something I think needs to carry on in future years and indeed there is some reason for the grading / membership officer to handle all entries for Bfta events, as the membership officer has the most up to date lists of grades and members and can instantly check as entries are received. Another benefit would for example to ensure shooters are mixed as frequently as possible at Bfta events. I believe most shooters like to shoot with different partners. Of course clubs could still deal with matters on the day, taking Cash etc, but really the entry list should be checked just prior to the shoot.

Grading

My rather brief handover produced only a single sheet to guide me through official bfta grading. Truth is, there is nothing official in print, ie there are no Bfta Rules about grading. The previous Grading officers have run the system in a way that they felt worked best. As such, I have and intend to do the same, but of course while talking to the shooters as well. I believe it is essential to have input from shooters and let them know what is being done. The change to move ungraded shooters to start their BFTA rolling 20 in A grade seemed to catch a few (trophy hunters) out, but personally I think it was a good move.

There potentially is the opportunity for a shooter to lower his or her BFTA Grade by achieving low scores at (for example) a regional shoot, thus effecting the Bfta grade. This was sometimes unintentional as shooters sometimes like to switch set ups in the winter, sometimes it seems it may have been done with more intention.

As such, I have introduced separate grades for a shooter when they switch to piston or SFT classes. On the whole, most shooters will record lower grades when switching from PCP, myself included for example. It has not affected many shooters, but those it has seem happy with the changes and can see the common sense behind it.

Same for when a score is low through equipment or indeed shooter illness. This dispensation actually was on the hand over sheet, again its common sense when a low score is unavoidably recorded that it is not included in the grades, especially where it can have a dramatic effect or a shooter with not many grades recorded on the rolling 20.

The rolling 20 has been sent out as and when I have updated it. I was hoping for a monthly update, but the amount of new shooters coming in through the summer sometimes meant this was not always possible. The rolling 20 is e-mailed to Regional reps and officers, BFTA website, plus any Bfta



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shooter that has asked to be put on the mailing list. The last one was e-mailed just after the Euros and another is ready now after a busy remembrance weekend of shoots.

One thing I will ask however, is those scores from regional or indeed Bfta shoots are sent to me (see Bfta website for contact details <mailto:9simon.evans2@ntlworld.com>) for Grading within 1 week of the event. Shaun has done a superb job of getting Bfta results up, usually the same evening of the shoot.

So I would just ask Regional reps to insure their clubs know that I require winter or summer regional scores a.s.a.p., ideally the day of the shoot.

Include shooter name, club, Bfta number (if they have one) and score ! I also need to know when at regional level, if a shooter has shot SFT or Spring class. There are some non Bfta card holders who's scores are coming in with regional scores, these I am recording on a non paid up members section, so if they do become paid up, we have recent data to use in grading.

Further guidelines will be going out with the latest rolling 20 update, just after the Agm.

Simon Evans



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Appendix F – AMTA Representative Report

Following on from the announcement in the 2010 Queens Speech and the findings of the Calman Commission, the government indicated that control of Airguns would be devolved to Scotland. Since this time there has been much lobbying of MPs by shooting groups to secure a reasonable agreement on how this might be carried out. John Batley from the GTA gave an update on the situation and said he would keep us up to date as any information became available.

Royal Mail Consultation lots of discussion on how proposals from the RM would affect the AMTA members and shooters as a whole. Those round the table were reminded to visit one of the major shooting association websites and put their views forward for consideration. The following statement was released towards the end of October 2012 by Royal Mail, with grateful thanks the wording of the statement was taken from the from the home page of the GTA Website, please feel free to visit the site and have a look yourself (www.gtald.co.uk).

“We have recently concluded a public consultation on the carriage of firearms in our network. Royal Mail would like to thank those members of the GTA who took the time to provide helpful feedback as part of the Consultation process. We continue to review options very carefully. We will be working closely with the Gun Trade Association (GTA) and our regulator Ofcom, in order to reach a final decision.

In the meantime, we do intend to make two clarifications to our policy covering firearms and ammunition, such that from 14 January 2013:

- 1. We will amend our definition of 'Guns for sporting use' to specifically prohibit firearms listed in Section 5 of the Firearms Act 1968 (such as handguns and revolvers).*
- 2. We will amend our definition of 'Ammunition' to specifically exclude lead pellets and other air gun and airsoft projectiles, so that these items are allowed without restriction.*

Midland Game Fair a debrief of the Game fair took place and thanks went to JJ on how well the ‘Have a Go’ was constructed and run over the two days.

Discussion took place on the proposed ‘International Shooting Show’ taking place at The Royal Norfolk Showground on 2nd & 3rd February 2013... Not to be confused with the ‘**The British Shooting Show**’ which is also being held in February and moving to Stoneleigh Park... or the **East Anglian Game and Country Fair 2013** which also takes place at the Royal Norfolk Showground but in April on the 27th & 28th.

Roger Moy (BFTA President)

BFTA Delegate to the Airgun Manufacturers and Trade Association Ltd (AMTA)



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Appendix G – Web Masters Report

It's about a year since I took over the role from Steve Hughes.

Because of the issue in contacting Steve Hughes it was decided to purchase a new domain name (thebfta.net) and a new hosting package. This is hosted at www.ikiji.com run by Neil Stirton (the olympic shooter). He has instructions that the BFTA own the site and have the ultimate say, and they should get any bills associated.

I built the site using Joomla, an open source free site software, the same as Steve used (for cost and user familiarity reasons). We were able to use the same free forum software and import the old database so no posts were lost. Alan Forrest is the forum administrator. During these installations we updated them to the latest version and installed antispam systems, which I continue to monitor.

Also added was a GP booking system which seemed to prove pretty trouble free all year. Although we paid \$20 or so for it, it can be limited, but I think it's worked pretty well. It's probably raised more questions though about booking in procedures and how they vary across regions. (like who handles it, how do they like to do it, and when)

The BFTA documentation supplied has been uploaded promptly albeit with a slight delay the grading during a busy period just before the worlds.

A banner system which can link to a sponsor's site has been installed and is shown on most pages in a prominent position.

A photo strip at the top displays images i've poached from photographers over the year.

A facebook button for articles.

Goals for next year are to tidy up some of the terms used in the booking in system.

Install a database backup system, ideally automated

Train the Grading officer with the aid of sweeties and chocolate biscuits to issue the grades at more regular intervals, and to use my customised spreadsheet so it looks nice when downloaded, rather than his which works ok, but can be difficult to read.

I would like to be supplied a clear set of names of the officers, including regional reps, and their contact email (which will be used on the site, but protected and hidden)

If anyone has any more suggestions or links to content they would wish to see I can get that sorted. The system is relatively easy to use, so if there is a budding editor out there, please pass them my way. Some more interesting and BFTA safe articles do appear on other seemingly more popular sites, however I would like to remind everyone that whilst the site isn't meant to be a replacement, BFTA centric articles should be posted on the BFTA site as well.

Lastly I'd like to thanks Steve Hughes for the work he did and everyone's support along the way.

Rob Farnworth



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Appendix H – Extracts taken out of a letter from Liz Woodall

Hello

(Documents sent to the NSRA for advice

The first document – Rule Changes was circulated 12.09.2012

The second document – Dispensation additional proposal was circulated 07 10 2012)

Thanks very much for sending these documents. Dave and I have discussed them several times. I'm sorry that I haven't been able to get back to you sooner about them – just not enough hours in the day at the moment.

I have looked at:

- *Winter League Rules 2012* on the NEFTA website
- Minutes of the 28.1.12 EGM
- Minutes of the November 2011 AGM, especially Appendix C

I attended an event (a have-a-go day for disabled servicemen) at BFTO a couple of weeks ago, when this topic was discussed.

I will just give you some broad-brush points on the current proposals, and flag up a few specific points that may contain traps for the unwary.

If some of these points seem to be a bit blunt, please believe that I don't want to upset anyone, but in this situation plain English is important to avoid any misunderstanding. However, whilst I want to give you the full picture

1. In this sort of situation the anti-discrimination law says that if you choose to change the status quo then it cannot be done in such a way as to make things harder for anyone with a disability. The options you have are either (a) to leave things as they are, or (b) to change them in a way that makes it easier for disabled people to be treated in the same way as non-disabled.
2. Bearing in mind Point 1 above, the Winter League Rules that NEFTA has put on its website are discriminatory.
 - a. Rule no. 4 imposes on those who cannot kneel the requirement to shoot standing, which is a harder position. This amounts to treating disabled competitors more harshly than non-disabled shooters. The proposed requirement for disabled shooters to take a zero is totally discriminatory.
 - b. Rule no. 11 creates a new Freestyle Class, which will allow all shots to be taken sitting.
 - i. This does nothing to accommodate those shooters whose disability may prevent them from adopting the defined sitting position.
 - ii. Those competing in this class will be excluded from the placings that they have formerly been included in. This exclusion from competitions that previously were integrated amounts to treating them more harshly than able-bodied shooters, and thus is discriminatory.
 - iii. This rule is imposing segregation, not allowing and encouraging integration, which is what target shooting is aiming for.
3. With regard to Shaun's proposals in the "Dispensations Additional Proposal" document you sent me, his paragraph (1) contains the same suggestions as in the NEFTA rules above, so that is also a retrograde step that would be discriminatory.
4. You can apply the non-discrimination principle explained and applied above to your own document "Rule Changes for AGM 2012", so I won't go through that in detail.
5. Could I just remind everyone that at the June meeting Dave Froggett and I explained that the flaw in the current scheme of having specified "alternative positions" is that people with some disabilities would find the alternative positions just as difficult as the defined standing, kneeling, or sitting positions. That is why it is desirable to have a scheme that introduces flexibility whilst maintaining fairness, which is the purpose of the dispensations system employed by the NSRA. This works on the basis that a disabled or less-able shooter can modify or adapt one or more of the defined positions so that he can still take part in the competitions that are open to able-bodied shooters. Some of the modifications may be very small indeed; others might be more significant. The purpose of the modification must be understood to be removing the disadvantage suffered by that person due to his/her disability, and not to confer an advantage.



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6. The proposal for BFTA to try out its own dispensations scheme is fine if the association feels that it is not yet ready to join the NSRA scheme. As this will be a totally new experience for everyone in Field Target, I know that Dave Froggett and Brian Woodall (who recently took over responsibility for the NSRA scheme) will be happy to give advice on setting it up and operating it.
7. Some of the terms used in the dispensation proposal could give rise to confusion and dispute, so may I suggest the following:
 - a. Not "self-certification", as this has overtones of people "doing a sickie" from work! Dave has suggested "self-declaration".
 - b. "Alternative position" is a term that already has an established meaning in the Field Target community. Using it in connection with the more flexible approach for dispensations is very likely to cause confusion. "Modified position" or "adapted position" would make the difference clear.
8. The procedure for handling applications for dispensations must be transparent. If a shooter has lost an arm, then his disability is clear for all to see and self-declaration is straightforward. However, a hidden disability such as arthritis or the earlier stages of degenerative conditions like multiple sclerosis, needs to be proved by production of a doctor's letter. When defining the modification(s) that the shooter is allowed to make the simplest option is use photographs, which are famously "worth 1,000 words". Also, putting the photograph on the dispensation card will mean that competition officials can see immediately if someone is shooting in accordance with their dispensation, rather than having to work out exactly what a written description means.
9. Please may I repeat something that was covered at the June meeting I attended. Dissatisfaction with the existing scheme for disabled participation in Field Target has arisen because of the perception that the scheme was being abused by a few shooters for their own gain; in blunt terms, they were cheating in order to win. It was confirmed that no disciplinary action has ever been taken against shooters engaging in such practices. I have been told informally of a number of occasions when shooters were observed cheating, but no-one was prepared to challenge them about it, or report them to officials. My point is that unless this culture of non-enforcement is changed, no amount of tinkering with the rules will make the slightest difference, because those who cheat will continue to find ways of doing so. This is not healthy for Field Target shooting. The only remedy is to make sure that everyone recognises that rules must be obeyed, and if they are not action will follow. Otherwise what is the point of having any rules at all?

Finally, as an outsider, please could I mention an impression that I came away with from the June meeting. Some of the anecdotes suggested that there are some FT people who would find it difficult to accept being beaten by a disabled shooter who was not using exactly the same positions as able-bodied competitors. Target shooting as a sport recognises that disabled people are just as capable as non-disabled of being brilliant shooters, so if they are successful the chances are not that they have some advantage, but it is the result of talent and a lot of hard work. It's a question of good or bad sportsmanship, and I wish you success in showing the world that FT doesn't put up with bad sports.

I hope all this is helpful, and I wish everyone a peaceful meeting and a good outcome!

Regards,

Liz

DSP Co-ordinator

DSP Mobile: 07527 579686



The Disabled Shooting Project

Welcomes ALL disabilities into a competitive mainstream sport as well as helping less able shooters to stay in it

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

DSP Post: P.O. Box 173, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 9DF **Web:** www.disabledshooting.org.uk **Facebook:** Disabled Shooting Project

Twitter: @Disabledshooter **Flickr:** Disabled Shooting Project

The project is funded and supported by Sport England via British Shooting www.britishshooting.org.uk

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Change Log:

Issue 1 (19-11-2012)

- i. Minutes released for discussion.

Issue 2 (20-11-2012)

- ii. Grading Officer report added.

Issue 3 (22-11-2012)

- iii. Appendix H heading changed