



BFTA Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Meadow Farm, Dagnell End Lane, Redditch, B98 9BJ On Saturday 22nd November 2014-11-15

Shaun Shore was adopted as temporary Chairman and there was unanimous and heartfelt best wishes to Roger Moy for his recovery.

Meeting open at 10:15am

1. Chairman's Report and welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and Mike Seago (FFTA) gave Roger's report. See **Appendix A**.

Introduction to the building, new attendees made aware of fire exits and smoking areas.

2. Persons Present and Regions Represented

BFTA Officers Present

Name	Title
Neil Long	Secretary (CSFTA)
Andrew Slade	Treasurer (CSFTA)
Shaun Shore	Competition Manager (MFTA)
Simon Evans	Grading Officer
Sam Reece	Minute Secretary
Tony Cook	HVP (MFTA)
Kevin Sayers	Trade Liaison
Rob Farnworth	Web & Forum Manager

Regions Represented

CSFTA	Rob Farnworth	V Rep
FFTA	Mike Seago	Rep
FFTA	Martin Knox	Rep
FFTA	Richard Greenwood	V Rep
MFTA	Andrew Gillott	V Rep
MFTA	Phil Gee	Nominated Chairman
NEFTA	Trevor Ryan	Rep
NEFTA	David Robinson	V Rep
NEFTA	Brian Samson	Rep
NWFTA	Carl Knapper	V Rep
NWFTA	Martin Gibbins	Rep
SEFTA	Barry McDonald	V Rep
SWEFTA	Simon Evans	V Rep
WAFTA	Mark Bassett	V Rep

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



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3. Apologies for Absence

Received from:-

Roger Moy – Chairman & President

Mick Woodhead – NSRA Rep

Liz Moy - HVP

4. Minutes of Last Meeting held on 14.06.2014 to be Read and Accepted

The Minutes from the GM in June 2014 have been circulated, read and accepted as being a true record.

Proposed by NEFTA and seconded by WAFTA. Unanimously agreed

5. Any matters arising from last meeting.

i. BFTA Inter-Regionals Competition. Team size and scores counted

Change from one 15-member Team to a maximum of two 8-member teams (6 scoring)

Proposed MFTA, Seconded WAFTA

For: SWEFTA, MFTA, WAFTA, SEFTA, NWFTA

Against: NEFTA

Abstain: CSFTA, FFTA

Carried for 1-year trial

ii. Regions to have provided Insurance evidence to the Secretary

This was discussed before the start of the meeting, prior to establishing a quorum.

All regions to have insurance for 2015.

6. 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 2014 and a copy that has been audited and signed by John Lewis. Vote of thanks to Andy Slade and John Lewis for all their work and support of the BFTA.

Question asking for clarification of the corporation tax required (interest paid gross so taxed but currently less than £50 and Treasurer will investigate if it is possible to have it waived as the forms take a huge amount of his time).

Question requesting investigation of charitable use which may help.

Secretary – nothing to report

Competition Manager. – see appendix C.

Showdown to remain at 64-shooters. Purchase another chronograph. Purchase new Inters trophy (Kevin Sayers). Continue support for Paul James Championship (£250).

Action: Shaun Shore and Kevin Sayers



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Grading Manager – see appendix D for full report

Note. If a regional / BFTA shoot has less than 10 shooters entered, then the result “may” not be recorded on BFTA rolling 20. This will be at the Grading officer’s discretion.

All new BFTA shooters will start in BFTA "A" Grade. Once three "PCP" results have been received, a grade is applied to the New Shooter based on the first three results average %. New shooters will then be Re-graded after 6 results; this will be the final Re-grading until the next end of season re-grading.

A shooter with scores on the rolling 20 that are more than 2 years old may elect to have the old scores deleted if the BFTA grading officer agrees. Scores can only be elected to be deleted at the start of the season

Trade Liaison

Sponsors: Air Arms, Rowan, Napier, Robert Nibbs, Intershoot and Andras Fekete-Moro. Kevin is willing to stand and has already started looking for sponsors. Need for more exposure in magazines but there are difficulties getting articles used (after a lot of time preparing them).

NSRA Representative – nothing to report

AMTA Representative – see appendix A

Development Officer

No report. Position will be unfilled and needs for a Development Officer discussed at the GM 2015.

Web Manager – nothing to report

Forum Manager – nothing to report

7. Election of Officers

Nominations for Officers:

Chairman	–	Phil Gee
Secretary	–	Shaun Shore
Treasurer	–	Andrew Slade

The election of officers was proposed by CSFTA, seconded by WAFTA and agreed unanimously

Nominations for Co-Opted & President:

President	–	Roger Moy
Comp Manager	–	Shaun Shore
Development Manager	–	Vacant
Grading/Registration Manager	–	Simon Evans
Trade Liaison Officer	–	Kevin Sayers
NSRA Delegate	–	Mick Woodhead
AMTA Delegate	–	Roger Moy (Kevin Sayers willing to take over if needed)
Web Manager	–	Rob Farnworth
Minute Secretary	–	Sam Reece
Accounts Examiner	–	John Lewis
BFTA Photographer	–	Simon Evans



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

Honorary Vice-Presidents – re-confirmed as:
Elizabeth Moy, Tony Cook, Beryl Noon, Mike Noon.

Proposed that Neil Long be added to the HVPs.

Unanimous acceptance.

HVPs required to attend at least one meeting per year and/or contribute to BFTA activities. By-laws need to be updated.

8. Fees and Subscriptions for 2014.

This item was taken after the Treasurer and Comp. Sec. reports.

There was extensive discussion as to the merits and disadvantages of raising the price of the GP entries from £10 to £12 (hosting Club remains at £6). Team entries to be free (to encourage more teams to join in)

Motion to increase GP fees to £12

Proposed by MFTA, seconded by CSFTA

All in favour (SEFTA not present)

Carried, take effect at GP1

The fees and subscriptions for 2015 will be

- BFTA Registration Card - £3.50 (unchanged)
- GP Entry - £12
- Inter Regional team entry - £5 per shooter per team (£40 for 1 team, £80 for 2 teams)
- Constructors and Associated Trades - free per team
- BFTA Masters - £6 (unchanged)
- BFTA Championships - £5 (unchanged)
- Euros - £30 (unchanged)

9. Correspondence

None received



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10. 2015 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 announced when Clubs are able to confirm. It was generally agreed that there would be one GP per region and any region that does not feel able to host one will not result in an extra GP being held elsewhere.

FFTA do not want to host a GP.

There were no offers to host Championships and Inter-regionals and just one for the Masters + Showdown. The outcome of this is that the Championships & Inter-regionals will be held at Newbury (CSFTA) and Masters and Showdown at Blaenau-Gwent (WAFTA)

7GP series - Event	Date	Venue	Region
BFTA Championships	11 th April 2015	Newbury	
BFTA Inter-Regional	12 th April 2015	Newbury	
GP1	26 th April 2015	Avon Hawks	SWEFTA
GP2	17 th May 2015	Tawd Vale	NWFTA
GP3	31 st May 2015	TBC	CSFTA
GP4	14 th June 2015	Millride	MFTA
GP5	5 th July 2015	TBC	SEFTA
GP6	26 th July 2015	Oak Tree	WAFTA
GP7	9 th August 2015	Redferns	NEFTA
BFTA Masters	5 th September 2015	Blaenau Gwent	
BFTA Showdown	6 th September 2015	Blaenau Gwent	
European Champs	19 th -20 th September 2015		

If a GP is cancelled then it will not be rescheduled and the GP scoring system will be adjusted accordingly.

11. Proposed Changes for the 2015 season

- a. [EFTA] Roll EFTA into BFTA as a sub committee of 3 to represent the English regions in the WFTF.
 - i. To be Mick Woodhead, chair, Rob Farnworth, sec and Brian Samson as technical advisor. The suggestion is that the sub committee acts with autonomy but reports to the BFTA as matters progress. Officers to be voted in each year.

Rationale: This negates the need for an EFTA treasurer and insurance, the latter saving £200 a year. Funding can continue as per now via BFTA cards. It also allows closer links to the regions as it appears that communication within the EFTA management committee is not a priority of its members.

Not voted on. There was broad support for EFTA but there are questions to be resolved and this should come back to a later meeting.

Action: Rob Farnworth



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- b. [NEFTA] Propose that the grading system's rolling 20 should be lowered to a rolling 10

Rationale: Currently grades hardly change.

No second. Motion fails

- c. [SWEFTA] Rolling 20 to become rolling 16.

Reason, from my experience over the previous years of doing and monitoring Grading, the 2014 NEFTA proposal to reduce to rolling 10 is far too drastic and will open up too many opportunities for "ringers" to drop a grade far too easily. In truth, I Believe the rolling 20 is working fine, but a reduction to 16 is a compromise that is worth trying for a year?

Second WAFTA. Tabled for future meeting

- d. [NEFTA] The £2.00 increase on GP shoots should go to the BFTA for a season and then review next year.

Fees increase decided in 7

- e. [NEFTA] Trophies at events should be a choice between cash or a trophy.

Motion rejected as trophies for 2015 have already been purchased.

- f. [SWEFTA] GP series is sponsored by BFTA

Overall top 3 scores from either classes C,B,A,AA & P.

You would expect the top 3 to come from AA but with the points series a shooter from any grade (apart from Open) could potentially be top points scorer.

Motion rejected as trophies for 2015 have already been purchased.

- g. [Secretary]. GP courses should be stated to be "Accessible to All" or "Course not Suitable for the non-Fully-Able".

I noticed that on 2 GP courses (Rivington and Blaenau Gwent) significant portions of the courses would be impossible or unsafe for anyone with an ambulatory difficulty. I suggest that GP courses are stated to be "Accessible to All" or "Course not Suitable for the non-fully able". This would need assessment ahead of the shoot giving time for those impacted to re-consider the journey and expense. We used to have attendance from shooters that were capable of getting around and indeed we formulated the Open category to enable their wider participation. We appear to be moving towards a less inclusive sport which could have serious implications.

Following discussion it was decided that when bookings are made there will be an additional descriptive text and contact details provided if there are questions regarding the suitability of the course for the registering competitor.

Action: Rob Farnworth



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12. Proposed Changes to Shoot Rules

- a. [NEFTA] There should be no targets closer than 10yds in any competitions.

Proposed NEFTA, Seconded SWEFTA. Carried unanimously.

- b. [NEFTA] There should be a maximum depth of 10inches on all hamsters on guns.
Motion rejected as it lacks any actual definition. Future proposal for a restriction on depth of hamsters supported by NEFTA and FFTA but not by MFTA, CSFTA or WAFTA

- c. [SWEFTA] Reduced size kills on positional lanes

- i. 25mm Kills may (0 to 1 max) be used on standing lanes, maximum distance of 20 yards

Proposed SWEFTA, Second WAFTA.

For: SWEFTA, WAFTA, FFTA

Against: MFTA, NEFTA, CSFTA

Abstain: NWFTA, SEFTA

Tied and fails.

- ii. 25mm kills may (0 to 1 max) be used on kneeling lanes, maximum distance 30 yards.

Proposed SWEFTA, Second WAFTA.

For: SWEFTA, WAFTA, FFTA

Against: MFTA, NEFTA, CSFTA, NWFTA

Abstain: SEFTA

Rejected.

- iii. Maximum of 1 reducer on kneeling and or 1 on standing, total of 2 Max per course (1 stander, 1 kneeler)

(i) Failed so (iii) fails

Reason, introducing just a single reducer to discipline will add variety to the short range disciplines Course setters do not have to use reducers if they do not wish to, i.e. very windy conditions.

- d. [SWEFTA] Kneelers

- i. Bean bag to only be used to keep the knee clean. i.e. the knee should only be placed on the edge of the bag, approx. 3-4 inches in from edge, to keep the knee clean.
- ii. The bag cannot be used under the shin or ankle.
- iii. Rear foot must be upright and straight in line with the knee. Foot/laces shall be flat on the ground

Reason: 2013/14 AGM rule on kneeling has been flouted at various BFTA shoots. Knee on edge of bag returns the position to three points of contact with the ground, two feet and one knee.

Proposed SWEFTA, Seconded NEFTA

For: SWEFTA, NEFTA, FFTA

Against: MFTA, WAFTA, CSFTA, SEFTA

Abstain: NWFTA

Motion rejected



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- e. [SWEFTA] Standing Shots
- i. Standing shots should have no potential support from any item worn under the leading arm acting as a sling. i.e. no bum bags
Reason: Not For the first time, my static "speed" camera has recorded shooters taking standing shots with potentially a support (bum bag type item) under the leading arm that the elbow/arm can rest on. Having tried this as an experiment, I can confirm it makes standers far steadier and for me takes away the skill of the discipline.
This is already covered by Main Shoot Rule 10. Motion rejected.
- f. [MFTA] Rule 8 (Target Sequence in Main Shoot Rules) is re-written to clearly define what numerical means, with respect to feed-on starts and shotgun starts.
The rule will include sanctions should the rule not be adhered to. (Shaun happy to provide the first draft)
Proposed MFTA, Seconded CSFTA. Carried unanimously and revised text to be included in 2015 Shoot Rules
Action: Shaun Shore
- g. [MFTA] Rule 11 (Time per Lane in Main Shoot Rules) is rewritten to include a sanction should the rule not be adhered to.
For example – if a buddy marshal is seen by a course marshal not to be using the clock then the buddy marshal will receive a verbal warning. If the offence is repeated then the buddy marshal will have 2 targets deducted from their score. A further repeat will result in disqualification of the buddy marshal.
Proposed MFTA, Seconded CSFTA.
For: MFTA, CSFTA, NEFTA, NWFTA, SWEFTA, WAFTA, SEFTA
Abstain: FFTA
Action: Shaun Shore
- h. [MFTA] For the events: BFTA Championship, BFTA Masters and BFTA European Championship;
- i. If a shoot-off is required to determine the winner of the event then the shoot-off will follow a pre-set methodology.
For example: Three targets will be set at the following distances {25mm hit-zone at 30 yards, 40mm hit-zone at 45 yards and 40mm hit-zone at 50 yards}. Competitors will shoot the three targets kneeling. When this is complete they will shoot the three targets standing. The competitor with the highest score wins. If this process does not provide a winner then the three targets will be again shot standing and totals compared. If this process does not produce a winner then competitors will shoot one target, selected by the marshal, in a sudden death format until a winner is found. Time limited so that it is 1minute per target after changing position.
This process is to determine the winner of the event. If there are other positions to be decided by shoot-off then these may take place on any of the lanes on the course following a process determined by the marshal.
Proposed MFTA, Seconded WAFTA. Carried unanimously



13. Items from Regions

- a. [CSFTA] The CSFTA feels that too many proposals are placed on the agenda which will have little chance of being seconded or voted in because they are quite simple and do not give the rest of the associations a chance to decide in principle before a meeting, and can lead to long discussions during the meeting, only to see the proposal abandoned afterwards. It is not our intention to stifle discussion and progress, more to make it more efficient. There have been several proposals in recent times which have been abandoned which the CSFTA has agreed with in broad principle, but because the details have not been looked into, the proposal fails. We hope this would make meetings more productive, and enable regions to formulate opinion better beforehand. It may require more work on the region's part beforehand, but this would be to the benefit of the proposal and the association.

i. So our proposal is as follows :

The BFTA Secretary rejects as a matter of course all items for the agenda unless the proposals answer the following questions:

1. What is the issue the proposal is aiming to address?

(This allows the proposer to illustrate the problem they see and how the proposal will improve it)

2. How is the issue currently administered?

(This shows the proposer is currently aware or has researched how the issue is administered currently)

3. How would the proposal impact on that administration?

(This shows the proposer has researched the new proposal's impact on the current administration)

4. What other issues are foreseen to arise?

(This shows that the proposer has thought about other potential issues which may arise)

These are guidelines for regions to use to ensure their proposals are accepted for voting and not to deny well constructed motions.

There was general agreement that this should be adopted as best practice.

- b. [NEFTA] NEFTA does not want to hold the Showdown/Masters in 2015 and it should move to another region (as was the original idea).

This was covered in an earlier agenda item.

- c. [NEFTA] Is BFTA still paying Newbury's rent or part of it? This should be stopped.

It was explained that Newbury receives 50% of the rental required. Newbury will be hosting the Championships and Inter-Regionals with additional assistance from other regions.

- d. [SEFTA] Not sure yet if they will be able to host their GP.

Offers to host it came from MFTA (Castle), WAFTA (Tondu) and NEFTA (Emley Moor).



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- e. [WAFTA] Requested by region to query if all scores are submitted and added to Grades. Grading Officer stated that scores of 1 (or 2) are not added to the grades from any region.
- f. [SEFTA] Why are there 2 sets of Shoot Rules? Main and GP can differ in some respects but GP rules are frequently changed to test new ideas gaining from feedback from all regions and grades at a high level of competition.

14. Any Other Business

- a. Phil Gee (New Chairman) announced a discount scheme for purchases at Cotswold Outdoor of 15%. Details will be circulated to Regional Secretaries. Discount Code is NOT to be made public in any way and there are specific Terms and Conditions to go with the discount.
- b. Shaun Shore expressed thanks and appreciation for all the work that Sam Reece has done for BFTA. Unanimously supported by all present.
- c. There will not be an EGM in January and all proposals are to be prepared well in advance of the next GM in June.
- d. A small committee will be created to handle questions and problems which may arise during BFTA FT Competitions and then report back to the BFTA Committee. There was general support and that the committee will begin with a team of 5 consisting of the BFTA Chair, BFTA Comp Secretary, Andy Gillott, Rob Farnworth and Mark Bassett. To be reviewed at the next AGM.

15. Date, time and place of next meetings.

- a. GM - Saturday 27th June 2014, 10am start, Meadow Farm.
- b. AGM – Saturday 21st November 2015, 10am start, Meadow Farm (Suggested Date and not confirmed at the meeting[NJL])

Meeting closed at 4.20pm
Neil Long (retiring Secretary)



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Appendix A – Chairman’s Report to the BFTA Meeting, Saturday November 22nd 2014.

So sad I cannot be with you today, here I will sit very uncomfortable but at least the pain has subsided a bit. Mobile phone is fully charged and switched on if you have any questions.

AMTA meeting/s reports I am afraid I could not attend the last meeting as it clashed with my hospital visits and tests.

Thanks must go to all the Officers and Members of the committee.....the shooters do appreciate the work you do, it may not look like it at times when they complain. The best way is to say ‘if you think you can do better have a go’ it is amazing how silence falls and then the subject of conversation gets changed.

My illness has forced my hand regards retiring from Chairmanship, I said at last years AGM that this would most likely be my final year. I wish the new Chairman every success for the forthcoming year.

Most likely after this meeting the format of the management committee will have changed with General Secretary and Competition Manager rolled into one.

Over the past few years it has been suggested that some form of sub-committee or management-committee looks after the running of competitions during year with the ability to change rules etc. as they reckon necessary. I wonder now if this sub-committee would work with two places in effect held by one person together with the proposed new chairman all coming from the same Region.

I had a quick glance back into BFTA history and I see that some Regions have had very little or no input as elected officers, why can’t some more of you volunteer to become officers, there are only two meetings a year

My thoughts as ever are for the continuing success of the BFTA and all the shooters who take part in our sport of FT.

Roger Moy
BFTA Chairman. (Retiring)



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Appendix B – Treasurer’s Report

BFTA Treasurer’s Report (June 2014 - Oct 2014)

I am happy to report that the BFTA accounts and reserves of money still remain healthy, continuing the good work to keep everything in order financially, however the reserve in the deposit account is not as buoyant as it once was 2 years ago.

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 **£5,025.18** and has not changed since the transfer in from the BoS deposit account of £5,000 and then the transfer out of £5,000 to NatWest Current Account in Nov 13 and a another transfer from BoS current to NatWest current ready to by the 2015 season trophies (third time this has taken place, hence why the deposit account is £10,000 less they it once contained!).

The **Bank of Scotland Deposit account** again has not been accessed apart from the transfer out of £5,000 explained above. The account contains **£20,441.18** (as of 9 Oct 2014) and earns approximately ~£16 per month in interest.

The **National Westminster Current Account** statement shows a balance of **£5,239.86 (as of 29 Oct 2014)** but this does not account for the cheque made out to Rob Farnworth (**£48.58**) for Web Polling/Voting software and the cheque to East Devon FTC to cover the costs of the deposit on the portaloos intended for the cancelled GP6 round for the sum of **£43.50** both of which have not yet been cashed. So the corrected balance should be **£5,147.78**.

The total monies paid into NatWest account by Sam, Shaun, Simon and myself and the transfer from BoS deposit account is **£18,462.15** and the total withdrawals by cheque is **£17,994.55**.

If you review the Income tab of the attached spreadsheet, you will see no income from GP1, only other monies received. The BFTA revenue from GP1 (£470) has been used to fund the bonus bunny raffles for GP2, GP3 and GP5. So it may look like there was no revenue from GP1 and to counter this, the revenue from GP2 and GP3 is actually £150 more from each of these GPs than would be expected.

Please also note I banked the total monies received at GP4 Newbury and GP7 Emley (BFTA and hosting club monies) and therefore there is a corresponding payment to both NARC and Emley in the expenditure spreadsheet for their portion of the monies.

The NatWest statements also show a returned cheque from Barry McDonald. Barry misplaced his cheque so asked bank to stop remaining cheques, they stopped all cheques! I have since confirmed with the bank that the original cheque was re-presented. As I had Barry pay a second time whilst this was being sorted out, I have now re-paid Barry £60.

I have phoned the NatWest bank Head Office (they would not do it in branch) regarding the refund of the £10 they charged for stopping a complete lost cheque book on your advice. I have not yet seen the monies refunded, but expect that to be in the next NatWest statement to be received.

I have only repaid the EFTA the following amounts equal to, 50p for every BFTA card purchased in the 2013-2014 season. Monies refunded to equals EFTA 1140 cards = (**£570**) and WAFTA 165 cards = (**£82.50**). The SARPA monies [SARPA 12 cards = (**£6.00**)] **is yet to be paid**.

Nine teams, (including one spring gun team) have entered the Team Competition and have each paid the **£25** entry fee.

The Inter-Regional competition and BFTA Championship were this year held at Redfearn (NEFTA region), **£500** was the sum of monies agreed that would go to the hosting club.

The BFTA made a **£250** contribution towards the purchase of the Jaffa Orange T shirts for the Paul James Memorial Shoot as agreed at the BFTA November meeting. This contribution was approximately half the total cost of all the T shirts (**£553**) worn with pride by the spring gun shooters on the day of the shoot. This contribution meant that a greater sum of money was donated on behalf of the memorial shoot, to the hospice which assisted Paul. Shaun dealt with this matter, so it is not itemised in the accounts, but a receipt is available for audit purposes.



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Without pre-empting Shaun's Competition Secretary Report, we have continued with the float of **£775**, (not shown in the accounts) towards the purchase of BFTA branded clothing and hats to sell, as agreed at the BFTA meeting in November 2013, which have been well received by members.

We have also purchased a two further Chronographs with large sky screens (difficult to shoot the sensors – this is not a challenge to shooters!) and two tripods to mount them on, this is in addition to the similar chronograph and tripod BFTA purchased during last season that was trialled at GP2-2013 Far Coley.

We have increased the stocks of various score cards, so that we have sufficient for the next few years and we have pre-bought sets of medals for competition trophies as there was a set up cost involved.

In summary, most of the money in the BFTA funds has been generated by the Competitions and most of the money paid out is also in Competition Trophies and prizes and the anticipated end of season draw prizes. However I am strongly of the opinion that we have no choice but to increase the GP entry fees to that proposed. We have continued to draw down from the reserves in the deposit account, this cannot go on indefinitely. I have also stated that businesses normally need two times their annual running costs in reserve; we are now below this point in BFTA finances.

Attached to this report is a spreadsheet which provides details of the BFTA accounts, income and expenditure. As always I am available to answer specific questions relating to the accounts and BFTA monies.

I have agreed after much persuasion from Shaun to stay on as BFTA Treasurer if another candidate does not come forward.

However, I believe that we need to do something regarding obtaining electronic banking for the NatWest BFTA account and the committee and regions approval for this. I am the only holder of a cheque book on the Nat West account. The BFTA rules still insist on two signatories for this account. Shaun Shore is issued with part signed cheques for use in emergency if I am not available.

As an example of this is that the venues used for the BFTA meetings now refuse to take a cheque, so I have to pay for the venue and refreshments using my own credit card and then reclaiming the money as expenses. It would also be of major benefit in checking the account balance, at the moment I have to go to the nearest NatWest bank which is an 8 mile journey each way during my lunch hour and getting increasingly difficult as I become busier at work.

The accounts have been sent along with all the paying in books and NatWest and BoS cheque books to John Lewis for audit. I am hoping to report that all is in order, but await confirmation from John Lewis to this effect.

I would also like the minutes to reflect the BFTA appreciation for the work John performs in auditing the accounts

Andrew Slade
BFTA Treasurer – 22nd November 2014



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Appendix C – Competition Manager Report

BFTA Competition Manager's Report – AGM 2014

I would like to open my report by paying tribute to Roger Moy for all the years of service that he has given the BFTA. In my role as Competition Manager he has always been a source of support and sound advice. I wish you a speedy recovery Roger and look forward to seeing you giving out prizes at our future major events.

GP series 2014

The cancellation of GP6 at East Devon meant that the series reduced to six rounds. There was some discussion as to whether the event could/should be rescheduled. It was my decision to not reschedule and reduce scoring to 4 from 6. Whether this was the best solution is now irrelevant but I think it is wise that we state upfront that if a GP is cancelled then it will not be rescheduled because the purpose of sharing the calendar at the AGM prior to the season is to allow shooters to make plans. In cancelling I think that Jeremy took the right, albeit difficult, decision; thank you Jeremy.

This year, as last, the series went right to the wire. At GP6 in the morning session at Emley Mark Bassett posted a superb 49 putting him in pole position for the overall series win. Mark's 49 required Andy Calpin to score 48 to win and James Osborne to score 47 in the afternoon session. James came close with a 46 but it was Andy Calpin that was drawing the crowds; personally I couldn't watch. Andy missed his first target and then hit 48 from the next 49 to win the series by 0.16 points. The GP series was once again a tremendous showcase of the shooting talents of BFTA shooters. Well done to all!

Team Competition

This year we had 9 teams; 4 in league one and 5 in league two. Thanks to Air Arms, BASC, March and Solware for supporting teams. I think that this is an area of FT that could really develop. I suggest that for 2015 we trial waving the entry fee in the hope that we will entice more teams.

Worlds 2014

Congratulations to all the British shooters that competed at the World Championships in New Zealand and in particular well done to Brian Samson on becoming the spring gun World Field Target Champion.

Euros 2014

We all owe thanks to Neil Thorneycroft and his team for building the course this year and I think we should invite him to oversee next year as well.

Many thanks to Air Arms for donating an FTP 900 for the winner.

The benign conditions over the weekend saw some very high scoring which culminated with 7 shooters level on 94 after their two rounds. This led to a lengthy shoot-off in which Simon Ayres was victorious; this proved a popular win after Simon's near misses in recent major events.

An incident occurred on day one that created a lot of chatter. The resolution of the incident was not, as expected, to everyone's satisfaction. IMO the sanction to be applied was not clear and this is why I have proposed a rewrite of the rule to avoid any future ambiguity and make clear what sanction will apply. I think that the rule should clearly state that lane order must be adhered to and that this is described for feed-on and shotgun start events.



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The kafuffle, chuntering and the internet strapline “**there are no rules in FT**” brought into clear focus some issues that we must address:

There is little demarcation between those who shoot FT, those who build courses for FT, those that marshal FT and those that administer FT. We are all from the same pot. The rules are written, IMO, to present shooters with rules that are easily self-administered. I think that we must extend the rules to include sanctions for infringement and, crucially, have the facility to change the rules over a shorter notice period than the AGM if incidents occur that require clarification or rewriting of the rules. This is one of the reasons that I think the BFTA should introduce a shoot committee answerable to the regions at the AGM. Such a committee would meet informally throughout the season and then would formally meet in May/June which would replace the need for the full committee to meet (I think this would also remove the disappointment of attending a meeting to find that regions are not represented). I agree with the concern expressed by CSFTA and believe that the agenda for the AGM should be finalised well before the AGM thereby allowing regions to discuss and react to the items in good time.

Masters 2014

Many thanks to Andy Calpin, Graham Cooper and the Anston team for building, maintaining and marshalling two excellent courses for the Masters on 4th October 2014; it was a thoroughly enjoyable day!

Congratulations to Andy who won the event after tying on 58 with Neil Hague; last year's winner Jack Harris was 3rd.

Showdown 2014

Once again many thanks to Andy, Martin and the Anston team for building three excellent courses and to Sam Reece, Paula Higgins and Lyndeen Calvert for their help administering the competition.

Congratulations to Ian Taylor for winning the Showdown and for Dylan Varney for winning the Plate. The Showdown final was testament to the high standard of FT in the UK with Ian Taylor beating Neil Hague 20-19.

It was a real struggle this year to assemble 64 competitors. On the Saturday of the Masters we were 15 short of a full field. On the Sunday the event commenced with 61 competitors (one illness, one gun failure and one withdrawal on Saturday night).

There is, I think, still great desire to qualify and compete in the Showdown but unfortunately those that qualify and those that want to don't match. I benefitted this year by qualifying by the back door and thoroughly enjoyed the day, however, that's not the way it should be. In the 4 years that I have administered the Showdown there has been difficulty assembling the field (except for the 25th Anniversary). I suggest a change (trial) for 2015:

48 qualify

16 that qualify first are seeded.

First round – 32 latter qualifiers compete. Winners face seeded 16 and losers go into plate.

Second round – 16 seeded shooters versus 16 winners of round 1. Winners go forward into Showdown and losers into Plate

Then we have straight knockout.

I'd like to document our thanks to BASC for their continued sponsorship of £500 for prize money for the two competitions.



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Equipment

We will need to purchase another chrono and some more clocks to facilitate running three equipment boxes for 2014.

At the Masters it rained and some of the clocks began to fail. Whilst I didn't see this as too much of a problem for the Masters it could potentially spoil the Showdown. I suggest that we purchase 20 waterproof stopwatches (approximately £350) as insurance or extend this to 40 stopwatches (£700) and make these the default use for the Champs, Euros and Masters/Showdown.

The kneeling boards were not cheap because I purchased good quality laminate board to build them after the original ones disintegrated at the Inters. I do not propose that we continue to use them for 2015.

Inters trophy – I think we should replace.

Next year we will also need to purchase some more GP scorecards.

Merchandise

At this time last year my float was £775. This year I have found a different provider that has allowed me to offer caps at £7 (last year £10) and hoodies at £15 (last year £20). The motivation remains not one of profit but to put the BFTA badge out there. This year saw good numbers of caps and hoodies sold but my disaster was t-shirts. However, despite selling the majority at below cost I now have £800. I can continue selling hoodies and caps or give the money to Andy; happy to do either.

Shaun Shore (Competition Manager 2014)

Appendix D - Grading Managers Report

BFTA Photographer

I have continued to exclusively use the Bfta forum to display my Photographs from Both Bfta and regional shoots I attend. Traffic from various forums and Facebook is then directed to the updated Bfta photo threads.

2014/15 BFTA Membership/ Cardholders

For the 2014/15 Card issues, I allowed Clubs to submit their lists (with payment) of shooters even if they had not, by the 2014 March deadline, received their insurance cover documents. This procedure worked very well and allowed the list to go to Chris Large in plenty of time. All clubs produced insurance as soon as they were issued with it.

I shall again set a deadline for March 2015 and allow clubs to forward on any late insurance documents. 2015/16 Cards will be handed out at Gp1, all being well

Once again I would like to thank Chris Large on behalf of the Bfta for his work in producing the printed Bfta cards. For 2015/16 I believe Chris will be looking into some sponsorship possibilities.

For 2014/15, (as of 21/11/14) there are 1,126 Bfta card holders.



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The Split is;

Sarpa 25 , Wafta 152, Efta 949

Grading

Out of the 1,126 card holders, just under 500 have recorded one or more results on the Bfta rolling 20 since Gp1 to the present date. There are also 81 results from non Card holders, some of which have Bfta numbers, some don't. All scores from Non card holders are recorded so that if they take up a Bfta card, I have in many cases a current grade for them.

I believe the current Grade boundaries are working well and need no adjustment.

I have continued to update each shooters current rolling 20 % as regions results have come to me, all updates are on the [Bfta forum](#).

<http://www.thebfta.net/forum/index.php/board,44.0.html>

My only Concern comes from the low attendance in the SARPA FT results, see proposed Change to grading criteria on number of entries at a shoot.

Those shooters that have requested their individual rolling 20 have been sent it via Email.

Full rolling 20 are periodically sent out to regional secs / comp secs or as requested.

The Bfta Website has been updated with shooters current "Winter" start grade, as the "out of date" rolling 20 which was updated twice yearly was causing some confusion to shooters and to myself some grief trying to explain why "my latest score is not on there!"

Of the proposal to Drop the rolling 20 to a rolling 10, I firmly believe this us far too drastic and will open the door for shooters to avoid a class far too easily.

I have countered the Nefta proposal with one to drop the Rolling 20 to a Rolling 16. In truth I don't believe the rolling 20 needs any real tweaking, just some of the loop holes need a bit more plugging.

However, I am of the opinion that trying a rolling 16 for 1 year is an option worth trying.

2014 / 15 Updates

My main aim in taking on the Grading managers job was to try and improve the results being entered. I spend a great deal of time entering and monitoring results given criteria such as conditions on the day, standard of shooters in attendance, session 1 v session 2 etc.

This year I have received several suggestions on how the rolling 20 should be changed, but having looked at them I have found them so far to be geared too much towards one region or even one person!!!

The grading system has to take account of the current 9 regions and the differences in each of them and it is without doubt from my experience of shooting in several different regions, there are some vast differences!

So, my intensions are to introduce the following changes to the "Guidelines" which will then be added the FAQ.

A/



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If a regional / Bfta shoot has less than 10 shooters entered, then the result “may” not be recorded on bfta rolling 20. This will be at the Grading officers discretion.

Reason:

With the dramatic decline of Ft in Sarpa in 2014, average FT shoots have seen less than 10 entries, with the final shoot being just 2 competitors!

This leads to inflated scores for some if not all entries on the day

I sincerely Hope Entries in Sarpa increase in 2015 and that no other region sees a decline such as this.

B/

All new BFTA shooters will start in BFTA "A" Grade. Once three "PCP" results have been received, a grade is applied to the New Shooter based on the first three results average %.

New shooters will then be Re-graded after 6 results, this will be the final Re-grading until the next end of season re-grading.

Reason:

The shortfalls of the 3 results are, a returning “Experienced” shooter can have one “bad” result, and then be in a lower grade than they should be. They may not decide to elect to go up a grade, leaving the other shooters in the “lower” grade thinking the term “Ringer” is apt!

A new shooter usually starts with low scores, either through nerves, lack of experience or lower grade Kit and most often start their Ft “Graded” career in C or B grade. However, they can in some instances (better Kit, practice) quickly progress. This again can leave others feeling that there is a “Ringer” among the group and that grading is not working!

Re-grading at 6 results should help get “new” shooters in the correct grade faster.

This will be trialled for 1 year.

C/ Old scores on the rolling 20.

The grading system is only accurate, in most cases, if the scores are as up to date as possible.

A shooter with scores on the rolling 20 that are more than 2 years old, may elect to have the old scores deleted, if the Bfta grading officer agrees. Scores can only be elected to be deleted at the start of the season

Reason:

The scores need to be as up to date as possible to reflect a shooters “**current**” ability. Some scores on the rolling 20 are now over 3 years old. However, it should be the shooters choice if old scores are removed.