



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

BFTA Annual General Meeting 21st November 2015
At Meadow Farm, Dagnell End Road, Redditch, B98 9BJ

Minutes

- 1) Chairman's welcome and report (Annexe A)
- 2) Persons and regions present and voting representatives identified

BFTA Officers Present

Name	Title
Roger Moy	President
Phil Gee	Chairman
Shaun Shore	Secretary and Competition Manager
Andrew Slade	Treasurer
Simon Evans	Grading Officer (SWEFTA)
Sam Reece	Minute Secretary
Tony Cook	HVP
Neil Long	HVP
Liz Moy	FFTA
Kevin Sayers	Trade Liaison
Rob Farnworth	Web & Forum Manager (CSFTA)

Regions Represented

Name	Region
Rob Farnworth (V)	CSFTA
Richard Greenwood (V)	FFTA
Catrina Knox	FFTA
Martin Knox	FFTA
Kevin Sayers (V)	MFTA
Paul Mangham	NEFTA
Trevor Ryan	NEFTA
Dave Robinson (V)	NEFTA
Brian Samson	NEFTA
Martin Calpin	NEFTA
Carl Knapper (V)	NWFTA
Martin Gibbins	NWFTA
Graham Jopson (V)	SEFTA
Simon Evans (V)	SWEFTA
Mark Bassett (V)	WAFTA

23 persons present and 8 regions represented.

- 3) Apologies for absence

Andrew Gillott (MFTA), Barry McDonald (SEFTA), Guy Sidey (SARPA) and Mike Seago (FFTA)

- 4) Minutes of GM from June 2015 to be read and accepted as true record

Proposed by MFTA seconded by WAFTA



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

5) Matters arising from June 2015 GM

- [Chrono choice for 2016 – Roger Moy](#)

Roger gave detailed feedback about the Polish Chrono and the Caldwell Chrono (Annexe E).

There followed a discussion that led to the following outcome:

- For 2016 the BFTA will use the Polish Chrono.
- Andrew Slade will purchase 3 more chronos of which one will be the alternative model.
- Roger Moy will make an attachment that covers the switches and protects the internals of the chrono from being shot.
- The chronos will be ready for use at the inters weekend 2016
- [AMTA membership update as to whether membership was valuable to the BFTA – Roger Moy](#)

Roger informed the committee that he had not renewed the membership and he did not think it was value for money given what input BFTA could make.

- [New logo and merchandise – Martin Calpin.](#)

Martin showed a number of logo option. The discussion that followed was varied in opinion from keeping the original logo to favouring certain designs. The agreed outcome was that Martin would liaise with Rob Farnworth on design options and share solutions, via email, with those present at this meeting and from this arrive at a final solution.

- [SARPA – should they maintain membership of BFTA given non-attendance to BFTA meetings? Do they want to maintain membership?](#)

Guy Sidey had made contact with Roger Moy indicating his intention to attend the AGM and then offering apology for his absence. It is not clear what role Guy holds within SARPA so the Secretary will contact Guy to find out.

6) Treasurer's report and Competition Manager's report– early reports are necessary to see the impact of the fee changes introduced in 2015 and to inform later discussion.

The Treasurer gave a detailed report (Annexe B) of the finances of the BFTA and that they had been audited by John Lewis.

The Competition Manager outlined some changes that he would like to implement for the BFTA European Championship 2016. These changes would require funding and this was discussed. The Competition Manager informed the committee that he had been offered £1000 from Air Arms to help fund the changes and requested the BFTA match this funding. Various suggestion were discussed as to how this money could be raised but eventually it was decided that the BFTA would match the funding from its reserve and then when the project was complete it would be discussed at the AGM 2016 of how to fund future development.

Before discussion of item 7), also consider the following proposal:

- **Proposal 1**

7) Fees and subscriptions for 2016

- BFTA Championship = £8 (£7 BFTA £1 Club)
- BFTA inter-regional = £75 per team
- BFTA Masters = £10 (£9 BFTA £1 Club)
- GP = £12
- Europeans = £35



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

8) Officers' reports: *Secretary, Competition Secretary (Annexe C), Grading Manager(Annexe D), Trade Liaison, NSRA Delegate (not present), Web Manager(Annexe E)*

Secretary – after only a brief tenure in the role I am happy to welcome Paul Mangham on board.

Trade Liaison – Kevin informed that gaining sponsorship for the GP series was proving difficult but he was confident that he would gain seven prizes for next season.

Kevin agreed that after each GP prize draw he would take a picture of the winner against a BFTA backdrop. The backdrop would be purchased by Shaun to Kevin's suggested design.

Discussion focussed upon how the BFTA could improve its communication to the FT community and wider interest. Shaun informed that he would produce a monthly (ish) newsletter about FT and it was agreed that this would be hosted by the website and Martin would experiment with sharing this and other news by digital media.

9) Election of Officers:

President, Honorary Vice-Presidents, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Minute Secretary, Competition Manager, Grading/Registration Manager, Trade Liaison Officer, NSRA Delegate, Web Manager.

Paul Mangham was unanimously elected as Secretary

All officers were happy to stand for re-election

All officers were elected unanimously

Confirmation of HVPs

Confirmed as: Tony Cook, Neil Long and Liz Moy

10) Correspondence

Received from Nigel Allen – discussed in AOB

11) 2016 Competition Dates

Event	Date (7GP)	Venue
BFTA Championship	2 nd April 2016	Tondu
BFTA Inter-Regional	3 rd April 2016	Tondu
GP1	17 th April 2016	Meon Valley
GP2	15 th May 2016	Bisley
GP3	29 th May 2016	Tawd Vale
GP4	12 th June 2016	Quarry
GP5	3 rd July 2016	Far Coley
GP6	17 th July 2016	East Devon
GP7	7 th August 2016	Anston
BFTA Masters	3 rd September 2016	Emley Moor
BFTA Showdown	4 th September 2016	Emley Moor
BFTA Europeans	17 th – 18 th September 2016	Weston Park



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

12) Proposed changes to 2016

Regions should establish whether they support or reject each proposal.

It is acceptable that at the committee meeting counter proposals are offered as long as they do not differ too much from the original. It shall be at the Chairman's discretion if the counter proposal is acceptable.

Proposal 1 – Rejected

Increase the GP entry fee to £15 and increase the number of bonus bunny winners from 3 to 9.

Rationale – £12 requires admin to have a float of coins and £5 notes. Increasing the £15 would mean only notes would be required. 100 entrants would raise extra £300 (6 extra bonus bunny prizes) and any extra would be kept by the organising club/region.

Also, suggested that GP raffle prizes could then be held and used in the end of season draw.

Proposal 2 – Rejected

Relax the rule regarding the position of the bean bag when used in the kneeling position.

To include - the bean bag may be used as the shooter deems comfortable.

Rationale – This is proposed because it is seen that shooters are already doing this hence gaining an advantage.

Relaxation of the rule would level the playing field for all.

Proposal 3– Rejected

Remove the use of the bag.

BFTA will provide an ankle roll for each kneeling lane and a flat mat to keep the knee off the ground

- The ankle roll is presently under development but it is likely to be a cone that tapers from 10cm to 15cm over a length of about 60cm made from a material that will allow some compression.
- This is in-line with the WFTF proposal.
- The development in England is being led by Andy Calpin and in Spain by Jesus Sangroniz.

Upon acceptance of this proposal then the kneeling rule would have to be reworded. In particular it must expressly define how the ankle roll can be use.

Note – as the BFTA provides this equipment then does this present a litigation problem? Example – “I used the roll and my Achilles tendon snapped”. Do we need legal advice?

Proposal 4– Rejected

Shooter can only hold C grade status once. When shooters have been graded above C grade then they cannot subsequently return to C grade.

Proposal 5– Accepted

a) Change the rolling 20 to a rolling 16

b) Remove grades that are more than 3 years old

Proposal 6 – Rejected

Not submitting scores – allow shooters to shoot the course but not submit their card for grading purposes if the shooter deems that the score is misrepresentative of their normal shooting due to equipment issues or illness. In such cases the shooter will return their card to stats where admin will void the card.

Proposal 7– Rejected

Only scores from BFTA shoots will be used to calculate grades.

Proposal 8 – Accepted

The shoot rules should include a definition of what is a counting shot.

This is to answer the potential tricky position when the rifle is accidentally discharged or deliberately discharged but it is claimed that no pellet was loaded.

Suggested example:

The shooter's allotted 2 minutes has begun and there is a release of air from the rifle.

This counts as a shot unless the shooter has requested permission from their buddy marshal to release an un-scoped shot.



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

Simon reports that at GP1 his pellet fell out of the barrel before the breech was closed but this was not noticed. Is that a shot? Whilst it seems harsh to punish this mistake the problem is that if it is left to discretion then the shooter who missed the target completely could also claim the same. Equally some claim that they can tell from the sound of the muzzle blast that there was not a pellet loaded.

Is loading the pellet part of the shooting process?

Proposal 9 – Rejected

Change inter-regional counting scores to 6 from 15

Rationale – this gives every region a chance of winning and ensures a tight contest.

Note: at the June meeting the committee voted to revert to teams of 15 with 8 scores to count.

Proposal 10 – Accepted

The EFTA to become a sub-committee of the BFTA

The committee will consist of not less than 3 members.

This proposal is to agree to allow it to happen.

The BFTA will not hold the responsibilities of the EFTA should the EFTA not have an elected committee.

Proposal 11 – Rejected

The BFTA introduces a veteran class to the GP series.

If accepted then the format of the class needs to be defined.

Proposal 12 – Accepted

The definition of shoot-off in the Main Shoot Rules is extended to any shoot-off: to include Champs, Masters, Euros, GPs and Silhouettes.

Definition can be determined at the meeting.

Comp Manager would also like to see the definition changed.

Proposal 13 – Rejected

Smoking and vaping is banned on the FT course



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

Voting

Proposal	CSFTA	FFTA	MFTA	NEFTA	NWFTA	SEFTA	SWEFTA	WAFTA	Outcome	Comment
1	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	P	S	Rejected	
2	N	N	P	N	N	Y	Y	S	Rejected	
3	A	Y	A	Y	N	N	N	N	Rejected	It was agreed that individual shooters could use a kneeling roll to aid their preparation for the Worlds and to offer information for future discussion.
4	A	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Rejected	
5a	N	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	P	S	Accepted	New grading will take effect post the Champs/Inters weekend.
5b	N	Y	Y	S	Y	Y	P	Y	Accepted	Simon will define – more than 3 years – within an updated FAQ on the BFTA website.
6	Proposal not sufficiently defined								Status quo	
7	P								Not seconded	
8	P	S	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Accepted	It was agreed to use the WFTF definition. See i) below
9	N	N	N	N	Y	N	P	S	Rejected	
10	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	S	Accepted	
11	N	N	N	N	N	Y	P	S	Rejected	
12	S	Y	Y	P	Y	Y	Y	Y	Accepted	Definition below ii)
13	P								Not seconded	

i) A shot is deemed to have been fired if air is discharged from a rifle. A shooter may however fire a shot into the ground after declaring this to his/her lane partner(s).

ii) All shoot-offs for all positions in: BFTA Championship, GP series, Masters, European Championship are to be decided in the following way:

- The shoot-off lane will contain 2 targets
- The distance of the targets is up to 55 yards
- No reduced hit-zone targets can be used
- Shoot-off will be timed (2 targets = 2 minutes, 1 target = 1 minute)
- Each competitor will, in turn, shoot the shoot-off lane kneeling and then shoot the lane standing.
- The shooter with the highest score, ex 4, will win the shoot-off
- If the shooters are tied then the lane will be shot again standing
- The shooter with the highest score, ex 2, will win the shoot-off
- If the shooters are tied then one of the targets in the lane, chosen by the marshal, will be used for sudden death to decide the winner.

Silhouette shoot-off: a rack of turkeys will be shot with the time limit of 2 ½ minutes. If scores are tied then repeat.

No shoot-off is specifically defined for the Showdown.



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

13) Discussion about the preparation for the World FT Championship being staged in Wales and in England. WAFTA and EFTA gave a precis of their preparations for the World FT Championship

WAFTA: presently exploring two venues, date is likely late September 2017, requested loan from BFTA to cover deposit for venue, hoping to allow up to 450 entrants.

It was agreed the BFTA would loan WAFTA up to £10,000 given the following conditions were met:

- I. Venue confirmed
- II. There is adequate insurance
- III. There is a breakdown of likely spending
- IV. The above is to the satisfaction of the BFTA Chairman, BFTA Secretary and BFTA Treasurer and two of those will be the signatories on the cheque

EFTA: exploring venues in the north and in the midlands, Rob is putting together a plan identifying tasks and personnel.

14) AOB

Standing with extendable hamsters

The committee were shown a picture of the Chairman using an extendable hamster to aid standing



Using the hamster in this way is not presently breaking any shoot rules. However, it was agreed that it is breaking the “spirit of the rules”. The BFTA committee would like not to have to introduce a rule to outlaw this practice but hope that FT shooters would deem it unfair and refrain from using it.

Brian Samson’s target checker

Brian showed the committee his target checker. It was well received and agreed that at all BFTA shoots the device would be used. The BFTA will purchase 8 checkers; there will be two checkers in each of the GP equipment boxes.

Daystate air rifles

The BFTA has 2 Daystate air rifle presently looked after by Mike Noon. It was agreed that Roger would service the rifles and then sell them on behalf of the BFTA.

Airgun magazine

The Chairman had been in contact with Nigel Allen to discuss FT representation in his magazine. The Chairman explained that he didn’t think that our shoot calendar and the magazine deadlines were likely to be compatible.



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

Single point slings

The Secretary asked for clarification about the use of single point sling. It was confirmed that to use a single point sling within the shoot rules of the BFTA the sling must be permanently attached to the rifle and cannot be attached to the shooter.

Pro-Chronos

The Competition Manager suggested that the BFTA sold its Pro-Chronos. The Chairman requested that the sale should take place only after a successful trial of the Polish chrono.

Laptop

The BFTA needs to purchase a laptop. It was agreed that the Chairman would liaise with the Secretary to decide upon a suitable laptop.

BFTA cards

It was requested that the Grading Officer sent registration cards out by post. Simon said that he would if clubs supplied a self-addressed stamped envelope (with the correct postage cost covered).

Next meeting date – 18th June 2016

Shaun Shore – BFTA Secretary

Annexe A – Chairman's Report

Firstly, I'd like to apologise for my absence at June's General Meeting, hopefully it will be the last meeting I miss as Chairman.

Anyway, moving on, I'd like to welcome you all to today's meeting and hope we have a meaningful and fruitful discussion, and have a positive outcome to the decisions we have to make.

A couple of points of health and safety to start today's meeting are:

Please be aware of loose power cables trailing on the floor,

Please make yourselves aware of the fire exit, &

For the smokers, please locate the approved smoking location.

I'd like to take the opportunity to congratulate all the BFTA members who were winners this year (and I hope I've remembered everyone):

WAFTA for their magnificent win in the World team competition,

Steve Privett who became World Spring Gun Champion,

Richard Beaugie who is World Veteran Champion,

Conor MyFlynn who triumphed in the BFTA European Championships,

Peter Bygrave for his surprise but welcome win at the BFTA Champs,

And NEFTA-A for their win in the Inter-Regionals.

However, I think special mention should go to Jack Harris.

From a 'slow' start, with "only" 10th at the BFTA Champs, Little Jack went on to pretty much dominate the season, winning the GP series at the last round at Redfearn, coming second at the worlds by just one target, winning the Masters and the Showdown in one weekend, and then coming sixth at the Euros. A fantastic year, and fantastic shooting Jack, congratulations.



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

And congratulations to Wales on being nominated to host the World Championships in 2017, I'm sure it will be one to remember. Today may be a little early, but perhaps at next Year's GM we can discuss the details of the event and how the BFTA can support WAFTA in its preparations.

Onto BFTA business, and without wishing to sound like an Oscar's acceptance speech, I'd like to thank all of you here today, the Officers, regional representatives and other co-opted and press ganged individuals who make sure the BFTA continues to function.

One final word, I've noticed that at all of the BFTA organised events, everyone involved with the organisation and running of the events gets thanked, from the Chief Marshalls, to the course setters, to the folks cooking the burgers. That is all apart from one, and that's the guy who is at the front thanking everyone else, Shaun.

He is usually one of the first there, is constantly busy running around making sure everything happens and everyone's nose is wiped (that comment was cleaned up for family reading) and is normally one of the last to leave. And all this is generally to the detriment of his own shooting, so I would like to place on record my, and I hope all of our, thanks to Shaun for his unselfish and untiring work on behalf of the BFTA.

Phil Gee

BFTA Chairman

Annexe B –Treasurer's Report

I am happy to provide a summary of the BFTA accounts, at the end of the 2015 season the 2015. The accounts have been balanced as at 31st October 2015 and have been sent to John Lewis for auditing. I hope to report at the meeting that the audit is complete and accounts agreed. The BFTA accounts and reserves of money remains healthy, however the reserve in the deposit account is not as buoyant as it once was 3 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 **£33.91** 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 14 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 £15,000 less than 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 **£20,512.72** (as of 9th Sept 2015) and earns approximately ~£16 per month in interest.

I am very pleased to report that after negotiations with HM Inland Revenue, we no longer have to pay Corporation Tax on the interest earned on the BoS Deposit Account as the tax payable is below £50 per annum. I have a letter from HMRC to this effect.

The **National Westminster Current Account** statement shows a balance of **£6,621.77 (as of 27th Oct 2015)**.

The total monies paid into NatWest account by Sam, Shaun, Simon and I and the transfer of £5,000 from BoS deposit account is **£19,691.20** and the total withdrawals by cheque is **£18,309.79**.

This includes the income from the BFTA Championship and Inter-Regionals weekend and all the seven GPs.

The largest expenditure since November has been the purchase of a bulk order of glass block hologram trophies for 2015 season amounting to £3,027 and BFTA NSRA affiliation and insurance cover of £312.00.

Income from the 2015-2016 season BFTA cards is £3,985.50, with an associated £780 printing cost.

I have repaid the EFTA the following amounts equal to, 50p for every BFTA card purchased in the 2014-2015 season (back-dated). Monies refunded to equals EFTA 949 cards = **(£474.50)** and WAFTA 152 cards = **(£76.00)**.

The SARPA monies [SARPA 12 cards = **(£6.00)** from 2013 -2014 and SARPA 25 cards – **(£12.50)** from 2014-2015] is



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

yet to be paid, as I have no contact details for SARPA Treasurer and SARPA have not attended a meeting of the BFTA for some considerable time.

With the abolition of the Team Entry fee, Air-Arms made a generous £200 contribution towards the cost of producing and printing the 2015-2016 season BFTA cards. This was all organised by Chris Large of FSG design, in return for AA sponsorship of the BFTA cards. How many of you have noticed the Air-Arms advert/logo of the reverse of your BFTA card?

Air-Arms also made a payment of £139.50 (which would have been their team costs) to provide additional funding towards the cost of trophies. They also generously provided bottled water and other snacks at the European Championships.

BASC increased their sponsorship this year to £800 up from the normal £500 we receive. As is usual £500 was used for prize monies at BFTA Master and Showdown (see separate sheet), the additional £300 was used for an addition 6 X £50 raffle cash prizes.

The BFTA made a **£250** contribution towards the Paul James Memorial Shoot 29th March 2015 as agreed at the BFTA November 2014 meeting. 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.

Without pre-empting Shaun's Competition Secretary Report, we have dis-continued with the float of **£800**, towards the purchase of BFTA branded clothing and hats to sell, and this has now been re-paid back into the Nat West account. (See sheet)

We purchased another 50 timers for use at shoots at a unit cost of £3.00, £150 in total.

We have also purchased two small Polish made Chronographs for evaluation at a cost of **£80.84** each, £161.68 in total the equivalent of 217 Euros. One has been passed to Roger Moy for lab style testing, the other to Andy Gillott, for field testing.

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. This season we increased the shoot fees to £12.00 with £6.00 going to the club/region holding the event and £6.00 going to BFTA, noting the BFTA provides both the trophies and 3 X £50 (£150) raffle prize monies at each GP round.

Andrew Slade

BFTA Treasurer

Annexe C – Competition Manager's Report

GP Series

Congratulations to Jack Harris for winning this year's GP Series. His winning margin over Ian Taylor was just 4.62 points; both Jack and Ian knocked over 233 ex 250 for their best 5 shoots. This is incredible shooting given that many of us can miss more than 17 at one GP!

Congratulations also to each of the grade and class winners:

- A – Keith Gilyard
- B – Redvers Gallagher
- C – Gavin Hopps
- Piston – Steven Privett
- Open – Ian Challis
- Silhouettes – Neil Hague

Many thanks to all those clubs that put on a GP this year and to all our sponsors for their support



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

Many thanks to Brian Samson for his masterful scoring system

Team Competition

Congratulations to Rowan who beat a string of Air Arms teams to take their maiden victory and to the Millride Fab Five who topped league 2.

The competition was well supported with 11 teams and the medals were kindly sponsored by Air Arms.

I do hope that this successful year means that next season we will see more teams. Please encourage shooters from your region to enter a team; there is no entry cost and teams only require a minimum of 3 shooters (maximum 5).

World Championship

The BFTA extends congratulation to Sergey Zubenko from Russia on becoming the World Field Target Champion 2015.

A massive well done to Steven Privett who shot superbly, but particularly well, on day 3 to capture the spring gun crown.

Jack Harris, Ian Taylor, Mark Bassett and Dorian Falconer all shot superbly to claim places 2nd-5th and with four Welsh shooters in the top 10 it meant Wales won the team championship for the first time and Richard Beaguie added to the Welsh success in claiming the veteran title.

Congratulations to Lithuania for organising the event and good luck to Portugal for 2016.

Masters and Showdown

Jack Harris continued his strong run of form in winning the Masters and the Showdown. These together with the GP series meant Jack had won a triple. Was it unique? It had occurred once before in 1997 when Tim Finley was at the height of his FT shooting.

I offer many thanks to the members of Blaenau Gwent for organising this year's Masters and Showdown. High winds on Friday night had brought a big tree down which wrote off one of the lanes. The Blaenau team rolled their sleeves up and solved the problem and they were led by Jack Harris – who else!

The Masters courses made good use of hilly wooded terrain and provided a stern test yet still the scores were high. Jack Harris, Dave Schofield and Mark Stenton all scored 56/60 so it would be decided by shoot-off using the new rule agreed at the AGM 2014. After a tense affair victory went to Jack Harris with Dave 2nd and Mark 3rd.

The Showdown was excellently laid out along a long shooting line that allowed for speedy administration of the event. An excellent day's shooting culminated with a Showdown final between Jack Harris and Steven Privett and Plate final between Jonathan Noon and Dave Harrison. Some excellent shooting ended with victory for Jack and Jonathan.

A great weekend's shooting and I express many thanks to BASC for their sponsorship and to Sam Reece without whom the Showdown would finish in the dark

European Championship

Benign conditions were exploited by the top shooters and none more so than Conor McFlynn who cleared the course.

Sunday was much windier and the contest that unfolded was intense. Eventually 3 shooters tied on 95: Neil Hague, Conor McFlynn and Dave Schofield.

In tricky conditions Conor was triumphant in the shoot-off with Neil 2nd and Dave 3rd.



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

This was the best Euros of my 5 years in the Comp Manager role. That was due to the fine administration from Sam Reece and her excellent organisation throughout the weekend supported by Debbie Clarke, Linda Gray and Paula Higgins. Excellent course setting and course management from Neil Thorneycroft and his team and the marshalling lead by Neil and Simon Higgins was exemplary. Biscuits and goodies were organised by Sam and Beryl's cakes on Sunday were a lovely surprise. Air Arms provided a huge amount of chocolate bars and bottles of water and sponsored the event with a HFT 500 and 10 sleeves of pellets and Claire West provided a little bit of glamour to the presentation.

Merchandise

I reported in June that I'd turned £775 into £453 but thankfully I managed to increase this to £800 at the end of the Euros. I gave the money to Andrew and that ends my adventure into caps et al. I wish Martin great success in his new venture and I hope to be one of his first customers.

Trophies

As you will see today next year we will be using medals.

The medals display a raised metal image of Jack Harris taken at the Masters 2015 by James Osborne.

I have chosen medals this year because of the reasons detailed in a number of previous reports. Some won't like them, some will.

Chronographs

The Pro-Chrono models do work fine if used correctly. However, I think the addition of the IR screen is a worthwhile investment if today Roger advises that we continue to use them. The feedback about the Polish Chrono is encouraging but it would need a jig for competition use.

Equipment

We will need to order scorecards for GP 2017, medals for the Inters 2017, various batteries and probably need to top up the clocks for 2016

I shall order a trophy for the Inters 2016 – I cannot find the winners beyond what is on the present cup. I suggest a shield that we can put a plate on the back if we ever do determine the past winners.

Shaun Shore

Annexe D – Grading Officer's Report (including Photographer's report)

BFTA Photographer

I have not managed to attend as many shoots this year with the camera as I would like to. When I have, most of the photos have been put on the BFTA forum with some cross over to Facebook in an effort to draw some visitors. I am planning to do all of the 2016 BFTA events so will contact the magazines to see if they are interested in covering reports. I think we should find some success

2014/15 BFTA Membership/ Cardholders

Chris Large produced an excellent 2015/16 BFTA card and secured some sponsorship from Air Arms. I believe the same will be so for 2016/17?

I shall again set a card application deadline for March 2016 and allow clubs to forward on any late insurance documents prior to GP 1. 2016/17 Cards will be handed out at Gp1, all being well

For 2015/16, (as of 21/11/15) there are (approx.) 1,167 BFTA card holders (+41 over 2014/15.)



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

The Split is;

	Active	/	Non active
SARPA 46,	27		19
WAFTA 144	76		68
EFTA 977			
NEFTA 199	107		92
MFTA 165	96		69
FFTA 176	68		108
SEFTA 74	58		16
NWFTA 73	51		22
CSFTA 259	49		210
SWEFTA 31	24		7

There have been 80 different people shooting as non BFTA card holders in various regions on one or more occasion in 2015 so far (81 in 2014)

Grading

I believe the current Grade boundaries are working well and need no adjustment for 2016.

However, after many months of monitoring a select cross reference of shooters, I have come to the conclusion that a tweak to alter the rolling 20 to a rolling 16 will improve the system further.

Hence I have proposed it for the AGM!

I have continued to update each shooter's current rolling % 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).

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

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

Spring and Open results are now recorded on the BFTA forum separate to PCP.

2016

Of the proposal to change the rolling % to BFTA shoots only, I firmly believe that this will lead to far more shooters having the opinion that far more shooters are in the wrong "Grade!!"

Indeed a re-shuffle of the grades would probably be required if the grading was from BFTA only. I think we would not really be sorting any perceived problems (of which I don't think there are many, apart from a very small number of tinterweb moaners!) and indeed would create far more than we have.

Currently most shooters only have a few BFTA results, the chance that one bad score can affect / drop a shooter down a grade will I believe make the system far too inaccurate under BFTA only results

E.g. (currently a AA grade shooter)

88.20	AA	97.9	84	93.7	85	86.9	85.7	84.2
-------	-----------	-------------	-----------	-------------	-----------	-------------	-------------	-------------

Next result at "inters" is 62% for "whatever" reason, and this AA shooter spends summer in A grade, if he or she wants to?

Eg (Currently a AA grade shooter)

80.20	UA	73.6	86.8
-------	-----------	-------------	-------------

Third BFTA result of 64% sees this shooter Graded in "B" grade!

The above may seem extreme, but they are facts and can happen. The same example can be found in A, B and in C grade (to ensure a shooter stay down in the bottom grade) Bear in mind we only ever hear that the system is wrong with regards to a shooter in too low a grade!



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

The 2015 AGM proposal that a shooter cannot “Drop” to C grade will eventually only see a very small number of shooters left in “C” grade. There is no difference a shooter dropping from AA to A or lower nor a shooter dropping from A – B or C.

C grade is not a “New” shooter class, it is the result of a shooter’s ability, the same as all other “grades” are and the proposal should be rejected.

My proposal for 2016 is therefore to reduce the rolling 20 to a rolling 16, and delete any results that are over 3 years old. This would take effect, if passed in the AGM come the start of the 2016 summer / post BFTA Champs + Inters weekend.

I will provide prior to that updated / comparison grade lists on the BFTA so all that are interested can see the effects the changes will have.

Simon Evans

Annexe E – Report on chrono comparison

AIR-CHRONY (Polish Chronograph)	CALDWELL Ballistic Precision Chronograph (Green Dogbone)
<p>£88ish - includes a carrying case + postage. Stand-alone device, no additional light source required. Batteries 4 x AA (‘battery low’ warning, batteries easy to replace). Telephone app available Read-out is on the front face, ok for the operator, not easy for the tester to see, Multi adjustable for pellet weight etc. speed can be adjusted to a standard. Threaded to accept a tripod. Small target area, in all directions. Consistent throughout testing, varying temperature and light conditions did not seem to have any adverse effects. It proved difficult to help the person line up their rifle and then dive round the front to see the reading/s. This is nothing new but having the app on a redundant phone would stop all the hassle, the tester would have his read-out and the shooter can see the reading on the front of the device. The whole device is fabricated from stiff metal and feels robust, but metal rusts. Not tested during rain.</p>	<p>£100ish basic kit - £144ish premium kit, includes basic kit plus mains power supply, lights, battery pack for lights, tripod etc. All + postage. Needs the artificial light source or it must see the sky. Battery 1 x PP3 (‘low battery’ alert, spare battery already in compartment) Telephone app available Read-out is on the front face, ok for the operator, not easy for the tester to see, Switch off - switch on to FPS - switch on to MPS Threaded to accept a tripod. Looks like a large area, see below. Consistent throughout testing, varying temperature and light conditions did not seem to have any adverse effects. It proved difficult to help the person line up their rifle and then dive round the front to see the reading/s. This is nothing new but having the app on a redundant phone would stop all the hassle, the tester would have his read-out and the shooter can see the reading on the front of the device. The whole device is formed from plastic, no rust. Not tested during rain</p>

One thing that was highlighted during all the testing was the inability of people to keep their rifle central horizontally and directly in-line with the cells, vertical alignment was carried out by the tester by instructing the shooter. A rest and a block was tried to support the muzzle end of the rifle this improved horizontal alignment by the shooter but only marginally. It was proved pretty conclusively that failure to record a shot was just about always due to poor horizontal alignment by the shooter, on the CALDWELL an ‘error’ message comes up with a number, ‘error 3’ accompanied most failed shots and ‘error 3’ denotes the rearmost cell did not see the pellet.



Annual General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

Educating the shooters was difficult to start with, but as they saw better and better results they tended to stand more behind the rifle instead of beside it and they took more care with the alignment. We did not try to hurry or pressure people they just needed time to learn and/or train their selves. Improvement was noticeable on most shooters but there will always be those that can't be told...

The Caldwell has larger area of acceptance but the cells are a lot further apart increasing error in the horizontal alignment, against this the Air-Chrony does have a small shooting aperture which gave us concerns seeing as the device is made from metal and the possibility of rebounded pellets.

The devices the BFTA has used throughout the 2015 season have worked well bearing mind the above comments.

Roger Moy

Annexe E – Web Manager's Report

To follow