



# BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

## Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held at the Toby Carvery, Marlbrook in Bromsgrove Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Meeting open at 10am

### 1. Chairman's Report and welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chairman reminded all Regional Reps to ensure that any substitutions for Reps are notified in advance to the Secretary so that the list of Committee members can be updated for the insurance. The chairman presented a report (Appendix A) on the funeral service for Paul James.

### 2. Persons Present and Regions Represented

#### BFTA Officers Present

Name	Title
Roger Moy	Chairman
Roger Moy	President /AMTA Rep
Neil Long	Secretary
Simon Evans	Grading Officer / SWEFTA V Rep
Andrew Slade	Treasurer
Shaun Shore	Competition Manager
Lyndeen Calvert	Development Officer
Sam Reece	Minute Secretary
Tony Cook	HVP
Rob Farnworth	Web Manager / CSFTA V Rep
Kevin Sayers	Trade Liaison

#### Regions Represented

CSFTA	Rob Farnworth	V Rep
FFTA	Cliff Burt	V Rep
FFTA	Richard Greenwood	Rep
SEFTA	Barry McDonald	V Rep
NEFTA	Trevor Ryan	Rep
NEFTA	Dave Robinson	V Rep
MFTA	Andrew Gillott	V Rep
WAFTA	Pat Isaacs	Rep
WAFTA	Mark Basset	V Rep
SWFTA	Simon Evans	V Rep

18 members present and 7 regions represented. (V Rep = voting rep)

### 3. Apologies for Absence

Received from:-

Liz Moy – FFTA

Mick Woodhead – NSRA Rep

Carl Knapper - NWFTA

Graham Ellis - SARPA

### 4. Minutes of Last Meeting held on 16.11.2013 to be Read and Accepted



## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

The Minutes from the AGM in November 2013 were read and accepted as being a true record. Proposed by SEFTA and seconded by FFTA.

### 5. Action List from Last Meeting

There were no explicit Action Items but Matters Arising incorporated any such Actions not covered in the Agenda.

### 6. Any matters arising from last meeting.

The requirement for Regions to provide proof of cover to the Secretary was raised and it was noted that this is still required under BFTA Bylaw 2.6. The 2.6 bylaw is not clear and needs to be reviewed. Any changes to the Bylaws require all such proposed changes to be circulated 28 days in advance of the meeting. There is a need for clarification of the cover provided and required for regional bodies where a person may be serving on the BFTA Cttee, the Region's Cttee and will also be a member of a club within that region. Roger Moy will contact NSRA and see if a meeting with NSRA and the principal Insurer might provide greater clarification and confidence that adequate cover is in place rather than multiple duplication of insurance. There is confusion as to BFTA's role vs. Regions. BFTA regulates Rules for national FT competitions while regions organise their own competitions and may use rules which may incorporate variance of the BFTA rules. BFTA does not interfere with regional operations nor club operations. BFTA plays no role in the administration of club membership or any termination of thereof.

### 7. Motions.

- a. **[Comp Sec]** GP entry fee to remain at £10 (to include the Silhouette competition)

**Proposed WAFTA, Seconded NEFTA**

**For CSFTA, MFTA, SEFTA, NEFTA, FFTA, WAFTA**

**Abstain SWEFTA**

**Motion Passes**

- b. **[Comp Sec]** Change the name of the "Constructors and Associated Trade Championship" to "Constructors, Associated Trade and All-comers Team Championship" and the format of the competition as outlined in Appendix A

**Proposed SWEFTA, Seconded CSFTA**

**Passed unanimously**

- c. **[CSFTA] Kneeling** The majority feeling within the region is that the new kneeling rule that has been passed is not the best solution and we offer this definition (Appendix B) for voting and the suggestion that at Grand Prix events the committee approves photographs to accompany this description and for both to be placed by kneeling lanes so that shooters and anyone marshalling has clear reference to what is considered legal and what is not. See Appendix B.

**Proposed CSFTA, Seconded SEFTA**



# BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

**For CSFTA, MFTA, SEFTA, FFTA**

**Against WAFTA, NEFTA, SWEFTA**

**Motion Passes**

- d. **[SWEFTA] Kneeling** New Kneeling rule, as passed at the AGM (ie Bag forward of the knee) to be a "GP" rule only.
- i. At regional level, Regions and their shooters should be allowed to propose how the Bag can be used in a kneeling lane, ie it may or may not be used under the Shin and or ankle

Reason: If a region wants to make its own mind up about how the kneeling shot can be taken, it should be able to. Thus, a region can decide to go with the "GP" rule, or alter it if needs be. Shooters may still be able elect to shoot the "GP" rule, but will have to accept others are using an alternative. SWEFTA has a large number of older members and it is thought the new rule will be too difficult for some shooters

**Proposed SWEFTA, Seconded WAFTA**

**For WAFTA, SWEFTA**

**Against MFTA, SEFTA, NEFTA, FFTA, CSFTA**

**Motion Fails**

- e. **[SEFTA] Kneeling** There shall be only 3 points of contact with the ground (2 feet and 1 knee). The rear foot shall be upright and straight inline with the knee. A legal seat may be used to support the rear foot and/or ankle, or to keep the knee clean provided that the foot has contact with the ground. The leading hand will support the gun and, forward of the wrist should itself be unsupported (the wrist is deemed to be the hinged joint between hand and forearm).

Reason: The previous vote seems to have shown that, for kneelers, there was zeal for a change but as they can't decide as to what this is and as we in SEFTA never really saw a need to change it I would suggest that we propose as such - with the added plea to the BFTA to enforce the rule, howsoever it is written.

**Proposed SEFTA, Seconded none**

**Motion fails**

[Note that there was considerable concern that the kneeling status quo was replaced by c) without the possibility of a re-vote on the motion which was passed at the AGM. In the absence of a motion, which would reconsider the prior motion, the status quo is overturned and is replaced by the new definition. To maintain the prior version all three motions c,d and e would have to either fail or not be seconded. The Secretary informed the committee that any motion can be amended (subject to a vote) and the amended motion is then put to the final vote]

- f. **[CSFTA] Slings** Considering the item appears to be added to the previous agenda beyond the notice period we request the point is re-proposed for discussion. Hopefully by now regions have had legitimate notice to discuss the matter and form some opinion and a new vote would give this matter some legitimacy and carry more of a mandate.



## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

This is in effect a re-vote on the motion from the AGM and general agreement was expressed so that an informed vote could now be taken.

**This motion was approved unanimously and the AGM motion (12h) was revisited where the text for that was**

*[FFTA] Slings: When taking any type of shot the sling or strap or any other type of restraint may NOT be used to steady the aim. ie the only use for a sling shall be to carry the rifle (safely) between lanes and around the ranges.*

The motion was proposed again formally and

**Proposed CSFTA, Seconded NEFTA**

**For FFTA, NEFTA**

**Against WAFTA, MFTA, SEFTA, SWEFTA**

**Abstain CSFTA**

**Motion Fails**

Therefore the previous definition removing the use of slings (other than for transport) was no longer in place. New motions regarding the use of slings were as follows.

- g. **[SWEFTA] Slings** The use of a sling, single or double point, for any shot is to be allowed to steady the aim. This as well as carrying a rifle between lanes.

Reason: Basically quite a few shooters in SWEFTA use one so they were not happy at that rule change and want it reversed

**Proposed SWEFTA, Seconded WAFTA**

**For WAFTA, SWEFTA, MFTA, SEFTA**

**Against NEFTA, FFTA**

**Abstain CSFTA**

**Motion Passes**

- h. **[SEFTA] Slings** A single rifle sling, separate or otherwise, and/or a butt hook are permitted as a means of steadying the aim

Reason: Following on from our discussions over recent weeks, please can SEFTA submit a proposal to over-turn the ban on the use of slings during the taking of the shot ie. return to the previous wording in section 10 v A of the BFTA Main Shoot rules

**SEFTA withdraws motion**

Note that the sling may not be detached from the rifle and must remain as a permanent component for the duration of that competition (precluding the typical 3P single-strap release from the hand-stop and wearing the strap, such a strap must remain attached and the single point sling removed from the jacket sleeve and allowed to dangle if not clipped to the rest of the stock).

[Break for lunch]

- i. **[CSFTA] Communication** Request for a short (emphasis on short) discussion on how shooters are communicated with by their regions to ensure the BFTA has the views of the region's shooters. If we can perhaps share ideas we can perhaps ensure better working practices.



## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

No voting was taken but after discussion there was support for an investigation of the possibilities to obtain polls by BFTA FT shooters using thebfta.net website. Action for Rob Farnworth to report on the possibilities.

j. **[NEFTA]** proposes.

- i. That no alcohol is permitted anywhere along the course of fire (i.e. behind the firing line) for a BFTA event which includes spectators as well as those who are shooting or have shot the course during a BFTA competition
- ii. Any shooter who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, which may impair them, will not be permitted to take part in the competition.

**Note** that the host club may already have such restrictions but this will ensure that BFTA events set a standard for safe shooting.

**During discussion it was pointed out that Rule 19 in the BFTA Main Shoot Rules already covers some of the above.**

**Proposed NEFTA, Seconded SWEFTA**

**For NEFTA, SWEFTA, CSFTA, WAFTA, SEFTA**

**Against MFTA**

**Abstain FFTA**

**Motion Passes**

k. **[Treasurer]** I would like to propose that the BFTA committee has the power and right to amend the total prize money at the European Championships, such that it balances with the income and other expenditure.

In the past with higher overall numbers across all competitions we have made a healthy profit at the end of the season, this year with numbers down and in some cases significantly together with significant increases of the cost of trophies, we have made a loss overall.

**Proposed Treasurer, Seconded MFTA**

**Passed unanimously**

l. **[FFTA]** proposes

- i. That we move towards a Standardisation of Target Numbers (the Number that is placed near each target) regarding size, colour etc.
- ii. Size: A minimum of A5
- iii. Colour: Black Plate with White or Yellow Numbers.  
White or Yellow Plates with Black Numbers.
- iv. Format: Preferably horizontal.
- v. Placement: Within one metre (all directions) of the target it identifies.

The rationalisation is that with targets strings crossing and/or being pinned to keep out of the pellet flight line, location and identification of the correct target without handling the string/s is vital. Secondly it is very possible for a person to have



## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

difficulty in differentiating between red and blue, using one of the above colour combinations helps with this solving problem.

### **Proposed FFTA. No Second Motion fails**

### **8. 2014 BFTA Competition Rules.**

Shaun presented his modified Main Shoot Rules for 2014.

The 2014 Shoot Rules will be posted on the BFTA web in due course. Most of the sections are No Change but a brief summary of the changes is;

Silhouettes – results will be tabulated as percentages rather than points (this removes the influence of bad weather over the season)

Showdown – Qualification over 7 GPs rather than 9

Open Class – any position needs clarification regarding prone

GPs – 5 events from 7 for season

Main Shoot Rules – incorporate kneeling definition, target face plates less than 20yds must be set perpendicular to the shooter, clarification of wording regarding shooting targets out of order so that the wording matches common understanding. There was a long discussion regarding potential abuse of the prone position when it is used as a freestyle option i.e. leading hand on ground, rifle on hand is not the correct prone position but 'freestyle' implies any position may allow such a "HFT" hold. This will be clarified in the final version of the 2014 Main Shoot Rules.

### **9. Correspondence.**

- a. Secretary reported an enquiry regarding BFTA number and insurance.
- b. Chairman reported a request to support a Shooting Show.

### **10. Officers' Reports**

**Competition Manager.** See **Appendix C.** BFTA merchandise was posted on the BFTA Forum, this will be moved to the main web site. Suggestion that £250 be donated towards the Paul James Memorial Shoot. 2 more chronographs will be purchased to bring the number to 3. These will be at the Comps/Inters for comparisons ahead of the GP season.

**Grading Officer.** Insurance documents from clubs have not been arriving owing to delays at NSRA. With the BFTA Masters being held after the Euros in 2014 the Winter Grades will be set following the Euros. The Bfta forum is updated weekly as and when events take place with regional shooters grades. Clubs need to start sending me via post their 2014 insurance certificates and membership lists, with £3.50 per card and their members' list of names and, if they have them, BFTA number as usual. There is a March 3rd 2014 deadline this year as I want to hand out all cards at the inter-regionals to clubs or regional reps.

my Address: Simon Evans (BFTA)  
15 Jubilee Crescent  
Skewen SA106TP



## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

**Trade Liaison Officer** – Already good sponsorship for 2014 season.

Rowan Engineering have offered to fund a perpetual trophy for the Silhouettes Competition and prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>. They will also sponsor a GP with their new digital sidewheel product.

AirArms will sponsor the Euros and a rifle for a GP

Rob Nibbs will sponsor a System Gemini for a GP

Napier will sponsor a GP

BASC have already agreed the same money for 2014 for the Masters-Showdown weekend

Air Arms, Napier, Deben have agreed the same as 2014.

Kevin will keep you informed of any other sponsorship throughout the season.

**AMTA Delegate** – There has not been a meeting to report on.





## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

### 11. 2014 Competition Dates and Venues.

The GP calendar for 2014 has been finalised and shown below. Note that the dates were firm after the AGM. Note the Worlds will be the week Sept 6th

Event	Date	Venue	Region
BFTA Championships	5 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Redferns	
BFTA Inter-Regional	6 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Redferns	
GP1	27 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Castle	MFTA
GP2	18 <sup>th</sup> May 2014	ETL	SEFTA
GP3	8 <sup>th</sup> June 2014	Rivington	NWFTA
GP4	29 <sup>th</sup> June 2014	Newbury	CSFTA
Mid-season break			
GP5	27 <sup>th</sup> July 2014	BlaenauGwent	WAFTA
GP6	10 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	East Devon	SWEFTA
GP7	24 <sup>th</sup> August 2014	Emley Moor	NEFTA
European Championship	20 <sup>th</sup> / 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2014		
BFTA Masters	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	Anston	
BFTA Showdown	5 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	Anston	

### 12. Items from Regions

MFTA – GP1 will be at Castle (and rotate around MFTA region in future). Request for better marshalling specifically for kneeler lanes. A marshal should be positioned at the kneeler lanes and still free to move to other requests for assistance. Information sheets and photographs of correct position elements to be provided for guidance (to marshals and the main web site for all shooters). (**Action RobF to provide them to Shaun before April 5<sup>th</sup>, Shaun tasked to purchase laminator and supplies for the guidance cards**).

CSFTA – a professional video production company has offered to provide edited recordings at GPs and the Euros which would enhance the popularity of the sport done on a cost basis but it would still be a few £K.

SEFTA – a member asked why BFTA is still paying the ground rent for Newbury despite not hosting the Champs and masters weekends. It was pointed out that the relocation of the events around the regions is a trial and if we do not continue to fund the rent we may lose the Newbury ground if it was decided to return there. New locations for 2015 will be requested from the regions and Shaun will follow up (**Action Shaun Shore**)

NEFTA wish to point out that the Champs/Masters will not be hosted by NEFTA next year.

### 13. Any Other Business

- Kevin – Should we consider a large advertisement for related magazine to publicise the Euros? European equivalent magazines? Also perhaps create large “What is the BFTA” boards (there used to be something similar in the past).
- Roger – Regions to provide questions to be presented to the insurers by March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014.
- Shaun – needs specific contacts for each of the GPs i.e. the hosting club.





## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

- d. Andy – Donation to national regions (England, Wales, Scotland) based on 50p per BFTA card. Simon to confirm numbers (but they have changed very little since the numbers were reported at the AGM).

### **14. Date, time and place of next meetings.**

- a. GM - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2014, 10am start, **The Toby-Carvery, Marlbrook in Bromsgrove.**
- b. AGM - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2014, 10am start, To be confirmed.

Meeting closed at 16:14  
Neil Long



## BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

### Appendix A.

#### **Chairman & AMTA Report to the BFTA Meeting, Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> 2013.**

**AMTA meeting/s reports** it has been an unusually long time the last AMTA Full meeting so I am afraid there is nothing to report.

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I was so sad when I had to ask Neil if he could put an announcement on the website letting people know Paul James had passed away over the Christmas period.

Paul has been part of the FT scene for many years; his love of shooting Spring Rifles is known to everyone on the circuit. Paul was a gentleman, he would help anyone and many, many shooters have benefitted from his advice on STB, his working on the Trade Stand at Weston Park and the help he has given at club level.

Liz and I were invited to Paul's house to meet the family before the service, it was privilege to meet his parents and be shown the garden which was another love of Paul's, something that lots of us knew nothing about. Around forty of us walked down to St Mary's Church for the service, as we approached the church we saw the pathway outside the church full of people, inside the church people were already seated as well.

St Mary's Church Warden and I were in contact the day after the service and he said that all 200 seats in the church were filled, most of Choir Stalls were filled and over 50 of us stood at the rear of the church making about 300 people in all. Father John who conducted the service was taken aback by the numbers.

The crematorium was so full it looked as if more people were outside than inside and the service had to be delayed to allow people to park.

I won't go on, other than to say there wasn't a dry eye in the church when Paul's sister spoke about Paul and their growing up together.

Paul will be sadly missed and our thoughts remain with his Family, work mates, neighbours, sporting friends, shooting friends and to everyone else that knew Paul.

Roger Moy  
BFTA Chairman.



# BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

## Appendix B. Basis for CSFTA Kneeling Rules Motion

### **The Kneeling Position**

#### ***General Clause:***

Unless specified, it is accepted that when referring to parts of the body it includes the clothing adjacent to that part of the body.

#### ***Definitions:***

**Rear Foot:** This is the foot which is placed under the backside.

**Front Foot:** This is the opposite foot to the Rear Foot.

**Knee:** This is the kneecap, and the area directly below the kneecap on the leg which ends in the Rear Foot.

**Shin:** This is the area occupied by the shin-bone on the leg which ends in the Rear Foot.

**The Trigger Hand:** This is the hand which is used to hold the pistol grip and operate the trigger.

**The Leading Hand:** This is the opposite hand to the Trigger Hand.

**The Leading Arm:** This is the arm below the shoulder which ends in the Leading Hand.

**Bean bag:** Any bag as defined as legal by the BFTA rules.

#### ***1 The position.***

Only the Rear Foot, the Front Foot, the Knee and/or the Shin may contact the ground.

The Knee and/or Shin may be protected from the ground by use of a Bean Bag. If a Bean Bag is used as such then either;

**a)** the Bean Bag must be directly under the Knee and laid flat (not rolled or folded)

*or*

**b)** the Knee must contact the ground. When the Knee contacts the ground, the bag can be rolled or folded, and does not have to be laid flat.

**In all uses** of the Bean Bag: No part of the Bean bag can touch, or appear to touch, any of the following; Thighs, Buttocks, Front foot. No other use of a Bean Bag when adopting the Kneeling Position is allowed.

#### ***2 The hands***

On the Leading Hand, in front of the wrist joint, only the Leading Hand or Glove should contact the rifle, or appear to contact the rifle.

On the Leading Hand and Leading Arm, any parts of the Glove and/or other clothing behind the wrist joint should not contact the rifle or appear to contact the rifle.

#### ***3 The Rear Foot***

The Rear Foot, when viewed from the rear should be vertical in appearance. The Rear Foot is allowed to be angled so the ankle joint can be closer or further from the ground as desired. The toes can be bent or flat. If a bean bag is not present underneath the ankle joint, the ankle joint must not be in contact with the ground or appear to be in contact with the ground.



# BFTA Extraordinary General Meeting of the British Field Target Association

## Appendix C

### BFTA Competition Manager Report January 2014

#### **Shoot Rules**

I think we need to look at definitions now that we have introduced a definition of Freestyle. Please can someone offer clarity to the last line of Rule 8.

#### **Trophies**

Cubes have been ordered. They will be used for the GP series and other BFTA events.

#### **Medals**

Here is an outline of what the bespoke medals would look like.



Because they are bespoke then we need to order at least 3 years supply

Cost £794.84

Per medal  $\text{£}794.84 \div 135 = \text{£}5.89$

#### **Chronograph**

The Pro-Chrono has been further tested in the MFTA WL. It works well when it can see the sky. I will purchase 2 more and all three will be numbered and available to test at the BFTA Champs and IR in April.

#### **Showdown**

Because of reduction to 7 GP then there will be 9 qualifiers per GP 1-6 and 10 at GP7.

#### **Prize draw**

It was 5 from 9 (56%), I suggest 4 from 7 (57%) with the option to buy a ticket for £10 for any shooter that has completed 3 rounds.

#### **Merchandise**

I have plenty of caps, hats, T-shirts and hoodies. They are advertised on the BFTA website and available to purchase at any BFTA event that I am present.

#### **Paul James' memorial shoot**

The British Recoiling Championship has been named in memory of Paul James. At the event each competitor will receive a t-shirt. The BFTA kindly sponsored the set up costs £60. Any further contribution would help lessen the cost of the t-shirts and hence more of the money raised will go to charity.

I suggest that the BFTA increase its contribution to £250 and from now on we contribute such an amount to a charity every year.

Shaun Shore (25<sup>th</sup> January 2014)