



## WAFTA OGM Minutes 2nd November 2021

**Present:** J Johnson (Chair) Tondu. R. Beaugie (Secretary) Castleton. G. Robinson (Treasurer) Quarry. P. Isaacs, Castleton. S. Poulter, Oaktree. John Lewis, Mark Bassett, Nelson. H. Lloyd, G. James, B/Gwent. M. Boucher, Observer

1. **Apologies for absence.** Simon Evans

2. **Minutes of last meeting & Matters** arising

Castleton asked if John had put forward to WFTF the recommendation that a junior place should be made available in the selection process. John confirmed that this has been done.

With no other matters arising, it was agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the AGM. Proposed by Castleton, seconded by Nelson. All in agreement.

3. **Officers Reports** No Reports from the Officers

4. **BFTA OGM. Discuss and agree on Agenda items**

- No Change to shoot fees
- Wold farm considered to be a suitable venue for future events
- If no GP series, then we would back more “double header” events
- WAFTA would back John’s proposals for changes to the Grading Officers role, with the addition of: *If a person should drop out of BFTA grading due to not attending qualifying shoots and then return at a later date, they should return to their previous grade.*
- Change to wording ‘perpendicular to the firing line’ from ‘Parallel to the firing line’ was agreed
- It was felt by the meeting we should not refuse BFTA membership to NIFTA as they are part of the United Kingdom.
- Nelson confirmed they will be hosting the BFTA Championships 2nd & 3rd April and Blaenau Gwent confirmed they will be hosting the WAFTA GP on July 10th. Blaenau have asked for help in setting the course from other clubs.

5. **NSRA FT Coaching/Instructor course.** 12 members of WAFTA took part in the course and there was agreement from those who took part that it was a good, well run course which gave all who took part valuable tools to help instructing others in the safe use of Air Rifles and techniques to improve their scores in Field Target shooting.

John reported that if there was interest, a 2<sup>nd</sup> stage course was available that could give the candidate higher qualifications.

6. **Grand Slam.** A proposal from the last meeting was discussed, which was to change the Grand Slam to: PCP = 16 qualifiers, Open = 8 qualifiers and piston= 8 qualifiers. Trophies would be given to 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> and Plate 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> in PCP, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> in Open and Piston. This gives the same number of trophies as in previous competitions. Qualifiers would be two PCP, One Open and One Piston from each shoot and doubled up for the last shoot ie four PCP, two Open. Proposed Nelson, Seconded Castleton. Agreed by all

A proposal from Oaktree to hold a clubs competition to be held between January and March was discussed. It was pointed out that keeping the winter series dates condensed was to allow room for postponements to be rescheduled; therefore this could cause problems with the current winter series. It was suggested that a club cup event could run alongside the winter series. It was also suggested that clubs could put on “fun” shoots with different formats to attract shooters to have a go. After much discussion it was agreed that the Oaktree proposal would be considered after the new Grand Slam format has been trialled.

7. **WAFTA/SWEFTA Challenge.** The competition between WAFTA and SWEFTA went extremely well and it was good to see so many supporting their regions on both sides. Hopefully we will run it again next year and SWEFTA have indicated that they will be running their leg as a stand-alone competition, rather than as part of their summer series. We will run ours within the summer series.

8. **AOB.**

a) The HSE proposal to ban lead ammunition was discussed. Whilst primarily aimed at the shotgun sports, it is now being widened to include rifles. John has responded by completing the consultation document on behalf of WAFTA and also spoken to Air Arms who told him that the firearms manufacturers are lobbying hard to put our case for exemption. With the consultation process taking 1.5 years, any ban would not come in for another 3-4 years, but if it does, it would have a disastrous impact on our sport.

b) The subject of shotgun starts for the winter series was raised as it was used in the recent Oaktree shoot with some success, starting at 10.00 and all finished by 1.00pm. This raised the question of how to manage shotgun starts, either leave people to find an empty lane, or give a lane number at the time of registration?

A further discussion took place on pre-booking for the shoots and the possibility of pre-paying at the time of booking. This would enable lanes and also partners to be allocated with less chance of “no shows” on the day. It was proposed that this item be taken back to the club members for discussion and will then be raised and considered at the AGM.

c) Simon Evans has offered to get the winter trophies, but Mark Bassett, being nearer to the supplier and also used to dealing with them through purchasing our own and BFTA trophies also offered. It was felt that Mark should continue.

d) WAFTA was in a position this year where payments from the shoots were able to be suspended. It was asked if this would continue next year. This is a subject for the AGM, where the WAFTA finances would be considered before any decision can be made.

e) The subject of C class was once again raised. This was changed at the last AGM for a trial period of one year and will be reviewed at the next AGM.

15. **Date of next Meeting (AGM)** will be 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Meeting ended 21.15hrs

Richard Beaugie  
WAFTA Sec. 04/11/21