

# THE GRAND NATIONAL ARCHERY SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2001  
At Lilleshall National Sports Centre

### PRESENT:

Mr Mike Shepherd	Director of Operations
Mr Derrick Lovell	Chairman of Field Sub Committee
Mr Peter Morris	Chairman of Judges Sub Committee
Mrs Pam Tonkin	Chairman of Target Sub Committee
Mr Peter Pendrey	Chairman of Coaching Sub Committee
Mr Mark Davis	Chairman of Junior Sub Committee

### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Alf Davies	President
Mr Dave Sherratt	Chief Executive
Mr Dennis Whiteman	Board of Directors Chairman
Mrs Lynne Evans	Director of Finance
Mr Eric Jackson	Director of Development & Marketing
Mrs Ann Shepherd	Minute Taker

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Ann Webb, Barry Eley

#### 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING, ACCURACY.

- a. (ref 7j) "the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend at Lilleshall." should have read "the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of December at Lilleshall." The minutes were then signed as a true record by the Director of Operations, Mike Shepherd.

#### 3. MATTERS ARISING.

- a. (ref 3h) In relation to Naomi Folkard's failed World Record claim. Pam Tonkin is in the process of trying to update the Record Status Booklet and the Tournament Organiser's Handbook to say that if records are broken at tournaments the organiser must let the GNAS Office know within 24 hours. All paperwork must be received by the Office within 5 days of the shoot or 5 days from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of a shoot if records are broken on that day.
- b. (ref 4c) Ann Shepherd had been asked to include Harry Healey, Development Officer for the BBS, in the Archery UK Directory. Ann explained that she had not done so as Sandra Nesbitt's details are already included for the British Blind Sport Archery Association and it is not feasible to include more than one contact for Associated Associations.
- c. (ref 3d) The required clarification with regard to practice time at FITA tournaments has now been received from FITA. The reply from Morten B Wilmann was as follows:  
"Target Archery Committee is of the opinion that the indicated 45 minutes practice time is due to the championships only and a motion to clarify this is up for Congress. The intention of the rules is that there shall be a daily practice period on the competition field, however the length to be at the organiser's discretion. Furthermore, there shall also be a break between the practice and the competition to indicate clearly that the practice session is ended and to check the field and possibly change faces.  
During the Finals Round, when shooting single matches starting at various times, a common practice period may be impractical and due to schedule may be deleted with reference to Art. 3.19.12."

#### 4. REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES.

**a. Chairman of Target Sub-Committee: Pam Tonkin.**

- a. **2002 Indoor Selection Shoot, 26/27<sup>th</sup> January** at Wenlock Hall, Lilleshall. It will have automatic World record status, David Page will be the judge in charge aided by Tom O'Neill, with Pam Tonkin if a third judge is required.
- b. **2002 Outdoor Selection Shoot, 16<sup>th</sup> June** at Lilleshall. Due to prior commitments it is unlikely that any member of the Target Committee will be present. The shoot will have automatic World record status and Dennis Whiteman has agreed to be the judge in charge. Barry Eley will keep the Target Committee up to date with details.
- c. **UK Masters for 8/9<sup>th</sup> June 2002.** Target Committee has made the decision to change the format of the shoot. A 70m ranking round will be held, followed by an Olympic Round Head to Head on the Saturday and a Single FITA Star on the Sunday. The distance trophies and the Inter regional match will all be awarded on the scores from the Single FITA Star. Tom O'Neill will be the Tournament Organiser.

It was also proposed to reduce the entry fee for the UK Masters from £20 to £18 in order to encourage more GMB and MB's to enter. This was agreed.

Disabled and Junior archers who have represented the UK in 2001 will be invited to enter. Foreign Nationals will also be invited to enter if they can prove they are of equal standard. An agreement had already been reached on how Foreign Nationals might compete, see minutes of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2001 ref 3g. Further discussion took place on what some saw as the problem of Foreign Nationals who are members of the GNAS where the rules say they cannot take National Prizes. Peter Pendrey insisted that we could have legal difficulties with this subject if we are not sure of our ground. It was agreed that the GNAS solicitor should be contacted for advice.

**Pam Tonkin to action.**

- d. **Lichfield FITA Star.** After much negotiation with the Tournament Organiser, Robin Hall, it has been agreed and confirmed that in future the event will always be on the third weekend in June. This means that Leamington will be on the first weekend and the UK Masters on the second weekend. This will mean that we are reverting to the original calendar and that none of these shoots will clash.
- e. **G.N.A.M. 26/27/28<sup>th</sup> June 2002.** It was decided by the Target Committee to keep the entry fee at £25 although the accommodation fees might need to go up. Pam Tonkin will be the Tournament Organiser.
- f. **G.N.A.S. Premier Event. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2002,** followed by a Team Head to Head on **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>.** Peter Morris will be the judge in charge. Possible entry fee will be £17 for 2 days or £10 for Sat and £8 for Sun. David Bruce will be Tournament Organiser. It is predicted that this particular event is likely to lose £500 - £600.
- g. **Cost of Awards.** Target Committee is trying to get the costs of Rose and Six Gold awards down and have already contacted a company called Shot Bowl for a quotation. They also need to get a quote for Longbow in the light of the work being undertaken to make longbow archers eligible for these awards.
- h. **Record Status Booklet.** This will now be updated as stocks of the current edition are running low. The Office have had some problems with the booklet in its present format. Pam will send amendments to the Committee and the Office for comments before making any changes.
- i. **National Indoor 2002, 23/24<sup>th</sup> February** at Harrogate. The entry form is in the current issue of Archery UK. However a revised entry form, which includes a Longbow element to the Championships, has been sent to Pam. Pam will get more details from the organisers.
- j. **British Target Championships.** This year's event combined the Recurve and Compound disciplines for the first time for several years and was deemed a success. It was agreed that this remain the format for future years and Pam will liaise with Lichfield Archers about this.
- k. **Head to Head Tournaments 2002.** Although a closed shoot, the UK Masters will be one event on 8<sup>th</sup> June. GNAS will be hosting one on 29<sup>th</sup> June. It is hoped that Clophill will continue with an event in July and Norwich with one over the August Bank Holiday. It is also thought that Oxford Archers wish to put on a Head to Head on the first weekend in August. Feelers have gone out to GWAS and Pam is to write to SAA, Durham & Northumberland and Cumbria to see if any of these areas would also host an event. It is also possible that WMAS (Shropshire) will be willing to host an event next year. Ideally 6 to 8 such shoots next year would give a greater opportunity for archers to attend.

It is envisaged that the UK Rankings will follow the same format as this year as it seems to have been a great success. The criteria as laid down for 2001 will apply in 2002.

- l. **Target Committee Budget.** Pam reported that the committee were well within their budget for the 2000/01 period. However, she said it must be noted that, although they were able to keep well within budget for the Selection Shoots, it is imperative that the level of funding for these two events should remain the same as they will definitely incur greater costs in 2002.
- m. **Club MB's.** A letter from Tony Slade on this subject had been discussed by the Target Committee and, although it was agreed that the idea of creating a Club MB was good in many respects, it could not be fully discussed and implemented at this time due to the amount of work currently being undertaken. Mike Shepherd suggested that it may be something that could be piloted by a county or region. Pam said her committee would have no objections but this would need to be at the county or region's own expense.
- n. **3 Spot Portsmouth Faces.** Target Committee had asked three tournament organisers to trial these for Compounds during the last Indoor season. Only two have reported back. The general comment seemed to be that, although the TO's liked them, the archers were generally not in favour or, at best, neutral.
- o. **Junior Rounds.** The changes to these rounds have been published in the current Archery UK and need to be discussed by the Operations Committee. The Junior Committee also need to discuss the number of scores a junior must obtain to become a JMB. It is 4 at present whereas seniors only require 3 scores. Target Committee again feel that, even if a decision is made, it cannot be implemented in the current round of changes.
- p. **MB's and GMB's.** From the results of their questionnaire Target Committee feel that it would be beneficial to change the composition of scores required for these two awards to three scores of either FITA's or Imperial rounds. **This was agreed** although it cannot now be done for the current Rule amendments.
- q. **Shooting Administration Procedures (SAP's).** The process by which the Rules of Shooting will be amended in the future was reported in the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> March (Summer issue AUK). Target Committee feel that the process by which the Shooting Administrative Procedures be amended in the future must also be set down.
  - i. Proposals or suggestions for changes to SAP's should initially be forwarded to the Director of operations via the GNAS Office.
  - ii. The Director of Operations will then direct this to the relevant Sub-Committee Chairman.
  - iii. Any change deemed to be required by the relevant committee will be brought before the Operations Committee. If this change is approved it will be published in the next issue of Archery UK and on the website. The change will then be put in place at the earliest 1<sup>st</sup> March or 1<sup>st</sup> September following approval by the Operations Committee.

It is planned to issue amendments as required to both Rules and SAP's every two years as is current practice.
- r. Dave Harrison has submitted a form for the Office to use when a club/county/region wish to submit a bid to host a National event. This is to be passed on to the Chief Executive.
- s. **UK Rankings.** Pam supplied draft copies of the ranking lists which included an explanation of the problems that had arisen in their formulation. When the criteria had been originally discussed and set up, Target Committee had been told that the 70 metre round would be replacing the FITA as the ranking round at international events. It had therefore been stated that if any archer was abroad representing UK when any of the Premier events were held they would be able to use these scores instead. In the event, all senior tournaments abroad used the FITA round for ranking purposes which meant that 4 of our international archers could not submit the necessary 70m score requested for ranking. Target Committee proposed that the score of the 70m distance obtained during the FITA ranking round in Beijing be used to calculate the score required. This was agreed.
- t. **2002 Qualifying Scores.** Pam read out a list of those archers who have already acquired the necessary scores.
- u. Pam reported on several letters that had been received. One archer had requested that, having qualified for a Black Rose Award, he be allowed to purchase a White one. This request was denied by the Operations Committee. Other subjects included queries about Flight Records, the Chester rounds and dress regulations.
 

Pam Tonkin to action.
- v. Pam produced an inventory of the archery shoot equipment that is held at Lilleshall. The purpose of some items were clear but others less so. Pam asked if any light could be shed on these and whether they should be kept.

**b. Chairman of Junior Sub-Committee: Mark Davis.**

- a. Two trips abroad resulted in the following medals:

2<sup>nd</sup> Leg Europa Cup, Czech Republic.

Justin Gibbs 1<sup>st</sup> Compound Boy. James Beckett 3<sup>rd</sup> Cadet Recurve

Rebecca Jefferson 3<sup>rd</sup> Cadet Compound Compound Boys Team 3<sup>rd</sup>

European Junior Championships, Croatia.

Justin Gibbs 3<sup>rd</sup> Compound Boy Rebecca Jefferson 3<sup>rd</sup> cadet Compound Girl

- b. The Junior Championships were held at Lilleshall and the results have been published. This was a good event but the numbers were down, there is no venue yet for next year.
- c. The July Nationals Postal shoot took place with just under 300 entries.
- d. The Junior Committee met and have produced a number of recommendations for the Operations Committee as follows:
- The Junior rule changes. These have been published in Archery UK. Only one criticism so far, most comments have been positive. It was pointed out by Pam Tonkin however that it is now too late to include these changes in the next amendments.
  - Police checks for all those working with the National Junior Squad and Junior Committee. The Junior Committee agreed to action that all those involved should be police checked, at present only those involved with the Junior squad are checked. Mark said he realised this will incur some expense, police checks used to cover only single areas but are now more easily transferable. It was also the intention that squad staff should have seminar training from the NCF to keep up to date with child protection. Coaching already include this in their handbook.
  - Senior coaches / squad staff to receive Child Protection seminar from NCF.
  - GNAS make mandatory that all clubs follow the previously issued guidelines. The general feeling was that this should go to the Board of Directors.
- e. In addition, the Junior Committee are looking at ways of improving junior archers progression, the vexed question of funding, the D of E awards and so on.
- f. Counties had been asked to send Mark information about their Junior squads which had been requested by Sports Aid.
- g. Mark asked if everyone had received a copy of the Junior Committee Development Document. As this did not seem to be the case he will make sure it is circulated.

**Mark Davis to action.**

**c. Chairman of Coaching Sub-Committee: Peter Pendrey.**

- a. The Leaders Award is a CCPR certificate, GNAS only monitor it for them. Now that the Assistant Coach grade is up and running the Leaders courses will now be totally divorced from them as a commercial project. The Coaching Committee are now looking at making up GNAS Leaders to Assistant Coaches which should incur a one day update.
- b. Coach training using a modular system is being put in place. This will mean that people who already have outside qualifications won't need to do those sections again.
- c. National Scheme of Work for Coach Training. This is now being revised and updated.
- d. Sceme for the Approval of Centres Providing Archery and its Safe Conduct Outside GNAS. This is now being updated.
- e. Written notes from the 4<sup>th</sup> Asian Archery Coaching Seminar and Workshop have been received.
- f. Ken Bearman has been awarded a Bronze Plaquette in recognition of his coaching work for FITA. Ken has also been elected to the FITA Coaching Committee for two years.

**d. Chairman of Judges Sub-Committee: Peter Morris.**

- a. The usual disciplinary problems were being experienced with some judges.
- b. The Judges Conference is all ready for 13/14<sup>th</sup> October. 35 judges are staying at Lilleshall plus a further 26 or 27 who were not able to get accommodation. Dennis said that we should be trying to do something about Lilleshall not be able to provide accommodation although Derrick pointed out that some of these people had only just decided that they wanted to attend. Pam advised that if the Judges Conference was to become an annual event it would be wise to book

the accommodation for next year at the end of this event. Peter said the Conference was likely to be held annually, it was a worthwhile exercise as it was the only time that all Judges could get together.

As well as several speakers, Peter has invited a local archery club to attend and to bring with them equipment that should fail a judge's inspection. Judges will then be tested on this to see how aware they are of unacceptable equipment.

- c. Judges assessments will take place on the Saturday of the Conference weekend. Clarification was requested with regard to the Committee's intention to sit in on County to Regional assessments. Peter stated that the Committee wanted to ensure that all assessments were carried out to a set standard and hoped to do this. The problem is that Regional Judges can run Record Status Shoots but not all regions are assessing Judges in the same way. However, it may not be feasible to send Committee members to all areas. A more local National Judge may be invited to sit in if there are no local Committee members.
- d. The new Judges Handbook, although now ready, has not been received yet. It was hoped to discuss it at the Conference and to arrange for printing following this.
- e. The Judges list requires general updating due to deaths, promotions and judges just giving up.
- f. Correspondence and general problems have been answered and addressed.
- g. National Judges will be invited to say which shoots they would like to attend next year. Mike Shepherd suggested that when Judges tournament appointments were made they be announced in Archery UK as had been done once before. Peter mentioned that this year some judges had just not turned up at shoots to which they had been appointed. He said this had never really happened before but had occurred several times this year.
- h. David Sherratt has received a copy of the Longbow Society Rules which will be supplied to each Judge.

**e. Chairman of Field Sub-Committee: Derrick Lovell.**

- a. The Field Committee has met as usual at the Field tournaments throughout the season and continue to confer with the archers on matters that may relate to their enhanced performance. At the last Director of Operations meeting we stated that, after consultation with the archers, there had to be changes to the criteria owing to the outbreak of foot and mouth disease. These all worked out well and there were no complaints.
- b. The Committee convened again last weekend to discuss top ten rankings and squad. The paperwork for this is all ready to put into operation but will be held until our meeting on 3rd November as, by then, we will know the budget we have to run to.
- c. The European Field Championships in Zelezná Ruda went quite well with nearly all of our archers getting through to the elimination rounds. Some of our archers fell foul to a virus and stomach problems which may have affected their overall performance. They were not the only team to fall ill and the problem was eventually diagnosed as salmonella.
- d. The Word Games in Akita, Japan saw a very high standard of shooting as one would expect but I feel our team was slightly disadvantaged owing to the 9 hour time difference with only two days to acclimatise. On top of that temperatures ranged from 35 to 40 degrees C, with a humidity level of 85%. The Italian team, who did very well and always seem to have plenty of money, arrived one week early.
- e. The Committee will be holding its annual meeting with the Liaison Officers on 3rd November.

**f. Disabled Sub-Committee.** Written report received from Chairman Ann Webb.

- a. The Committee met on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2001 and discussed the following issues:
  - i. Indoor selection scores were discussed but more information needed to be gathered before a decision could be made.
  - ii. New talent identification had progressed and arrangements were made to look at the identified archers and arrange for them to be classified.
  - iii. Selection for the development squad in March was discussed and names were put forward for consideration.
  - iv. Plan for squads, elite, development and 'start' were drawn up. The most suitable place for the latter would be at Stoke Mandeville because of the availability of wheelchair accessible rooms. This is currently being rebuilt but should be ready in time for Winter 2002/3.

The usual queries have been received from disabled people wanting to take up archery and these have been answered. There has also been a large amount of correspondence from Gravesend Archers regarding their position with regard to the Disability Discrimination Act. The Office have been trying to find answers to all the questions raised by this.

- g. Performance Director.** A written report was submitted by Barry Eley. Its contents were noted but it was felt that Barry needed to be present to discuss some items raised in it.

**5. BUDGETS 2001/2002.**

- a. Director of Finance, Lynne Evans, was invited by the Chairman to attend the meeting with the intention of explaining the budgets which have been set for the coming year and to advise on preparing future budget submissions which need to be done in conjunction with the Strategic Development Plan.

Mrs Evans asked that all of the information given at this point in the meeting should remain confidential until it is agreed at the Board of Directors' meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **6. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

- a. David Sherratt reported that he has had a meeting with Lisa Wainwright and Elaine Sitch of Sport England about the Development Plan and that things were now moving on. Lynne stressed the importance of each Chairman needing to think seriously about their role in relation to the Plan and Eric Jackson advised that it was a living document and that it should be treated as ours and work should be done with its contents in mind.

#### **7. WORKINGS BETWEEN OPERATIONS COMMITTEE & THE PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR.**

- a. Barry Eley had circulated an e-mail with regard to reporting procedure and priority lists. Much discussion took place over Barry's correspondence and some confusion was apparent with regard to it. Although a lot of general ideas etc were put forward it was felt that without Barry being present not much could be agreed.
- b. Mark Davis said he was concerned that the Juniors only have one international trip named on the priority lists. He requested permission to search for sponsorship to send Juniors to Europa Cup events in addition to this. This was agreed providing any funding was received by the GNAS Office in advance of the proposed trips.
- c. The question of self funding was raised again at this point. The views of those present were varied but it was agreed that the Director of Operations should look into the possibility of having a legal document drawn up that might allow self funding under strict GNAS control.

#### **8. ELECTIONS OF CHAIRS & THEIR SUB-COMMITTEES.**

- a. The Chairmen of the Coaching and Field Sub Committees are up for re-election in March 2002. This has already been notified to the membership in the Autumn edition of Archery UK and nominations requested. One member of each of the sub-committees is also due for re-election at the same time but this however has not been publicised. Ann Shepherd offered to liaise with David Sherratt in this matter to make sure an item is included in the Winter edition of Archery UK. It was pointed out by Peter Pendrey that any notice needs to be worded in order that clubs affiliating directly to GNAS can be included in the voting. It was also requested that David be asked to notify County and Regional secretaries by letter of the request for nomination.

**Ann Shepherd to action.**

#### **9. RULES OF SHOOTING.**

- a. Pam Tonkin reported that she had e-mailed each chairman with the final comments and a complete set of Rules. Mike Shepherd queried the insurance document section and was told that David Sherratt is working on this with the insurance company. Pam stated that this was not really part of the Rules of Shooting as such and was waiting for changes to be notified by David. Mike pointed out that some changes to the policy had already been notified to the membership in the Summer edition of Archery UK. Sandra Nesbitt of the British Blind Sport Archery Association has sent information to Pam with regard to archery for the blind. Pam will pass this on to Ann Webb for her to check. She will be requested to liaise with Sandra and Mike for entry into the Rules.

Pam asked the Operations Committee to ratify this version of the Rules of Shooting. This was agreed.

- b. The following items with regard to the Rules were discussed. All are now too late to be included in this round of amendments but will be prepared for future editions after consultation with the membership.

**Passthroughs.** Target Committee wish to go back to the membership and ask for their views on this problem. A document has been prepared for inclusion in Archery UK and asks archers to write to the GNAS Office stating whether they would prefer to keep the current ruling i.e. to score an arrow only if it remains in the rear of the boss or whether they would prefer to mark arrow holes in all rounds. **Operations Committee refused this request.**

**Portsmouth Faces.** As previously minuted, the 3 spot Portsmouth faces had not proved universally popular and as there was no clear move for change, the Operations Committee agreed to the Target Committee's proposal that for the 2001/2002 indoor season the normal full size 60cm face would continue to be used. It was still felt however that the 3 spot faces had merits with regard to passthroughs and arrow and boss damage. An alternative suggestion had been to cut one face off a 60cm triple vertical face leaving two faces. Using two of these strips would then give four archers a

single face each. The downside would be that the current and proposed rules would be infringed as the scoring zone would be 10 to 6. It was agreed to trial this idea for the indoor season from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2002.

**National Records.** Target Committee pointed out that there are a multitude of anomalies concerning which rounds are valid for National Records (NR). These anomalies have been rectified in the rule review and now ratified by the Operations Committee.

However, there was one outstanding problem – that of Nested Rounds.

Over the past few years Long Metric Records have been accepted when shot as the first part of a FITA or Metric I-IV round. This was against the Rules and although it had been practice it does give rise to questions for which the Target Committee were seeking the Operations Committee's guidance. Pam pointed out the problems that could be caused by opening the floodgates to records for nested rounds (rounds where the first part produces a round of its own) as there are over 100 rounds that could be affected.

It was agreed that we should revert to the Rules, despite the current situation, and not allow Long Metrics records when shot as the first part of a FITA or Metric I-IV round.

**10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS.**

- a. Peter Morris wanted to know if his budget would still cover the cost of a new judges badge. This has now been on hold since last year and £ 1000 would be required. Peter was advised to discuss this with David Sherratt and Lynne Evans.

The meeting closed at 4.45p.m.

The next Operations Committee meeting will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2002.