

THE GRAND NATIONAL ARCHERY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING Held on 2nd April 2005 At Lilleshall National Sports Centre

PRESENT:

Mr Mike Shepherd	Director of Operations
Mr Nick Beeson	Chairman of Junior Committee
Mr Peter Morris	Chairman of Judges Committee
Mr R K de B Nicholson	Chairman of Target Committee
Mr Peter Pendrey	Chairman of National Coaching Committee
Mr Ray Fields	Chairman of Disabled Committee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr John Hartfield	Representing Field Committee
Mr Tim Jackson	Representing National Tournaments Committee
Mrs Ann Shepherd	Minute Taker

For part of meeting only:

Mrs Lynne Evans	GNAS Chairman
Mr Dennis Whiteman	GNAS President
Mr Jonathan Shales	GNAS Rep to 2005 FITA Congress
Mr Eric Jackson	Director of Development & Marketing

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Derrick Lovell, Pam Tonkin.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes were signed as a true record by the Director of Operations – Mike Shepherd.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

- i. 10.ii. Nick Beeson said he was disappointed to see that this particular item had been amended at the request of the Chief Executive and asked if someone who was not present at that point in the meeting should be able to request changes to the minutes. Lynne Evans said we should be careful what is written in the minutes if they are then to be printed in Archery UK as this publication is seen by people outside GNAS, as well as our own members.

Ann Shepherd said that her original record of events was not meant to be controversial and she did not feel that it actually was. David Sherratt's rationale for requesting the change was that it is inappropriate for an NGB to refer to the non presentation of national awards as these are not given by right. The discussion at the previous meeting had not inferred that this should be the case, rather that there was some uncertainty about the GNAS's own system for putting forward nominations.

Nick Nicholson said that, in the days of the old National Council, people were nominated in a closed session at two meetings per year. Ray Fields said that he had put forward names for nomination in the past and any body or individual can get an application form from the relevant government department to do this.

- ii. 4.vii. Lynne Evans said that Maggie Parker's name should be inserted along with Alison Williamson's.

4. FITA MOTIONS

- i. Mike Shepherd welcomed Jon Shales to the meeting and said that he hoped he would get a feeling for the committee's views on the various proposed rule changes. Lynne Evans said that, for clarification, Congress papers should be received the following week and they will have amendments attached that have already been requested. Nominations for the various

FITA committees should also be arriving with this paperwork. Jon should get copies of these but said that he had not received the originals.

Mike proceeded to go through those Law amendments that he had picked out as most relevant to GNAS and its members, most requiring some explanation by Lynne.

Lynne said that GNAS, unlike some countries, has always given authority to their delegate to vote as they see fit, after listening to the debates etc at the Congress, for the benefit of the Society. She said this is the first time any interest has been shown in this procedure and was pleased to see this. She also assured Jon that he would not be on his own and that he would have her support and that of David Sherratt at the Congress.

Any Chairmen wishing to make comments on any of the proposed amendments should send them to Jon with a copy to Lynne.

It was announced that Jon has also accepted the challenge of a nomination to the FITA Technical Committee and was wished success in this.

5. **REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: Mike Shepherd.**

Mike said that he had not produced a separate written report for this meeting as he realised how much other work there was to get through.

6. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

a. **Chairman Field Committee: Derrick Lovell.** Written report supplied.

- i. The testing of the White Peg Records for juniors is now complete and the resulting records will be available shortly.
- ii. A very successful winter squad has now finished with two sessions at Lilleshall and one at Pentref. The squad staff have agreed to work together again next year.
- iii. The Field Committee have just received information from FITA alerting us to the fact that the International World Games Association expects to receive the names of our competitors for the World Games by 4th May and no extra time will be given. This has meant an alteration to the selection process for this event and will mean that selection will be made based on four shoots instead of five.
- iv. Mike Shepherd asked about the FITA 3D rules. John Hartfield said there is little call for 3D archery in GNAS and some of the proposed rules contradict some other FITA rules i.e. a 75lb maximum weight for compound bows. Nick Beeson mentioned comments on the internet, most of which had been anonymous, but John said he knew of only three that had been placed by British archers and most of the others were American. Mike asked if GNAS should be ahead of the game in this. John suggested we should monitor the situation and the interest in 3D with the idea of setting up some criteria for possible team or international participation. John will take the various comments back to the Field Committee.
- v. Nick Nicholson reported his concern that one of the field squad sessions had clashed with a National Tournament and that this meant archers had been put under pressure to decide which they should attend. There was some discussion on how dates were set and Lynne Evans said that this matter might be rectified by a new performance unit which will come into being when the new Head Coach is employed.

b. **Chairman of Target Committee: Nick Nicholson.** Written report supplied.

- i. The Tournament Organisers Handbook is still awaiting a section on disabled access. The booklet should be in the region of 50 A5 pages and advice is being sought from the CEO on the cost of printing and funding.
- ii. Responses are being received from the advert in Archery UK asking for help with the Handicap Survey. This includes a reply from the University of Leeds. The plan is to form a Handicap Review Committee as a sub-committee of the Target Committee.
- iii. Bob Tonkin is working on a SAP for Club Colours and has produced a draft version. However, he posed several questions with regard to this. The following was agreed in response to these:
 1. The Club Colours SAP will be SAP number 8.
 2. Associated organisations will be allowed to register colours.
 3. Home Nations colours need not be registered as Rule 307e.vi. spells out the conditions of their use.
 4. Clubs need not be limited to one set of colours per type of garment.

5. Notification of new or changed colours should be sent to the Club Colours Registrar.
 6. Bob asked if we can, or should, insist on notification by e-mail. This was not thought to be practical, as some secretaries still prefer to communicate by letter.
 7. The Registrar will be the person to acknowledge receipt of new or changed notifications.
 8. It was agreed that the primary publication for Club Colours will be the Judges pages on the GNAS website.
 9. The information will also appear in the Winter edition of Archery UK and will be circulated in booklet form to the Judges.
 10. As counties, regions and associated organisations, as well as clubs, can register colours it was agreed that the register will be referred to as the Shooting Colours Register.
 11. Bob asked if the parts of Rule 307 that give the limitation to the colours should be moved to the SAP. No.
 12. The cut off date for registration of Colours will be 31st August of each year.
- iv. Nick said he was very worried about the Code of Practice for Have-a-Go's and Archery Demonstrations. He stated that it should be looked at in conjunction with the Leaders Manual as there are some contradictions between the two.

Mike Shepherd to action.

- v. Two suggested Rule changes have been received following the Judges Conference. The first is that; where peepsights are used they are only acceptable if they are secured within the string. The Target Committee are happy with this on safety grounds. The second suggestion was that equipment inspection should take place at all tournaments, including non-record status tournaments. This was not thought to be a very practical suggestion and Nick said he would take the proposals to the Target Committee for a response.

Nick Nicholson to action.

- vi. Peter Gregory from Cheshire has offered to collect scores with the idea of producing classifications for Clout. Nick said that the proposed handicap survey will be asking for this information in their questionnaire and hoped this would supply the necessary figures.

c. Chairman of Junior Committee: Nick Beeson. Written report supplied.

- i. Nick Beeson reported that he hoped the appointment of a new Head Coach would alleviate future problems with team selection and funding.
- ii. Arrangements are in progress for a seminar to be held at Lilleshall on the Saturday of the Junior Target Championships (2nd July).

d. Chairman of Coaching Committee: Pete Pendrey. Written report received.

- i. The Office now has a new member of staff responsible for Coaching. Gary Carr will replace Angela Wilson.
- ii. Pete Pendrey's report stated that; "in theory, any member of GNAS can call themselves a Coach if working within GNAS i.e someone coaching another archer at the club would not require a CRB check whereas an officially qualified GNAS Coach is duty bound to take a CRB check or risk losing their coaching qualification". This is causing concern to the coaching fraternity as it is thought that people will drop out of coaching if they think they do not need to be qualified to coach within their club.
The NCC have been looking at the Rules of Shooting and suggested that a change to the Administrative Procedure for Public Liability Insurance is all that is needed. Their suggestion was that the following be added to section 4 under "Those insured": "Coaches licensed by the GNAS who are undertaking accepted GNAS Coaching activities." And the following be included in "Activities covered": "Teaching, training and coaching sessions conducted by a licensed coach."

Much discussion took place on this subject with distinct differences of opinion becoming obvious. The main point of Pete's argument was that the CRB checks were putting people off entering or continuing with coaching. Mike Shepherd said he was unhappy about the restrictive nature of the suggested wording. He stated that at his own club beginners courses

were run all through the year but as the club only has four coaches at present they were assisted in this by experienced club archers and, as the courses cater for about a dozen people at a time, it would be impossible to run them without these members. Dennis Whiteman's view was that it would be impossible to stop those who wanted to pass on knowledge or information from doing so at their clubs and that we need to be realistic about what is required in order to run clubs. Nick Beeson said he felt there was a distinct difference between coaching and instruction for beginners and thought that the level of coaching needs to be relevant. Eric Jackson pointed out that CRB checks are not limited to those in Coaching but to anyone who would be working with children or vulnerable adults, a view backed by Ray Fields.

The Coaching Committee's concerns were generally appreciated but it was felt that the suggested wording would not necessarily have the desired effect and could in fact have a detrimental effect on those clubs who rely on experienced archers for their beginners courses. It was thought that there might be various reasons why someone might be willing to help out with beginners' instruction but have no desire to proceed into coaching and it was suggested that these people either could, or should, also be asked to undertake a CRB check.

Pete Pendrey said he had not expected the wording to be accepted without change but it was put forward to start discussion on the subject. He asked that those present think about a suitable rewording for the proposal for a future meeting. This was agreed.

- iii. Mike Shepherd complimented the Coaching Committee on their successes during the 12 month period since the rolling out of the Level tutor/assessor training. In that time 90 lead tutors, 204 tutors, 205 internal assessors, 86 external assessors, 208 mentors, 169 course managers and 31 moderators have all qualified.
- iv. Level 1 is now complete and, at its meeting in October 2004, the Coach Education & Development Group (CEDG) began the process of developing levels 2 & 3. David Clarke, along with David Sherratt, attended a UKCC Phase 3 seminar in Leeds in March where it was said that GNAS is way ahead of many of the phase 1 & phase 2 sports. A vote of thanks was given to David Clarke and his team for their outstanding work on behalf of the GNAS.
- v. It is a requirement of the UKCC development process that each participating National Governing Body appoint a Technical Lead Officer and a National Source Group. The Coaching Committee have agreed that David Clarke should be the Technical Lead Officer and that the existing CEDG will be the National Source Group.
- vi. The Communications Officer, Mark Lepak, will now be dealing with the coaching web pages.

e. Chairman of Disabled Committee: Ray Fields. Written report received.

- i. The committee meeting planned for February had to be postponed.
- ii. BBS Archery have advised that their committee have ratified Helen George as the BBS/GNAS Liaison Officer.
- iii. The 2005 World Championships will take place in Italy at the end of September.
- iv. The National Championships will be held at Stoke Mandeville on 16/17 July and will incorporate an Invitation event for wider European participation.
- v. The recent Development Squad training weekend went very well and was seen as both successful and helpful to those involved. Two members of the Development Squad have produced qualifying scores for the Main Squad and others have shown clear improvement. The squad performs a vital role in the identification and development of new talent but one weekend in the year is not enough and funding will be sought for an additional two such events. Ray reported some difficulty in locating archers with disabilities who have the necessary potential and asked that clubs keep him informed of suitable candidates.
- vi. The disability sports club WAMDSAD recently held the archery section's "Arrowthon" fundraising event. This is a series of consecutive Portsmouth rounds shot over 24 hours and this year's event ran to 16 rounds.
- vii. Ray reported that there has been a good response from the web site with correspondence from as far away as Australia.
- viii. Discussion and submissions have gone ahead for the acceptance of VI archery to the IBSA (International Blind Sports Association.)

f. Chairman of Judges Committee: Peter Morris. Written report supplied.

- i. The Judges Conference took place on the 26th & 27th February, approximately 55 Judges attended and the format and the conference were a great success. Peter thanked Angela Wilson (GNAS Office), John Poyner (talk on blind archers and their equipment), Lynne Evans (talk on Olympics 2012), Pam Tonkin (talk on National Tournaments) and the Junior Squad and Committee for allowing a practical head to head session.
It is the intention to send out minutes from the conference to all Judges so that information about the many subjects covered can be circulated.
The date of the Judges Conference for 2006 will be 25th & 26th February and 30 names have already been taken from Judges wishing to attend.
- ii. Several club venues have been checked but it has been discovered that some old clubs with new venues are not registering these properly. All clubs, not just the new ones, need to be aware that they are required to complete the necessary paperwork and allow at least 3 weeks for this to be processed and grounds to be checked.
- iii. A letter has been received from a National Judge who is querying the training of GNAS Judges in that it takes a long time to work up the Judging levels to National and possibly International. Peter reported that, whereas most countries filter their judges straight into the FITA system, having the GNAS layer in the system does slow things down. There is also the problem now of age as, when a judge reaches 60, he can no longer be an International FITA Judge. It is possible to be an EMAU Continental Judge but this system is not yet fully set up.
- iv. The Committee has now started to place information on the Judges pages on the GNAS website.

g. Chairman of National Tournaments Committee: Pam Tonkin. Written report supplied.

- i. The Senior Indoor Selection Shoot was held in January for the World Indoor Championships in March.
- ii. The Senior Indoor Championships was held on 19th/20th March at Lilleshall, compound and longbow on the Saturday and recurve on the Sunday. All went extremely well with several tied matches on both days. A Masters World and European Record and two National Records were claimed. Two Australian archers were welcomed to the shoot before going on to Denmark to the World Championships. The UK Sport Drugs team attended on the Sunday and tested the recurve medal winners.
The number of longbow archers taking part was slightly up but more still need to be encouraged to enter.
The working party worked well and the judging team worked extremely hard, however, it is strongly suggested that two extra judges be appointed to this shoot in order to be able to give each judge a break during the weekend.
- iii. Entry forms for the National Tournaments have been standardised and, along with the target lists and results, can now be found on the GNAS website.
- iv. An ISO container has been purchased and electricity installed in it for all the equipment used by the Tournament Committee. We now have a new PA system and have taken over various pieces of equipment made or purchased for the 2004 Junior World Championships.
- v. Tim Jackson explained a proposal from the Tournaments Committee for a new national indoor tournament. The proposal being that Counties, Regions, Universities and other (eg. HM services etc) Associations would be able to enter a team of 4 archers. Full details are attached to these minutes on a separate sheet. There were some worries as to clashing dates in an already crowded calendar and expenses that would be incurred but it was felt that these were things that could be overcome. Tim stated that, if feedback was positive, the earliest this new tournament could take place would be January 2007. Nick Nicholson said he had been to several of the indoor tournaments organised by Pam Tonkin and her committee and felt that archers were asking for this sort of event.

It was agreed to give the go ahead to the idea of a new National Indoor Team Tournament.

h. PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR: Barry Eley. No report supplied.

- i. Mike Shepherd reported that he had had correspondence from the Competitors' Committee with regard to the issue of funding for the World Indoor Championships. He said he had replied to them and had received no further response. The question of self-funding was

discussed as Barry Ely has stated that he does not wish to take self-funders to the World Championships in Madrid later this year.

Several questions were raised relating to how this would affect the team element of the competition as it was felt important to be able to take part in this and that this needs to be considered. Nick Nicholson was of the opinion that self-funding should be allowed until such time as GNAS can afford to fully fund teams. This view was echoed by John Hartfield, whose experience of field events showed that many archers throughout the world pay for themselves, and, without their participation, these events would not be held. Nick suggested that an article be written for Archery UK to make archers aware of how much is involved in taking part in events abroad. In the absence of the Performance Director no final decisions were made.

7. MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT.

- i. Eric Jackson thanked everyone for their input into the GNAS website.
- ii. Eric is still gathering information from the various committees for the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) and is still looking for further input. He reported that he is still planning on holding an SDP Conference later in the year, probably on the same weekend as the October Operations meeting.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

i. COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.

The following candidates were successfully elected as members of GNAS committees:

Coaching	David Squibb – re-elected.	
Disabled	No election due.	
Field	No election due.	
Judges	David Page – re-elected.	Geoff Barham – co-opted.
Junior	No election due.	
Target	Tom O’Neill – re-elected.	Andrew Neal – co-opted.
National Tournaments	Tim Jackson – re-elected.	

- ii. January Challenge. Nick Beeson reported that there had been an increase in participants this year and asked where the committee would like the results publishing. He pointed out that there is no dedicated page on the GNAS website for this sort of event that caters for the ordinary adult club archer. It was agreed that there was no reason why it should not be included on the National Tournaments page and Nick said he would also supply the results for inclusion in Archery UK.
- iii. A meeting was held between David Sherratt, Eric Jackson and Ann & Mike Shepherd with regard to Archery UK. The meeting was very positive with several topics covered including; producing the magazine in full colour; placing the magazine on the GNAS website in order to make it accessible to the visually impaired; data protection and the inclusion of personal details if placed on the internet; advertisement charges.
- iv. Pete Pendrey asked if there was still a plan to rename the Society as Archery UK. It was reported that there was nothing currently being done to progress this idea.

Meeting closed at 4 p.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Operations meeting will take place on 9th July 2005.

Future dates for Operations meetings will be:

1st October 2005, 7th January 2006, 8th April 2006.

Possible New National Indoor Tournament

The GNAS National Tournaments Committee have been asked to consider putting on an Indoor Team Championship with World Record Status for the qualifying round.

It would not be practical to have a separate competition for each bow discipline as the calendar is rather full, therefore the following constitutes a proposal to the membership. FITA rules would apply to the competition except for the Head to Head, on timing, the number and composition of archers in a team and the number of arrows to be shot in each match round.

The proposal is that County, Regional, University and other, (e.g. HM Services) Associations would enter a team of 4 archers, 1 lady and 1 gent in each bow discipline, (compound and recurve). The qualification round to be shot is a FITA 18 using a triple spot face. If it is to be held at Lilleshall (Wenlock Hall) then there are 19 targets available for the qualification round, with 3 sessions to be run on a Saturday, (maximum of 57 teams), The scores from each archer in the team to be added together to get the total for that team. The top 32 teams would go through to the Head to Head on the following day.

Each team, for the Head to Head, would need exclusive use of the target boss for their matches (each boss having 4 x 3 spot faces and each archer shooting on their own nominated face). Timing would be 12 arrows in 4 minutes with each archer shooting 3 arrows per end, and each match would be 72 arrows (6 ends of 3 arrows per team member).

All Head to Head matches would be run on the Sunday. In order to accommodate 32 teams the 1/16th elimination round would need to be split into 2 sessions, teams in A & B part of the FITA seeding chart going in the 1st session, and C & D from the seeding chart in the second session). See appendix A. Each of these sessions would have 2 ends of practice.

The 1/8th elimination matches would feature all 16 teams, these teams would have 1 end of practice, and they would shoot a 72 arrow match as would the teams in the quarter finals without an end of practice.

The semi and finals would be a 36 arrow match with no practice ends.

Any matches ending in a tie would have a 4 arrow shoot off, using the FITA rules suitably amended for a team of 4 archers.

The entry fee is difficult to forecast at this stage but is likely to be about £50 per team.

There would be no awards for the qualification round, except for the standard FITA target awards. The awards for the Head to Head would be a trophy (sponsor needed) plus medals for 1st place and medals up to 4th place.

Potential entrants would need to be aware that there may be a cost implication in an overnight stay should their team not make the cut.

If the feedback to this proposal is positive then the earliest this new tournament is likely to take place would be January 2007.

Any comments please to Ted Burnham by the 30th of September 2005 please use the following e-mail address archerted999@btinternet.com

Ted Burnham, GNAS National Tournaments Committee
24th March 2005