

**ISLE OF MAN RIFLE ASSOCIATION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2017**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT**

Richard Drinkwater (President)  
Stewart Watterson (Deputy President)  
David Humphrey (IOMSC Douglas/ Competition Secretary)  
Sue Keown (Port St Mary)  
Brian Fozzard (IOMSC)  
Perryn Watson (Kirk Michael)  
John Wood (Laxey)  
Nigel Christian (Castletown)

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from:

Andy Traynor (IOMSC Sandsiders)  
Barry Jones (Sulby)  
Lorrie Thomson  
Colin Watson  
Michael Duncalf

**2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the last meeting had been circulated in advance of this meeting and were approved as a true record. As there is still no Secretary, Richard Drinkwater agreed to take the minutes for this meeting.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

- i. Stewart Watterson spoke to Ben Kelly regarding representing the Shooting Federation - unfortunately he is not able to this due to other commitments.
- ii. Affiliation fees -Sue Keown, Treasurer for PSM will check the position with regard to their affiliation fees.
- iii. Options for food at the IOMRA lunch on the 6<sup>th</sup> May, RD committed to looking into options.
- iv. Electronic Targets - IOMSC would see if outdoor electronic targets could be in place and operational for the IOMRA lunch.
- v. Website: positive feedback was given about the press reports. It is good that these are loaded on the website.

#### **4. Correspondence**

No correspondence was received this month.

#### **5. Competitions**

Dave Humphrey was able to report

- i) The league was running fine. PSM and Laxey match has been rearranged
- ii) Lady of Man had five entries, held at Kirk Michael and went smoothly
- iii) JB Ritchie, competitions have started for the C and D leagues, G Jones has also started. About a dozen entries for each competition.
- iv) A number of clubs (PSM and Kirk Michael), hav entered postal competitions in the UK that carried prize money including the Huntley Small Bore Rifle Club and the Scottish Target Shooting Prone team postal shoot
- v) The NSRA league competitions are going OK, results are back for the first 4 competitions, the Ladies competition is also going to plan
- vi) BSA cup. The IOM enters this postal competition each year against UK counties and States of the Commonwealth. Team of 12. Dave will arrange a team, this needs to be entered shortly.
  
- vii) A discussion ensued about representing the Isle of Man for the NSRA intercountry competitions, it was agreed that this is a good thing to do.
- viii) Communication about competitions was discussed: it was agreed that Dave Humphrey had greatly improved the process of communication/ promoting the competitions. The website carries the results which had had positive feedback. It was agreed that a facebook page may also be useful.
- ix) Perryn asked that if anything of note/ interest happens at matches, could this be communicated to her or Colin as it will enable him to include this in the reports in the paper which always makes for a more enjoyable read.
- x) Juniors. This was discussed at some length and whether entry fees should be reduced. It was a matter that was raised at the meeting with PSM and was thought to be a discouragement to entry. The consensus was that a £2 entry fee for juniors (£4 for adults) would be good. This would need to be formally proposed/ agreed at the end of the season.
- xi) Sue Keown asked that e-mails were sent to her and she would circulate them at PSM.

#### **6. Shooting Council Report**

Stewart Watterson reported that the Federation had an AGM on the 18<sup>th</sup> February. There had been no real changes to the composition of the Committee. The IOMRA should be providing a Secretary, but are not in a position to at this time (we need a Secretary for our own Association).

The Federation Representatives on the Commonwealth Games Committee are Stewart Watterson and Harry Creavy. Subscriptions remain the same at £125 to the IOMRA.

The Island games are to be held in the Summer in Gotland (Sweden). Stewart indicated that entries will be made for pistol and shotgun but that the cost has discouraged rifle. Gregg Hogg (lives in Belfast) is interested in entering.

The Commonwealth Shooting Championships will be held 30<sup>th</sup> October to 7<sup>th</sup> November in Brisbane which are “tester” for the Commonwealth Games.

Commonwealth Games 2018. Standards are on the Website. Harry will go to Australia at the end of March with the Manx delegation. Currently 5 shooters with consideration scores, five from shotgun and one from rifle (Rachel Glover).

## **7. Squad Development**

Nothing to report in respect of Squad Development at this time.

## **8. Any Other Business**

- i) Firearms Certificates, forms have been issued. Requires name of Doctor and permission for the police to contact them. Insurance (and requirements of a FAC) requires that ammunition should be locked in a box separate from weapons.
- ii) Michael Duncalf asked that posters saying that ammunition testing will be carried out once again at the Easter Shoot can go up in Clubs.
- iii) Air rifles were a subject of conversation. This had been subject of conversation at the meeting Richard Drinkwater and Stewart Watterson had with PSM. It was considered a good way to bring juniors into the sport as many shooters come into .22 prone from air rifle. It can be very rewarding and a good way to develop technical abilities, particularly as it is in a 3P format which is likely to get more important in rifle shooting in the future international competitions and therefore in shooting more generally. It is also cheaper than .22 due to the lower cost of ammunition.

It was agreed that encouraging air weapon shooting is a good idea. John Wood (and Laxey) comprise the Isle of Man Airgun Association and would be pleased to assist in promoting this initiative. In terms of resources Laxey has competent trainers and rifles. It was noted that there are 3 airgun target changers at St Johns and one at Castletown, Barry Jones also has changers. Kirk Michael has changers and targets but no rifles. Stewart has a rifle.

The meeting considered whether it would be possible to buy rifles (a new Airarms rifle is about £900 each) and it was agreed that if this initiative was to gain support that this could be an option.

John Wood will carry this idea forwards to the next meeting.

- iv) Richard Drinkwater pointed out that the Association still did not have a Secretary and could clubs ask their members if anyone would like to volunteer for this important position.

## **9. Date of the Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2 March 2017 at 19:30 at the Sinclair Range, St Johns.