

Cambridgeshire Archery Association

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Minutes for the Executive Committee Meeting on 12th January 2012

The meeting was held at the Dolphin Hotel, St Ives, at 8pm, and was chaired by Steve Darby-Smythe. There were 20 others in attendance and 8 clubs were represented.

Item 1 Apologies for absence

Received from David Stagg, Phil Lenney, Colin Crowley, Ian Caulfield, Mark Skinner and Jean Foxon. John Waters reported that Jean had had a fall, and we all wish her the best for a speedy recovery.

Item 2 Approval of minutes of the last Executive Committee Meeting and matters arising

The minutes were approved as a true record of the last meeting.

Matters arising:

- The former Chairman reported that Archery GB were keen to push archery in schools, but are not providing the resources for such an initiative to be supported.
- Medal allocation for the County Championships: the process agreed on at the meeting was not subsequently ratified at the AGM. Following some debate it was pointed out that this was not necessary.
- Regarding beginners' courses, we have yet to hear from GNAS.
- Wichford Archers have now joined GNAS.

Item 3 Officers' Reports

Chairman

1. Since being elected into office I have dealt with 4 correspondences, 3 of which are on going as detailed below:

- a. Replied to the letter from City Of Cambridge Bowmen concerning the location of the AGM and subsequent ECMs.
- b. Circulated a request for an interview from the Cambridge News, Lizzy Dening, to the committee and I am awaiting a response from the PRO before contacting the paper.
- c. Circulated a questionnaire from Sally Stanhope, Senior Sports Development Officer, Cambridge City Council asking is the association would do any archery related activities for the Olympic Torch weekend

12-13 July 2011. Currently awaiting committee and clubs responses. Note: Reply due 19 Dec 11.

d. Replied to Dr Dave Holah, Cambridgeshire Target Shooting Association (CTSA) concerning the viability of using the proposed new indoor rifle range at Normans Cross, Peterborough. From the email traffic it appears that the roof height of 2.5m is too low and if weekly usage was required then membership to the CSTA would be required including range hire costs. In addition archery equipment is not part of their grant bid. Information passed on to the local archery clubs.

2. My proposed guidelines for Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) venues for comment are detailed below:

- a. The default location for the ECM will be the Dolphin Hotel, St Ives, unless a Club present at the ECM volunteers to host the next meeting. If more than one club volunteers then the Executive Committee will decide which venue to use with no hosting Club or venue being used for consecutive ECM's except the default location.
- b. If no club volunteers then the default location will be used.
- c. The venue for AGM will be decided at the previous AGM.

A couple of club representatives stated that they had not received some of the county's communications. This will be investigated. Dave Slack had tried to email Lizzy Dening and had no reply. No response was received from clubs regarding the questionnaire from Sally Stanhope. It looks as though the new indoor rifle range at Peterborough will be too impractical for archery use. The guidelines for venue selection for ECMs were approved at the meeting. It was requested that we

avoid public venues if possible, but this depends on availability of club venues, as the cost of hiring a commercial venue for all meetings was considered prohibitive. It was noted that the St Ivo Centre is already booked for the 2012 AGM.

Vice-Chair

Nothing to report.

Secretary

By the time this meeting takes place, I expect to have attended the SCAS Council Meeting (7th January) and will bring news of anything of note to the county. Other than that there has not been much to report. I would like to thank Andy for his hard work over the past year.

The SCAS Green Book is being made ready for publication. Clubs, coaches and judges are requested to ensure their details are up to date. Can all corrections be with the CAA secretary by the beginning of February so that they can be included. The SCAS President's Medal was not adjudicated as it was unclear how many nominations the SCAS Secretary had received (he was unable to attend the meeting due to a family emergency). Minutes of this meeting will be supplied (when received) to anyone who wishes to see them.

Treasurer

[Awaiting report]

Team Manager

First I would like to thank Dave Slack for his dedication to the CAA team over the last 5 years. I'm hoping that Dave will pass on his words of wisdom to me.

I have been in contact with the Essex team manager to work out some dates for 2012. At the moment the Essex / Cambridgeshire longbow shoot will go ahead early next year. This year the team will be of approximately 10 archers; this is reduced this year due to Essex having problems finding a hall large enough. The unconfirmed venue will be in Brentwood, Essex.

Although the Essex / Cambridgeshire Outdoor Competition will go ahead next year, a date and venue are still unconfirmed. The opportunity to make this competition into a 3 way contest is being looked into. This would then include Oxfordshire within the competition.

For 2012 I would like to see the team selection process changed to make it more accessible for the county archers. I would like to see an end to the one day trial process and propose that the team selection is made using a selection committee. This would include the Team Manager, CAA Records Officer and two other invited members.

The criteria for Team consideration would be:

- 1) Archers should be 1st class classification or above (except for longbow; lower classification requirement needed)
- 2) Submitted scores to the CAA records officer and competition results will provide the prime source of information for the selection committee. Ability, commitment and competition performance are also strong factors in being selected for the squad.

The CAA squad will be asked to attend a set amount of the county coaching sessions and seminars which are planned to run monthly throughout 2012. This is intended to bring the "squad" together as well as showing commitment to the CAA.

A date for the Essex match is still to be finalised. Oxfordshire have expressed keenness in joining to make it a 3-way tournament (as it was before Norfolk withdrew). It was asked whether the new team selection procedure might adversely affect junior archers. It was suggested that the selection shoot not be cancelled, but retained as a start of season shoot, and that it be used along with the new selection process. This was met with general approval, with the intention that the process will be evaluated over the year. It was asked whether there would be a competitive barebow element at the inter-county matches. The Team Manager stated that other counties are not especially keen, but that he would keep pressing for it.

Tournament Coordinator

I have applied for record status for the County Open Championship and have received confirmation that it has been accepted. The date and venue for the tournament will be 17th June 2012 hosted by

Fenland Archery. Keith Darkins will be Head Judge.

Coaching Organiser

Coaching clinics: Ten coaches are taking part in a session with ARU high speed film support on 14th January, this being primarily for coaches to become familiar with the associated equipment and techniques.

Advance notification of 2 indoor coaching clinics has been on the CAA web site for several weeks. Following the Coaching Group meeting on 12th January, detailed information, including the price for attendees, will be provided. Cost will not exceed £15.

Archers are invited to express their interest in the Littleport (18th February) or Whittlesey (17th March) sessions by email to camb.archery@ntlworld.com.

Coach courses: Although primarily the concern of the coaching group, I would like to establish how many clubs have a need for new L1 coaches or for upgrade to L2. Six clubs do not have their own coach. One of these clubs has stated a requirement to train 3 Level 1 coaches, and if we have sufficient numbers I will investigate funding and course registration.

The current situation in the county is that there are 19 coaches (12 L1, 5 L2 and 2 County).

Development of new leaders course: Information on ArcheryGB Development Team initiatives on a new course is in your ArcheryGB Magazine (Winter 2011). The background is that ArcheryGB want as many coaches and leaders as possible in schools, getting the schoolchildren shooting and then getting them to join local archery clubs. Teachers are unhappy about the time needed to train and to surmount this problem the Development Team are developing a simplified leaders course for teachers/support staff. They are also looking at getting a simplified set of equipment for use in schools. As County Development Coordinator, I will monitor this development and advise on likely impact on our clubs.

The clinics at Littleport and Whittlesey are to be £10 per person for up to 12 archers. Clubs need to let the CCO know by 10th Feb if they have archers who would like to do a L1 training course.

Records Officer/Webmaster

[Circulated previously]

A number of records have been set, and a few still to be ratified. The Webmaster requested that the meeting vote on whether his procedure for record submission; this was done and his procedure approved. The Webmaster also submitted proposals regarding how club Target Days should be defined. Following much discussion, it was agreed that the Webmaster write a formal proposal to be circulated to clubs to discuss before the next county meeting.

Public Relations Officer

No report.

Item 4 Notified Items

Carried over from AGM:

a. Recommendations on quorum for Executive meetings and AGM

As the proposal had been wrongly worded at the AGM it had been postponed. It was agreed at the meeting that this item be dismissed entirely and the constitution unchanged.

b. Recommendations on expenses for team travel

The Vice-Chair stated that historically the reimbursement for county team travel expenses had been originally intended for those with limited or no incomes e.g. students. If everyone who attended tournaments last year claimed their travel expenses it would have come to over £1000, and if the county were to accommodate this the county fee would have to increase. It was agreed that the Treasurer and Chairman would look at viable alternatives (such as proportional allowances) and circulate ideas to clubs for comment.

c. Recommendations on increases in number of trophies and allocation of medals at county shoots

It was agreed that it needs to be clear which trophies the county has before any more are purchased; Dave Stagg will be asked to ascertain what trophies are currently in use, if there are any gaps, and if there are any currently unused trophies which can be reallocated to fill these gaps before more are bought.

Regarding medals, it had been agreed at the meeting prior to the AGM that there should be medals

for the top three archers in every category stated on the tournament entry form so that archers are rewarded for their efforts even when they are not in competition with anyone else. As this had already been agreed, further discussion was moot, though it was pointed out that tournament organisers have an obligation to ensure that the additional medals do not adversely impact the financial aspects of the tournament.

From the Chairman:

d. Guidelines for ECM venues.

This was discussed in the Chairman's report.

From the Coaching Organiser:

e. Identification of requirement for Level 1 and 2 coach training.

This was discussed in the Coaching Organiser's report.

From the Records Officer:

f: Discussion of proposal for all County Records to be registered from open competitive shoots only and not from club practice sessions and all other previous claims from same to be discarded

This was discussed in the Records Officer's report.

Item 5 Any Other Business

The Parkfield club representative asked if the county would like Parkfield to host the End of Season shoot in 2012. This was confirmed, and the proposed date is 7th October 2012. It was suggested that in order to bring in new faces that the round be changed to a Long Western, and that clubs should discuss this before the next meeting.

Andy Bensted has been asked by Leics and Cambs to run a number of Leaders courses. If archers are interested in attending they should contact him as there may be spaces available.

It was asked whether or not the medals and trophies for the Indoor County Championship are ready. The medals are currently with the Vice-Chairman, who will ask the Tournaments Officer about the trophies.

The Records Officer welcomed Steve Darby-Smythe to his first meeting as Chairman.

Andy Bensted and Dave Slack were both thanked for their work as pro-tem Secretary and Team Manager respectively.

Item 6 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th April 2012 at 8pm, in the Patio Bar, Littleport Leisure Centre.