

**National Skeet Shooting Association
Board of Directors Meeting
National Shooting Complex
September 28, 2014**

- A. ROLL CALL** – President Bob DeFrancesco called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 7:52PM. A quorum of seventy-three (73) directors was present. Michael Hampton thanked Bob DeFrancesco for his last two years of service, and also recognized Jim Gast as the Past President. He explained how the meeting binder was sent via email, as a means to help make the meeting more productive. Mike Dowling, our new Director for Skeet, was introduced. Bill Stephens of Sportsman's Insurance was introduced, as well as Sherry Kerr. She talked about Target Talk, and its popularity; 368,000 people access our website. She requested material from everyone for Target Talk. Mike Dowling introduced Steve Scales, Nicki Martin, Brett Moyer and Olivia Gracia, and welcomed the new directors.
- B. MINUTES** – Motion by Don Kelly, 2nd by Jim Tiner, to accept the minutes from the September 29, 2013 Board of Directors meeting; motion passed. Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Mike Ferchaw, to the minutes from the May 21, 2014 Executive Committee meeting; motion passed.
- C. OFFICER AND ZONE REPORTS** – No additional reports from those included in the binder.
- D. NSSA STATISTICS** – Mike Dowling reported that target stats are typical for this time of the year. We are anticipating that the total number of targets thrown will be flat, aggravated by lack of powder and components. Membership is up 2.5%; the number of junior shooters is up 12% and membership for ladies is growing 5 times faster, or 10%, than the rest of the membership.
- E. BUDGET/FINANCE** – Louise Terry, the Finance Committee Chair, described the Committee's responsibilities and that they meet quarterly. The Committee makes recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding the operating budget, and monitors our investment portfolio. The Association is in a very good financial position because of the numerous events held at the NSC, the performance of our investment portfolio, and membership growth in both NSSA and NSCA. Both NSSA and NSCA have representation on the Committee. NSSA member Charles Gates passed away and left his Krieghoff gun collection to promote youth shooting. Per his will, the guns will be sold and the proceeds split between NSSA and SSSF/SCTP to fund youth scholarships. Steve Scales reported that year to date we are slightly better than budgeted. The NSC property is self-sustaining; NSSA membership is up 2.5% and NSCA membership is up 3.4%. Sporting clays targets are up 3.6% when normalized for the impact of the World English Sporting Clays Championship held domestically in 2013 and skeet targets are flat. Excess funds generated from NSC operations have been used to fund the city water connection, and have been reserved to fund the new 1/8th Mile Club when the necessary permits have been received. As of July 31st, NSSA has raised \$138,000 and the NSCA \$700,000 from the 1¢ increase in daily fees. Steve Scales explained that a portion of our investment portfolio is for the sustainment of our life membership, and we are projecting a 6% growth in our investment portfolio over the next year. We successfully defended the Bexar County challenge to 3 parcels of our agricultural exemption, and tax levels have been restored. He introduced Bill Stephens of Sportsman's Insurance, and recognized the value they provide for our association.
- F. LONG RANGE PLANNING** – Louise Terry highlighted project status... The hook-up to city water is complete; we have two years left to work on remainder of hook-ups to public utilities, which are dependent upon the expansion plans for FM471. The lease has been signed with Verizon for the cell tower. Construction to begin the 1st quarter of 2015. The 1/8th Mile Club, a 30' X 40' building is ready to begin construction pending platting and permits. Current estimates are approximately \$250,000 and will be used to hold additional events. Funds have already been approved and are available. New cart barn plans are in place: one will be located where the old museum was to house our carts used for corporate events; the second will be down by the new maintenance barn for NSC Member carts and will be self-funding. Also, waiting on permits. We are working with the original architectural firm to develop several proposals for renovating the main clubhouse. Four new sets of stairs on the middle bank of skeet fields have been completed.
- G. OLD BUSINESS** – None.

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Bylaws Amendment – There are two amendments to be voted on. The first concerns rewording of Article 7 to correct the dates. **Motion by B. J. Yates, 2nd by Jim Tiner, to accept the amendment as presented; motion passed with required majority of at least 61 votes.** The second amendment changes how directors' votes can be taken, allowing ballots to be sent via available methods (e.g., mail, email, fax, etc.) in lieu of only U.S. mail. **Motion by Gary Matthews, 2nd by Jim Tiner; motion passed with required majority of at least 61 votes.**
 2. Election of Director-at-Large – The following individuals were nominated for five positions: Pat Patke, Al Means, Joe Solsona, Mary Alice DeFrancesco, Louise Terry, Sam Armstrong, Mike Guitirez. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Jim Tiner, to close nominations; motion passed.** Subsequently, nominations were re-opened due to a misunderstanding of Billy Williams' status. **Motion by Ron Wilson, 2nd by Jim Tiner, to re-open nominations; motion passed. Motion by Ron Wilson, 2nd by Jim Tiner, to nominate Billy Williams for Director-at-Large; motion passed.** The results of the Director-at-Large election were: Sam Armstrong, Mary Alice DeFrancesco, Al Means, Louise Terry and Billy Williams.
- I. MARKETING** – Nicki Martin reported the NSSA app has been successfully launched. Sixty-five member clubs have signed up for the member promotion boards. Have had positive participation in the Shooting for Rewards program. Members receive one point for each registered target shot; points expire after two years. When asked why the points expire, it was explained it is so we properly budget and account for the expense. Attended the Dallas Safari Club and the NRA convention to promote the NSSA/NSCA. One director suggested we consider attending the Con-Ag trade show in Las Vegas. Michael Hampton explained we select the trade shows that we feel we will get the most bang for our buck; can't attend them all. Working on expanding to social media, but it takes time. There is a "hospitality suite" in the main conference room of headquarters during the World Shoot to introduce new clubs to the NSSA/NSCA.
- J. WORLD SHOOT ADVISORY COMMITTEE** – The Committee will meet after the World Shoot to make any recommendations for next year. A straw vote was taken as to whether or not we should change the 12 Gauge Event back to two days. Response was strongly in favor of such a change, and to have the East/West events again.
- K. HALL OF FAME** – This year's inductees are John Castillo and Minka Williams for shooting accomplishments and Cotton Talbott for the Ray Boller award. The Referee Honor Roll inductees are John Bratty and Bill Fertig. The Hall of Fame museum continues to receive additions and improve the displays.
- L. RULES AND CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE** – The winter meeting will be held via phone conference prior to the Executive Committee meeting the end of January so any recommendations can be addressed by the Executive Committee.
- M. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT** –
- N. NATIONAL SHOOTING COMPLEX** - John Haugh mentioned that our staff has done a fantastic job of bringing in corporate events, which contribute directly to the bottom line of the association.
- O. AWARDS AND RECOGNITION** – Scholarship winner Cara-Beth Maddux from Jackson, TN.
- P. NSSA SHOOT** – Masters was very successful. The Tiners did a fantastic job with the Junior World; 160 kids participated. It will be at the NSC next year and, until another club steps up, it will continue to be held at the NSC. Howie Altman stepped down as the Chairman of the Junior World Shoot Committee after 15 years. The U.S. Open was held at St. Joe Valley Conservation Club outside of Ft. Wayne, IN, and was very successful with 268 participants (270 was the maximum). The 2015 U.S. Open will be held at Rochester Brooks, NY September 10-13.
- Q. CLUB ASSISTANCE PROGRAM** – Applications are due at headquarters NLT December 31st to be considered at the winter Executive Committee meeting.

- R. **SKEET SHOOTING REVIEW** – Have been able to reduce our production costs. Over the last five years there have been fewer articles submitted for the Wrap-up section, so have been printing fewer pages. A copy of the on-line survey results was included for the directors in their binder.
- S. **SCTP UPDATE** – Louise Terry encouraged everyone to look at the SSSF website at www.sssfonline.org; will accept any donations.
- T. **NATIONAL SPORTING CLAYS ASSOCIATION** – Brett Moyes, the Director for Sporting Clays, reported that the five regional shoots averaged 600 entries. Pre-registration for the Nationals is up over 200 from last year; currently at 2,149 and the capacity is 2,200. The new truck and trailer is fully operational; only were able to get it to half of the regional shoots.

Additional Questions... Regarding filling traps, only loading halfway because they were dropping two targets; ran out of targets twice; can tell you what fields. Michael Dowling said we will look in to it. Acknowledged improvements in referees; everyone agreed they were doing great.

New sewer hook-up... Will campers also have hook-ups? Michael Hampton said we have to bring in sewer hook-up to the grounds first; then will assess feasibility and cost of expanding for campers.

Question was raised about lack of parking... Can rent a golf cart, but it is ridiculous what is being charged. Will assess the situation... the NSSA is not making anything off of the rentals, and see if we can't do better.

The rain made a mess of everything and the hay didn't work... It was explained that we have been in a severe drought, and we can do better. We will continue to look at other alternatives.

There being no further business to discuss, **motion by Ron Wilson, 2nd by Jim Tiner, to adjourn; motion passed.** The annual board of directors meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Haugh
Secretary-Treasurer