**2014 NSCA Annual Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

**Friday January 31-February1, 2014 – National Shooting Complex**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Schultz at 8:20 AM on Friday, January 31, 2014. Steve Schultz thanked everyone for attending the meeting. We have a court reporter here today taking the minutes, please speak clearly and slowly. Please stand and say your name when you have something to say. We have some gusts here today, please stand and state your name.

 Guests Present were:

Rollins Brown – FL Delegate Sam Lancaster – Claythorne Lodge

Don Buchner – Level II Instructor, Canada Judy Morris – Team USA Manager

John Dennert – WI Delegate Charlie Parker - Lonesome Charlie’s

Zachary Kienbaum – TX Shooter

Steve asked Glynne Moseley to call the roll. He also asked all new Advisory Council Members to stand and be recognized.

Steve also stated that we will briefly go over the binder material after which the committees will break out into their committee meetings. Something new this year; there will be no more than 8 Advisory Council members on each committee and there will be 2 Executive Council members as Chairman and Vice Chairman of each committee.

Those present:

\* = new Advisory Council Member

**Industry**

\*Russ Arnold – Shooting Sports Consulting – ACUI Anthony Matarese, Jr – AIM Shooting School

John Calandro, III – Clay Shooters Supply Mike McAlpine – Clay Target Academy

\*John Commerford – NRA \*Sean McLelland – Youth Target Foundation

Heyward Cunningham – Promatic, Inc. \*Carlton Nether – Beretta USA

\*Lynne Green – Green Girl Photos John “Mo” Parsons – Blaser USA

Jim Greenwood – Greenwood Custom Stocks Steve Schultz – Target Line Shooting School

\*Pat Lieske – Pat Lieske Shooting School Zach Snow – NSSF

**Range Owners/Managers**

\*Justin Bounds – Caney Creek Shooting Sports David Rippetoe – Silverleaf Shotgun Sports

\*George Hopkins – Hopkins Game Farm Scott Robertson – Elm Fork Shotgun Sports

Frieda Lancaster – Claythorne Lodge Dan Twitchell – Ben Avery Clay Target Center

Anthony Matarese, Sr – M & M Sporting Clays Randy Voss – Caribou Gun Club

Tim Miles – Coyote Springs Sporting \*Richard Whaley – Dallas Gun Club

Jason Miller – The Shooting Academy

**Shooters**

Dr. Paula Benbow – Sobieski, WI \*Anne Mauro – Baltimore, MD

\*Don Currie – Trenton, FL Derek Moore – Chester, NJ

Andy Duffy – Polson, MT \*Adam Pinto – Enterprise, UT

John Hackethorn – Polson, MT Ted Sapoznik – Vancouver, WA

\*Eleanor V. Howard – Edisto Island, SC Brett Seibert – Lake Forest, IL

Jim Montgormery, Lake Charles, LA \*Rick Storey – Sealy, TX

Todd Kemmerer – Columbus, OH \*Sam Wortham – Santa Fe, NM

Those absent;

**Range Owners/Managers**

Rick Hemingway – Backwoods Quail Club

David Kelley – David Kelley’s Elk Creek Hunt Club

**Shooters**

Mary O Pitts – Smyrna, GA

Staff present:

Brett Moyes – NSCA Director Sherry Kerr – Outdoor Media Resources

Lori Bauchman – NSCA Data Entry Nichole Martin – NSSA/NSCA Marketing Coordinator

Kim Gracia – NSCA Membership Secretary Glynne Moseley – NSCA Assistant Director

Lori Hartmann, NSSA/NSCA Club Secretary

Steve turned the meeting over to Brett Moyes, NSCA Director to go over the binder material.

**Brett Moyes:** Brett asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the 2013 Nationals Advisory Council meeting. A motion was made by John Hackethorn to accept the minutes; the motion was seconded by Carlton Nether. All approved the minutes; motion carried.

Brett stated there was a lot of statistical information in the binder and that it was not necessary to go over all of it in the meeting. There is so much to cover in the committee meetings with very little time to cover it in the next two days. Brett asked that the Advisory Council members take their time and review the binder material when they have more time at home. If they have any questions, please contact us after the meeting so we can answer your questions.

Michael Hampton, Jr, NSSA-NSCA Executive Director stated that all of the information in the binders including all of the stats, graphs, minutes, etc. will be placed on a thumb drive and mailed to you after the meeting. Al of the information will also be placed on the NSCA website as well as placed on “Target Talk”, so all of this information will be accessible to the Delegates as well as the membership.

We will now hit the highlights of the binder starting with **Section C**. Page 1 contains some highlights starting with membership data. In 2013, the NSCA ended the year with 27,626 members, an increase of 8.4% or 2,230 additional members setting a new record. The increase included 6,056 new members and an increase of 559 life members. The NSCA now has 6,739 life members.

The NSCA ended the year with 23,000,540 registered targets. This was a record setting year with a 6.6% increase or 591,812 more targets thrown over the 2012 shoot year. There were a total of 622 NSCA member clubs and 2,333 registered shoots in 2013. This was a slight increase of 1 club and a slight increase of 20 registered shoots.

The 2013 World English Sporting Clays Championship was held at the National Shooting Complex on April 23-28, 2013. There were 735 total competitors, with 619 shooters competing in the main event.

The 2014 Pan American Sporting Clays Championship will be hosted by NSCA at the National Shooting Complex on April 25-27 with same layout as in 2012. The event will consist of a 200 target main event, 100 target prelim, 100 target sub gauges and a 100 target super sporting event on Sunday. There are 124 total competitors signed up at this time, with entries coming in daily.

The 2013 US Open was a great event held a Backwoods Quail Club in Georgetown, SC on May 13-19. There were 1,021 total competitors with 947 shooting the main event. Great job, Rick Hemingway! The 2014 US Open will be held at Claythorne Lodge in Columbus, KS on June 2-8. Currently, Claythorne has 1,117 shooters registered with the FITASC event sold out. If you haven’t signed up, please do so and spread the word to others. We need to help each other fill these events. The 2015 US Open will be held at Northbrook Sports Club in Hainesville, Illinois on June 22-28.

The 2013 NSCA National Championship was another huge success. There were 1,871 competitors over the six day period, representing 10 different countries. Last year’s, Nationals broke attendance records in 10 of 12 of the events held, including the main event. In 2013 we added a sub gauge FITASC event which added and additional 643 entries between the two gauges offered (20 ga & 28 ga.). There were 1,649 competitors in the main event with 1,643 entries in the FITASC event. There were 1,169,751 total registered targets thrown with 162,000 targets thrown on the practice field. The 2-day rotation was almost full with just short of 272 entries needed to fill it.

We will not add another 2-day rotation to the main event; the growth of the event does not warrant the increase. If we were to add another 2- rotation, we would get an increase of about 600 more shooters As we grow we will have to add days to the rotations in order to increase competitor volume. We now have limited space available to use at the facility, so the only way to increase volume is to add days to the rotations. In the future, adding a 2-day rotation is a definite option. Nationals continues to grow each year and we need to keep planning ahead to be able to accommodate the shooters. 2014 Nationals will be held October 18-26, using the same format as last year.

The rest of Section C goes into detail on the items I have just touched on. Please take your time and go over the binder, there is a lot of good information available to you. All stats are up this year compared to last year. Monthly shoot (monthly targets) attendance is down but registered shoots are doing well, especially the major shoots. The Championship Tour has helped the Regional Championship attendance to grow. The South Central Regional at Caney Creek is sold out, which is fantastic. Brett Siebert will host the North Central Regional at Northbrook Sports Club. Brett has had to add days to the FITASC event to accommodate the shooters, so it looks like another huge Regional Championship in the works. All registered shoots are up in attendance which gives us a potential for membership growth.

**Section D** shows a target breakdown all the way back to 2008. Break down of targets shot in Sporting Clays, FITASC, NSCA 5-Stand, Compak, League Targets and small gauge are shown. The bulk of the targets, 82 % of them, are shot in Sporting Clays which, makes sense. This is where we are making our money; this is the sport people want to shoot, so this is where we will put our efforts.

The next page shows the FITASC and small gauge event participation including a breakdown in all three gauges.

The next page shows targets shot by class. This shows the number of targets shot by each class, Master Class through E Class. You will see a big jump in targets shot in E Class from last year to this year. This is due to the 2013 rule change placing all new NSCA members who have never shot any registered targets into E Class. Don’t stress over the difference in the numbers, this just explains why there is such a big difference from 2012 to 2013 for D and E Class shooters.

The next pages cover targets shot by state, then targets shot by class by state and then targets shot by concurrent by state. The next page is targets shot by concurrent summary, which shows the breakdown of target shot by each concurrent type, Lady, Sub-Junior, Junior, Veteran, Super Veteran and Senior Super Veteran.

The next page covers high volume participation levels. This report shows; of the 27,970 members, 25% of the members qualify for high volume shooter. You can see that this 25% level stays about the same each year. So, as the membership grows, so do the numbers of targets thrown and the participation numbers levels.

The next page is Targets registered by state. This shows the stats for the shoot years 2010-2013. This report shows that out of the 600+ clubs, 1/3 of them (241 clubs) are throwing 0 registered targets. This is a constant year after year. This is an area that needs attention. This is very important; if we want to grow the sport, we need to get these clubs to throw at least 1 registered shoot per year.

The next report is punches received by members by state, next is punches given by clubs by state and finally members that shot minimum of 1,000 but less than 2,000 targets in 2013. These numbers do not reflect the Nationals or the World English Sporting Clays. We try to pull out the major shoots at Nationals so the numbers are not skewed toward Texas.

**Section E**; the first page covers high volume clubs based off targets thrown in 2013. 67 of the 600+ clubs threw 100,000+ targets. If you exclude the National Shooting Complex and the NSCA National Championship from the list, the high volume shooter for the year is Rio Brazos where the Browning/Briley and the Texas State Championships were held and second was, Backwoods Quail Club where the US Open was held. These types of shoots make a huge impact on the numbers of targets thrown at any particular club.

The next report is a list of Mega Blast Events, next is a list of Big Blast events, next is a list of FITASC events with 50+ entries, and then Sporting events with 100 or more entries.

The next page shows NSCA member clubs that did not renew their memberships for 2013. There were 42 clubs from 2012 that did not renew their membership for 2013. Of those 42 clubs 21 of them threw 0 registered targets, 8 threw between 1 and 5,000 in 2012 for a total of 18,300 registered targets. 6 of the 42 clubs not renewed threw between 5,001-15,000 targets in 2012 for a total of 48, 850 registered targets. 6 of the 42 clubs not renewed threw between 15,001-50,000 targets in 2012 for a total of 165,300 registered targets. 1 of the 42 clubs not renewed threw between 50,000+ targets in 2012 for a total of 80,676 registered targets. This adds up to a total of 313,000 targets that will not be thrown in 2014 because the clubs have not renewed their memberships. These numbers are fairly consistent from one year to the next. This is something that we can all work on to help improve our growth.

The next page shows clubs with 0 targets thrown in 2013. As stated earlier, if we can improve these numbers, we can improve the membership growth as well.

The next pages are the NSCA top shoots by class and by concurrent attendance in 2013. The next pages are club reports by state. Once again, there is a lot of data here, so please take your time and go through the information at your convenience.

**Section F** covers the National Championship. There is a complete breakdown of entries for each event form the years 2008 through 2013. We were up in 10 of 12 events in 2013. We also added the FITASC sub gauge events in 20 ga and 28 ga, which helped raise attendance levels in 2013 by 350 entries.

The next page is an entry breakdown. This shows the number of entries by class and concurrent for each event. The next page is a shooter breakdown, showing the total numbers of attendees by class and concurrent. These numbers typically show that 25 % of the attendees for Nationals are first time attendees. The question is; how do we keep them coming back? Interestingly, there was one shooter who has been a member since 1989 who attended the Nationals for the first time last year. Also included in this section are the pre-National and post-National survey results.

**Section G** covers the US Open and World English Sporting Clays Championships. The first page gives Us Open stats from the first US Open in 1992 through 2013. The next page just lets you know that the 2014 US Open will be held at Claythone Lodge in Columbus, KS on June 2-8, 2014; current entries number 1,201. The crew coming in for the US Open is an excellent crew; they are typically the same guys who are used for the Nationals. Sam and Frieda have had the US Open previously and always put on a great shoot.

Northbrook Sports Club, in Haynesville, IL will host the US Open from June 22-28, 2015.

The next page is the criteria for the US Open. Anyone wanting to bid on the 2016 US Open; please complete a bid form and return it to NSCA Headquarters by April 15, 2014.

The next page covers the World English Sporting Clays criteria. The sections directly after the bid criteria are the 3 clubs that bid for the 2015 World English Sporting Clays Championship. Please review the three bids in this section during the lunch break. The 3 clubs bidding for the World English Sporting Clays Championship are: Backwoods Quail Club in SC, M & M Sporting Clays in NJ and South Florida Shooting Club in FL. Rick Hemingway was not able to attend this meeting due to heavy snows in SC, Nicki Martin, NSCA Marketing Coordinator, will make the presentation for Rick. Doug Vine is also not able to attend; however, Doug’s fiancée, Erika, will make the presentation for South Florida Shooting Club. Anthony Matarese, Jr will make the presentation for M & M Sporting Clays. After lunch we will hold voting for the host of the 2015 World English Sporting Clays Championship.

**Section H** covers the Regional Championships and the Championship Tour. This section has sections regarding attendance records by region for 2011, 2012 and 2013. There is also information on numbers of shooters by state for each Regional Championship and information on shooters by class for each Regional Championship. In this section you will find a Region map showing each 2013 Regional Championship location and date as well as a Region map showing the Regional Director along with his/her contact information The last item in this section is the 2015 Regional Championship criteria. All bid forms for the 2015 Regionals must be turned in no later than April 15, 2014.

**Steve Schultz** announces it is time for the committee breakout meetings. Section Q shows each committee list and location of each meeting. The meetings will stop for lunch at 12:00 noon. Directly after lunch we will hold the 2015 World English Sporting Clays Championship club presentations and election. At 1:30 PM, directly after the 2015 World Sporting Clays Championship elections are held, committees will resume their meetings until 5:00 PM, this evening. Whatever is decided in your committee meetings will be brought to the general Advisory Council tomorrow for review, discussion and votes on whether to send any items to the Delegates for vote. We have a very tight schedule with a lot to cover, please be efficient in your meetings. We will complete the coverage of the binder at the end of the general meeting tomorrow.

**Steve Schultz** called the meeting to order after lunch. Presentations of each of the clubs biding on the 2015 World English Sporting Clays Championship will now be given. The first presentation will be given by Erika, from South Florida Shooting Club in, Palm City, FL; the second presentation will be given by Nicki Martin, NSCA Marketing Coordinator, for Backwoods Quail Club in Georgetown, SC; the third presentation will be given by Anthony Matarese, Jr. for M & M Sporting Clays in Pennsville, NJ. After presentations were made ballots were handed out to each Advisory Council for secret voting. Ballots were placed in an envelope and returned to Glynne Moseley by each Advisory Council member so she could check them off the roll call list. All of the secret ballots were collected and given to the Executive Council members to count. 39 of the 42 Advisory Council members were present, three of them were absent from the meetings. There were 3 Advisory Council members who abstained from voting due to conflict of interest reasons. There were 36 ballots collected and counted. Steve Schultz announced that South Florida Shooting Club received 20 votes, Backwoods Quail Club received 5 votes and M & M Sporting Clays received 11 votes for a total of 36 votes taken and South Florida Shooting Club getting the most votes. Congratulations to South Florida Shooting Club, host of the 2015 World English Sporting Clays Championship.

Steve announced that the committees will resume their meetings and re-assemble at 4:30 for the committee reports.

Steve called the meeting to order after the committees returned from their respective meetings.

**Scott Robertson gave the NSCA Marketing Committee report**. There is $125,000 approved by the NSSA Finance Committee to come out of the general fund, not the NSCA marketing budget, which will be set aside to be used to purchase 350 guns to be given away at the 2014 Nationals. The committee is to work on ways to creatively give these guns away. Some of the things we can do is have 2 shoot-offs every night of Nationals where the winners win a gun. We can have shoot offs for Husband/Wife, Parent/Child, RV Spot, Vendors, etc. We need to come up with ways where anyone can win a gun at Nationals. All of these shoot-offs would start at 5:00 PM each day of Nationals. Since we are so limited on space available to hold Nationals, we need to create something to get new people interested in coming to Nationals and something that will keep the old timers coming back to Nationals as well.

The Team USA truck and trailer was proposed 3 years ago and we still have not proceeded with that decision. We originally budgeted $75,000; however, since we never used that money, we have upped the amount to $100,000, which is not that much more to do the things we have in mind. The money is budgeted, so this year we are going ahead with purchasing the truck and trailer. Both will be wrapped in Team USA colors and logos. The trailer will be outfitted with electronic scoreboards, TVs with videos going, information on the points races, items for give-away drawings and lots of merchandise. All of these items will draw people to the truck and trailer. Judy Morris will drive the truck until she gets tired of driving it, then someone else will take over driving it to the different locations. The truck will be at every Regional Shoot on the Championship tour as well as the US Open and Nationals. We will allocate $10,000 to be used at each Regional Shoot to buy bottled water with labels stating that the water is provided by the NSCA Marketing Committee. This will also free up money that the club would usually spend on water; they will now be able to spend that money on something else to make their shoot better. There will be items purchased for give-away drawings; Team USA branded merchandise as well as Championship Tour branded merchandise to sell, with all proceeds going to Team USA. Judy will work with the range owners to come up with ideas to spend this money and help them make their shoots better. The money could be spent on live entertainment at the party, have better food, etc. Judy will also take the truck and trailer to 3 of the major oil man shoots to bring awareness to those shooters who may not know about NSCA and Team USA.

We have also budgeted 10,000 to go to Lady Shooter Magazine which is an online magazine promoting women only in the shooting sports.

PSCA (Professional Sporting Clays Association) is the best place to get exposure outside of the shooting industry. All of the PSCA shoots will be televised; this puts our sport in front of people who have never seen our sport. We have budgeted $75,000 to put a commercial together to be aired on the PSCA program. Until we do something really different, our growth rate is limited and will continue to be limited. We need to help PSCA grow; in turn they will help us grow. PSCA wants to help us create a digital marketing tool to help us grow the sport. Last year we set aside $50,000 for digital marketing, which was never used. This is not much more than what we originally set aside, but this year we will get something accomplished. This will free up Nicki to do other things, like work on our Facebook, create a DVD to be placed in gun shops, work on the website, etc. She can work on things we have never done before to help grow the membership and our sport. John Commerford will work up a contract for PSCA and us to sign in the event their programs are cancelled, we will not lose our investment in them.

Last year we budgeted $80,000 to use for the New Member Program, where a new member gets a free round of 50 targets for signing up with our member clubs. Nothing was really done until this year. We now have some clubs signed up to participate in the program. We should be able to use $20,000 of the budgeted money this year to push the program.

This year is the 25th Anniversary of NSCA. We talked to Michael Hampton, Jr about some things we can do to promote the 25th Anniversary. We can purchase some branded items to sell at the Regionals and US Open and Nationals.

We have decided to back off sending Nicki to trade shows. It doesn’t make sense to have a space at these shows where you wait for people to come to you, so you can tell them about NSCA and sporting clays. Nicki did attend the Dallas Safari Club Show in early January and she will be a the Pheasants Forever Show as well as the NRA Convention this year, since they were already paid for last year. However, we will not be attending any other new shows in the future. We feel the money is better spent on Judy going to the big oil man shoots as well as on PSCA.

In summary, all of the programs discussed will cost $229,000, with money still in the account to sustain the programs. Scott asked for a motion to pass all of the Marketing Committee recommendations. Sam Wortham made the motion with Derek Moore seconded the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

**John Calandro, III gave the Rules/Governance and Finance Committee Report**. John stated that we will see phenomenal growth in the NSCA financials from the past to the future. The sport is growing; Nationals attendance is up as well as membership, numbers of registered shoots and numbers of targets thrown. National Shooting Complex has increased the number of corporate events, and fundraisers being held. Steve Scales will give a more detailed financial report tomorrow.

John stated that the committee spent a lot of time on rules, mainly simplifying the rules. He has asked Michael to provide the suggestions from legal-council regarding improvements to section I-B-4 (Suspensions, Expulsions and Reinstatement). John suggested we get and ombudsman to assist the person being suspended/expelled and help guide them through the process. This will protect the association as well as the association members.

We discussed rule changes regarding vacancies and the timing of filling any vacancies, how we notify people of vacancies, how we will hold elections. The committee decided that we will not fill vacancies that come open at the end of a term. The committee also decided to do away with mailed ballots; all ballots will be cast electronically.

The committee would like to strike and add the following bolded language to the rule as follows: I-C-1-d: **Vacancies** – Any Nationals Delegatevacancies occurring among the various states, provinces , territories, or geographic subdivisions recognized by the association, shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. Persons receiving minimum of five (5) votes in the last National Delegate election in the same state, province, territory, or geographic subdivision shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first, or by a run-off ballot in the case of ties. If the vacancy cannot be filled by this process, a mid-term election shall be held within 45 days to fill the vacancy. **Nominations for this vacancy will be open for 10 calendar days after which and an electronic vote which will close in 10 calendar days. If the vacancy occurs after July 1st of the second year term, the vacancy will not be filled unless there is a person who has received a minimum of five (5) votes in the last National Delegate election in the same state, province, territory, or geographic subdivision shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first.**

The committee would like to strike and add the following language to rule I-C-1-e: **Meetings** – National Delegates shall meet annually during the National Championship. Notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be announced electronically ~~and by mail~~ at least ~~15~~ **45** days prior to such meeting.

The committee would like to strike and add the following language to rule I-C-1-f: **Powers of National Delegates** – All changes made in rules, regulations and governance shall be decided by the National Delegates. All voting for changes in rules, regulations and governance shall be by ~~mail~~ **electronic** ballot. Where no state association exists, the National Delegates of that state shall also approve NSCA shoot dates and the location of the State Championship.

 The committee would like to add the following language to rule I-C-2-j: **Vacancies** – Any Advisory Council vacancies occurring among the various categories shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term. Persons receiving a minimum of five (5) votes in the last Advisory Council election shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first, or by a run-off ballot in the case of ties. If the vacancy cannot be filled by this process, a mid-term election shall be held within 45 days to fill the vacancy. **Nominations for this vacancy will be open for 10 calendar days after which and an electronic vote which will close in 10 calendars days. If the vacancy occurs after July 1st of the second year term, the vacancy will not be filled unless there is a person who has received a minimum of five (5) votes in the last Advisory Council election who shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first.**

If a member of the Advisory Council from the range owner/manager or industry categories changes employment, they shall retain their position on the Advisory Council provided that they maintain their eligibility in the sector (range owner/manager or industry) they previously represented and provided that the range owner or industry company to which they are newly employed does not already have an employee on the Advisory Council.

The committee would like to add the following language to rule I-C-3-e: **Vacancies -** Any vacancies occurring on the Executive Council shall be filled by an Advisory Council Member. **Persons receiving a minimum of five (5) votes in the last Executive Council election shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first, or by a run-off ballot in the case of ties.** An interim election will be conducted by the Director of NSCA, for the expired term. Declaration of candidacy and balloting shall be conducted within 60 calendar days of the date the vacancy occurs. **Nominations for this vacancy will be open for 10 calendar days after which and an electronic vote which will close in 10 calendar days. If the vacancy occurs after October 31, of the second year term, the vacancy will not be filled unless there is a person who has received a minimum of five (5) votes in the last Advisory Council election who shall be eligible and will be invited to fill the vacancy in the order of the vote totals, highest number of votes first.**

The committee would like to strike rule IV-B-2: **~~Major Shoot~~** ~~– A registered shoot, where by projection or past experience, 100 or more shooters are expected to attend. NSCA strongly suggests that these shoots utilize the NSCA Classification system.~~ This goes against our language stating that registered shoots **must** be registered under the NSCA Classification system. They can use whatever system they want for awards (Lewis Class or some other method), but they have to register the scores under the NSCA Classification system.

The committee would like to strike rule IV-B-3-d: ~~A person who is a legal Resident Alien and is a bona fide resident of a particular state is eligible to win the Main Event Open, Concurrent and/or Class Championship awards at their home State Championship.~~ (See rule IV-A-2-c-1-iv. This is a duplication of the same rule.)

The committee would like to move Section IV-B and re-name it to **IV-B-8: Charity/Fundraising Events – A range owner/shoot promoter hosting a charity/fundraising event (i.e. DU, QU, NWTF, etc.) may award prizes in addition to NSCA awards at his/her discretion, combining scores with non-NSCA members for additional prizes**. This is simply a re-numbering with-in the rule book section for this type of shoot.

The committee also discussed the 1 oz. load rule; however, no action was taken.

The committee discussed governance items regarding the representation within the NSSA Organizational Structure. We want to: a) continue to emphasize NSCA interests on the Joint Finance, Long Range Planning and NSSA/NSCA Steering Committees; b) we still desire Executive Council representation on the NSSA Executive Committee; c) meetings this week with the NSSA leaders were promising. As of today, we are starting from scratch. Please be aware that the NSSA is having an election year, so people will be changing places and we have to take that into consideration. We hope to make progress in the next two years. Everything seemed to be very positive this week. We will continue to work with the NSSA governance and try to get an equal share in representation in the joint ventures.

I would like to thank Ted Sapoznik and Sam Wortham for putting these issues on paper; they did a fantastic job. We will discuss a few more items tomorrow such as tracer/tracker loads. I feel there is no place in our sport for these items, but we will discuss them further tomorrow.

At this time is there a motion to accept the items discussed today? Paula Benbow made the motion, Richard Whaley seconded the motion. All Approved and the motion carried. All of the above items will go to the delegates for a vote.

**Steve Schultz** asked if there was anything else to discuss until the end of the meeting time at 5:30 PM, today. Paula Benbow made the motion to adjourn for today, with Adam Pinto seconding the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:30PM, Friday, January 31, 2014.

**Steve Schultz** called the meeting to order at 8:15AM, Saturday, February 1, 2014. The first order of business is to have Steve Scales give the financial report.

**Steve Scales** stated that the financial section is under letter K of the binder. There Are two 1 – page documents and a 6 page document in the binder. The first 1- page document is a schedule put together by Ted Sapoznik, Louise Terry and the Finance committee. It shows 3 items under NSCA which are NSCA alone, Marketing and Team USA. Marketing and Team USA items are stand-alone items. Money brought in by Marketing can only be used by Marketing and money brought in by Team USA can only be used by Team USA; no one can touch the money in these two columns except Marketing and Team USA. The next columns are grouped under NSC. These are events held at NSC and show only the revenues and direct costs for the events; they do not show the burden of NSC. The second 1-page document shows columns for NSCA, NSSA and Skeet Shooting Review Magazine (SSR). This document shows the revenue and direct cost of each group along with the burdens to each group. Please be aware that the Sporting Clays Magazine contract will end November 1, 2015. It is up to you whether we combine with SSR or go find another magazine to be the NSCA magazine. The next 6 pages are an overview of all balance sheets, profit and loss statements for 2013 and profit and loss statement comparisons with the previous year. The book that was handed out is put together by Padgett Stratemann. This book sates that NSSA/NSCA has clean, unqualified audit statements. This book is made public to anyone who wants to know our financial status as an association.

To summarize: the 2013 year has been a very good year financially in all respects:

* NSCA Membership dollars were up 5% from fiscal year 2012.
* NSSA Membership dollars remained unchanged from fiscal year 2012.
* NSCA Target fees received were up 4% from fiscal year 2012.
* NSSA Target fees received were up 1.5% from fiscal year 2012 when normalized for the penny increase begun in fiscal year 2013.
* The 2013 World English Sporting Clays Championship set a record at over 350,000 registered targets thrown.
* Participation in the 2013 World Skeet Championship was up 4% from fiscal year 2012.
* The 2013 National Sporting Clays Championship set a new record with over 1,160,000 registered targets thrown.
* The investment portfolio enjoyed a strong equities market in fiscal year 2013 generating over $400K in realized and unrealized gains, combined. This money goes to support our life memberships.
* Surplus cash generated by National Shooting Complex operations in 2012 was used in 2013 to :
1. Renovate the clubhouse restrooms
2. Paint the exterior of the office/registration building
3. Complete phase one of two of the RV electrical panel upgrades.
4. Extend NSCA 5-Stand sidewalks and improve sidewalk accessibility for skeet fields 4-8.
5. Replace Skeet field fences on the lower 20 Skeet fields.
6. Replace the Air conditioning unit in registration.
* And supplemented by additional cash generated in 2013, the following projects which will likely be completed in fiscal year 2014 are already fully funded:
1. Public Water Hook-up
2. 1/8th Mile Clubhouse
* NSCA’s marketing program has raised over $548K since inception and by the end of fiscal year 2013 over $153K has been spent leaving an unspent balance of $395K with $233K of additional funding conservatively estimated for fiscal year 2014.
* By fiscal year end 2013, the NSSA has raised over $116K from the one cent increase in target fees of which approximately $49K was spent on NSSA Marketing Program – primarily the In-Club Information Boards.
* Of the surplus generated in fiscal year 2013, the National Shooting Complex generated an additional $285K in excess funding that can be applied towards as-yet unfunded/un-budgeted facilities improvements in 2014.

**Steve Schultz** announced that the Governance Committee, Club and Marketing Committee, and the Instructor Committee have unfinished business. They will be meeting now to finish their business. Those of you not in these committees are welcome to sit in and listen to these committees. We will reconvene after these meetings are completed.

The meetings have completed and Steve Schultz called the meeting to order.

**Steve Schultz gave the Competition Committee Report.** Steve stated that it has been decided to have Scott Williams maintain his position as National FITASC referee for NSCA and Mo Parsons will maintain his position as the NSCA Chief Referee for Sporting Clays.

After much discussion, it was decide to format 2014 Nationals the same as last year with one 2-day rotation and one 4-day rotation. Anyone shooting either rotation will have equal opportunity to win the National Championship title.

We also talked about creating a Pro Class or an Elite Class and eliminating E Class; however, there is too much to consider at this one meeting. These are things we will be thinking about and discussing through-out the year.

Steve called for a motion to accept the committee recommendations. Frieda Lancaster made the motion, with Rick Storey seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

**Tim Miles gave the Marketing/Membership Retention – Club Level** Committee Report. Tim stated there was discussion on; what can we do to help educate the club range owners/managers on how to throw more targets to more people. The committee came up with an idea to create a club tutorial in digital audio/video format. The three topics for the tutorial are:

1. How to run a registered NSCA shoot
2. How to run a club league
3. Safety tutorial

Each of these digital videos will explain every aspect of the topic from start to finish. The tutorial will be put together by range owner/mangers and will be filmed at one of the regionals.

The other item the committee discussed was Outdoor Expos. We should do one in each Region provided that the Delegates in that region will help put it together. All information about the Expo will go to the clubs in that region, as advertising. There will be follow up after each expo with all information going to the clubs in that region. We don’t want Nicki doing all of the work; that is why we want the delegates in each region to be involved. If there is no interest or desire in a region to hold an expo, we will not have one in that region. Someone asked what is an expo? An expo is like a game fair, where people have the opportunity to actually try out product items, like shotguns or ammunition or a type of shooting sport (Skeet or Sporting Clays). The committee has budgeted, but not to exceed $20,000 this year to start working on these items. Last year about $20,000 was spent going to trade show, with not much to show for our efforts.

The committee also discussed that the Head of the International Hunter Safety Program wants to move to San Antonio. The committee thinks it would be a good idea to offer him office space. All hunter education courses will be taught here at National Shooting Complex. All courses will be given NSSA and NSCA information to be handed out to the students taking the Hunter Education courses. Think of the numbers of new people we could reach and be in contact with.

The last item discussed was a way to integrate the NSCA Instructor Program with the Marketing Program. We will require all Level I, II and III instructors to put in a certain number of hours, to be determined, instructing at their local gun club. These hours will be pro bono/no charge to the students. This will be part of the continuing education of all the instructors. It will also help make them more visible to our members and anyone visiting the clubs.

Tim asked for a motion to accept the Marketing/Membership Retention – Club Level committee recommendations. Pat Lieske made the motion, with Richard Whaley seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

**Brett Siebert gave the Instructor Committee report**. Brett announced that no current Level I, II or III instructor will be harmed in this new program. Brett said the current instructor program was reviewed and charged the committee to make it a better program. Tim Miles suggested that we add continuing education at the local grass roots level. Perhaps having instructors continue to instruct new shooters to stay fresh. If instructors instruct a lot, they get better. We want to see an affluent program.

The initiatives that were approved last year were reviewed by the committee. The purpose of the program is to teach people how to teach, not to teach people how to shoot a target. We need a mentoring program, so those who get certified will have someone they can go to if they have problems they need help with. We need minimum standards and pre-requisites for those who want to go through the program. The instructor needs to go through a continuing education program and maintain a certain level of proficiency.

The committee unanimously felt that the criteria for enrollment of instructor candidates in each Level should be as follows:

Standards for: **Ambassador (Trainer)**

To enroll, an instructor candidate must meet the following criteria:

* 18 years old or older
* 12-hour course
* Current member of NSCA
* Shot a minimum of 300 registered targets
* Take 2-hour lesson from Level I, II, III or equivalent before the course
* After certification they can teach introductory sessions and events only.

**Level I**

To enroll, an instructor candidate must meet the following criteria:

* Must be a current, active member of NSCA
* 18 years old or older
* Shot 3,000 minimum lifetime registered targets (monthly targets do not qualify)
* Earned their way to C Class or equivalent (cannot declare up to C Class)
* Take a minimum of 4 hours of lessons from a Level II, Level III or equivalent instructor (As determined by NSCA Chief Instructor) before the course is taken.

Certification Standards: to be determined

Continuing Education: to be determined

**Level II**

To enroll, an instructor candidate must meet the following criteria:

* Must be a current and active member of NSCA
* 18 years old or older
* Shot 6,000 minimum registered lifetime targets (monthly targets do not qualify)
* Earned their way to minimum of A Class or equivalent (cannot declare up to any class)
* Been a Level I instructor for a minimum of 2 years
* Taught a minimum of 400 clock hours of paid instruction as a Level I (unpaid instruction may be considered, must be documented and may be accepted in lieu of paid hours by exception by the NSCA Chief Instructor)
* Taken lessons (8 hours) from Level III or equivalent (As determined by the NSCA Chief Instructor ) before taking the course

Certification Standards: to be determined

Continuing Education: to be determined

**Level III**

To enroll, an instructor candidate must meet the following criteria:

* Must be a current and active member of NSCA
* 18 years old or older
* Shot 10,000 minimum registered lifetime targets (monthly targets do not qualify)
* Earned their way to minimum of AA Class or equivalent (cannot declare up to any class)
* Been a Level II instructor for a minimum of 2 years
* Taught a minimum of 1,500 clock hours of paid instruction as a Level II (unpaid instruction may be considered, must be documented and may be accepted in lieu of paid hours by exception by the NSCA Chief Instructor)

Certification Standards: to be determined

Continuing Education: to be determined

Clarification points:

* Calculation of hours taught is clock hours and not multiplied by the number of students. For example, if a person is teaching 5 people for 2 hours, the instructor gets credit for 2 hours of instruction.
* A review board will be created, or the entire instructor committee will serve as the arbiter for any exceptions to the above.

Other topics that will be addressed at a later date:

* Implementation of changes to courses, Levels I, II and III
* What program/level criteria will be either a) grandfathered in or b) met, following a grace period or they must be certified.
* Grace period for compliance. How long?
* Reclassification criteria?
* Mentorship Program
* Criteria for graduation for each course level
* Continuing education

Brett said the new Chief Instructor will work to implement finding our new Master Instructor who will be a real professional coach. The Master Instructor will be someone who is a conduit to reach out to the top shooters and our existing Level III instructors and work with them to get into the instructor program. The committee will require retention of all revenue for one year so there will probably not be any net profit showing for this year for the program. Steve Schultz asked; why is the committee requiring the retention of all revenue? Brett Siebert said the money will be used to improve the instructor information on the website and the new Chief Instructor will need money over and above his salary to promote the program, build the curriculum and produce new instructor books and materials. The instructor program grossed $90,000 in 2013.

Brett Siebert asked for a motion to accept the proposals from the Instructor committee. Andy Duffy made the motion, with Richard Whaley seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

**Todd Kemmerer gave the Awards/Team USA/Hall of Fame Committee Report**. Todd said there are 4 items that the committee covered. He will ask for separate votes on each item because they deal with separate issue.

The first item is the Hall of Fame procedures. The committee would like to change the Hall of Fame procedures as follows: The deadline for submission to Headquarters shall be March 1st of the year on induction consideration. NSCA Headquarters will forward all submissions to the Hall of Fame Committee Chairman, no later than March 8th. The Hall of Fame submissions will be distributed to the rest of the committee members by the Hall of Fame Committee Chairman for consideration no later the March 15th. The Hall of Fame Committee vote deadline is March 31st. Committee nominations will then be presented to the NSCA Executive Council for vote no later than April 10th of the induction year.

Todd called for a motion to accept the recommendations for the Hall of Fame procedures and deadline. Ted Sapoznik made the motion with Richard Whaley seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

The second item the committee reviewed was the point system for overall Tour Championship. Points will be earned from the Main event, 5-Stand event and FITASC event at the five Regional Championships and the US Open. Points will be earned from the Main event, FITASC and K-Kup event at the Nationals. (NSCA 5-Stand has two venues so there is no congruency). The World English Sporting Clays Championship was eliminated as an event that earns points for the Tour Championship. We decided to do this because it is not in the US every year. The committee recommended that the awards for each Regional Championship are standardized and placed in the bid package through marketing for each club to purchase. We want to brand the tour. This will go into effect in 2015.

Todd Kemmerer asked for a motion to accept the recommendations for the Championship Tour. Scott Robertson made the motion with Jim Montgomery seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

The third item the committee reviewed was for the All American Teams. There were two items the committee suggested:

* Add a FITASC All-American Team. This would help grow FITASC participation the same as the sub gauge All-American teams have done for the sub gauge events.
* Any event with less than 50 registered targets will not be awarded All-American points.

Consideration of creating a military concurrent and or oilman concurrent was not supported by the committee with no further action.

Our committee suggests that we revisit brining back Compaq instead of NSCA 5-Stand. Compaq is the only new clay target sport being vetted for inclusion into the Olympic Games; it is a world event.

Todd Kemmerer asked for a motion to accept the recommendations for the All-American Team. John Hackethorn made the motion with Derek Moore seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried.

The fourth and last item of the committee was for Team USA changes. There are 6 items to review:

1. Calculate a shooter’s points by dividing the shooters score by the HOA in their respective concurrent category.
2. Drop the Nationals or US Open as a mandatory shoot for Team USA FITASC. A call for a show of hands for and against this item. There were 18 who voted to drop and 18 voted not to drop either the Nationals or US Open for TEAM USA FITASC qualification; no majority. **This item FAILED.**
3. A shooter is only eligible for TEAM USA within their concurrent category. Example: a Junior (or Veteran or Super Veteran) shooter who qualifies for the Senior Team would still shoot on the Junior (Veteran or Super Veteran) Team. Specialty case: With a Lady/Junior (or Veteran or Super Veteran) shooter who qualifies for both the Lady and the Junior (Veteran or Super Veteran)Team, she would shoot on the Lady Team. This is an effort to have the best of the best in each category to put Team USA together. Paula Benbow made a motion to accept this item, with John Hackethorn seconding the motion. A call for a show of hands for and against this item. There were 29 who voted to adopt this item and 7 voted not to adopt this item; there is a majority. **The motion PASSED.**
4. For the purpose of determining the Senior Team USA; create the Senior category and track this separately online.
5. Team USA FITASC requirements: There is no minimum number of qualifier shoots a member must enter, but he/she MUST participate in and use a score from at least one of the 200 bird FITASC team qualifier events to be eligible. The qualifying 200 bird FITASC events are: US grand Prix, North American FITASC Championship and National FITASC when it is a 200 bird event. Todd asked for a motion to adopt this item. Paula Benbow made the motion with Frieda Lancaster seconding the motion. There was a majority (no numbers recorded). **The motion passed.**
6. We request the NSCA to pay $17,500 to TEAM USA which will go towards entry fees and podium gifts. This item must be approved by the NSSA Finance committee.

Todd asked for a motion to accept items number 1, 4 and 6. A motion was made by Paula Benbow and seconded by Mo Parsons. All Approved and the motion carried.

Ted Sapoznik made the point that any budgetary requests be made by August first, which is when the budgets are usually approved for the coming year.

**Steve Schultz** asked if there was any new business to discuss.

**John Calandro** stated that there are two more rule changes that the Rules/Governance and Finance committee recommends.

1. The committee would like to strike and add the following bolded language to the rule IV-K-6 as follows: Targets shall be scored as HIT or DEAD and designated on the score cards by ~~an “X”~~ **a “/” (forward slash) or “\” (back slash)** when in the opinion of the Field Judge, a visible piece has been broken from the target. Targets not struck and broken by the shooter’s shot (pellets) shall be called LOST or MISSED and designated on the score cards by an “O”.

John called for a motion to accept this recommendation by the committee. Paula Benbow made the motion with Adam Pinto seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried. This item will go to the delegates for a vote.

1. The committee would like to add the following bolded language to the rule IV-E-4-a as follows: All shot shell ammunition including reloads may generally be used unless otherwise restricted by the shoot organizers. Reloads, **black powder, visual training loads, tracers or trackers** are not permitted at Regional Championships, The US Open or the National Championships. Other shoot officials may also limit the ammunition to commercially manufactured shot shells. The National Sporting Clays Association assumes no responsibility in connection with the use of reloads or commercially manufactured ammunition.

There are several new types of tracer/tracking loads available; some with different colored wads that make it difficult to tell wads from target pieces and some that are capable of starting grass fires due to sparking elements in the load. We feel these are unsafe loads to use.

John called for a motion to accept this recommendation by the committee. Paula Benbow made the motion, with Todd Kemmerer seconding the motion. All Approved and the motion carried. This item will go to the delegates for a vote.

 **Steve Schultz** asked if there was any other new business. Steve Schultz asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Whaley made the motion, with Paula Benbow seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:27AM, February1, 2014.