**2015 NSCA Advisory Council Winter Meeting Minutes**

**Friday, January 30-Saturday, January 31, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Schultz, at 8:05AM on Friday, January 30, 2015. Steve welcomed everyone, said we have a lot of business to cover. He asked any guests who were not members of the Advisory Council to stand and introduce themselves.

John Dennert – Wisconsin Delegate Tina Jewell – USA S.C. Team Member

Haley Dunn – PSCA Don Currie – NSCA Chief Instructor

Alan Van Velkinburg – NSCA Member Michael Sutton

Scott Grange – Browning

Steve Schultz asked for the roll call. Roll call was done by Brett Moyes.

Those present:

**Industry**

Russ Arnold – Shooting Sports Consulting Mike McAlpine – Clay Target Academy

John Calandro, III – Clay Shooters Supply Sean McLelland – Youth Target Foundation

John Commerford – NRA Carlton Nether – Primer

Heyward Cunningham – Promatin, Inc. 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

Anthony Matarese, Jr – AIM Shooting School

**Range Owners/Managers**

Justin Bounds – Caney Creek Shooting Sports Jason Miller – The Shooting Academy

Rick Hemingway – Backwoods Quail Club Scott Robertson – Elm Fork Shotgun Sports

Tim Jewell – Rangers Gun Club Dan Twitchell – Ben Avery Clay Target Center

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

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

**Shooters**

Dr. Paula Benbow – Sobieski, WI 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 Montgomery – Lake Charles, LA Rick Storey – Sealy, TX

Todd Kemmerer – Columbus, OH Eddie Vigil – St George, UT

Anne Mauro – Baltimore, MD Sam Wortham – Santa Fe, NM

Those absent;

**Industry**

Lynne Green – Green Girl Photos

**Range Owners/Managers**

George Hopkins – Hopkins Game Farm David Rippetoe – Silverleaf Shotgun Sports Frieda Lancaster – Claythorne Lodge

**Shooters**

Alexandra Wampler – Walnut Creek, CA

**Staff** present:

Brett Moyes – NSCA Director Nichole Martin – Marketing Coordinator

Lori Hartmann – Club Secretary

Steve Schultz said, he will check the excuses for those who are not and as EC Director make the decision if they are valid excuses or not. For those not excused; they will lose their positions on the Advisory Council and be replaced according to the rules. Steve asked if anyone had any issues with that. There were no issues brought up.

Steve Schultz stated that Brett Moyes will go over the binder, after which the committees will break out for their meetings. The Mass Marketing/Membership Growth committee will meet in the club house, the Marketing/Member Retention – Club Level Committee will meet in the Winchester Building and the Rules, Governance and Finance Committee will meet in the Remington building. Everyone will take a one hour lunch break at 12:00PM. After lunch we will hear a PSCA presentation. After the PSCA presentation the committees will break out again, with the Competition Committee meeting in the club house, the Instructor Committee meeting in the Remington Building and the Awards/USA Sporting Clays/Hall of Fame Committee meeting in the Winchester building. At 4:00PM the meetings will adjourn and preliminary reports of the morning committees will be given.

Steve Shultz asked if everyone had had a chance to read the minutes of the 2014 Nationals Advisory Council meeting and if there were any objections to the minutes. There were none. Steve asked for a motion to accept the 2014 Nationals minute; Brett Seibert made the motion with Heyward Cunningham seconding the motion, all agreed and the motion was carried.

Steve Schultz asked Brett Moyes to go through the binder at this time.

Brett Moyes asked everyone to state their names before speaking. He said we the meeting is being recorded and we need to know who is making statements. Last year we attempted to hire someone to record the meeting for us and it turned out to be a disaster. We hope to do better with this method.

Brett asked all those who would like to have the binder material sent to them on a thumb drive, please raise your hands. Nicki will take your names and we will mail a thumb drive to you. Brett also said that we sent the binder material to you last year in Drop Box format and asked for comments in regard to that process. Several people could not open the file, but said they like the thumb drive. Brett said we will continue to use Drop Box as well as the thumb drives and try to use applications that everyone can use.

Brett said there will be some topics in the binder that will be presented that you can discuss more heavily in your committee meetings. For instance the gun giveaway program at Nationals as well as what was previously Team USA. We will begin with Section C of the binder; there is a short report that I put together. Membership is up; as of December 31, 2014 there were 28,762 members. At this time last year, we had 27,626 members; this is an increase of 1,136 members. Clubs are down, but targets are up. We have 619 clubs that held 2,266 registered shoots last year where 24,097,084 registered targets were shot. At this time last year, we had 622 clubs and held 2,278 registered shoots where 23,000,540 registered targets were shot. A slight decrease in clubs and shoots but an increase in over 1 million registered targets shot. There are 6,739 Life Members, an increase of 366 since August 31, 2013.

The Pan American Championship numbers were up; there were 278 participants in the main event at last year’s Pan American. Last year there were 151,150 registered targets thrown at the Pan Am. In 2015 South Florida Shooting Club will host the World English Sporting Clays Championship. This will be the first time that the World English will be held at another club, other than the National Shooting Club, in the USA. The National Shooting Complex will host the 2017 World English Sporting Clays Championship as well as the 2015 Texas State Championship.

The NSCA National Championship was up by only 50 shooters but all the shooters were shooting more targets. We had 1,920 shooters participate. A new for was added to the 2014 Nationals; the North vs. South shoot-off was held in the stadium field. This was a fun event and allowed the crowd to participate along with the shoot-off. This was another record breaking year for us at Nationals where we threw just over 1.2 million registered targets. We have added a weekend to the 2015 Nationals. At this time there are currently 836 participants signed up with deposits paid. You might remember t this time last year we didn’t even have anything available online; so, this is shaping up to, once again, be the largest shoot we have ever held.

The 2014 US Open attendance was up; it was the largest US Open on record. Frieda and Sam Lancaster and their crew did an outstanding job. Last year the US Open was held at Claythorne Lodge in Columbus, Kansas. There were 1,121 attendees, an increase of 93 over the 2013 event. There were 573,749 targets registered at the 2014 US Open. The 2015 US Open will be held at Northbrook Sports Club, in Illinois. This will be their first attempt at hosting a US Open; however, with their past experience of holding large shoots, this will be one shoot you do not want to miss. They currently have 727 participants signed up. So, if you haven’t signed up yet, you should sign up to reserve your space, now.

Financial Breakdown – We have had a lot of feedback regarding the money we are putting back into the regional events. By providing bottled water and snacks, as well as improving on the dinners, we have helped make those events the largest of their kind in history. We used $10,000 which isn’t much to us, but everything we used that money for had a positive influence for all of the shoots where the added money was used. We are in the process of making videos for safety as well as for shoot management. These will be used not only on the new NSCA trailer but they will be given to any club that would like to have copies of them. The truck and trailer is ready to go and we have plans to take it to a few oilfield shoots, in the future. The rest of the schedule will be decided during our meetings.

Membership stats are next in the binder. We are right at a 7% increase in membership for this year; this increase does not include CLM memberships. Last year CLM participation was down, the lowest participation rate in 3 years. You might think this is a good thing; however, if we are not signing up CLM members, they are not around to renew for the New Year. This year the CLM rate is doing well. The following pages in the bonder cover membership breakdown by types of membership, memberships by state and memberships by class. The Crossfire program is doing well; we have both NSSA and NSCA members shooting the other Associations targets. There are more Skeet member shooting Sporting Clays targets than there are Sporting Clay members shooting Skeet targets. The last membership stats sheet is the numbers of shooters who did not renew their membership.

Target stats are in Section D. There were 23 ½ million targets shot in 2014; right t 1 ½ million targets shot over the 2013 shoot year. FITASC target participation in next followed by, Targets Shot by Class. You will find reports on Membership Targets Shot by State, Shot by Class by State, Shot by Concurrent by State followed by a concurrent summary. There are reports on High Volume Shooters Participation, Targets Registered by State, followed by reports on Punches Received by Members by State by Class and a report on Punches Given by Clubs by State. Last is a report on Members that Shot Minimum 1,000 Targets but Less Than 2,000 Targets in 2014 by Class. Feel free to discuss these stats in your committee meetings.

Section E covers High Volume Clubs; the top 4 are, National Shooting Complex (the advantage we have is due to hosting the Nationals), followed by Claythorne Lodge (who hosted the US Open in 2014), Fossil Pointe and M& M Sporting Clays. Thank all of you for a job well done; keep doing what you’re doing.

Next is a list of the Big Blast and Mega Blast shoots. Please notice that all of the Regional Championships are included in both of these categories, as well as some of the State Championships and the Pan American Championship. There are definitely smaller clubs hosting bigger shoots, which is a good thing.

The next reports are FITASC Events with 50 or More Entries followed by Sporting Clays Events with 100 or More Entries, which covers several pages. The next report is Clubs That Did Not Renew as well as Clubs with 0 Targets Registered, in 2014. There are 620 member clubs in 2014 with 350 throwing registered targets. The other clubs are member clubs; however, they join only for the insurance or just want to get the magazine for the club house or for the listing in the magazine. With that said, we only lost 2 clubs last year.

Section F is a breakdown of attendance at the National Championship since 1989. In 2014 we had 1,918 entries. The gun give-away program helped bring the attendance numbers up and helped to get more shooters to shoot more targets. However, Brett said he did not expect the volume of shooters trying to shoot-off for the give-away guns. People waited in line for an hour to shoot off for any one of the give-away guns, which he felt was ridiculous. Brett feels we need to come up with some other way to give the gun-away, other than in a shoot-off format. The comments we heard were mostly good; however, there was one truly negative comment regarding the fact that we advertised Browning and Beretta guns. When the gun was received by the winner, it was in a Winchester box.

The growth of the Nationals has been phenomenal; the idea to give back to the shooters in a positive manner is a huge boost to the program. 5 years ago we were netting $200K after Nationals, this year we netted $550K, before depreciation, after Nationals. Even though we added only 30 more shooters over last year, we had this huge increase in money. We added the 2-day rotation, we took Super Sporting to 100 targets and we added the small gauge FITASC events, so the shooters who came, shot more events and more targets. This year, Brett feels we will see a bigger increase in participation because of the gun give-away program we did in 2014. He feels we should hit the 2,000 mark in entries for 2015. We do have a problem with people signing up for Nationals then they either decide to cancel and not tell anyone (no show) or they cancel and don’t get pulled from the system. This is causing wasted space where some other shooter who wants to attend, but can’t get squadded, because there is no space available showing in the online registration. Almost 300 people were in the system in 2014 that did not get pulled prior to the start of the Nationals. We have some new policies in effect for 2015. At this time, there are 1,000 people signed up for Nationals, all with $300 deposits paid. Last year, at this time, we didn’t even have any one signed up, yet. We need to come up with a standard set of policies on cancellation and refunds for all of the major shoots, to avoid missing out on people who want to attend, but can’t because there isn’t space available, due to no shows and or late cancellations. We don’t want to charge huge entry fees because people will not sign up for multiple events in advance. We need to move the cancellation date for refunds earlier in the year, so people will cancel earlier in order to get their refunds. This will allow us to fill the empty spaces caused by the cancellations. If the shooters signs up really early in the year, we might have to ask for a full payment in advance, in order to keep them from cancelling. Last year we sent emails to all who had not paid a deposit. All but a few answered the emails and sent in deposits; those who did not answer were dropped from the entry list. With this done, we still had 300 people that were no shows or late cancellations. I ask the Competition Committee to discuss this further for a solution.

Also in Section F are other reports regarding Nationals. There is a National Championship Shooter Breakdown by Concurrent and By Class, a Shooter Breakdown by Year Joined, a report on First Time Attendee by Concurrent and Class, a report on Tournament entrants by State, a report on Tournament Entrants by Country as well as the Nationals pre-survey and post-survey. The last item is the 205 Nationals entry form.

Section G covers details regarding the US Open stats, which gives a full breakdown. The 2015 US Open will be held at Northbrook Sports Club on June 22-28. The 2017 bid form and criteria is listed nest and the 2016 US Open will be held at Caney Creek on May 31- June 5.

Section H contains stats that list Number of Shooters by State Who Attended the Regional Shoots. There is a Comparison in Shoot Attendance Between 2013 and 2014 Regionals. There is a report showing the Number of Shooters by Class Who Attended Regional Shoots, as well, as a Regional Map listing the Regional Delegates. We also included the bid form and criteria for the 2015 Regional Championships.

Section I contains the FITASC Referee Certification Initiative. If anyone needs a list of our certified referees for any upcoming FITASC events, please call and request the list. We can email it to you. We

have included the criteria for the North American FITASC Championship and the US FITASC Grand Prix World Cup Events. The US FITASC Grand Prix as well as the FITASC World Championship will be held at Caribou Gun Club from July 17-26, 2015. These events are also USA Sporting Clays Team event qualifiers.

Brett Moyes asked for everyone to please take the time to go through the rest of the binder material during the weekend. There is some good information in the binders. If you want the binder material on a thumb drive, we will be happy to send it to you, just let us know that you want a thumb drive before you leave.

Brett Moyes stated we will now break out in to the committee meetings. Please go to section Q, last page, you will see a committee schedule. The Mass Marketing/Member Growth Committee will meet in the club house. The Club Marketing/Member Retention Committee will be in the Winchester building. The Finance/Governance/Rules Committee will be in the Remington building. Lunch will be served at 12:00Noon.

Steve Schultz said, at this time, we will hear a presentation and proposal from the PSCA. After the presentation we will break out for the remaining committee meetings. At 4:00PM we will hear the preliminary committee reports from the morning committee meetings.

Steve Schultz introduced Mike Osowski who talked about the beginnings of the PSCA. Mike is a retail gas company owner. Mike met Mel Parks about 6 or 7 years ago; Mel Parks became a father figure to Mike. Mel is about 64 years old, a Viet Nam War Veteran, Purple Heart recipient, loves to shoot and is a good shot. Mel helped Mike realize what fun the shooting sports are and Mike in turn wanted his boys to learn to enjoy the shooting sorts as much as he and Mel do. Dan Carlisle is Mike coach. Mike and Dan had had several conversations regarding why the shooting sports are not as visible on TV as other sports like golf or pro rodeo. Mike knows people in the TV business and Dan knows the shooters and how to put on shooting events. They got together and designed a TV program which would make the shooting sports a small version of golf or pro rodeo events. The also created the PSCA (Professional Sporting Clays Association) made up of 60 of the USA’s best Sporting Clay shooters. The first year shows end up being not very focused, there were quality control issues. We need to figure out how to make each show better than the last. After the 9th episode and the first year of programs, we feel that we had it figured out. Now the second year needs more improvement, still. We need to work together to get this done. We need to get all on board, ask sponsors to get behind us, so we can make this thing grow.

Mike asked Scott Robertson for his input on what was proposed in the morning Marketing meeting. Scott Robertson said in the meeting the committee members expressed some of their concerns regarding the PSCA program from last year’s televised episodes. Scott agreed that we need everyone to get on board if this program is to grow. The main goal is to make the sport of Sporting Clays grow. Scott said the shows aired 66 times with 1,900,000 viewers watching the shows. We have been asked for another $75K for this year (2015). We feel the format is not very interesting as it is. So, the question is why; don’t we keep the $75K? We will film some of our events; Mike will produce the program with what we film for him and he comes up with prize money for the winners and pay for the production costs. We become partners instead of s sponsor of PSCA. Anthony Matarese, Jr. and Scott Robertson will be part of a committee and act as liaisons between PSCA and NSCA. Scott said, we want to have more input into what is programmed. We are going to get all of the athletes together and qualify 16 of them to actually be on the show. We will do all of the shooting at night with flash targets to make it visually interesting. We will use the last 3 minutes of each filmed event to make into one program segment. We will use shooter profiles for interest filler content. We will use a game, like Pro Challenge or Make-A-Break where everyone shown is in contention for winning. This will make the program more exciting to watch. We think by working together we can do this better and produce better results for the members. We need the members to understand what we are trying to do. PSCA isn’t making any progress and we can’t create a program on our own, we don’t have the money. If we join together, we think we can pull this think off. And get things heading in the right direction. If it turns out to be really successful, the PSCA will own the programs. Instead of giving PSCA $75K this year, we will use our money to get the events that we create so that PSCA can use their money to produce the program. It’s about time for all of us to work together, we don’t have the money to invest in this and if there aren’t any better results for Mike, he will not want to put any more money into it, and then no one wins. So, we need to work together and do our best to make it work. We don’t know what the impact of this will be on the sport, but if we don’t try something, nothing will happen and we will not get ahead like we want. We will negotiate the use of commercials for NSCA during the program. $75K from NSCA should be enough for us to produce a good commercial. We have more money in the marketing budget, if we need it. We won’t spend it without approval by the committee and the Executive Council. We feel this is the time to get behind this program and try to make it work for us. Mike and his group have a small window to work within for air time. The first event that will be filmed will be the Northeast Regional at M&M Sporting Clays in May. We will also file at the US Open, the South Central Regional at Fossil Pointe and at the Nationals. These programs would be aired in early 2016. We want to do 2 things we can still keep the integrity of Sporting Clays as a game that the grass roots members know and we need to get to the top 16 shooters. You can’t create profiles on 50 to 60 people and keep the program interesting. You have to run with the top few people. I have learned that you cannot patent rules for games, so you can’t own the games that you show the shooters playing. Scott said he owns the patent on the Pro Challenge scoreboard. Scott said, this is the first time in 25 years that everything has come together where we have someone putting money into a shooting program where Skeet and Sporting Clays Associations are behind it and we think we can pull it off, at this time. There needs to be a limit for what gets done for free and what we can pay for. We will hire the best guys in the business to get the job done. If they are in this room and it’s a conflict of interest, so what! We need to get past all of this petty stuff. Scott said, the top 12 spots are set for those who are qualified, card carrying pros. We need to talk about what else we will do, like a ladies or amateur program. We will flesh all of these details out in the marketing meeting and with PSCA. We plan on using the Regionals, the US Open and the Nationals. It will save a ton of money in the long run because the infrastructure for these events is all in place; the people running these shoots know what they are doing. There will not be a huge amount money that needs to be spent up front because it already there. The whole idea of this is to get more visibility for our sport. Mike is there to make a profit and we hope we can do this to promote our sport. Ultimately we want make it a global sport and go international. At this time we are asking for the same funding as last year. We are just re allocating how we are going to spend the money. All of the decisions will come out of tomorrow’s marketing meeting. Please think about all that has been presented and give us your ideas.

Steve Schultz said we will now break out into our afternoon committees for the afternoon. -The Competition Committee will meet in the club house; the Instructor Committee will meet in the Remington building and the Awards/Hall of Fame Committee will meet in the Winchester building.

Steve Schultz re-opened the meeting Saturday, January 31, 2015 at 8:20AM. Steve Schultz asked for Steve Scales to give the financial report before all committee chairmen gave their committee reports.

Steve Scales – handed out the Financial Statements and Supplementary Data put together by Padgett Stratemann. Steve said this is public information and covers all financial information for NSSA and NSCA up through November 30, 2014. This is a very useful tool to use when talking about our organizations to sponsors, gun clubs, members, etc. The auditors gave us a clean financial standing with an “unqualified opinion”, which is the best ranking available. In other words, there was nothing in our financials that are questionable. On page 3 you will see the statement of financial position; that is a balance sheet for a for-profit organization. It shows our cash position at the end of the year was $1.8 million. $60K of that is called designated finds. That means this money or these funds may not be used for anything other than what they; are specifically designated. This includes, USA Sporting Clays Team donations, fundraising, sales, etc. Money is set aside for marketing funds for Skeet and Sporting Clays as well as for the Scholarship fund and Youth Shooting, etc. When you look at that, $1.8 million, you really only have $1.2 million that you can use for general purposes. The other $640K is designated for specific usage and cannot be used for anything else. The $1.2 million will be used for building projects. We did not hold the World English Sporting Clays Championship in 2014; however, we still made money by hosting fundraisers and fun shoots; this money went to pay for work done at the gun club. More revenues were collected by holding other events.

Cash equivalents and marketable securities is a designated item; this is money dedicated to taking care of our life members. This account is an investment portfolio and generated interest. We will never have to raise another penny to take care of our Life Members. We have an over amount of money in that account that can be used for other projects; however there is a certain amount of money that cannot be used for anything other than supporting our Life Members. We can also leave this money in the Life Member account as a buffer.

Our fixed assets position is property and equipment. We have invested in this infrastructure on the property. The net value of our assets is a quarter of a million dollars. We bought a quarter of a million dollars-worth of assets to replace old worn out equipment that had deprecated in value. The total net assets show at $8.8 million for 2014 as opposed to $8.2 million for 2013. $8.8 million is the book value of this company. Is it worth more than that; of course it is! The reason we used the figure of $8.8 million is because we can’t appreciate the value of the land. These 2 associations, in net asset value of the property, continue to grow. That is what a healthy company does, it grows.

See page 16, under foot note 13. This shows temporarily restricted assets. There are 3 kinds of net assets with the company. The $8.8 million of net assets we just talked about are mostly unrestricted assets. These are for the general use of the NSSA and NSCA. The $643K is temporarily restricted for specific purposes; this balance was as of November 30, 2014. It is called temporarily restricted, because we know we will eventually be spending this money on designated items such as USA sporting Clay Team, scholarships, etc. The third type of asset is permanently restricted and is a fixed amount; the other two types of assets are set at market value. A restricted asset is an investment we don’t touch and only the interest from the original investment can be used. This would be like an endowment. At this time, we do not have any restricted assets.

The last 3 pages of the book show revenue and expenses. This is a good way to show the general public or sponsors/investors how the company is run. The revenues and expenses are broken down into the 3 categories of Skeet, Sporting Clays and National Shooting Complex which supports the associations by hosting Skeet and Sporting Clay events, as well as, other events such as Trap events. You have support services, fundraising, management, and membership magazines. As an organization we are stronger together than we are as 3 separate entities; this is very important. This also translates into people wanting to give money to the organizations. You will also see a column for magazines. We have 2 membership magazines; one for Skeet and one for Sporting Clays. We spend $350 to $400K per year, so our members can get their magazines. Skeet Shooting Review costs us about $100K per year for our members, the remainder of our magazine cost is for Sporting Clays Magazine. At the end of this 2015 shoot year, our contract with Sporting Clays Magazine will run out. There may be an opportunity for us to save money on magazines by combining the two current magazines onto one.

Look at the final comparison columns, showing what we spent our money on and how much money was spent. If you save these booklets you can compare year to year spending for the associations. We started this format in 2012. We wanted something that was more informative and easier to understand.

Steve said Section K contains more information that we just went over. If you turn to the colored page in the booklet, it shows NSCA end of year 2014 profit /loss actuals. This is the format put together by the previous financial committee; Ted Sapoznik, Louise Terry, John Calandro, III and others. This not only shows what your membership organizations are doing, but it also shows marketing activities, the US Sporting Clays Team activity and other registered Sporting Clays events, run as Sporting Clay activities, on the property: The Nationals, Pan American, Clayfest , etc. This gives the bottom line for what Sporting Clays does each year. I will be uploading the information to the website after these meetings. We are on a positive path. WE have a strong balance sheet, cash position and investment portfolio. We also have plans to build, improve and enhance the organizations and the Complex as a whole.

At this time each committee gave their reports to the Advisory Council.

The Competition Committee report was given by Steve Schultz. Turn to Section U in the binder. Steve said the committee vetoed to approve Scott Williams, once again, as the Chief FITASC referee for the US and Mo Parsons was, once again, voted in as the Chief Sporting Clays referee for the US, for 2015.

The biggest thing the committee decided was to review the Regional and US Open criteria. We want to establish control over the process and amount of money spent on the shoots, such as payouts and trophy packages, and develop a better vetting process for the clubs to ensure they are compliant to the bid forms. We are adding a mandatory event for the club winner to do, to help raise $5K for the USA Sporting Clays Team. How they do this is up to them; they can hold a raffle, create an option add an event, whatever they want, but the money raised will, hopefully, amount to $5K and it will be raised for The USA Sporting Clays Team. We will hold them responsible for ear marking $5K for the Team. We will help them and liaison with them. We also want to set a maximum price level for these shoots and a minimum trophy and payout package. We are getting a wide range of prices and payouts and this time and we need to set a standard for all of the Regionals as well as for the US Open. We will go over the shoots bids from the past several years and come up with an average for minimums and maximums and develop a standard set of prices for these shoot bids. We have found that we are not always getting the best club for the price, and we feel setting standards will help in this area. We have also had trouble setting dates for the Regionals as well as for the big FITASC shoots, the US Open and the Nationals. We don’t want to cause a conflict which will cause the shooters to have to choose attending one event over another, because they are set on the same date. To prevent this, we have added another layer between the committee and the Regional Delegates, for the voting process. The bids will go to Brett Moyes where he will vet each club to be sure they meet the criteria. The bids will then go to the Regional Delegates in each Region. The bids will then be sent to Executive Council for date approval. The Executive Council will work out dates with the Regional Delegate if there is a conflict. If the club can’t do the chosen date made by the Executive Council and Regional Delegate, the event will go to the next best club that can handle the chosen date. This will make the Regional Delegates more active in the bid process and hopefully we will not end up with 2 Regionals in one month as we had last year.

The committee decided to appoint 1 competition committee member to attend and assist each club hosting a Regional Shoot. The committee member will make sure that the club is adhering to the bid process and they will also help with the shoot organization and set up.

Scott Chaney will be hauling the truck and trailer to all of the Regionals, the US Open the Nationals and any other major event where it is needed. He will be the eyes and ears on the grounds to look for any problems that may come up at these events, as well as take care of the maintenance of the truck and trailer.

We hope that with these new processes, the clubs will do better jobs and nothing will fall through the cracks. We are starting to add newer clubs to the event schedule. Most of the club owners know what to do, but this will help make sure nothing goes wrong according to the bids.

We are also going to raise the deposit amounts from $100 to $200 with a 45 day non refund clause. We are getting people waiting to the last minute to cancel and then the shoot does not fill up. This happened at Nationals last year. We are also going to apply these rules to the US Open.

We tabled the idea to have the top shooters on the same rotation, again. We have done this for 4 years in a row. We want to wait and see what the PSCA does – whatever they do may have an impact on what we do. We decided not to hold the Nationals Champion to the 4-day rotation; the Champion can come from any rotation at Nationals.

We voted to start all side events on Monday, for the Nationals. Only the Main event rotation will be open on the Saturday and Sunday rotation in 2015. If we do decide to start an event on the weekend, it will be the 5-Stand event because it is not an expensive event to run. The gun give-away program will also start on the Saturday/Sunday rotation this year, so it’s inclusive for the Main event prizes.

We followed up with the “Pro” or “Elite” Class and decided to offer it at all Mega Blast shoots and give it a trial run at the US Open, this year. Brett Seibert has agreed to do this. We will come up with the top 50 or 75 shooters; move them out of Master Class up to “Pro” or “Elite” Class and see what that does. Someone asked if the $5,000 payout will be the same and Steve said the numbers would be the same.

Brett Siebert gave the Instructor Committee report. Brett said the committee is asking for $20K to upgrade the Instructor website and micro site as well as finishing the curriculum. Brett asked Don Currie to report as well.

Don Currie said this was an exciting year for the instructor program. Please turn to Section V in the binder. You will see a stats page and the summary of accomplishments for the year. We increased the number of attendees by 34% over 2013. Our revenue was increased by 40%. If you combined the NSSA and the NSCA instructor programs, the NSCA program now represents 83% of all instructor revenue, which is a pretty big increase. We increased the content of the courses by re-writing the Level I instructor manual. We created a consistent teaching content. We now hold instructors to the same content and standards for each class. In the past, some instructors were not teaching the NSCA instructor curriculum.

Don went over some of the other items that the Instructor Program has accomplished for the 2014 shoot year.

Accomplishments for 2014:

* Increased the number of attendees to the instructor courses (+34% since program enhancements were announced) while also stepping up enforcement of historical certification standards.
* Created competency checklists for Levels I, II and III
* Enhanced the content of the courses by rewriting course manuals and written exams for Levels I and II
* Standardized course content for all levels through enhanced teaching tools and a more structured course outline
* Created the Level III written examination
* Created marketing materials for clubs to attract students to the courses
* Resumed enforcement of Level II and III application standards
  + Level II: 500 hours, 2 years and Level I
  + Level III: 1,500 hours, 3 years as Level II
* Established formal Shooter Proficiency Requirements for all levels
* Introduced Scholastic Instructor and Recreational Instructor Certifications (We did not have these courses prior to 2015). This is for students who don’t have very much shooting experience. Previously instructors were pressured into passing these students, even though they could not shoot proficiently.
  + - These courses are recognized by SCTP and eligible for liability coverage through SIAI
* Initiated web-based post-course survey for all courses

Saw an increase in quality of course applicants (greater proficiency and knowledge). The Level I student must be C Class or must have shot 3,000 targets prior to the course. They must shoot 75% of presented targets. We now have a written proficiency test. We are noticing a higher level of shooter coming to take the Level I instructor courses.

* Established “Instructor Call” newsletter to keep certified instructors informed

Priorities for 2015:

* Club Pro Program – Finalize parameters, establish faculty and curriculum, launch program
* Club Range Officer – Finalize curriculum and launch program
* Create and launch “Micro –site” (instructor website). This will be an easy to use easy to navigate site for those who want to sign up for courses
* Shooters, candidates and applicants can find instructors, access information and register for courses
* Certified instructors can access information for continuing education

Don added that as of January 1, 2015, all applicants and all NSCA certified instructors will be asked to complete a “consent for background check form”, so that we can run background checks on them. In the past we have had people question if our instructors are scrupulous individuals (no felons or pedophiles).

Don said he has copies of an article printed in Clay Shooting USA available to anyone who would like a copy.

John Commerford suggested that the Advisory Council table the decision on the request for money by Brett Seibert to upgrade the instructor “micro website”, so that we can use that money to finish upgrading our whole website.

Todd Kemmerer presented the Awards/Hall of Fame Committee report. Todd stated that they opened their meeting with the issue of having to rename Team USA. Due to circumstances that took place in 2014 and at the advice of our legal-council, the Team will now be known officially as the NSCA United States Sporting Clays Team. We will no longer use “Team USA”. We have the right to also use USA Sporting Clays Team, US Sporting Clays Team. We have also changed to logo for the Team. The name and the logo will be registered and trade marked for protection of use from others.

We have a new structure within the organization; Paula Benbow has stepped up as Team Coordinator. Paula has done a phenomenal job in keeping things on track for 2015. One of the things we decided in our sub-committee was not to lose the momentum and gains that have been generated for the past few years for the Team. As a committee we asked the Advisory Council for help in this matter. Paula has taken care of ordering all items of merchandise for sale, she has registered the team for the events they will participate in and she has acquired new suppliers for merchandise. Hopefully you will see no major changes in the Team look in general.

We have added the position of Captain to each team. The Captains will be a mentor or an assistant to the team members. Pat Lieske is the team Captain for the Sporting Team and Randy Travalia is the Captain for the FITASC Team. Our 2 Captains will assist any Team members in knowing what to do, where to go and at what time they need to be present when the Team travels. Pat and Randy are both experienced overseas travelers and will help in scheduling meals, practice, dress, and agendas when the Teams are overseas or at the International events taking place in the US. The US Teams have become known as top contenders with some of the best shooters in the world and we need to be able to keep that perception.

We have a candidate search going on; we are looking for a USA Sporting Clays Team fundraiser or development director. We don’t want to just hire someone for the sake of hiring someone. If anyone on the Advisory Council wants to step up and take the position, that is fine, too; however, we are looking for excellence not just trying to fill a spot. Randy Voss has a lot of good ideas that we can use for fundraising from working on past international events held at Caribou Gun Club. We want to be able to continue with the raffles for the K-80, Blaser and the E-Z-Go gold carts, as well as, hold the Super Schools.

Todd would like to see more Honorary Team Captain signed up and he is asking everyone to put effort into finding people who will sign up. We expect 6-7 of the 12 that we had last year to re-sign up; however, we need to find new Honorary Team Captains. We need to develop a packet of information to give to people, describing the cost and what you get as an Honorary Team Captain.

In terms of other fundraising for this year, we have continued commitment from our sponsors to have the K-80 raffle, the Blaser raffle and the E-Z-Go raffles. All of the raffles are in place; the tickets are being printed, so we can sell them at the World English Sporting Clays Championship in April. We have all of our wearables on order and they should be delivered in time to see at the World English.

The US Sporting Clays Team tent will be combined with the NSCA trailer, so we can promote both groups at the same time. This has always been our intention, anyway. We are asking the Team members to in sales and in working the tent and trailer this year, whenever you have time between events.

There are 4 Super Schools scheduled at this time; 1 after the World English Sporting Clays Championship at South Florida Shooting Club, one after the NC Regional at Claythorne Lodge, 1 after the US Open at Northbrook Sports Club and 1 after the South Central Regional at Fossil Pointe. We will hold 3 for sure, we have instructors for 3; however, we are trying to do 1 more this year for a total of 4.

These are our major money making efforts for this year. As Steve said earlier today, we are going to add to the bid forms, that the clubs bidding on the Regionals and the US Open will be responsible for holding some kind of fund raiser to support the US Sporting Clays Team.

Mike McAlpine asked why we don’t attend some of the big oilman events, to help generate funds for the Team. Brett Moyes said that we can’t just show up at any of the oilman shoots, we have to get permission to attend as a vendor. Scott Robertson told Mike we need to have someone who knows people putting on these oilman events to help us get the permission we need to attend. Todd Kemmerer agrees that the use of the truck and trailer is a potential major fundraiser for NSCA as well as for the Team. It is very important to have visibility at as many locations as possible. We need to hire someone to coordinate corporate and long term gifts, as soon as possible.

Todd was been working with the people at Under Armor in hopes of getting them to sponsor all of the US Sporting Clays Team gear. He is also working with other sponsorship as well.

In closing remarks about the US Sporting Clays Team, Todd asked that everyone, please help us get more Honorary Team Captains. We owe Paula a big hand for taking on the coordinating of the Team. Thank you Paula!

Todd talked about the Hall of Fame and awards. He said the committee moved the closing dates for choosing any Hall of Fame nominees from January 1 to March 1. Todd requested that everyone spread the word and ask for nominations for Hall of Fame. Last year we had a full house at the Hall of Fame banquet. Last year was the first time in Todd’s tenure that we sold every table at the banquet. We want to keep up the good work filling the Hall of Fame banquet. We have done a good job of keeping the program running on time and ending at a reasonable hour. We now have video presentations of each of the inductees. These videos will be given to the museum as interactive device so our inductees can live on electronically. Paula brought up the question about whether we should induct only 1 person for Hall of Fame each year or not. Todd said that was never voted on to be made official. He said we can’t expect to have 3 inductees each year; last year turned out to be a non-typical year. However, in the future we will be a little more selective as a committee and control the number of inductees each year.

Todd said there are 2 more things to bring up. He said we need to standardize the trophy packages for the Regionals. We need to make these trophy packages part of the bid process and we need to work with the Competition Committee in order to do this. The last item is, we need ask for money for the USA Sporting Clays Team. Last year we asked for $17.5K, which was used for entry fees to the World Sporting Clays Championship and to the World FITASC Championship as well as for podium gifts for both events. This year we would like to ask approval of the Advisory Council to request $50K from the general fund by the NSSA Board of Directors.

Todd said he had one other small item; he will be talking to Joe Cantey regarding our FITASC Team and a request made by Rick Storey.

Ellie Howard asked that we remind everyone that the Hall of Fame nomination forms are on the website. We will also make an announcement in “Target Talk” where we have 35K subscriptions.

Steve Schultz gave an update on the new magazine. As of December 31, 2015 the contract with Sporting Clays Magazine will run out. We are tasked with creating as new magazine. We have put together a magazine committee made up of half Skeet and half Sporting Clays people. The new magazine will be a combination of both Skeet Shooting Review and Sporting Clays Magazine. The magazine will be brought in house so all the advertising revenues will belong to us and we can control the content of the magazine. We are working on design name, logo and all other aspects of the magazine, at this time.

Michael Hampton also added that we have an internal committee to come up with questions to give to the main magazine committee. There is so much to do in a short time. We need to get a more timely scoreboard report for the magazine, at this time everything in the magazine is 3 months out of date, per issue. Whatever we do we must have everything decided and ready to go December 31, 2015. This will help with putting this new magazine together. Nobody wants the same product that we now have, this is our chance to make something that all of our members would like to have.

Brett Moyes added that we did approach Clay Shooting USA regarding becoming our magazine, but they have no interest in doing that. However, they did share some very helpful hints and ideas with us. We hope to create a similar magazine to Clay Shooting USA.

Michael Hampton asked if anyone knows someone in the publishing business, please let us know who they are. The more information and contacts we have the better off we will be with this project.

Brett Moyes said there is a brief rundown in Section R regarding the new magazine; please spend a little time to go over that information.

Tim Miles said our objective deadline is March 1, 2015. Anything you want to give us such as goals, content, contacts, anything having to do with the new magazine; get it to us by March 1, 2015.

Michael Hampton said that we pay $18 per magazine per membership per month; we do not make any money on the magazine, it is all expense. Right now there is no sponsorship for the magazine. If we can get the cost down, that will free up money to spend on other items. The more readership we have the more outside sponsorship we can get for the magazine and possibly for the associations, which will bring in more money. We need to add lifestyle articles that are slightly different from the competition aspect. There is a lot of overlap articles we can put in the magazine to make it more interesting

Steve Schultz asked for the Marketing Committee report presented by Scott Robertson. Scott stated before giving the report that this Executive Council has really worked hard to advance things. This is the last annual meeting with Tim Miles and Steve Schultz; they will be exempt from running for the Executive Council this next election cycle. This Executive council has worked really hard and accomplished a lot. I want to share with you some of the things that have been accomplished in the last 6 years. Eight years ago, Team USA – Joe Kennedy suggested that we fund Team USA. We asked how; Joe suggested we just write a check and figure out how to repay the money later. Then along came Judy Morris and the rest is history. So with this Executive Council committing to funding the USA Sporting Clays Team and actually doing it is amazing. The Regional Tour Program – This Executive Council is responsible for creating that program and raising the bar for the attendance for all of the Regional Championships. The Marketing Fund – The marketing fund was created by this Executive Council. We took a lot of heat for creating the marketing fund, but the fact we have our own money to spend on whatever we want is amazing. It’s something we never had before. The truck and Trailer – These two items are major assets for us. We have the truck, trailer, audio system, video system and all the merchandise that we can take to major events. It is a money maker because we sell items of merchandise out of it. It is highly visible when it is on the road; it draws shooters to the tent/trailer area during shoots because we can post scores on the TV screens. We have knowledgeable people in attendance who can answer questions about the rules and the associations from members and non-members alike. It is the best way to market our associations. Nationals – The changes that we have made at our National Championship is outstanding. Tim was instrumental in getting bulldozers in here to cut 4 new courses, 2 facing north and 2 facing south with a paved road in between, is huge. We are now able to run more shooters through more events in less time than it used to take. We added the small gauge FITASC events. We put the regular small gauge events on separate courses, so now we have almost 2,000 people shooting the small gauge events. We dealt with the golf cart issues. We went from renting carts by event to renting carts by the day. Little changes like this can create big results. The Instructor Program - This program has taken off in the last 3 or 4 years. Don’s efforts have really helped the program. Our relationship with the NSSA has never been better. They really listen to what we have to say, now. We generally get whatever we ask of their Board of Directors. I just wanted to take this time to thank this Executive Council and their efforts; I am truly honored to have worked with you. I really think we are doing amazing things. We are about to do great things with the PSCA. If we had not chosen to work with Mike Osowski and partner shipped with PSCA we would have lost Mike’s help and funding in creating this new way to market our sport and generate new members. I am excited for where we are heading.

Scott Robertson said the first thing the Marketing Member Growth Committee is asking for is approval on a budget for $30K to produce all of the 6 videos for the Hall of Fame, the faces of the NSCA videos and the USA Sporting Clays Tem video. Scott asked for a motion to approve the budget, Heyward Cunningham made the motion, Paula Benbow seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried.

The next item Scott asked for was to propose a budget of $50K for the Regionals, which is the same amount requested last year ($10K for each Regional). This money is used to help the Regionals be overall better experiences for the members. Scott asked for a motion to accept the Regional budget, Derek Moore made the motion, Rick Storey seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried.

Scott said the gun give-away will not come out of the marketing budget, so he doesn’t think there needs to be a vote on that. He said we will continue with the gun give-away the same as last year.

The last item Scott had was to ask for a motion to budget $75K for the promotion/production of the PSCA. Scott said that he also wanted the Advisory Council to know that our overall budget is less than last year. Scott said we are actually holding back $50K. Scott said he is not asking for as much money as last year because he feels like we need to hold back a little money. He said we don’t know exactly what we will have to spend but whatever is, it will have to be approved by this committee and we need to have some funding available. He said we bring in about $240K per year and we are starting with about $300K in the bank starting this year.

Scott was asked if we were going to stay with the same guns we gave away at the Nationals or would any other gun manufacturer be able to get in on the program. Tim Miles said, originally Browning and Beretta were the 2 companies who were present in the original meetings where the gun give-away program was discussed. If in the future we can work something out with Blaser or some other gun manufacturer, we will indeed consider adding other guns to the program. Scott added that we don’t necessarily have to give away just guns; we can see what people want to win and come up with other items to give away. Scott stated that his idea was to be able to take $125K in money and turn it into $300K worth of value in prizes to give away at Nationals. Whatever we do, we need to make a decision in the next 30-60 days so we can start promoting the program.

Scott asked for a motion to approve the $75K budget for PSCA, John Commerford made the motion, Adam Pinto seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion carried.

Brett Moyes made the point that now that the PSCA budget has been approved, it will be everyone’s responsibility to help promote the program. It will never work if we don’t all promote it. We need to do whatever it takes to make it a success. This is the best opportunity for us as well as for PSCA to make something happen. Love it or hate it, you have to help spread the word and promote it.

Tim Miles gave the Marketing/Member Club Committee report. Tim stated that what Scott said in regards to the Executive Council, was absolutely correct. Time said he has been on the Advisory Council for 13-14 years. He said if everyone is pushing in the same direction, we all progress. Without you, nothing works. Keep up the good work.

Time said our committee is recommending the new member program. This is not a budget item and will not be coming out of the marketing budget, so he is going to ask for a motion to cover everything with one motion. Time asked for a motion to approve; the new membership promotional program, giving back to the clubs; the club incentive program where 45 guns go back to the high volume clubs and the most improved clubs; the other item is to continue building the video library program and continue with what we did last year for $46K. The breakdown is $23K spent on 45 guns for the club incentive program; $10K was spent for the video library and $5K for the recruiter to help get all the programs out to the clubs. If it’s not approved by the committees, Tim will go to the NSCA to ask for the money. All of this is based on high volume at the club level.

Scott said he and Tim are combining their budgets; they are staying under the $240K brought in each year by the extra penny per target that we charge for marketing. Scott said Tim’s budget comes out of our marketing budget. Tim explained that the most improved club was one that did not host any major shoot (no regional or state shoots) but were able to increase their target volume the most. There were 24 clubs in the drawing for the last 20 guns; these clubs threw 250K targets or more for the year. That’s how the program was written. It worked well in our committee’s opinion. If you all want to change the program that is fine, if you want for us to ask for the money out of the regular NSCA budget, that is fine too. I can separate the video library, which is a marketing tool in my mind; so let me do that. I’ll just ask for the $14K out of the marketing budget for these 2 items, the video library and the new member promotion, to amend the motion. I need a motion to accept the budget as amended, Anthony Matarese, Jr made the motion, John Hackethorn seconded the motion, all were in favor, the motion carried.

Paula Benbow suggested we take some of the 45 guns and give them to member clubs that did not throw registered targets and incentivize them to start throwing registered targets.

Scott Robertson said; please remember there is only 1 marketing budget for the two marketing committees. There is no other place for the money to come from. Our funding comes from the 1 cent increase per target that was approved in 2010, for marketing purposes.

Michael Hampton asked if maybe we should ask the committee, now that everyone knows how this works. Should we go back and review how these 45 guns should be given away, so they will benefit both committees? Tim Miles says the guns are worth about $23K. If you want us to ask for that amount from the general fund we can do that. Do we have any comments from the range owners? Rick Hemmingway says he doesn’t think this will do anything to help the clubs, he would rather see more ads for the clubs and more club space made available in the magazine. Several other range owners agreed with this. Scott Robertson said we need to try something to help the clubs; we can’t sit and do nothing. This is at least a good will gesture.

Pat Lieske asked for a motion to approve $23.5K to be passed on to the state associations, where there is one, who will pass on to gun clubs at their discretion to help the clubs. The motion was made by Derek Moore seconded by Paula Benbow; three opposed, 2 abstained all other approved, the motion carried. If there is no state association, those states will not be able to participate. This will incentivize those states without associations to create one. We will take y our comments back to the committee and we will report back on March 1, 2015 on what the committee decides to do with the guns based on the motion given. Derek Moore suggested that if there is no state association, get the Delegates involved in the process. Tim Miles said all suggestions will be taken into consideration.

Scott Robertson stated that we had an operating budget of $30K to run the truck and trailer for this year. It is the same amount of money as last year and we should match the budget from last year. We don’t really know what we need but we need to allocate some amount of money now. We can amend the amount later, so we can get the truck and trailer on the road in the next few months. Scott made a motion to accept the $30K budget, which is $10K per 10 events; if we need more money later, we can amend it. Scott said we did not use all of the $30K last year because we did not have the truck and trailer until the end of the year. Scott asked for a motion to budget the same as last year, now that we have the truck and trailer ready to go. This money also includes maintenance cost for the truck. Scott said we have the truck and trailer now, so we can get it on the road. Derek Moore made the motion to accept the budget, Mo Parsons seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion carried.

Steve Schultz asked Brett Seibert if there was any more business for the Instructor Committee. Brett Seibert asked for a motion to budget $10K from the general fund to create a micro site on the website for the instructor program, and another $10K to finfish course materials and curriculum for a total of $20K for the instructor program. Andy Duffy made the motion, seconded by Paula Benbow; all were in favor, the motion carried.

Steve Schultz asked Todd Kemmerer if there was any more business for the Awards/Hall of Fame Committee. Todd Kemmerer asked for a motion to increase the funding for the USA Sporting Clays Team from $15.5K to $50K, so we can rebrand the Team and everything associated with the Team as well as rebuilding the merchandise base. Todd said we have to re-wrap the truck and trailer, due to the Team name change. Michael Hampton said the money should not come out of the marketing budget. It was wrapped correctly the first time for $10K and it may not need a full wrap. John Commerford said the money it should not come out of the US Sporting Clays Team budget because we will need every penny next year to send the Teams overseas. Steve Schultz said we should ask for a separate $10K out of the general fund and $50K out of the marketing budget for USA Sporting Clays Team. These 2 separate budget items will come from 2 different sources. John Commerford made the motion, seconded by Tim Jewell; all were in favor, the motion carried.

A motion for no more than $10K to re-wrap the truck and trailer was made by Paula Benbow, seconded by Brett Seibert; all were in favor, the motion carried.

Steve Schultz asked for a motion to approve in one vote, accepting Scott Williams as Chief FITASC referee in the US, accept Mo Parsons as Chief Sporting Clays referee in the US; change the criteria for the US Open and Regional bids to include a maximum price for event entry fees and minimum payouts and trophy packages for events; to put another layer between the Regional Delegates and the bidding clubs on date compliance, so our Regional Delegates can help us with date issues to prevent overlap of the Regional events; we need a committee member to attend each Regional to make sure the club is in compliance with what they bid and to assist with the shoot; raise the deposit from $00 to $200 with a 45 day cancellation date to try to avoid late cancellations (the 45 day cancellation will be optional for the club to do. It’s there if they want to use it); we want to encourage the Regional Delegates to reach out to clubs that have not held a Regional shoot, so we can have a broader club base for events (all of this would include the US Open). Rick Story made the motion, seconded by Justin Bounds; all were in favor, the motion carried.

Steve Schultz asked John Calandro, III to give the report on the Rules/Governance and Finance Committee.

John said there are several rules where the wording needs to be clarified.

**Rules**:

* Five-Stand Rule, Section V: the wording requiring certain target presentations should be changed to include RECOMMENDED, thus allowing clubs to conduct 5-Stand with restricted equipment availability. Action Item; NSCA Administered as “Housekeeping”.
* Five-Stand rules (page 41 under Section V) The first sentence should be amended to read 50 birds from present 25 birds; noting that a 50 bird event shall be recorded as SPORTING TARGETS. Action Item; NSCA Administered as “Housekeeping”.
* The Executive Council is asked to clarify that only the course designer and anyone who actually shoots targets intended for a registered event shall be restricted to TARGETS ONLY status. This is intended to allow volunteers in smaller venues to service and locate traps without competitive penalty. Action Item; John Calandro and Executive Council to decide
* Rule book, page 13, should have the addendum: State Associations may not charge membership fees. Action Item; NSCA Administered as “Housekeeping”.

**Master Class Issues**:

Guest Alan Van Velkinburg presented handouts with statistics, background and draft proposal to amend Master Class Attainment and ongoing status.

Discussion included:

1. review of available data
2. sub gauge punches
3. impact on present Master Class membership
4. bonus punch System for Mega Blast and larger shoots
5. separate class system for sub gauge
6. discontinuation of carry over punches for AA Class.

John Calandro, III said in our meeting Sam Wortham presented a basis for establishing an Elite Class of professional grade shooters, the purpose being to allow a general Master Class shooter to compete among peers while doubling the present top 8% shooter pool of monies to be won. Elite Class to be based on PSCA and perhaps 12 gauge All-American Team status. Master Class shooters in large events such as US OPEN and NATIONALS would have the option to pay $1 and avoid Elite Class participation, thus competing with Master Class peers. Todd Kemmerer called for data analysis to show actual class movement impact of 2013 and 2014 down class reviews. Data analysis also requested to model:

1) a Master Class limited to 1,000 shooters based on the top 1,000 shooter punches attained

2) Impact of #1above on AA Class demographics.

**Governance Issues**:

National Delegates: The October 2014 Advisory Council and National Delegates meeting has been poorly attended by the National Delegates. After dual status of being both Advisory Council and National Delegate is considered, there were approximately 20 Nation al Delegates in attendance. What should be done to encourage National Delegate involvement throughout the year and in October? Discussion included:

1) Newsletter to National Delegates form the Advisory Council

2) Provide for a National Delegate (State of the Delegates” address to the October Advisory Council/Executive Council meeting.

3) An Advisory Council letter to Delegates 30 days prior to October Nationals

4) National Delegates voting on US Open venue

Liaison activity between Advisory Council and National Delegate at Regionals will begin with a communication form this Committee and inquiry as to what improvements may be useful and how best to achieve them. Action Item; Sam Wortham to do.

Note: National Delegate voting on US Open venue was thoroughly discussed resulting in a decision of NO ACTION.

**Balloting Tabulation Procedure Change:**

As knowledge of who voted for whom may create a political impact or even an advantage by virtue of insider knowledge a motion was made and seconded that: NSCA shall appoint Steve Scales

to tabulate votes, and for those votes to be confidential from all NSCA employees, the NSCA Advisory Council, the NSCA Executive Council, the NSCA Delegates and any NSCA members when:

* The Advisory Council votes to elect the Executive Council and
* The Advisory Council votes on the US Open venue.

In the event of a verification requested by the NSCA Executive Council the results will only be disclosed by the NSSA (SKEET) President.

Motion passed without opposition and the Advisory Council.

**Bylaws:**

Discussion to create bylaws for NSCA resulted in agreement that NSCA has no organizational or legal status to create their own bylaws due to the existence of NSSA as a parent organization having their own bylaws which by definition are enforceable practice upon the NSCA.

**Relationship Development with NSSA:**

This Committee requests that the Executive Council formulate a short and a long term strategy for NSSA and NSCA governance. This should be in the form of a one year and a three year rolling plan starting with 2015. An outside consultant should be considered by NSCA to produce this plan should the NSSA be unwilling of ineffective in development of the plan or the intent to even plan at all. John Calandro, III reported on successful NSSA meetings this week and suggested that Jack Tan of NSSA may be willing to embrace NSCA more than past NSSA Administrations. As such, a call for short and long term NSCA strategy for shred governance may be welcomed.

John said the proposal to be made to make correction or update the end of year review does not have to go to the Delegates for vote to approve. We will go to the membership to let them decide if they want to use the optional reclassification. We recommend that the bottom 40% of each class be dropped down one class at the end of year. There are two exceptions – the shooters must have shot 500 minimum targets for the year instead of the previous 300 minimum and they must have spent 1 year in class. Example: If you are in AA Class and move up to Master Class this year, you will not go through the end of year review. You would not go through a review until the following year. We will run some models to see how many shooters we will actually move down during the review process. All shooters will have the right to refuse the down class if they get down classed. All rules and information are subject to digital notes. We need to get everything in to the digital world. TSCA has done this for years with no complaints.

Jim Montgomery asked if the bottom 40% would include Master Class or only the AA to D classes. The answer is the bottom 40% of ALL classes would be dropped. Scott Robertson said he thought we were getting a little crazy in trying to regulate the classes and that we would be causing problems. Scott thinks we need to use the bottom 50% break line; 50% is easier for people to understand and that 40% or 49% of the shooters would still not be competitive in their class. Scott said with our making more restrictions we are not solving the problem. John said the members also have the option to go through a 1,000 target review process.

Scott asked why does a member have to stay in a class for a year if he is not competitive in a particular classification? If he can refuse the reduction what does it matter? We have to make it very simple. If you have 500 targets shot for the year and you are in the bottom 50% of the class, you will be moved down, period, correct?

John Calandro asked, so if you punch up next year, you can move back up in class and get down classed an the end of the year? Scott said, absolutely!

Anthony Matarese, Jr. suggested you make the target minimum higher. John Calandro said we need to make sure, technologically speaking, that we can have our target minimums reflect the minimum in that class the shooter moved up into. So, if the shooter moved up in November and shot 4,000 targets, but only shot 300 targets in the new class, he would not be open for review. Does everyone agree with that? It is a continually rolling target review. That is the mechanism we are asking for. The only rule change is to change the minimum targets shot from 300 to 500. We need to take the subjectivity of the classification out of the equation.

Paula Benbow made the motion to change the minimum number of registered targets shot needed for a class review, change from 300 to 500 minimum; and that this be sent to the Delegates to vote for approval. Mike McAlpine seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion carried.

John Calandro asked for an Advisory Council vote to change the end of year review target minimum to 500 registered targets in class and dropping the bottom 40% of each class, no matter how many punches were earned in the shoot year, with the right of refusal option for the members who were moved with the approved changes, to be sent by electronic notes to the membership. January 16 is the end of year review date based on all targets shot as of December 31, of the shoot year. Paula Benbow made the motion, Sam Wortham seconded the motion; there was one opposed with a comment that the percentage should be 50%, 2 abstained, the majority approved, the motion carried.

Steve Schultz asked if there was any new business to discuss; there was no new business. Steve reminded everyone that if there were any ideas concerning the gun give-away program, please give your ideas and comments to Brett Moyes for action. Steve asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Time Miles made the motion, Mo Parson seconded; all were I favor, the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45AM Saturday January 31, 2015.