

**National Skeet Shooting Association  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Dallas, Texas  
May 30, 2013**

**A. ROLL CALL** – Meeting was called to order by President Bob DeFrancesco at 8:25 AM, with Vice President Jack Tans; Secretary-Treasurer John Haugh; Mike Ferchaw, Zone 1; Tom Pavlack, Zone 3; Ken Keth, Zone 4; Don Kelly, Zone 5; Gary Matthews Zone 6; Bill Burke, Zone 7; John Bratty, Zone 8; Chris Naler, Zone 9; Past President Jim Gast; and Michael Hampton, Jr., Executive Director present. Andrew Engel, Zone 2, was absent. Also present were Steve Scales, Director of Finance; Louise Terry, Finance and Long Range Planning Committee Chairman; Phil Murray, Chairman of the NSCA Executive Council; and Todd Kemmerer, NSCA Executive Council member.

**B. MINUTES - Motion by Jack Tans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Gast, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2013 Executive Committee meeting; motion passed all in favor.**

**C. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

1. Board of Directors Meeting – September 29, 2013, NSC Complex
2. Executive Committee Meeting – October 2, 2013, NSC Complex

**D. OFFICERS REPORTS & ZONE REPORTS**

President – Will be discussing NSCA governance in detail today. Feeling the loss of the Great Eastern; Richmond Gun Club is looking for another sponsor for next year.

Vice President – Echo the comments of the President.

Secretary-Treasurer – No report.

Zone 1 – Season is just starting; new laws are in effect that require a NICS check when you buy ammunition, which could prove problematic for traveling shooters. There is a lot of opposition to the law, but it has not been repealed to date. Connecticut is basically doing the same thing, but it doesn't preclude an individual from selling ammunition to another, just retailers have to run a NICS check; Massachusetts law allows the sale of ammunition without a NICS check so long as it is "consumed" on the premises. Need to inform our members regarding firearms laws that affect them.

Zone 2 – No report.

Zone 3 – Shooting has just started in our Zone. Mid America was nearly full at 199 shooters for 200 slots. .

Zone 4 – Shoot results mimic previous comments; large shoots are doing well, but attendance at smaller shoots is down. SCTP programs are doing very well; HOA Runner-up at the Masters was a product of the SCTP. New slate of officers in Florida is being very proactive with communications to their members. Recreational shooters are a prime area for recruiting new members for the Association.

Zone 5 – Echo comments of Zone 4 regarding recreational shooting; the Zone shoot rotates, with smaller turnouts when it is in one of the further corners of the Zone. Optimistic that shooting will be up this year. Have heard a lot of discussion regarding the availability and cost of reloading materials, which could prove to be a limiting factor in shooting for a number of shooters.

Zone 6 – Shooting is up at both small and large shoots; seeing more recreational shooters making the transition to registered, especially at the 50-bird shoots.

Zone 7 – Sage Hill in Reno, NV will be ceasing operations this year; looking for a new manager or leaser.

Zone 8 – New Zealand now has enough members to have their own Director; large shoots are full, smaller shoots are down, for a change.

Zone 9 – The 53<sup>rd</sup> ASSC was well attended this year, which was held at Camp Lejeune. This was the first registered shoot to be held at the facility. Had 21 first-time shooters this year. Even though the club is within the confines of the base, were able to facilitate trouble-free access for shooters. Is a state-of-the-art facility with eight fields; the manager is Jim Hill, USN (Retired), and they are throwing 40,000 targets a weekend. Public access is limited, but there are ways for non-military shooters to gain access. Next year's shoot will be at the NSC. The AFSA is moving forward with allowing any military veteran to participate in the shoot, and the leadership is also endorsing a Military Veteran concurrent category. AFSA bylaws amended to eliminate the mandate that the ASSC be held in the east and west in alternate years, but will not hold the shoot at the same club in successive years.

Executive Director – We continue to look at ways to improve benefits for our employees; have an opportunity to participate in a vision insurance program, as no cost the Association; employees pay the premium. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Haugh, to add the vision program benefit; motion passed all in favor.** Just signed local (San Antonio) Chevrolet dealers as a major sponsor for NSSA, which includes \$150,000 over three years and vehicles for VIPs during the World Shoot and National Sporting Clays. Chevrolet is the "official

vehicle” of the Association. “Q20” program; just signed them for five years as the “official oil” of the Association. All members will receive a Q20 oiling rag and oil with their renewal. The Executive Director looking to provide information on Texas Law Shield, which is a firearms legal defense organization with reciprocity in a number of states, for our Texas clubs and residents. When a current individual Life Member has a spouse that starts shooting they are only charged the difference between an individual and husband and wife life memberships; will incorporate into our Policy Manual.

**E. PAST PRESIDENT REPORT** – Need to keep encouraging the young shooters participating in the SCTP program by finding ways to recognize their accomplishments.

**F. BUDGET & FINANCE** –

1. The April 16th meeting was held via conference call to review the 1st quarter results of our portfolio and budget, and address funding for 2013 projects. Our 1st quarter portfolio performance was strong, and some adjustments were made within the current, conservative, guidelines. Our operating performance YTD was better than planned for three reasons:
  - More new NSC activities continue to be scheduled
  - Registered targets shot through the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter for both skeet and sporting clays are up from last year. As of May this trend has not continued.
  - We were able to fund routine winter maintenance and repair projects from our strong YE 2012 cash balance position
2. The NSC, through revenue derived from events held on the grounds, continues to be self-funding as well as contributing to the Association’s bottom-line. The “Bonus Bucks” program continues to be popular, as are CLMs. How can we do a better job of communicating to our members the availability and benefits of these, and other, programs? (Discussed further under section L, Marketing.)
3. Capital Facilities Project Expenditures – Discussion deferred to section S, Long Range Planning.
4. Financial Overview of Major Spring Events
  - a. Blaser Skeet Classic –
  - b. Southwestern Grand –
  - c. World English Sporting Clays Championship – Well attended this year. Threw 350,000 targets, which was ~60,000 more than two years ago.
  - d. Krieghoff Masters – Looking at a loss of at least a couple of thousand dollars. If we went back to a weekend shoot, might be much better off. The maximum number of entries, for a three-day shoot with doubles on Friday, would be 330 using 22 fields. It is better to be full and have a waiting list, than to continue to lose money on a major shoot. Louise Terry and Ken Keth will discuss options with Forest City, Dieter Krieghoff and Kemble DuPont; the Executive Committee can then make a decision at their October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
5. Audit Committee – The Executive Committee elects the members in odd-numbered years. The Past President is automatically on the committee, and the other four members need to be elected. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Kelly, to re-elect Barry Rich, Ben Kaplan, Gary Mathews and David Ballerini to the Audit Committee; motion passed all in favor.**
6. Agricultural Exemption Status – Our status was recently reviewed by the county, but due to a backlog we haven’t heard back from them yet; we expect our exemption to be approved.
7. Form 990 Review – Is an IRS required document for all 501 (c) (3) organizations that was presented for review by the Executive Committee. The Finance and Audit committees have already completed their reviews.

**G. NATIONAL SKEET SHOOTING ASSOCIATION** – This year’s Master had 335 entries and, despite less than perfect weather, shooters gave a lot of positive feedback. The U.S. Open will be held in Albuquerque, NM at the High Desert Sportsmen’s Club September 5-8<sup>th</sup>. The 2014 U.S. Open will be held at St. Joe Valley Conservation Club in Fort Wayne, IN September 4-7<sup>th</sup>. This year’s Junior World will be at the NSC. Ft. Bragg, NC is finalizing their bid for the 2014 Junior World, which will be held July 25-27<sup>th</sup>, to be presented at the October Executive Committee meeting. We are still experiencing a delay in posting SCTP shoots that are registering their targets with NSSA due the reports being submitted without classes (SCTP shoots are conducted using “team” scores and not individual scores). We are working with SCTP to streamline shoot reporting. The number of targets thrown to-date is expected to be down from last year due in part to lower attendance at the Masters. The number of targets thrown in 2012 was up from the previous year for the first time since 2000, and

membership was up from the previous year for the first time since 2007. At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter we were ahead of previous year with respect to targets thrown, but this trend had reversed by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### H. OLD BUSINESS

1. Association of the Year – Recommend the Michigan Skeet Association for 2013, due to their strong Junior shooting program, their e-Newsletter, the number of shoots held and targets thrown. **Motion by John Haugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Burke to award the Michigan Skeet Association as the Association of the Year for 2013; motion passed all in favor.**
2. NSSA/NSCA Governance – In recognition of the value that NSCA brings to our Association, a committee was established to consider changes to the organization that would enable the NSCA additional representation and governance of the Association. Currently, there is NSCA representation on the Finance, Steering and Long Range Planning Committees, and NSCA Executive Council members frequently attend NSSA Executive Committee meetings in a non-voting capacity. If, say, NSCA representatives were formally added to the Executive Committee, a change to the bylaws would be required, and would have to be approved by a majority of all the NSSA directors. If approved, how those NSCA members would be chosen has yet to be determined. Another option discussed, but dismissed as not being practical, would be forming an entirely new organization, for example, with equal representation at the Executive Committee level of NSSA and NSCA interests, which would also have to be approved by the NSSA Board of Directors, as well as having to apply for (a new) 501(c)(3) status. **Motion by Don Kelly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Gast, to promote and support a bylaws change to enable adding two NSCA members to the NSSA Executive Committee.** Discussion: there are a number of details that need to be resolved, i.e., how are the NSCA representatives appointed or elected? Who is eligible from NSCA for the positions? **2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Gast and motion by Don Kelly withdrawn. Motion by Chris Naler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Kelly, the Executive Committee explores the addition of NSCA representation to the Executive Committee for discussion at the annual NSSA Board of Directors meeting.** Discussion: what is the objective, to merely engage in discussion or possibly a change to the bylaws? **2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Kelly and motion by Chris Naler withdrawn. Motion by Chris Naler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Kelly, the Executive Committee explore an amendment to the NSSA bylaws to add NSCA representation to the Executive Committee for discussion at the annual NSSA Board of Directors meeting in September. Motion passed all in favor.**

Further discussion regarding formalizing committee representation tabled.

#### I. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Staff issues were discussed.

#### J. NEW BUSINESS

1. NSC Corporate Sales Initiative – Even though the number of events has grown, there is still ample capacity available. Corporate events have been very profitable for the Association, but must balance those events with registered shoots that may not generate as much income because that is what our organization is about. That being said, we need to revamp our corporate events “sales” material; brochures, DVD and website.
2. NSC Use of Lightning Detectors – The equipment is very costly at over \$10,000. But it’s not an issue of dollars and cents; it’s about safety. Will research other methods for lightning detection, in addition to the proposed equipment, to determine the appropriate solution. In addition, our own process and procedures for handling lightning “issues” will be reviewed.
3. RV Pad Specs Proposal – Our RV pads vary in size and quality. Tom Pavlack drafted a proposal to provide uniformity and consistency in layout and construction of the RV pads from this point forward. Headquarters will adopt the recommended proposal.
4. Shoot-Off Places at NSSA Administered Shoots – The number of places shot-off at the Blaser, Masters and World are all conducted differently. **Motion by Chris Naler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jack Tans, that shoot-offs at the Blaser and Masters follow the same format as the World Shoot; i.e., the number of places shot-off. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jack Tans and motion by Chris Naler withdrawn.**
5. Headquarters Procedure for Processing Shoots – Shoots are processed once fees have been received.
6. NSC Partnering with Texas Archery Academy – An archery group in Dallas is looking to partner with us to offer archery at the NSC. There is potential for having archery shooters crossover to shotgun shooting. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Naler, to proceed with partnering with the Texas Archery Academy; motion passed all in favor.**
7. Q20 Partnership – Discussed under the Executive Director’s report.

8. Military Veteran Concurrent Event – There are a LOT of individuals who serve in the Armed Forces, but do not retire and, therefore, go unrecognized in our shooting sport. **Motion by Chris Naler, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Gast, the NSSA adopt a Military Veteran concurrent for any uniformed service members with an “honorable discharge” not on active duty or on the eligible retired list. Motion passed all in favor.**
9. World Shoot Consecutive Attendance – Criteria requires Main event participation, not the Mini World. It was agreed if there was an error in the past, to let it be and, from this year forward, only Main event participation will count for World Shoot attendance.
10. HOA Change – Discussion regarding including Doubles in the HOA, and combine the 12 and 20 Gauge into an “All Bore” event. Is the idea to change the definition of HOA, draw more shooters or save them money? There is nothing in the current rules that preclude doing so now, i.e., a HOA with Doubles, 20 Gauge, 28 Gauge and .410 Bore.
11. SCTP as a Concurrent Event – Proposal from Bill Batty to officially recognize a SCTP concurrent event under the NSSA Rules. Might be better served to encourage clubs to offer a SCTP concurrent, and to promote at the State and club level. *Will discuss further at the next Executive Committee meeting.*

#### K. NSSA SHOOTS

1. 2013 World Championship - World Shoot Advisory Committee recommended to change the shoot-offs for perfect Two-Man team scores to be concurrent with the Championship shoot-off; reduce the number of Concurrent Groups for SU, SS, SR and LY to two from three; reduced DU and NRA to one Group; eliminate additional targets, due to low participation and since minimums are no longer required for All-American teams. **All the recommended changes will be adopted.** Reviewed the draft 2014 program. **Motion by Gary Matthews 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Keth, to shoot-off all places involving All American points; motion passed all in favor.** *Per previous discussion, places shot-off at the Blaser and Masters will mirror the World; any places involving money or points will be shot-off, which means down through AAA6 & AA6 and Group 1-4 in Concurrent events at the Masters, and AAA4 & AA4 and Group 1-2 for the Blaser. Note: After the conclusion of the Executive Committee meeting, the above change was further discussed by the Executive Committee members and with those individuals who run the shoot-offs. Subsequently, it was decided by the Executive Committee Officers that this should be discussed in further detail and a telephone conference EC Meeting was held on June 12, 2013. Those minutes are forthcoming.*
2. 2013 Junior World – Will be held at NSC July 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Expect 150-175 shooters.
3. 2013 U.S. Open – Will be held at the High Desert Sportsmen’s Club, Albuquerque, NM Sept 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>
4. 2013 World International Skeet Championship – TBD
5. 2013 Vintage World Skeet Championship/Event 6 – TBD

L. **MARKETING** – Digital magazine publishing is the wave of the future, and is something we will investigate as an optional delivery method for both the SSR and Records Annual. Will be implementing first time member promotional gift program.

M. **NSSA HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM** – This year’s inductees are Paul Giambrone, III and Susan Huszai for shooting achievements, and Bill Batty for the Ray Boller Award. The Referee Honor Roll awardees are John Kujowski, William “Bill” Mock (posthumously) and A. B. “Scotty” Mitchell (posthumously).

N. **CLUB ASSISTANCE PROGRAM** – No action required until the winter Executive Committee meeting.

O. **RULES & CLASSIFICATION** – There are two items from the winter Rules & Classification Committee meeting that require Executive Committee approval:

**6. String of recent emails about "legality" of holding an umbrella for a shooter while shooting.** The Committee agreed that holding an umbrella, or otherwise physically assisting a shooter while in the act of shooting, could not only result in interference to the shooter but, more importantly, is a safety issue. **Motion by Sid Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Don Kelly, to forward to the Executive Committee for approval for a vote by the Directors to add new rule III-G-18:**

**A shooter may not be assisted while in the act of shooting by any other shooter or the referee, apart from verbal encouragement. For example, holding an umbrella over a shooter on the station or shielding a shooter on the station with a piece of cardboard to block the sun is not permitted.**

**8. Referee Use of "Ear-buds".** The rules only state that "...some form..." of hearing protection is required for all persons on a skeet field. The Committee agreed that if a referee is listening to an iPod there is a significant probability the referee will be distracted from the task at hand. **Motion by Bill Batty, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Woody Anderson, to forward to the Executive Committee for approval for a vote by the Directors to renumber current rule IV-D-1 to IV-D-1-a and add new rule IV-D-1-b:**

**While on the skeet field, the referee must wear some form of eye and ear protection, and is prohibited from using any type of listening device (e.g., mobile phone or MP3 player "ear-buds") in lieu of hearing protection.**

**Motion by Jack Tans, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Gast, to forward the above rules changes to the Board of Directors for a vote; motion passed all in favor. *If approved, will be effective immediately.***

**P. INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION** – Want to inform all current NSSA and NSCA certified instructors that in thirty days a background check for any sexual criminal or domestic violence activity will be conducted. Any current instructor will have the option of relinquishing their certification in lieu of having a background check conducted. Will include on the application form for instructor certification that a background will be conducted. **Motion by John Haugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Ferchaw, that the Association adopt a policy to conduct a background check for sexual criminal or domestic violence activity for all current and future NSSA and NSCA certified instructors. Motion passed all in favor. *It is noted that both Phil Murray and Todd Kemmerer agree with the proposed policy.***

**Q. SKEET SHOOTING REVIEW** – Previously discussed exploring a digital, on-line version of the SSR.

**R. INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT** – *Need verbiage from MH; nothing in section S of the binder...*

**S. LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE** – A number of approved items have already been completed, including:

- Main office building and roof painted to match vendor building new paint scheme
- Wheelchair sidewalks added to fields 4-8
- Main clubhouse restrooms renovated
- New skeet field fences on lower 20 fields
- New main panel electrical boxes installed in RV area
- New sidewalk from last 5-Stand layout to the roadway to lower fields

Projects in process:

- Mid-July or August to complete water hook-up to SAWS
- Cart barn
- New signage on back of vendor row
- New laser-cut metal signage to “dress-up” the main entrance to the NSC

Projects under consideration include:

- Widening of the traffic roadway and parking area between the office building and clubhouse
- A clubhouse on the middle bank of fields
- New road signs waiting design approval.

Future projects include:

- Major clubhouse renovation
- Comfort Station

Have discovered that the architect for the clubhouse is the “Frank Lloyd Wright” of Texas. Funding for these projects comes from profits from corporate events held at the NSC.

**T. NATIONAL SHOOTING COMPLEX** – Discussed the use of golf carts and ATVs on vendor’s row during the World Skeet and National Sporting Clays shoots. There was too much traffic, especially during the Nationals, and several incidents of people driving too fast. Have a FULL schedule of events. Construction projects and agricultural exemption discussed under Budget & Finance and Long Range Planning. Planning a “coupon flyer” for NSC members to incentivize them to come use the facility. \$60,000 has been budgeted for road repairs, so will prioritize with Facility Committee input.

**U. NATIONAL SPORTING CLAYS ASSOCIATION** - Membership is up 8% from last year at the same time to over 22,000. Just had a very successful U.S. Open. Targets are up 14% year-to-date from last year. Would love to have more room at the NSC, as the grounds are at full capacity for the Nationals. Already have 1,200 shooters pre-registered for this year's Nationals. We do have the acreage on the west side of Gass Rd. that could possibly be used for future NSCA events. *May* have an opportunity to purchase property on the SW corner in the future.

There being no further business to discuss, **motion by Bill Burke, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Ferchaw, to adjourn; motion passed all in favor.** The Executive Committee was in session from 8:25 AM to 6:55 PM, with a recess from 12:25-1:00 PM for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

John Haugh  
Secretary-Treasurer

Trish Magyar  
Assistant Secretary