

**NSSA Executive Committee Meeting
National Shooting Complex, San Antonio, TX
October 1, 2014**

A. ROLL CALL – President Bob DeFrancesco called the meeting to order at 8:55AM. Members present were: Jack Tans, Vice President; John Haugh, Secretary-Treasurer; Mike Ferchaw, Zone 1; Fran Kosmacki for Andrew Engel, Zone 2; 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; and Jim Gast, Immediate Past President. Also present were: Michael Hampton, Jr.; Mike Dowling, Director for Skeet; Steve Scales, Director for Finance; Louise Terry, Finance Committee Chairman; Brett Moyes, Director for Sporting Clays; Billy Williams. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Jim Gast, to appoint Trish Magyar as Assistant Secretary; motion passed all in favor.**

B. NSC PROJECTS UPDATE

1. Clubhouse Renovations – The firm of Ford, Carson & Powell have been contracted to provide three different options. The location of the HVAC units is always an issue because of the unsightliness. Fencing can be added to conceal the equipment. The architectural firm will provide four options with ballpark estimates, and then we will select one. We are a long way from deciding what to do, but will need to be able to do the renovation in stages, if/when the time comes. The Long Range Planning Committee will conduct an in-depth review of the options and provide recommendations.
2. Water/Sewer Update – Water hook-up is basically complete; just waiting on final documentation. Wells will stay intact, but only be used for livestock and as a source for our fire-protection.
3. NSC Cell Tower – Contract has been signed with Verizon. Environmental protection and historical aspects (i.e., heritage trees) paperwork being completed. Should break ground the beginning of the year.
4. 471 & Roft Road Expansion – Been on hold by the State and Federal government.
5. Roft Road Entrance Move – Dependent upon the 471 and Roft Road expansion.
6. Construction/Maintenance Update – Once the NSC Academy permits are approved, then will proceed with permitting for the cart barns; will probably be started by the end of the year. Work continues on the tree root remediation; should be completed by the end of the year.
7. Events – Have lots of events, with substantial repeat business. Should have a more formalized program for bringing in corporate events, in addition to referrals and being listed with the Chamber of Commerce. Ken Keth requested a listing of future events; Mike Dowling indicated a more detailed breakdown of corporate events at the January Executive Committee meeting will be provided. AO Barbeque has been our on-sight caterer for 12 years. When he first started he envisioned building a full restaurant on the grounds. That way, he could have better/more staffing to meet surges for our big events. He would like us to consider that possibility. When AO first came here, we didn't have the large number of events then that we currently do. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Ken Keth, to end discussions regarding a stand-alone restaurant of joint venture with the current or any other food vendor. Motion passed all in favor.**

C. WORLD SHOOT

1. 2015 dates: September 25th thru October 2nd.
2. Jim Carver Recognition – There will be a plaque presented to his wife and daughter prior to shoot-offs on Thursday in appreciate for his years of service to NSSA.
3. World Shoot 5-year Date Plan – Is it time to look at expanding the capacity of the World Shoot by adding additional days/rotations? Will be addressed by the World Shoot Advisory Committee, who will provide recommendations to the Executive Committee. Would also like input from the Directors and participants, too. Jim Gast offered his input from his travels to shoots around the country that there is a lot of support for expanding the World Shoot an additional day. Also, need to look at a way to deal with squads that don't cancel a fifth shooter so just they can have a four-man squad. The loss of the deposit is, apparently, not a sufficient penalty. We have made the World Shoot a lot more "shooter friendly", encouraging more camaraderie, and they appreciate that.
4. World Shoot Date Change – Should we consider flipping the World Shoot and National Sporting Clays? Again, this is something that can be addressed by the World Shoot Advisory Committee, as well as discussed with the NSCA Executive Council. This led to a discussion about changing the skeet shooting target year to coincide with either the NSSA/NSCA fiscal year or the calendar year, however, this is a separate issue from the timing of the major event dates. The NSSA/NSCA Steering Committee will discuss in January and make a recommendation.

- D. MARKETING PLAN** – Sixty-six membership boards have been distributed; will continue to push. Will be heavily promoting the NSSA app. Have seen a significant increase in downloads. Recommended an article in the SSR with step-by-step instructions on how to use the app.
- E. FINANCE UPDATE** – **Motion by Chris Naler, 2nd by Gary Matthews, to add Michael Dowling as a signatory on the Association’s bank accounts; motion approved.** Steve Scales presented the 2015 budget which had been reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. **Motion by Mike Ferchaw, 2nd by Don Kelly, that in order to clarify, the original intent of the 1¢ increase in daily fees always was and will be intended for the NSSA marketing program. Motion passed with six in favor, five opposed and one abstention.** There was discussion regarding the current allocation for road repairs/maintenance. Since there won't be any work done prior to the January Executive Committee meeting, an assessment will be made for what work can be accomplished at different funding levels. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Jim Gast, to approve the 2015 budget as presented; motion passed all in favor.** Steve Scales presented a life member actuarial study. No surprise, people are living longer. Also, more sporting clays members are becoming life members; SSR costs have gone down, whereas sporting clays magazine cost have slightly increased. Additionally, we have a very good return on the life member portfolio. The bottom-line is that the life member account is over-funded, which could allow us to move funds to another account. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by John Haugh, per the recommendation of the Finance Committee, that \$280,000 from the life member account be designated for long range planning projects. Motion passed all in favor.**
- F. U.S. OPEN CRITERIA** – Want to make sure that any future U.S. Open date changes are well vetted before ANY changes are approved. For 2016 we will send a request for bids to all eligible clubs. Per the Executive Committee decision at the January 2014 meeting, effective with 2016, the US OPEN will be decided based on an east/west rotation. There are 10 clubs (11 if NSC included) west of the Mississippi and 15 east. The criteria will be sent to all eligible **west** clubs to submit a bid by December 31, 2014 for the 2016 U.S. Open.
- G. 2015 KRIEGHOFF MASTERS** – Last year of the current contract with Forest City Gun Club. Michael Hampton with talk with Krieghoff to see what they want to do. Will discuss further at the winter Executive Committee meeting. Forest City has continued to make investments to improve the infrastructure. Last year was a very good shoot.
- H. INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM** – Initiated background checks for sex offenders and felonies at Level I and Level II Instructor Training classes held at NSC September 24-25, 2014, and will expand to include all NSSA Certified Instructors. Similar efforts underway on the NSCA side.
- I. SCTP UPDATE** – Amazon has “Amazon Smile”, which allows you to designate a charity that they will make a donation to based upon your purchases. The SSSF offices have moved to San Antonio, and are operating out of the NSSA headquarters building at the NSC. A lease agreement for office space and employee assistance has been signed.
- J. NSCA UPDATE** – Have had a very positive response to the PSCA program; truck and trailer has only been recently introduced, but anticipate it being a huge success based on early feedback. “World English Sporting Clays Championship” name has been trademarked by NSSA/NSCA
- K. Q MAXX SPONSORSHIP UPDATE** – In our second year of sponsorship. Will be providing individually wrapped towelettes and a drink koozie for all membership renewals; includes life members.
- L. CLUB ASSISTANCE PROGRAM** – Will review at the winter Executive Committee meeting.

M. OLD BUSINESS – Robert Newhouse has submitted a proposal for a medallion for Referee Honor Roll and Hall of Fame members. Will investigate further and discuss at the winter Executive Committee meeting.

N. NEW BUSINESS

1. Code of Conduct
 - a. **Motion by John Haugh, 2nd by Bill Burke, to suspend the individual in question for inappropriate conduct from now through the 2015 target year. Motion passed all in favor.**
 - b. Individual was suspended from his state association for threats of violence. NSSA notified him of the allegations and given the opportunity to respond, and hasn't. **Motion by Chris Naler, 2nd by John Bratty, to suspend the individual in question effective immediately and through the 2015 and 2016 target years, and must submit to the Executive Committee certification that he has attended appropriate anger management counseling, prior to requesting reinstatement. Motion passed all in favor.**
2. All-American Point System (Al Magyar) – There has been discussion over the year concerning AAA and AA points. Three options: 1) status quo; 2) only award points to the highest class offered at a shoot; 3) expand the number of places (i.e., more than CH, RU & 3rd, to say 4th, 5th, etc., and no AAA or AA places for points), but puts more burden on our clubs. Bottom-line, is the current system broken? Will continue to assess ways to improve the selection process. The point system has certainly hurt our medium and small shoots, and need to find ways to mitigate that trend. The way that NSCA selects teams won't work for skeet, but there are some good ideas for other ways of recognition.
3. Committee to Review NSSA Recognition Teams – Will discuss further at the winter Executive Committee meeting.
4. Committee to Review NSSA Zone Shoots – Will discuss further at the winter Executive Committee meeting.
5. Bylaws Amendments – Will be posted to the website and in Target Talk.
6. New Magazine Committee – Being worked by MH and JT.
7. Discuss sequence of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee meeting schedule for the World Shoot – There are items discussed at this Executive Committee meeting that should be communicated to the directors. Could hold our meeting Friday AM of the Mini World, and shoot the last flight of doubles.
8. NSSA Target Year Change – Will discuss further at the winter Executive Committee meeting.
9. Class All-American Ring – Don't want to detract from the stature of "the" All-American ring, but it is a great idea to further recognition. Proposed design is smaller and has no stone. Cost is \$375. **Motion by Jack Tans, 2nd by Chris Naler, to proceed with a Class All-American ring per the proposed design; motion passed all in favor.** Anyone who has been selected to a Class All-American team in past is eligible to order a ring (purchased at their own expense).
10. Shoot Processing Turn Around – Have no backlog for shoot processing. The 15-day submission requirement is a holdover from the days of manually processing shoot reports. Would like to reduce that. However, doing so might put more pressure on the clubs. Needs to go through the Rules Committee before any change could be implemented. Need to be careful though, since 80% of our shoots are run at clubs of three fields or less.
11. Assist Smaller Clubs/Shoots (Don Kelly) – Goes hand-in-hand with previous discussion. Have a number of clubs that no longer throw registered shoots because it's a pain. Need to make a concerted effort to make it easier for our smaller clubs to host shoots, particularly the post-shoot processing. Need a simple computer program (EXCEL spreadsheet based??) to facilitate shoot processing for the smaller clubs that could be provided to our member clubs. This is only the first step... Clubs will need help on how to use the software.
12. Valerio Shoot Software – We are totally dependent upon Mike Valerio for support. What is our succession plan? In the meantime, are we prepared for any eventuality? There are individuals who have the knowledge to make programming changes, but there are larger questions. For example, are we availing ourselves of the most current technology? *Need to form an IT Committee by the winter Executive Committee meeting.* Target Talk would be a good vehicle to solicit interested, and capable, individuals.

13. Strategic Direction – The Executive Committee sets the strategic direction for the Association, and Chris Naler wants to go on record that the Executive Committee strongly supports going back to a six-day World Shoot. It was suggested that if we go back to a 2-day 12 Gauge Event that we NOT shoot 125 targets. It was recommended we include the question on the post-shoot survey. The World Shoot Advisory Committee will address and provide recommendations.

Recessed at 12:00PM, October 1, 2014; and reconvened at 10:30AM, October 2, 2014. There being no further business to discuss, **a motion was made by Don Kelly, 2nd by John Haugh, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed all in favor.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:015PM October 2, 2014. The Executive Committee was in session 8:55AM – 12:00PM October 1 and 10:30AM – 12:15PM October 2.

Respectfully submitted,

John Haugh
Secretary-Treasurer

Trish Magyar
Assistant Secretary