

Arizona State Trapshooting Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Revised
November 7, 2013

ASTA BOD meeting, Tucson Trap & Skeet Club, Autumn Grand American

BOD Attendees:

Steve Long
Larry Mane
Mark Williams
Doug Sims
Dick Whitman
Scott McClelland
Len Sullivan
Tim Robb
George Miller

ATA Delegate:

Richard Lockett

Members Attending:

Tim Miles
Ken Shatz
Jay Alderman

Steve Long called the meeting to order at 4:41pm.

Len Sullivan opened the meeting with a treasurers report. Total cash on hand was \$155,005.36. Guidance for year end cash was between \$163,000 and \$165,000 based on estimated receipts from the Autumn Grand and the HOF shoot. All directors were provided with a printout which is attached to these minutes. This printout detailed the growth of the ASTA accounts beginning with the 2004 calendar year.

Len Sullivan reported that the budget for 2014 was in process and invited the other directors to provide feedback. He suggested that the draft budget be finished and provided to the directors via email with a conference call to follow for discussion. George Miller asked about details of the previous years (2013) state shoot advertising

receipts and if any advertisers did not pay. Len Sullivan reported that the total income from advertising in the program was \$1,015, with the previous year at \$940.

A motion to approve previous minutes was made by Scott McClelland with a second from Tim Robb.

Richard Luckett reported that he had received an email from Trap & Field magazine stating that they did not have the Tucson Trap & Skeet club shoot dates for the 2014 season. Len Sullivan reported that there had been several emails from Trap & Field regarding the entire winter chain schedule and the differences between the Trap & Field ad and the ASTA website. Both Len Sullivan and Steve Long had compared the scheduled dates in the winter chain advertising against the green sheets submitted by the clubs and found that they matched exactly. Richard Luckett stated that his information was from Sandy Tidwell at Trap & Field and requested that Len Sullivan immediately contact Trap & Field and the ATA main office to determine the source of the issue. Discussion followed between Doug Sims and Tim Miles regarding how soon the Trap & Field dates could be published. Assuming that the dates were corrected immediately, the dates should be published in the next issue.

Richard Luckett continued his report on ATA rule changes for All American points. If more than 1300 targets are thrown, or the shoot lasts 5 days or more, a State or Regional championship can be used for All American point determination. Any single event with over 600 entries can be used for All American points. Doug Sims pointed out that the combination of Championship events (Singles, Doubles, Handicap) are counted as a total for All American points. The ASTA state shoot automatically qualifies due to the number of targets thrown. Richard Luckett continued by stating that if trophies are offered for non-residents, then the non-residents will be eligible for All American points. The cost issue for the ASTA is that trophies for non-residents must be offered for points to be available. Tim Robb stated that this would be an additional 39 trophies that would need to be awarded at the State Shoot. Richard Luckett stated that the good thing about this is that we could recognize the out of state visitors who make our State Shoot successful. Larry Mane stated that All American points were awarded last year properly in all events where they were available. Richard Luckett added that our competition factor has been raised from 3 to 4. Doug Sims asked if this was because the ATA had lowered the qualifications instead of Arizona having more shooters. Larry Mane answered in the affirmative.

Richard Luckett continued by discussing the new failure to fire rule for doubles. The official rule per the ATA rulebook is:

A contestant shall be allowed 2 failures to fire, for any reason other than stated in Paragraph C., 2., above, during each Doubles sub-event if the Failure to Fire occurs when the contestant attempts to shoot the first target of a Doubles pair, or when the contestant attempts to shoot the second target of a Doubles pair after the first target has been fired at and broken and would have been scored "DEAD". When the first target of a Doubles pair is fired at and missed and that target would be scored

“LOST”, and an allowable “Failure to Fire” occurs on the second target, the shooter may shoot another pair. In such a circumstance the shooter must shoot at both targets of the repeat pair but the first target shall be scored “Lost” regardless of the result of the actual shot, the second target shall be scored as shot. (See exception in VII., E., 11., f.) When the first or second allowable Failure to Fire occurs in any Doubles sub-event, the contestant shall be allowed to call for and fire at another pair of targets and the result of the shots at the new pair will be scored in accordance with these Official Rules.

This concluded the ATA report. The next item introduced by Richard Luckett was the determination of the ASTA state teams. Based on issues in choosing the 2014 teams, Richard recommended the following policy by providing a printed copy to the BOD:

Age based categories are established on the birthday of the shooter. If a shooter's category changes during the target year, the category in which the shooter shot the longest period of time will determine team placement, regardless of how a shooter may or may not have declared their special category during the year. This only applies to Sub Junior, Junior, Men, Vet, and Senior Vet categories.

Len Sullivan asked if actual target count would be the determination or if it would be solely based on the where the birthday falls. Tim Robb gave the example of a Veteran shooter whose birthday was in October. That shooter would have 2 months as Vet and 10 months as a Senior Vet. George Miller brought up shooters who declare as one category even though their age defines them as a higher category, as is allowed by ATA rules during the year that the shooter's birthday would move them to another category. Richard Luckett stated that this rule has nothing to do with All American points or ATA categories and is only for determination of the ASTA state teams. Richard used himself as an example: he turned 70 on September 14th. He chose to shoot the entire year as a Vet, but the policy would place him on the Senior Vet team. Richard reminded the group again that this policy only applies to the selection of the State Team. Larry Mane suggested that whatever category the shooter started the year in could be the determination for the state team, regardless of the ATA category. Len Sullivan agreed that Larry's suggestion would be the simplest. Richard stated that his proposal would be better because it was based on the longest period of time that the shooter was in a category. Doug Sims suggested that the birth year could be used as opposed to looking at where the birthday falls during the year. Scott McClelland commented that mirroring what the ATA does would be best, even though the ATA policy is based on determining All American points. Richard Luckett recommended that the ASTA not base the policy on the ATA rules but instead use the longest period of time rule as proposed. Tim Robb agreed that time instead of targets would be the most important factor.

Scott McClelland made a motion to follow Richard's recommendation as originally proposed. George Miller and Larry Mane both seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and the motion passed with only Mark Williams opposed.

Richard Luckett added that last year was a great target year for Arizona and that we were ranked in the top 5 for target count in the nation. He also added that he had attended the first shoot at the new Tri-State club and that the shoot went very well.

Len Sullivan asked how the new policy regarding the State Teams should be published...in the State Shoot program, on the website, or both. It was agreed to publish the policy in both locations.

Tim Robb took the floor to discuss several items.

Hall of Fame Shoot report: Programs have been mailed out to shooters who have shot more than 500 targets. Extra programs have been provided to Tucson and to several winter visitors. The language regarding substitutions on the Zone Teams has been clarified. There will be no substitutions. Another team challenge has been added for 2 person teams in the championship singles event. This team challenge is open to both residents and non-residents. Food will be sub sandwiches, but the order will be half of last year's order due to the amount of leftovers. Drinks will be cut back also. Larry Mane will get the cake for the HOF induction. Steve Long asked Tim Robb to verify that Subway will take a check, as last year they required a credit card. Doug Sims asked if there was a reason why the ASTA does not have a debit card. Len Sullivan replied that a debit card would make it too easy to withdraw funds from the accounts and that checks requiring signatures were more secure and traceable. The only card that the ASTA has is a "deposit only" card that cannot be used for withdrawals.

Attendance pins and plaques have been ordered for the HOF shoot. A request was made by Tim Robb for a volunteer from the BOD to monitor and maintain the sign up board for the Zone Challenge. Steve Long asked about cash required for added money. Tim Robb stated that eight \$100 dollar bills (\$800) were needed for the awards. Additionally, a note needs to be posted which states that all questions about the HOF program or events should be directed to the BOD and not to shoot management. The schedule for next year will be examined to try to find a way to move the HOF farther away from Thanksgiving.

State Shoot program report: a proposal was made by Tim Robb to have only one event on the final Sunday. He stated that the major benefit was for the staff and the shooters because the shootoffs would be done sooner, the travelers could get on the road sooner, and the long line at the trophy counter would be finished at an earlier time. He suggested throwing 300 targets on Friday with the Championship Doubles as the second event. George Miller asked why the doubles were the middle event. Tim Robb replied that moving the doubles to another time slot was an option. Larry Mane said that we needed to verify whether or not there was still a requirement to have the last event prior to the championship weekend be a handicap event. Scott McClelland asked if the non-HOA event on Friday would be the first or last event. Tim Robb replied that the singles event on Friday would be non-HOA. Larry Mane suggested that the non-HOA event be the last of the day in case of delays or other issues. Len Sullivan agreed that the non-HOA event should be last and suggested that if the doubles event was thrown on Friday it should be first so that the traps would only have to be changed once during the day. Len Sullivan

also made the point that moving the event to Friday cuts out people who have to be in school or at work, which was also mentioned by Scott McClelland. Tim Robb replied by proposing that the state meeting be moved to Sunday morning and starting the handicap championship later in the day. Scott McClelland restated the issue of people who have to work on Friday not being able to compete in the doubles or the HAA/HOA. Tim Robb stated that he had tracked the number of shooters who shot everything at the last state shoot and that only eight (8) people would be affected by the change, and that if they wanted to shoot the doubles event that they would show up. Richard Luckett added that if the families that have children in school or people who had to work would find a way to attend as long as they knew in advance. Tim added that California only throws one event on Sunday and that he is able to leave much earlier on the last day. George Miller asked about the start time on Friday and suggested making the start time earlier.

George Miller made a motion to have only one event (handicap) on Sunday. Larry Mane seconded. Mark Williams asked to make a statement against the proposal based on people who have to work on Friday's and questioned the numbers quoted by Tim Robb that there would only be 8 people affected. Richard Luckett replied that "If you're an avid trapshooter, you'll find a way to get there on Friday." Len Sullivan stated that he had a problem telling kids that they couldn't go to school if they wanted to shoot. Tim Robb said that this was an experiment to try to take some of the load off of the staff, throw the highest number of targets, make it easier for people who have to travel, and that the goal was to make the state shoot as high quality as possible.

George Miller requested a vote.

Voting for the change: Tim Robb, George Miller, Larry Mane, Scott McClelland, Doug Sims.

Voting against the change: Mark Williams, Len Sullivan, Dick Whitman

Motion carries 5 to 3.

Larry Mane said that the state meeting will start at 8 am on Sunday. Voting will start immediately after the meeting and will be closed at noon. The BOD organizational meeting would be held between the end of the handicap event and the beginning of the shootoffs.

Tim Robb is working on the pre-squading for the state shoot and that 10 additional squads per event have been added. Language will be added to the program regarding filling holes in existing squads before opening and filling new squads.

The target buy down by the ASTA was discussed. Steve Long stated that Paul Doetsch is still trying to determine the cost of targets. In 2013, the ASTA provided \$6,000 to buy the price of targets down to \$28 per hundred. Doug Sims reminded the group that there would be no trophy or program expenses for Ben Avery and that the target cost calculation needed to reflect those missing expenses. The last information that Tim Robb had was an estimate of \$31 per hundred, which would mean a \$6,000 buy down would

result in target prices of \$29 per hundred to the shooter. Len Sullivan suggested that a \$9,000 buy down could bring the targets back to \$28 per hundred again. Steve Long and Tim Robb are going to continue working with Paul Doetsch on the pricing.

Scott McClelland asked for the floor and requested that the resident and non-resident awards be mirrored in the final two handicaps so that the shootoffs and trophies will match. Steve Long had a question on trophies donated by the Williams' for the Lady II resident runner up. A request had been made for the ASTA to provide a matching trophy for non-residents. The board agreed that because this was a donated trophy similar to the life membership donated by Bruce Axline there was not a requirement for the ASTA to provide a matching non-resident trophy. Tim Robb asked if the ASTA would provide trophies for the non-HOA events so that All American points could be awarded. Len Sullivan stated that we have been below the budget for trophies every year and that the money was available. Gift cards were suggested as a trophy by Tim Robb and Larry Mane. A value of \$20 for each gift card was suggested. Richard Luckett suggested that the Treasurer should purchase all of the gift cards to make it easier. Steve Long said that he has been in contact with Jamie Brand at the ATA office and that the ATA trophies were out for bids and no prices had been set yet. The ASTA will mirror whatever the ATA spends on resident trophies for non-resident trophies. Len Sullivan brought up the fact that 40 gift cards at \$50 each would only be \$2,000 and that last year the trophy cost was \$4,000 under the budget. After discussion, an amount of \$25 per gift card was agreed upon.

Steve Long said that the program needed to be clear that the Paul Wolfe memorial buckle was for residents only.

George Miller had two items of new business. First, the town of Chino Valley is interested in putting in 4 trap fields on city property as part of a program to promote shooting. The town is looking for a vendor to run the facility. Secondly, should he (George Miller) be in charge of selling and invoicing the advertisements for the state shoot. Len Sullivan said that it would be simplest for the advertisers for George to be a single point of contact for sales and billing, with the receipts forwarded to Len for deposits and record keeping.

Dick Whitman took the floor and tendered his resignation from the board due to his health. He offered to serve out his term if the board wanted him to stay, but notified everyone that he was fighting for his life and would not be able to meet the target minimums. Dick Whitman said that Joel Schram was willing to serve in his place. Scott McClelland suggested that Dick stay on the board through the state shoot. Len Sullivan agreed, saying that there would only be one or two more meetings before that time and that it could be put to a vote at the general meeting. Steve Long reminded the group that the replacement decision would need to be made by the other two directors from the southern zone. None of the other directors were in favor of forcing Mr. Whitman to resign. On advice of the board, the resignation was withdrawn until the state shoot.

Richard Luckett brought up the problems in other states with embezzlement of state funds and that another association was in trouble for failure to file taxes. He asked the group to be sure that all activities were “by the book” and above board. Tim Robb said that he had talked to a shooter who told him that a state association had been dissolved and that the individual directors were being targeted. Len Sullivan said that the ASTA board is bonded. Richard Luckett expressed doubts about the bond. Len Sullivan offered to show the surety bond to Mr. Luckett if he wanted to see it. In response to the statements by Richard Luckett, Len Sullivan logged in to the Chase bank website and showed the board that the current account balances matched exactly what was provided on the handout earlier in the meeting.

George Miller made a motion for adjournment, which was seconded by Scott McClelland. Len Sullivan stated that he still had business to discuss, but that it was too late due to the adjournment. The meeting was reconvened to discuss a grant request that was received from the Buckeye Sportsman Club. The request was for a grant of \$1,600 for lighting that would enable the club to throw Big 50 events at night. Larry Mane and Richard Luckett both stated that they thought it would be illegal for the ASTA to provide funds to another non-profit organization. George Miller stated that it would be allowable if the purpose of the funds were to educate young shooters. Larry Mane reiterated that the ASTA cannot donate funds to another club or to a non-profit, and Richard Luckett suggested looking at the articles of incorporation for guidance.

Len Sullivan stated that he was asked to present the request to the board and that he would be excusing himself from any votes about the grant due to his involvement with the Buckeye Sportsman Club. Richard Luckett suggested that the board should get an opinion from the ASTA legal counsel. Steve Long expressed a concern that in his opinion the money in the ASTA accounts belonged to the shooters and the ASTA could not distribute it. Len Sullivan suggested creating a grant cycle each year to give money back to the clubs around the state if it was possible to do so. This would be similar to the actions of the Arizona Game & Fish Department and the Friends of the NRA.

Steve Long stated that he would contact the ASTA attorney and get an opinion on the matter. The discussion was tabled until further information becomes available.

The meeting was adjourned again at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Len Sullivan Secretary/Treasurer

| | 12/30/2004 | 12/30/2005 | 12/30/2006 | 12/31/2007 | 12/30/2008 | 12/30/2009 | 12/30/2010 | 12/30/2011 | 12/30/2012 | 11/7/2013 |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| operating | \$ 56,256.51 | \$ 36,244.30 | \$ 32,645.58 | \$ 23,140.16 | \$ 27,928.03 | \$ 47,994.42 | \$ 60,660.94 | \$ 71,514.84 | \$ 84,363.60 | \$ 88,646.18 |
| checking | \$ 8,370.31 | \$ 2,023.52 | \$ 367.15 | \$ 4,592.78 | \$ 4,149.54 | \$ 4,005.79 | \$ 5,134.66 | \$ 5,669.06 | \$ 5,706.79 | \$ 6,327.79 |
| home ground | | \$ 30,274.14 | \$ 30,439.01 | \$ 31,481.69 | \$ 36,513.26 | \$ 41,077.05 | \$ 43,365.56 | \$ 45,351.91 | \$ 46,702.43 | \$ 46,766.07 |
| life member | | | | | \$ 1,775.79 | \$ 3,902.01 | \$ 11,554.94 | \$ 12,391.70 | \$ 13,004.36 | \$ 13,265.32 |
| total cash | \$ 64,626.82 | \$ 68,541.96 | \$ 63,451.74 | \$ 59,214.63 | \$ 70,366.62 | \$ 96,979.27 | \$ 120,716.10 | \$ 134,927.51 | \$ 149,777.18 | \$ 155,005.36 |

Projected end 2013
\$ 163,000.00