Minutes of the Essex CPSA AGM

Held Tuesday, 5th February 2019

At the White Hart, Newland St, Witham CM8 2AF

# **Committee Members Present**

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| Ian Schwier | Chairman |
| Luke Riddington | Treasurer |
| Richard Boutcher | Secretary |
| Glen DeFreitas |   |
| Dave Bignell |   |
| Oliver Wilde |   |
| Lee Byard |   |
| Jon Willis |   |
| Nadine Gilder |   |
| Todd Bridge |   |

# **1.Apologies for Absence**

Were received from: Patrick “Mac” McLaughlin, Kathy Curtis, Jerry Bland, John Wilmott, Troy Pretherbridge, and Diane Boutcher.

# **2.2018 AGM Minutes – Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising so approval of the minutes was proposed by Ian Schwier, seconded by Dave Bignell, and accepted unanimously by the members.

# **3.Chairman’s Report**

Ian Schwier thanked the members for their attendance at the AGM and for continuing to support the sport. He emphasised that the committee members are here to help. He stated that there had been very few issues and complaints during the course of the year.

Mention was made of  the newly instigated Essex Compak tournament and that there are plans to add further disciplines during the coming years.

Dave Bignell was thanked for all his time and efforts on the committee over many years as he stands down with plans to go on a sabbatical, travelling the world for an indeterminate time. We all wish him well on his travels!

Ian went on to thanks the committee members for their continued support and contributions to the running of the county’s shooting interests. He noted that there was once again no representation at our AGM from the CPSA regional or national offices.

Finally, he thanked the ground owners and suppliers of the raffle prizes.

# **4.Treasurer’s Report**

Luke Riddington distributed the current summary of accounts for the county, highlighting recent contributions amounting to £1,500 from the regional committee. The accounts still show healthy balances and a slight increase in funds held in account.

There being no specific questions regarding the accounts, Richard Boutcher proposed that they be accepted, Ian Schwier seconded, and the members voted unanimously for their approval.

# **5.Committee Members’ Reports**

## 5.1Sporting Disciplines

Oliver Wilde reported on the various sporting disciplines.

The S.E. Inter-counties took place in May and Essex entered a full team. The seniors came seventh overall. The national inter-counties took place at Orston. In general, Essex ha da disappointing tournament but Ryan Dodd won the Colts overall title – congratulations to him.

The Essex FITASC team took fourth place overall in the inter-counties championship, but they were only four points behind the winning score. Ian Schwier won the S.E. Inter-Counties senior and vets titles.

Essex shooters had a good event at the English Open Compak at Orston. Mattew Bone scored 99/100 and then took 3rd place in A Class after a five-way shoot-off. Stuart Clark was second in the seniors and John Price won the Veteran’s trophy.

Ian Schwier was selected to represent England.

It is proposed to run a ‘Champion of Champions’ this year, based on scores at selected county events.

The committee has decided that there will be no sporting selection shoots this year and a sub-committee will select the team based on recent performances leading up to each county team event.

## 5.2Trap Disciplines

Lee Byard reported that the Essex DTL team had come second to Kent by only one shot overall in the inter-counties. A full team apart from a Junior had represented the county at this event. This year that gap will be filled.

Exactly the same result was reported for the Helice championship.

Lee himself has again made the England team – congratulations to him on his selection and we wish him well in the championships.

## 5.3DTL

Dave Bignell reported on the annual competition between Essex and Suffolk which this year was held in the DTL discipline. Another very close-run thing came down to the last shot of the day, sadly won by Suffolk.

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone involved and we look forward to whatever discipline Suffolk choose to compete in this year. Dave thanked the Mayland Gun Club for hosting the event.

## 5.4English Skeet

Glen Defreitas also reported a good year with increasing participation in the discipline and team success, winning the S.E. Inter-counties for the first time in many years and taking several individual titles at the event: Peter Stanton-Hope winning overall with a straight 100 and wins in the Colts and Vets categories.

Unfortunately, these successes could not be repeated at the National Inter-Counties with the exception of the Colts which was won by Tom McCluskey.

## 5.5Olympic Skeet

Barry Dodds reported that 2018’s Olympic Skeet championship was very poorly attended, and that it was important to encourage new blood into the discipline.

Various proposals were made to try to help with this: increased publicity on the Essex Facebook site (Nadine Gilder); organising a ‘have a go’ day, maybe combined with a barbeque to encourage family attendance; Essex CPSA contribution to costs of these events.

Southend Gun Club runs Olympic Skeet every other Sunday throughout the year as well as other disciplines.

## 5.6ABT

ABT is run every year by Chris Wright and this discipline is generally left to its own devices without committee involvement. It was suggested that the Southend G.C. could run this event rather than it going out of the county, although it has already been scheduled for this year so this could only commence from 2020.

## 5.7UT and OT

These disciplines are also self-sufficient being run by Dave Henshaw.

# **6.Election of Chairman**

As required by the constitution, Ian Schwier stood down at the meeting having stated that he was prepared to stand again. There being no other proposals, Dave Bignell proposed that Ian continue in the role, seconded by Oliver Wilde and voted in favour unanimously by the members present.

# **7.Re-Election of the Committee**

The existing committee members were all prepared to stand again but a request was made to the members for any additional volunteers to step forward. Re-election of the committee members was proposed en masse by Ian Schwier and seconded by Luke Riddington followed by a unanimous vote in favour by the members.

# **8.Eastern Region Report**

Unfortunately, no-one from the region was able to attend this year’s Essex AGM.

# **9.CPSA National Report**

No-one from the National CPSA was unable to attend this year’s Essex AGM.

# **10.Colts and Juniors**

The committee welcomed Jon Willis who had volunteered during the course of the year to join with a brief to encourage more young people into the sport and build their involvement and develop their skills.

He has been looking to find ways to reach out to this demographic. With the help of his son they had developed a Facebook page and poster and in two days they’d received seven calls or messages which they found very encouraging.

The committee had pledged funds to support this initiative, helping to fund events such as taster days covering several different disciplines, and to create some coaching sessions. Care must be taken to ensure that people involved in these events are CRB checked.

The committee wishes Jon every success in his endeavours.

# **11.AOB**

* Dates for shoots to be published on the website and Facebook sites.
* Trophies: The only known missing trophy is no the All-round. A suggestion was made to stop presenting the main trophies at championships and to instead present each winner with a small, maybe glass, trophy as a permanent keepsake. It was decided not to pursue this option this year.
* Trophies – a number have gone missing. Dave Bignell is sourcing replacements, but it is always a shame to lose the history of any trophy. One member suggested that the grounds keep a trophy book or hold deposits before handing out the trophies. This would work for some grounds and some events but would not be practical for others.
* A request for the Fixtures sections of the website to be updated to reflect that it is now 2019. This has subsequently been addressed.
* A request was made for a committee member to attend every county event. The committee agreed to try to do so, although it was pointed out that we are also shooters who often have other events to shoot at on the days of some of the competitions.
* Southend Gun Club have their own Facebook page and it was agreed that they would share information with the Essex Facebook page run by Nadine Gilder, and vice versa

# **12.Close**

The meeting closed at 21:15 following half-time refreshments and followed by a raffle draw.

Many thanks to the following who all sponsored raffle prizes:

* Conner Logan from Maylands GC
* Essex Guns
* Eastern Sporting
* Chris Theobald from High House Skeet

# **13.Erratum**

Following the meeting the following corrections were advised by Chris Wright:

With reference to the  minutes recorded at the AGM on the 5th February, I am writing to clarify errors on items 5.6 and 5.7.

I, Chris Wright have had sole responsibility for all three disciplines ABT, UT and Olympic Trap for about the last 16 + years.

In 2017, Dave Henshaw kindly elected to take responsibility for the ABT; organising the venue for the Essex ABT County Championships + selection of the ABT team for the South East Region Intercounties etc. Therefore minute 5.6 has been recorded incorrectly.  I have had no imput on the ABT other minor organisation for the team for the National Intercounties event in 2018 because Dave was unavailable.

I am still responsible for organising the venues for Essex UT and OT County Championships + subsequent team selection for the South East Region Intercounties + liasing with Dave Bignell and Luke Riddington as required and Sandie Buckler when necessary.

Dave Henshaw has no responsibility for the Universal Trap or Olympic Trap championships/teams/venues.

Therefore minute 5.7 has been recorded incorrectly.

I would also take this opportunity to advise that Southend Gun Club have been offered the ABT County Championship in the past but have shown little interest. I think the venue would be a great idea and would get my support. I would also advise that Clacton GC had both the ABT and UT some years back but the ground owner refused to run the competitions to the required rules for each discipline so with the agreement of the Essex Committee, both competitions were removed to a venue that respected the codes.

I hope this clarifies the situation and the the minutes will be corrected under "Matters Arising" at your next committee meeting.