



Devon and Cornwall Archery Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25 November 2012

At Yelverton Memorial Hall, meeting opened at 2.00pm with John Poyner in the Chair.

Members present: from retiring Committee Sally Sandoe, John Poyner, Chris Vitali, Paul Callaway, Phill Carder, Jane Forrow, Judith Brelsford and John Russell, together with 17 other Senior members representing 10 clubs. [Attendance lower than usual as a result of bad weather and flooding affecting parts of the two counties.]

Apologies for absence: Peter Fairbrother from retiring Committee, and from 10 other members.

1 Minutes of the 2011 AGM

The Minutes of the 2011 AGM had been previously circulated and were taken as read. Chris Vitali proposed "that the Minutes be accepted as a true record", accepted by show of hands and a copy signed as such by John Poyner.

2 Matters Arising

Arising from the Minutes of the 2011 AGM, Margaret Byrnes re-iterated her appeal for clubs to send out tournament entry forms by post in addition to putting them on the websites.

3 Chairman

John Poyner as Chairman expressed his wish that archers in the County could, again, come to consider it a matter of pride to aspire to a place in the County Team and represent their County.

4 Secretary

John Russell read his written report as Secretary, as attached hereto.

5 Treasurer

5.1 Paul Callaway tabled Annual Accounts, and read his written report as Treasurer, as attached hereto.

5.2 In questions from the floor Malcolm Grant asked if the affiliation figures included Brixham, who had not yet received GNAS cards. Paul confirmed that Brixham was included in the figures reported.

5.3 There was also a query regarding the complaint fee of £50 paid to GNAS, and whether this was refundable. Paul explained that this was paid by the County, without prejudice, to allow a complaint by a Junior to be considered by GNAS. In accordance with the GNAS complaints procedure the payment is not refundable.

5.4 There being no further questions, proposed by Mike Byrnes that "the Annual Accounts be accepted", seconded, and passed by show of hands.

6 Tournament Organiser

6.1 Judith Brelsford read her written report as Tournament Organiser, as attached hereto, and tabled a draft tournament programme for 2013.

6.2 Malcolm Grant commented that Brixham would like to have offered to host a DCAS tournament but are still uncertain about the availability of their outdoor venue.

7 Coaching Organiser

7.1 Phill Carder read his written report as Coaching Organiser, as attached hereto.

- 7.2 In a question from the floor Dennis Parker asked if coaching can be organised for ordinary archers, not County squads. Phill responded that it may be possible depending on availability of coaches and on what is being requested.
- 7.3 Margaret Byrnes asked if a list of qualified coaches could be made available either in the GWAS contacts directory or on the website. Paul Callaway recalled that such a list used to be in the GWAS directory but was removed for data protection reasons, although restoring it could be considered.
- 7.4 Following on from the Coaching report, Jimmy Sandoe as Senior Team Manager reported on efforts to organise Senior County Squad training sessions this year. Response from archers has been lukewarm so far, and there are also problems with finding a suitable venue.

8 Juniors Representative

- 8.1 John Russell read his written report as acting Juniors Representative, as attached hereto.
- 8.2 In response to the question in the report as to why Junior numbers have been falling so much over the last couple of years, the indication from the floor is that the main cause is cost in the current economic climate. One club reported that they had lost 11 Juniors, with parents saying they were unable to afford it. And that's with club fees of only £18 a year, so no scope for the club to do anymore to help.

9 Records Officer

Jane Forrow read her written report as Records Officer, as attached hereto.

10 Judges Representative

In Peter Fairbrother's absence no report was made.

11 Presentations

Sally Sandoe as President presented a number of County Record certificates.

The Roy Skipper Tournament Organiser's Trophy was presented to Jimmy Sandoe in recognition of many years setting high standards in tournament organisation at Redruth.

12 Election of Committee

The Secretary advised that as of the due date required by the Constitution no written nominations for Committee posts had been received. Accordingly nominations for all posts can be taken from the floor.

The following members were elected to the Committee for the forthcoming year, each by show of hands:

President	Sally Sandoe	re-elected
Chairman	John Poyner	re-elected
Vice-Chairman	Chris Vitali	re-elected
Secretary	John Russell	re-elected
Treasurer	Paul Callaway	re-elected
Tournament Secretary	Judith Brelsford	re-elected
Coaching Organiser	Phill Carder	re-elected
Juniors Representative	John Russell elected by show of hands to the post previously held on an acting basis.	

DCAS

Records Officer	Jane Farrow	re-elected
Judges Representative	Peter Fairbrother	re-elected
Rep to GWAS Council	Chris Vitali proposed by Phill Carder, seconded, and elected by show of hands. (A second post of Rep to GWAS Council is held ex-officio by the Secretary.)	
Senior Team Manager	although not a Committee post the appointment of Jimmy Sandoe as Senior Team Manager was endorsed by show of hands.	

13 Any Other Business

- 13.1 With Estelle Edwick being unable to attend, the Secretary read out her e-mail describing the greatly increased demand for beginners courses at Barnstaple and asking: "We would appreciate any ideas or suggestions from other clubs as to how this demand can be met as we do not have the resources to run enough beginners courses to accommodate everyone who wants to attend one, or to support that number of new archers following the courses even if we found a way to run them."

Other clubs reported an increase in interest this year, particularly since the Olympics, and similar problems to Barnstaple's, but had no easy answer to offer.

- 13.2 The Secretary advised that notice had been received from the National Tournaments Committee that the intention is to run the 2013 Midsummer Tournament as an Inter-counties Team championships. Teams of 3 in each discipline and gender (total 6 teams) can either be entered by each County or endorsed by the County.

Recognising that there are several archers in the County who have entered the Midsummer in previous years and to ensure fairness the Committee intend that DCAS will enter a County Team (six teams of 3), which will be selected in the first place from the GWAS Inter-counties Team based on performance, rather than allowing a first come first served scramble. The team entry fees would be paid by DCAS, with archers meeting their own travel and other costs.

- 13.3 The Secretary drew members' attention to a Membership Modernisation consultation document posted by GNAS on their website and urged clubs to respond to the consultation.

There being no other business the 2012 Annual General Meeting of the Devon and Cornwall Archery Society closed at 4.05pm.

Minutes recorded by
John Russell
Secretary

Accepted as a true record by John Poyner (signed)

Secretary's Report to the Annual General Meeting 2012

I don't have very much to report as Secretary this year. The usual collection of administrative tasks have been done, and I've tried to keep Club Secretaries informed, via my e-mailed notes, of what we've been doing.

Some things that I'd hoped to do I haven't done. I had hoped, for example, to do some work on revising our Constitution which is becoming out of date in very many ways. That was delayed for a while because GWAS was updating its constitution and I thought it could get confusing and out of step trying to do both at the same time. But I've lost that excuse now!

Personally, as I think I've said before, I'd like to see a change in emphasis for DCAS away from being "the administrative body for archery in Devon and Cornwall" and more towards support and development for Clubs and archers. And on that note I'd like to remind you about our Development Loan scheme.

This scheme invites Clubs who have a good idea but don't have the capital to implement it, to use some of DCAS's reserves as an interest-free loan to get their good idea off the ground. Barnstaple have used a loan to help them keep up with their rapid growth, and we know of at least one other loan request that is being prepared. If your club has a project then why don't you talk to us about it? The scheme is intended to be flexible, and we'll be happy to work with you to make your case to take our money off us!

In addition to Secretary, the post of Junior Rep was left unfilled after the last AGM, and I've tried to cover that role to some extent. I'll report on that separately.

John Russell
November 2012

You should all have sight of a copy of the Annual Accounts, which have been the subject of independent review by Accountants: Francis Clark, Exeter. Their report is attached.

Page 2: Summary of Activities, Opening & Closing Balances:

- Bottom left, first page – opening balances as at 1 October 2012 £30,108.34
- Left hand side – Income over the period £11,082.67, split into 4 broad categories: General, Tournament, Coaching and Juniors – more detailed analysis is on the second sheet, which we will come to later.
- Right hand side – Expenditure over the period £8,868.71, split into the same 4 broad categories.
- The difference between incoming and outgoings is the surplus of £2,213.96. *Compared to £3,275 (Previous 11 Mths)*
- Finally, bottom right, first page – summary of the closing balances for the period £32,322.30.

- Development Loan to Barnstaple Club - £2,500 advanced during the year: still with £2,100 to come back.
- Consolidation of investment with Scottish Widows – 7-day Notice Account, presently at 1.6% interest; dropping to 1.1% shortly, so I'm on the look out for a better account rate.
- Merchandise very slow moving – Judith will have something to say about this as part of her report.

Page 3: Analysis of Income & Expenditure. Some points to pick up:

- This year affiliation fees are about the same as last year; although Clubs have been slower to pay the Annual Subscriptions in September.
- There has been no 5% GNAS rebate this year; which has 'cost' us around £750.
- I'll let Judith tell you all about the Tournament element – there's a more detailed analysis on page 4. Overall the Tournament surplus is down about £350 following on from the reorganisation of the way we organise tournaments and, I suspect, falling numbers and poor weather this summer.
- Coaching undertook a Level 1 Training course (at Brixham, led by Malcolm Grant) and self-funded (i.e. broke even).
- We have seen some activity on the Junior Account this year; but still it produces a surplus, adding to its ever-increasing balance. We need to spend some money on the Juniors.

- I will not 'steal any more thunder' from the Tournament, Coaching & Junior Officers who can each talk about items within their bailiwick, but I would like to thank Judith Brelsford for the preparation of Accounts covering the Tournaments; we have moved to passing all receipts and expenditure through the bank account, which has made my job in pulling all the figures together much easier.
- Overall, I think we have had a successful year in the face of a pressing financial and economic climate. We have made a surplus again this year; *albeit reduced from those achieved in earlier periods*. My view is that we should be prepared to see that reduce, as we put money and effort into supporting our Clubs within the County.

Moving on to Affiliations – aside from the self-funding Coaching activities, this accounts for about half of the Society's income: it is our lifeblood. I think Club Secretaries/Affiliation Officers have, by & large, got to grips with the new affiliation system and I would like to thank them for their efforts on this task.

Our Membership for 2011/12 [Y/E 30 September 2012] ended on	891 Seniors	PY	936 Seniors
	198 Juniors		251 Juniors
	Total 1089	Total	1187

- I think we could handle that (or at least live with it) in respect of the Senior, but for our Junior membership, this is disastrous – a 20% drop in Junior numbers is unheard of over the records I have – going back into the '80's. We need to do something about it!

Our Membership so far for 2012/13 – from 1 October 2012 to date	782 Seniors	PY	695 Seniors
	134 Juniors		147 Juniors
	Total 916	Total	842

- This indicates to me that we are 'doing the business' in respect of increasing adult membership (maybe the Olympics factor has something to do with this) but we're falling short on the Junior front. *I recall saying last year that the Junior numbers were failing behind previous trends and this year's figure has dropped again.*

Any questions?

Paul Callaway
Hon Treasurer to DCAS

Tournament Organisers Report ~ DCAS AGM 25th November 2012

Last year I came to the AGM having volunteered to stand as County Records Officer and went home with the post of County Tournament Secretary. A post which I took on never having organised a tournament in my life!

In the past the DCAS Tournament Organiser's post, a massive job, has always been held by a couple of people and so it had been decided to change the post to tournament secretary, somebody to run the calendar and therefore to ask the clubs to take on the full responsibility for running the county shoots.

I would like to thank Yelverton for hosting the Indoor Championships, Philip Rees of Exeter, Tim Pratt of Exmouth, John Bouch of Redruth, Mick Hawken of Newquay and Ann Gillbanks of Tors who have helped me by running the other shoots during 2012. The entries were down once again, but overall there was a small profit on all of the outdoor competitions. Special thanks are due to Megan Wilshaw for running the winter league for 2011/12 and again this year.

The role of Tournament Secretary however has not proved to be a success for a number of logistical reasons and I suggest that we need to look at it again by next year.

I am happy to continue in the post for another year provided that the work can be shared and feel that it would be a good idea to ask for somebody from Devon to join me for logistical reasons. At this morning's committee meeting Jane Forrow has agreed to help me for this year.

The entry forms are now out for the DCAS Indoor Championships and hopefully all tournament entries will increase in 2013, so please encourage your members to compete.

One of the major problems facing tournament organisers is the late entry of archers, several shoots this year were in doubt with one week to go due to poor entries and then only able to continue because the TO accepted late entries. This is very unfair to the clubs who are putting in the work to host these shoots and need to publish target lists. Please go back to your clubs asking members to consider the closing dates when entering competitions.

Judith

DCAS CCO'S Report 2012

In the past twelve months, we have run one level 1 course in Brixham with nine of the candidates from Devon and Cornwall passing. I would like to thank Malcolm Grant for all the work he did for this course. Unfortunately due to only three people paying before the deadline for the second course, that was due to be run in St Austell this course had to be postponed. This course will now run in Totnes and start on the 9th of December with the assessments due in early March administrated by Mrs Jacqui Wakeley.

Due to not being able to get enough staff to run a larger course this has been limited to 12 candidates only this was out of our control, three of the people have dropped out hoping to join a level one course run in Cornwall by the Cornwall sports partnership but I have no definite details as yet.

We have one and possibly two level one coach joining a level two course administrated by the regional coaching officer (Phil Hudson).

We have started the junior coaching sessions with seventeen juniors taking part in the first session in Tavistock last weekend. With two county coaches, two coaches and two level one coaches attending.

There are two more sessions booked at the same venue and John Russell is looking for a venue for some more sessions in the New Year.

Jimmy Sandoe and I are looking for venues (at a sensible price) for senior squad sessions.

Phill Carder DCAS CCO

Juniors Rep's Report to the Annual General Meeting 2012

The post of Juniors Rep was left unfilled after the last AGM, and I've tried to pick up on that role in addition to Secretary.

Over the last year the number of Juniors from DCAS competing Nationally and at Regional level has been significantly less than it was a few years ago, but nevertheless some successes were achieved:

- James Montgomery became National Indoor Champion at Under-18 at JNIC in December, shooting 590 for a Portsmouth.
- At the Regional Junior Championships Michael Bryan-Harris became Regional Champion shooting recurve, while Alex Patrick and Will Wetherall were 2nd and 3rd respectively shooting compound, and David Smith was 2nd shooting barebow, all on an Albion, while Phoebe Jephson won shooting longbow and Amy Wilde was 3rd shooting recurve on a Windsor. In the younger age groups Jess Luck was 1st shooting compound on a Short Windsor.

Very well done to them, and my apologies if I've missed anybody.

It has been not only the number of Juniors competing Nationally and Regionally that has reduced: the number of Juniors competing in local tournaments has also reduced, even more so than the adults. Jane Forrow and I, when we were selecting the team for the Junior Intercounties, had intended to base the selection on the best three scores in open tournaments. We had to relax that requirement because so few Juniors had actually shot in three open tournaments! We did manage to make up a team who had all shot in at least one tournament this year – but it was a close run thing!

The Junior Intercounties was held jointly with the Regional Junior Championships and, despite the individual achievements noted previously for the Championships, DCAS came last in the Intercounties. Compared to the other three counties in the Region we are very short of archers in the younger age groups – who tend to put in higher scores at the shorter distance rounds to lift the team scores.

I'd like to record my thanks, by the way, to Jane for taking to her role on the selection committee for the Junior Team with such enthusiasm.

I would also like to hear views from clubs as to why there are so few Juniors competing – particularly if you think there is anything we can do about it!

One step we are taking that might make a difference in the longer term is to expand the Junior Squad sessions that were held last year. This year the County Junior Coaching sessions (note the subtle change in name!) are open to all Juniors, not just those who are already competing. That, and securing a larger venue more central to the two counties, in Tavistock for the first three sessions, has already resulted, at the first session held earlier this month, in more young archers getting access to this coaching opportunity. If you have Juniors in your club and you haven't heard about the County Coaching or you wonder whether its suitable for them – it is!

John Russell
November 2012

My most grateful thanks to Bob Young for his assistance since I took over the role of Records Officer last November, as some of the role seemed rather mysterious. All became clearer as the months passed by and I hope that you have all been happy with the fruits of my efforts so far.

58 County Records have been claimed steadily over the course of the year. Of these, 33 were forwarded on to GWAS as Regional claims, including 1 that has been confirmed as a UK Record and 8 pending ratification.

This year has shown a mixed trend with Gents claiming 18 Records, Ladies claiming 17, Junior Gents claiming 5 and Junior Ladies claiming 13. Additional record claims for 1 Masters Gent and 4 Masters Ladies complete the numbers.

A considerable increase in claims for Barebow and Longbow records has been apparent again this year.

County Senior and Junior Teams were selected as per the usual criteria by Steve Glover and John Russell, respectively, with my co-operation and assistance.

Please remember that if you wish to claim a GWAS record in addition to a DCAS Record that BOTH completed forms need to come to me and I will then ratify and forward the appropriate claims. Usual time constraints of 4 weeks for DCAS claims and 3 months for GWAS still apply.

I plan to attend more tournaments during 2013, either to shoot or support, as I have not yet been able to attend all the venues shown in the DCAS calendar. In addition to seeing many familiar faces, I hope to meet many more of you when I will be available to answer any questions or just happy cheer you on.

Jane Forrow