

To all DCAS Club Secretaries

>>----->

DCAS Committee Meeting

The DCAS Committee met at the end of October. This is a brief note on what we talked about:

It has not been practice, at least for many years, to issue Minutes of DCAS Committee Meetings to Clubs. We considered whether Minutes should be made public in future by issuing them to Club Secretaries. Although there was a wish to be open with the membership we were concerned that open minutes would inhibit frank discussion on contentious issues, and that some issues (particularly regarding complaints or juniors) would need to be edited out. On balance we agreed to continue with issuing a summary only to Clubs (ie this e-mail!).

DCAS finances are running close to break-even and there is no proposal to change subscription rates for 2012/13. We are reducing the number of separate bank accounts we hold so that as much as possible of our accumulated surplus can be kept in an interest-bearing account.

GNAS are reporting a small increase in membership numbers nationally over the last year. FITA advise that experience after previous Games is that membership in the host country increases by 50% following the Olympic Games!

The outdoor tournament season finished with the Field Championships at Exmouth which attracted about 90 entries making it the second-largest field shoot nationally this year!

Thanks recorded to Megan Wilshaw for taking over the running of the winter Postal Leagues this year. Since last year's Postals were not properly concluded we agreed to return to Clubs the entry fees paid last year: this means digging out records since some fee cheques were banked and some were not: this is in hand.

A Level 1 Coach course is now finalised and will run at Brixham starting in February 2012. Although this course is fully subscribed, if there is anybody else from your Club interested in a Level 1 or Level 2 course please register interest with Phill Carder. Courses will be arranged to meet interest! - no interest expressed, then no course will be arranged!

Junior squad coaching days have been arranged for each month over the winter: the first at Paignton in November, the remainder at Exeter. If there is a Junior in your Club who would benefit from squad training and you have not already done so it is not too late to apply for a place.

We agreed that we should make use of our accumulated financial surplus for the benefit of Clubs by offering Club development loans. Loans rather than grants so that, over time, the benefit of the surplus can be made available to as many Clubs as possible. (See further details below.)

We also agreed to offer a funding arrangement for coach courses, initially for Level 1 Coach courses. (See further details below.)

>>----->

Club Development Loans

DCAS will consider making a discretionary loan to Clubs to finance improvements in equipment or facilities, when the Club itself has insufficient capital. The loan can be for any amount from a few hundred pounds up to a maximum of £5,000 and can be repaid over a period to be agreed but not more than 3 years. The Club will need to demonstrate that it has the income, or will have the income after the investment, to repay the loan. The improvement in facilities that the loan is given for can be anything, although we'd prefer to see projects that

Untitled

result in an increased income to the Club, to help in repaying the loan!  
Purchase of equipment to allow have-a-go sessions to be offered, for example;  
buying video equipment to be paid back by charging users for coaching sessions;  
buying additional bosses to accommodate the 50% increase in membership after the Olympics!; improvement of ground or clubhouse facilities; your idea!

If you have an idea that you'd like to fund you're welcome to get in touch for a preliminary discussion: we may even be able to help you make a good case, or point you towards appropriate grant funding sources.

>>----->

Coach Course Funding

These days Level 1 Coach courses have to be self-funding, because they have to be open to anybody. The same requirement will apply in future to Level 2. The Level 1 course starting in February, for example, will cost £220 per head (future courses could be more expensive) and participants will also have their travel costs to meet. We would like to see a situation where an archer, wanting to take a Level 1 course for the benefit of his/her Club and giving his time to do it, is not also going to be out of pocket.

GWAS will reimburse up to two archers per year from each Club an amount of £125 on successful completion of a Level 1 course.

DCAS will attempt to identify external funding where this is available. For example, for the February course we have negotiated an amount of £75 per head available to Devon participants under the Active Devon Coach Bursary scheme.

DCAS will also now make a direct contribution by providing match funding to Clubs - to match the contribution the Club itself makes - of up to £100 per head for up to two archers per year from each Club for a Level 1 course. (The DCAS contribution will be on the same conditions as the Club itself agrees with the archer.)

With these funding sources together, most archers should not be out of pocket by taking a coaching course.

>>----->

Forgotten to return the Trophy?

We have lost track of a number of DCAS trophies, particularly Postal League trophies. Can you look around your clubhouse and ask around your members and see if you have a DCAS trophy somewhere that you've forgotten to return. If you have, please let me know and we'll try to arrange for it to be picked up.

>>----->

DCAS AGM

Don't forget the DCAS AGM on Sunday 27 November at 2.00pm at Yelverton Memorial Hall.

>>----->

Best regards

John Russell  
Secretary DCAS