

2012 NBRSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2012

Ben Avery Range, Phoenix, Arizona

President Dennis Thornbury called the meeting to order at 1:30pm at the Ben Avery Range firing line. He stated that the dates for the following National Events have been selected as follows:

National Events Scheduled:

2013 Group Nationals: Fairchance Gun Club has announced September 16-21, 2013 as the event dates in Smithfield, PA.

2014 Group Nationals: Holton Gun Club, Holton, Michigan has bid for mid-September and is willing to add power and new benches and new tops. There is also a bid for Phoenix in October with no range changes. Votes for Holton were: Bud Mundy, Joe Krupa, Terry Meyer, Wayne Campbell and Eric Stanton. Votes for Phoenix were Scott Hunter, Lou Murdica & Jack Snyder. **Successful bid goes to Holton Gun Club in mid-September 2014.**

2013 VFS Nationals: Desert Sportsman Rifle Club, Las Vegas as VFS Nationals a solo event (without Hunter)

2013 Hunter Nationals: Mill Creek Rifle Club, Kansas City

2013 LR Varmint Nationals: Palomino Valley Gun Club, Reno, NV. The club will choose their format as 200-300 Yard or 300-yard only 4-gun in order to encourage attendance.

2013 Long Range Nationals 600 and 1000-yard Nationals: Sloughhouse Long Range Benchrest, Sacramento, California to be held in April, 2013. One day of F-Class will be shot between the 600 and 1000 yard events.

Election of Officers:

President Thornbury then stated that the election of officers this year included the positions of President and Vice President. **Both President Dennis Thornbury and Vice President Don Nielson were elected to serve another term.**

Sporter Class Changes:

Member Don Creach inquired about the sporter class agenda items to which GC Region Director Scott Hunter responded that the Sporter class issue revolves around the redundancy between Light Varmint and Sporter rifles. The Regional Directors elected to review possible changes. He stated the sporter class rifles currently used will still be usable for shooting and that the Directors are trying to look into changes to advance the sport. Member Gene Bukys stated it topic is about removing restrictions from the Sporter Class that deal with configuration changes. Under the new rule, the changes can be whatever they want but remain 10.5 lbs fired from a sandbag; there can be any caliber/barrel or stop configuration. This creates a unique and different class. Mr Bukys said the change brings back originality and encourages new ideas and innovation which is one of NBRSA's core guidelines. Mr Bukys said he hopes the membership supports the change.

Member Walt Berger said he agreed if a change is made to improve, but felt it was best to keep the basic principles the same and retain the caliber we have and experiment on that basis. He stated it's easier to shoot a small caliber. That was the reason for developing the Sporter Class to begin with and to progress from the .22 caliber. Mr Berger felt experimentation is fine but not to do away with the choice of caliber. Mr Bukys responded that there is no caliber restriction presently except for the .22. If the .22 can make a resurgence then so be it. Perhaps it can make a comeback. Member Larry Costa said the economy is still bad and membership is struggling. He feels the thought is great but the timing is poor. He suggested reintroducing this at a later date. Mr Bukys said the heart of the game is to find the best there is. If we keep restrictive rules how will we discover what is best? Member Gary Ocock said he agrees with Costa and Bukys but felt that the economy is not the limiting factor. The point is the value judgment shooters choose as to how to spend their finite resources; either shoot at the nationals or get two new barrels. It's not the economy; it's financial choices. Mr Ocock said NBRSA has a class to experiment with – it's the Unlimited. Mr Bukys said he doesn't want to go to 3-guns. He wants to keep Sporter class just make it something we can live with. Member Denny Andrews said Sporter was experimental to begin with to promote the 6mm bullet. The 6mm has overcome everything. It is all we

shoot so innovation has gone out the window. Now we're playing tennis matches with guns. It's all sport no research. Mr Bukys said the beauty of this change is that no one has to pay for anything. There's nothing to buy to produce this change. It simply allows one to expand the options to shooters. It doesn't burden anyone. He said the restriction rule has outlived its usefulness. Member Rodney Brown said he had spoken with Dan Dowling, founder of the 22ppc short waldog. He shoots the 22 and wants it to come back to that class. He said it would be nice to get back to one gun. They are starting a vintage class shooting deuces just for fun on the side. President Thornbury asked for a show of hands who would build one with the restriction lifted and 15 hands were raised.

President Thornbury then requested a show of hands of those present as to who would like to change Sporter class vs those who do not. Members in favor: 29. Members opposed: 17. Member Gary Sinclair wanted to know if this change occurs whether shooters will simply change to a .22. Only 3-4 people raised their hands.

Agenda Items Results:

President Thornbury went over each of the submitted agenda items and the results from the Board. These were also posted on the stat room wall for members to review. There were many agenda items brought forward and he mentioned some of the highlights were that shooters can rise from their benches to adjust a bolt after January 1, 2013. SW Director Murdica discussed the details of this passed agenda item.

ER Director Jack Neary explained the protest fee increase was to address a negative trend of some shooters trying to gain an advantage. He clarified this applies to competitor targets not your own; protesting your own target is \$10. It also applies to National events and World Team qualifiers.

Internet Voting System: President Thornbury inquired whether the membership would be in favor of initiating an Internet Voting System on the www.nbrsa.org website. Voting would be done by membership number. ***The members were polled and the motion was passed by the General Membership.***

Director Murdica was in support of website voting and said he wants to create a beginners class tracked by member number where each club can see individual statistics for knowledge and individual advancement.

Membership Fee Increase: Director Neary addressed a membership fee increase to \$60 for domestic members and clubs and an increase in match fees to \$3/shooter/day. The increase would begin next year and is based on declining attendance at our events over the last few years. He stated NBRSA has to act proactively to secure funds for large cash outlays in the future, such as target paper purchase. Member Dave Tunbridge asked whether we are making money on targets to which Director Neary responded, "no." Manny Garcia suggested the Life Members should begin to pay the minimum as other members do. Denny Andrews asked about Life Members contribution. President Thornbury said Mrs Brown will research which lifers are still around and available to receive the magazine and forward this information to the Board for their review and action. President Thornbury also stated foreign membership will be the same as domestic rates but will include a price increase to include annual postage for foreign members.

Flag Rotations: President Thornbury asked whether the new flag rotations format is okay: 100's then 200's. Members ***In Favor: all present but 2. Opposed: 2. Motion stays.***

Member Tim Oltersdorf made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Art Clegg. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey Brown, Secretary