

2015 ANNUAL NBRSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
For Saturday, September 12, 2015 in Warrenton, MO

President Thornbury convened the meeting at 10:10am at the First State Community Bank in Warrenton, Missouri. Board members in attendance were:

Dennis Thornbury, President
Audrey Brown, Board Secretary
Lee Hachigian, by proxy for Eastern Region
Scott Hunter, Gulf Coast Region Director
Butch Fjoser, Mid-Continent Region Director
Bud Mundy, Mississippi Valley Region Director
Terry Meyer, North Central Region Director
Wayne Campbell, Southeast Region Director & International Representative
Dan Zaccanti, Northwest Region Director
Tom Libby, Southwest Region Director
Gene Bukys, Group World Records Committee Chairman
David Halblom, Score World Records Committee Chairman

Mr Neary, Mr Horn and Mr Nielson were unable to attend. Mr Thornbury began the meeting with the Approval of the Agenda for Sept 12, 2015.

Motion for acceptance as written by Mr Mundy. Second by Mr Fjoser and unanimously passed.

Mr Hunter then made a motion to approve the minutes from September 20, 2014 as written. Second by Mr Zaccanti and unanimously passed.

There came a motion from Mr Hunter to allow Lee Hachigian to introduce Eastern Region agenda items on behalf of Eastern Region Director Jack Neary. Second from Mr Zaccanti and unanimously passed.

Committee Reports:

Group World Records Report - Gene Bukys, Committee Chairman

Mr Bukys said 2015 has been a slow year with only two group world record submissions. He is content with the process and so is the Board. Mr Fjoser mentioned there had been an issue with Long Range world record target submissions which were lost in the mail due to improper packaging. He said there had been no tape affixed to the package ends and this precipitated the loss in transit. Mr Bukys said the way to avoid this issue in the future is to impress on people the importance of proper packaging. He said the best way to package is in a flat cardboard box that is not as easily damaged during shipping. Mr Brown has boxes for short range world record target submissions for the Board that were donated by Mr Karl Hunstiger and these will be distributed.

Score World Records Report - David Halblom, Chairman

Mr Halblom echoed Mr Bukys report in that there had only been one score world record submission this year.

US World Team Report - Wayne Campbell, International Representative

Mr Campbell said of the top twelve qualifiers for US Team only one declined and Mike Conry accepted in his stead. There was concern that everyone would be able to attend due to the cost; Mr Campbell said about \$15-16,000 in equipment and cash had been raised by fundraising. He said a question was raised about Phoenix getting two qualifiers when the range holds the 2016 Nationals and has a qualifier in the same year. Despite objections, he feels this is still the fairest way to manage the qualifiers. Year 2016 qualifier candidates he suggested are the Rattlesnake in New Mexico, Holton in Michigan, Hog Roast in Pennsylvania, Ben Avery for 2016 Nationals and Cactus Classic and Shamrock in Georgia. There is a possible issue with the Shamrock dates, as the Cactus is scheduled March 19-20, 2016. There should be at least one week between an eastern qualifier and the Cactus. Mr Fjoser said if the Whittington Center in New Mexico cannot hold the qualifier than Rio Grande Benchrest in Albuquerque would do so. Mr Fjoser said he should have an answer pretty quickly and that the third weekend of August is the planned date.

Long-Range World Records & Long Range Rule Book Report, Mr Thornbury

Mr Nielson is not present, so Mr Thornbury presented in his stead. He read from a paper Mr Nielson had written regarding the Long Range Nationals. He said there was no rain date for this event. Mr Brown said he was present at the Long Range Nationals and that the issue with not having a rain date was due to a schedule conflict and continued bad weather in the forecast. No one mentioned requesting a refund; the shooters just wanted to leave. The Board decided not to refund any fees as those fees charged were only for the days shot.

Mr Libby suggested a substitution in Long Range Representation and Rules to Bill Johnston. Mr Libby motioned for a trial period to appoint Bill Johnston as Long Range Rules Representation to conclude at the 2016 Nationals in Phoenix and to be voted on at that time by the Board. Mr Hunter seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Mr Libby then made motion for Bill Johnston to become the Long Range world record committee chairman for 600 and 1000 yard competition and for Bill Johnston to form a committee of three others from different regions to align with group world record committee procedures. This will be a trial period of one year ending at the 2016 Group Nationals in Phoenix. Second by Mr Meyer. Passed unanimous.

Target Committee Report - Terry Meyer

Mr Meyer has conducted research and testing in the field. He has located a new supplier that will save around \$2600/year at present rate of target usage. He said there is no need to make a change now due to existing targets on hand. Mr Mundy suggested the Board table this discussion until Mr Horn returns. Second by Mr Zaccanti and unanimously passed.

Web Development, Branding & Phone Apps (ad hoc) - Rod Brown

Mr Brown said the website needs more attention. One issue has to do with overall privacy of member information. NBRSA policy has been to not provide member information without prior authorization. Berger Bullets is creating a new version of

Bughole which can be used by the Match Directors. There are concerns with member privacy information that need to be addressed prior.

Trophy Committee Report (ad hoc) - Terry Meyer & Tom Libby

The trophies at the Score Nationals have been well received. There is some concern with engraving contrast but this can be addressed next year. Mr Mundy said the Board achieved their goal of curbing the loss in trophy revenues. Mr Libby asked how to proceed with coin design. Mr Mundy said allow it to proceed as Mr Meyer wants Mr Brown to design coins for the 2016 National events. Mr Brown said he would be willing to do this and will present designs to Mr Meyer for his okay.

Mr Meyer reviewed NBRSA historical attendance at National Events and reviewed attendance numbers against trophy fees charged. Mr Meyer said score shooters wanted to continue the Long Range Score and Short Range Score Nationals format for next year.

Financial Report - Scott Hunter

Mr Hunter presented the 2015 Financials Report for John Horn in his absence. He said the organization has not been audited for some time. He suggested at some point the Board may consider having another audit scheduled. He also recommended having an itemized list of targets. Overall the financial picture is better than the same time in 2014.

Mr Hunter motioned to accept the financial report as presented; second by Mr Fjoser and passed unanimously.

Business Manager Report - Audrey Brown

Mrs Brown reviewed membership figures and compared these over the last 5 years. Membership is holding steady but is not growing. Renewal methods have shifted towards online and reinstatements from prior members have increased.

She reviewed the magazine cost breakdown as well as advertising revenues and shipping expenses. She concluded with magazine online statistical trends since 2012.

Unfinished Business:

1. The Board also asked to have a cell phone app which reveals current NBRSA individual membership status. Mrs Brown said she will ask Mr Brown, NBRSA's technical advisor about this.

Mr Brown said this can be done best as a member number look up function. Mr Libby displayed his membership number which he stored on his cell phone as an option to make it easier for members who forget to bring their membership cards to matches.

2. Clarify stock dimensions. From the 2014 Board Minutes: Mr Nielson and Mr Libby have a plan in place to be used at the 2015 Group Nationals at Referee's discretion. Mr Mundy will be responsible for getting one made by commencement of WBC13. *The stock checking device will be used at the discretion of the Match Director at the 2015 Group Nationals.*

3. Mr Neary would like a section on the NBRSA website for mentoring volunteers at various ranges. Mrs Brown will consult the Technical Advisor, Mr Brown regarding this.

Mr Brown said there are some things he can do to update the website and make it more accessible to readers to view and access it. It was suggested to add something to the renewal process such as “check here if you want to be a mentor.”

4. The 2-year trial period for the Hunter Nationals case capacity review has concluded. The Board shall consider whether to make permanent the removal of case capacity and caliber restriction for hunter benchrest.

Mr Meyer said at the Short Range Score Nationals in Webster City, the shooters said they wanted this to become permanent. Mr Meyer made the motion to accept to make permanent the removal of case capacity and caliber restriction for hunter benchrest. Second by Mr Zaccanti and unanimously passed.

New Business:

Eastern Region:

1. The distance between the record box and the sighter box for the 200 yard group target is 1½”. Please see the attached target that has the competitor number that is printed in bold and is .75 inch high. This is a very good target example compared to many others we have seen. (Jack Neary)

See Item 2.

2. Suggested Wording for Rule Book Revision:

"For a national group competition, the competitor number shall be clearly legible in mirage conditions at the farthest distance. The competitor number shall be 1” tall in bold font or written with a wide marker to aide visibility." (Jeff Gaidos)

After discussion of items 1 and 2, Mr Libby made a motion that the Match Directors make the competitor numbers on targets as large as possible. Second Mr Meyer. Motion passed unanimously.

3. A recommendation that the courtesy rule regarding idle chat when you finish shooting till the finish of the 7 minutes MUST be enforced. When you happen to have a couple of talkers side by side it is a real distraction. The rule is there for a purpose. (Dave Holmes)

The Board determined the rules are sufficient at this time.

Gulf Coast Region:

1. The following to be added to the end of 10, page 20:

“That at the group nationals, the individual who accepts the job of procuring and setting flags for a flag rotation (sponsor) will have control over what type and how the flags are set for that rotation. Any additions or adjustments to that rotation may only be done with the permission of the flag sponsor for that rotation. If that individual is unable to fulfill their duties as flag rotation sponsor, another sponsor will be approved by the match director. Appeals to the flag set for a given rotation, not resolved with the sponsor, will be made to the referees for the first days' competition, with a

majority vote of said referees being needed to change the flag set in question.” (Mike Conry)

Mr Hunter made a motion to accept item #1 as written effective Jan 1, 2016. Mr Fjoser seconded and motion passed unanimously.

2. Delete ¼” deflection sentence from page 9(j)l and ii. (Mike Bryant)

Mr Hunter made a motion to accept as written. Second by Mr Libby. Those in favor were Mr Hunter, Mr Campbell and Mr Libby. Those against were Mr Fjoser, Mr Mundy, Mr Zaccanti & Mr Meyer. Motion fails.

3. Add “in case of emergency, please notify (name) & (phone number)” to each Shooter Registration Form submitted for matches. (Scott Hunter)

Mr Hunter made motion to accept item #3 as written. Mr Libby second. Passed unanimously.

4. Mr Hunter added another item at the meeting. He stated our corporate status revolves around tax exemption status and liability. He is concerned with Board decisions “Piercing the corporate veil”. He said it is imperative that the Board adhere to their charter and by-laws. *He asked the Board to encourage Mr Thornbury to contact our legal council to ensure that our by-laws are complied with to satisfaction. Currently, Mississippi Valley and Southeast Regions do not have alternates. Mr Thornbury said these regions will need to select alternates for next years’ election.*

Mid-Continent Region: None submitted.

Mississippi Valley Region:

1. Discuss the trophy cabinets that are being constructed to display our retired group trophies at Bench Rest Rifle Club of St Louis and decide how they are to be cleaned and then displayed. (Bud Mundy)

Mr Mundy said Bench Rest Rifle Club of St Louis is finishing construction on display cases for NBRSA retired group traveling trophies. He suggested the Board discuss whether to refurbish these. Mr Mundy said he will present price quotes for refurbishing the trophies from local companies to next years’ Board meeting. Mr Fjoser said he is opposed to these modifications as he appreciates the aged look (patina) of these trophies.

2. Mr Mundy mentioned Walt Berger’s traveling plaque that he received at 2014 Holton Nationals, the large metal plate on top was bowed upon arrival in Phoenix. Mr Holland (NW Region Alternate and trophy plaque designer) said the wood is going to move especially after it has been set. He said that is the nature of wood.

The Board recessed for lunch at 1:30pm and reconvened at 2:57pm.

North Central Region:

Mr Meyer introduced Mr Brown, North Central Alternate Director to Board with an item to develop another revenue stream for NBRSA. Mr Brown suggested establishing an NBRSA verified/validated/sanctioned group which can be turned over as something manufacturers could benefit from and sponsor. Core to this “branding” success would

be developing specifications for the branding label for NBRSA including how many shots, distance and equipment. Validating would be conducted by particular NBRSA members qualified to do so and a sanctioned group would be shot at a sanctioned match. The core is not to change any of our existing rules of competition. It is an avenue for out-of-class shooters to have their groups measured in a marketable way. The object is that when someone thinks group, they think NBRSA. Mr Brown has a team of members who have volunteered to create this program and if the Board is willing, this can be rolled out at the Cactus in 2016. This promotion would be used for all manufacturers who use group size as a performance standard or a seal of approval. Mr Meyer said the upside is minimal cost to NBRSA and will add profit to the organization.

The Board authorized Mr Brown to proceed with his plans to be presented at the 2016 Group Nationals in Phoenix.

1. Revisit match Memorandum of Agreement distribution to make it easier for Regional Directors and Match Directors. (Terry Meyer)
Withdrawn by Mr Meyer.

2. Review Trophy Awards for all National events. Clarify which placements should receive recognition and what that recognition should be. (Terry Meyer)
See item 3A.

3A. Review trophy (national) fees for score shooters. The score national payments are excessive. (Terry Meyer)
Mr Fjoser made a motion that the short range score nationals national fee be changed to \$20 all inclusive; long range score nationals shall be also \$20 all inclusive. If these two national score events are combined into one, than \$40 will be the national fee. Mr Libby second. Unanimously approved.

3B. Review trophy (national) fees and ensure at least a breakeven status. (Terry Meyer)
This item was reviewed in the Trophy committee earlier in the meeting. See page 3.

4. Two Gun Short-Range 100-200 Yard Score Nationals acrylic trophy to be awarded for 2015 score nationals event onward as a keeper trophy. (Terry Meyer)
Mr Meyer made a motion to approve as written. Second by Mr Libby and unanimously approved.

5. Protest fees to be reviewed by the Board. (Terry Meyer)
The Board stipulated that the match voucher and registered match agreements for NBRSA, the language shall be added to specify protest fees are to be forwarded to NBRSA along with the match fees. The Business Manager shall also publish in the magazine a notice to all members and match directors pertaining to this issue.

Northwest Region:

1. Clarify Trophy Fees in rule book and match registration forms. (Dan Zaccanti)

Mr Hunter will check with the printer and make sure the changes made to Trophy (National) Fees are included in the next rule book revision.

2. Before the Regional Director submits the targets to the Group Measuring Committee they make sure it's within .009" of the record, which is good; but when the committee Chair measures them and they are larger than .015" they send them back to the shooter. Shouldn't these two measurements be switched around? (Dan Zaccanti)

Mr Zaccanti will contact Gene Bukys regarding this.

Southeast Region: None submitted.

Southwest Region:

1. Pertaining to score rules item 7b modify first sentence to read, "Full bench and relay rotation shall be used at all National Match events." (Keith Myers)

No motion presented.

2. Consider adjusting dates and locations for WBC qualifiers. (Tom Libby)

Item withdrawn.

National Event Selection:

World Team Qualifiers for 2016:

Cactus Classic: March 19-20, 2016

Bench Rest Rifle Club of St Louis: East West Show-Me Shootout

Fairchance Gun Club: Hog Roast

Whittington Center in Raton, NM or Rio Grande Benchrest in Albuquerque, TBA

Phoenix Group Nationals: October 10-15, 2016

2016 Group Nationals: Ben Avery Range, Phoenix, Arizona (Oct 10-15, 2016)

2017 Group Nationals: Fairchance Gun Club, Pennsylvania

2016 Long Range Nationals: Rogue Valley SSA, 600 & 1000 yards for April 17-22, 2016

2017 Long Range Nationals: Sloughhouse Benchrest for 600 & 1000 yard Nationals TBA

2016 Short Range Score Nationals: Southwest Louisiana Rifle & Pistol Club 100-200 Yds

2016 Long Range Score Nationals: La Grande Rifle & Pistol Club 200-300 Yard LR Score

2016 Long Range Varmint Nationals: no bid

Mr Hunter made a motion to recess until after the General membership meeting conclusion. Second by Mr Libby and unanimously approved.

2015 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Mr Thornbury opened meeting at 1:30pm at Bench Rest Rifle Club of St Louis firing line. He read all agenda items to the membership.

Mr Garcia stated his request that a range of this size have on-hand a defibrillator in case of emergency. The membership responded the range has one in the clubhouse.

MR Cambell spoke about the WBC qualifiers: Cactus, the Nationals in PHX Oct 10-15, East-West in Bench Rest Rifle Club of St Louis in June and Hog Roast in Fairchance the first weekend in May. He said he should know in one month's time whether the last qualifier will be the Rattlesnake at Raton or at Rio Grande in Albuquerque.

Mr Thornbury then disclosed the upcoming national events for all disciplines.

Mr Thornbury said the Board is working on items to bring more visibility to the NBRSA. He asked for questions from the membership. Mr Thornbury then said he hopes everyone thanks the Bench Rest Rifle Club of St Louis for their hard work at this back-to-back Group National & World Benchrest event.

Mr Reneau said he's selling raffle tickets for the Hall Of Fame. The prize is a donated Leupold scope. The raffle will be conducted Thursday at the firing line.

Mr Pieper thanked everyone for their support. He said he is still recruiting volunteers for the WBC event if those who are staying would like to do so to contact him. He reiterated that the retired NBRSA traveling trophies are in ST Louis and the display cases will be finished shortly. He said he feels honored and thankful to have the shooters and support to keep the history of benchrest alive and perhaps create more interest. He received a round of applause from the members in appreciation of his hard work.

Mr Campbell said 20 countries will be here for WBC. He thanked everyone for their support, both commercial and individual. He introduced the WBC Team members to which the members applauded. Two donations were raffled off with the proceeds going to the WBC USA teams. A box of flags donated from David Halblom. Ron Sewell purchased these. Edgewood bags from Jack Snyder were raffled; 3 gator bags and 3 USA Team bags for a total of 6.

Chet Whitebread made motion to adjourn at 2pm. Tim Oltersdorf second and unanimously approved.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING CONTINUATION

The Board reconvened at the range at 3:32pm following the General Membership Meeting. Present was Mr Thornbury, Mrs Brown, Mr Zaccanti, Mr Libby, Mr Meyer, Mr Hunter, Mr Campbell, Mr Mundy, & Mr Hachigian.

RE: NBRSA Facebook: Ms Brown inquired about NBRSA's facebook presence and how to proceed. The Board said they would like member Chris Harris to continue for another year to work on this project.

RE: Long Range Score Programs: Mr Zaccanti will ask member Bill Bonser to see if Long Range clubs want to use his scoring program.

RE: Trophy Committee: The Board decided to disband the Trophy Committee. Mr Brown will coordinate with Mr Meyer regarding designs for the 2016 Group, SR Score & LR Score Nationals. The Board also decided to keep the awards the same for the next few years.

RE: Trophy Bids: Mr Thornbury said a former vendor was disappointed at not being included in the quoting process for trophies. Mr Meyer and Mr Libby said the trophies were sent out for bid but the vendor in question was not considered due to a requirement for advance payment. The Board decided not to rebid the trophies for a few years.

Mr Hunter sought clarification by the Board on Mr Conry's agenda item.
Mr Thornbury said that the agenda item states the person needs to ask to set the flags; there is no prohibition on setting additional flags.

RE: Rules: Mr Thornbury said there is concern about rules enforcement. He encouraged the Board to review the current rules and determine whether some should be removed, edited or kept. Mr Thornbury wants this completed and ready for presentation at the next Board meeting.

Mr Thornbury read some notes presented by member Creach suggesting ways to improve benchrest attendance.

1. NBRSA design a high-quality pamphlet to provide to match attendees and clubs.
2. Consider a presence at the Shot Show. Perhaps a booth can be shared.
3. Provide equipment for new shooters to try before they buy.

Mr Hunter received a call from a local club that has attendees who wish to try benchrest. He suggests a focused effort on clubs instead of retail gun sales outlets.

Mr Meyer said some members said the safety tape is redundant. The Board feels it is okay at this time.

RE: Long Range Committee: The Board instructed Ms Brown to prepare a letter to Mr Hunstiger thanking him for his many years of quality service to the Board on behalf of Long Range Benchrest. He has been a mainstay for nearly 4 decades and has donated countless hours of his time and energy and provided top-notch guidance and assistance to the NBRSA through his connections in the printing and shipping industries as well as long range benchrest match directing. He has been the Long Range World Record Chairman for several years.

The Board decided that it is important to provide a Long Range World Records Chairman presence at the annual Board meetings just as is done by the Group and Score World Records Committees. In this way, the Long Range membership will have equal presence at Board meetings so their needs can be better addressed. With this in mind, Mr Bill Johnston was selected for this duty.

At 4:30pm Mr Mundy made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mr Hunter with unanimous approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey Brown

Board Secretary