**North Dakota State Trapshooting Association**

**Winter Meeting**

**December 2, 2023**

The annual NDTA board meeting was called to order by President Norm Howard at 10:00am in the State Center Building in Bismarck, North Dakota. Present were President Norm Howard, Vice President Jeff Iverson, Secretary-Treasurer Todd Wendel and Directors Pat Bosh, Brian Schultz, Chris Kittleson, Brian Knutson, Darryl Howard, Matt Monson, Billy Woodworth, Bill Gauslow and Tom Stoe via Zoom. Also present were the non-voting attendees: ATA Delegate Tim Kaffar and Webmaster Steven Goldade. No members absent.

President Howard first called on Minot Gun Club members Steven Stephan and Steve Larsen to address the board per their request. MGC members stated that the renovations that were on-going on the Clubhouse have been substantially delayed. And would not be ready in time to host the early ATA shoots (Eskimo shoot and the RoughRider Shoot). MGC would still hold the Harvest 300 Shoot. Board member Brian Knutson mentioned to MGC members that MGC had requested the RoughRider Shoot and address concern that MGC is now not wanting to host future ATA shoots. It was mentioned by MGC members that they were still going to try and hold their Best of the West High School Shoot. It was stated that the Best of the West Shoot date was two weeks earlier than the RoughRider Shoot in 2023. MGC members also address their proposal for the Hall of Fame display renovations. MGC propose a digital format for the Hall of Fame that would scroll on a television screen. Doing away with the former Hall of Fame display. ATA Delegate Kaffar addressed the board that he considers the ND Hall of Fame a very important honor in North Dakota Trapshooting. He also thinks that it’s very important to have the “physical” Hall of Fame display. Mr. Woodworth also addressed MGC members that they should reach out to the trapshooting community (ie. Other clubs) if they ever have issues with finding enough help to run a shoot. Typically, people in trapshooting sports are very eager to help others. MGC also requested a copy of this meeting’s minutes when available. It was mentioned that these minutes would be “unapproved” minutes. President Howard thanked MGC members for their comments and MGC members exited the meeting.

President Howard then called for any additions to the agenda. No other items added at this time.

Webmaster Goldade was then called for any Website comments. Mr. Goldade then mentioned that the Hall of Honor has been added to the website. He also mentioned that he has been working with Louis Kuster to get the Hall of Fame into a digital format and add to the website. The information would include Members photos and Biography information. The question of “Hits” was raised by the board. Mr. Goldade stated that most hits occur when the year’s shoot schedule is first released (1000 hits). Then just before the State Shoot is the highest activity (5000 hits). Total for the year was around 10,000 hits. The yearly cost of the website is $79.00. Mr. Goldade also mentioned he is working on a “2024 State Shoot” page to be displayed on the Website.

President Howard then asked for the Minutes of the 2022 annual meeting be read. Since the minutes were previously emailed out to all board members, the minutes were not read aloud and displayed on the projector screen. With no additions or corrections mentioned, a Motion to approve the minutes was made by Vice President Iverson and seconded by Mr. D. Howard. The motion carried.

The Board also considered the approval of the Minutes of the July 2023 Reorganizational Meeting. Mr. Kittleson moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice President Iverson. The motion carried.

President Howard asked for the Treasurer’s Report. Secretary-Treasurer Todd Wendel then put the financial page on the projector. Former Secretary-Treasurer Kittleson then addressed the board on the transfer of accounts and funds to current Secretary-Treasurer Wendel. In total, the NDTA had an addition of $3,733.55. The Board also received a report regarding Gifts, Grants and Memorials fund, although there was not a significant change from the report received by the membership in July. Vice President Iverson moved to approve the Treasure’s Report. Seconded by Mr. Monson. The Motion carried.

The Board considered Old Business. A discussion on All-State Teams occurred. Discussion included category shooters and if a person has never declared as a category shooter, would said shooter be listed as a category shooter for All-State consideration? It was stated that for All-state consideration, all shooters will follow their category regardless of having ever declared their category. Secretary Wendel and Mr. Kittleson agree that this method works very well when creating the All-State Teams.

The Board moved to New Business. First, Secretary Wendel asked the Board to consider adding a member to the new checking account, because if Secretary Wendel ever became unable to access said account, it would be very difficult or impossible for someone else to access the account. Mr. Wendel would have the papers drawn up for President Howard to sign. Then, President Howard would have access to the account if ever there was a need. Secretary Wendel also mentioned that the ATA would no longer send out shoot materials and worksheets to individual clubs hosting ATA shoots. However, the materials still can be requested, and the ATA would sent them out.

Second, the Boad considered issues relating to the Calendar for the 2024 Shoot Season. Mr. Kaffar stated that he inspected and authorized two new clubs in North Dakota to hold ATA Shoots. McKenzie County near Watford City and Coyote Clays near Williston. Mr. D. Howard stated he was again willing to make the pocket calendars with the 2024 shoot schedule. The Board reviewed the specific dates for the shoot calendar and approved the dates by unanimous consent.

Third, the Board considered issues relating to NDTA finances. The Board addressed the stipends for the ATA Delegate, Secretary-Treasurer, and the category champions from the State Shoot for attending the Grand American. Mr. Kittleson motioned to keep the stipends the same. Seconded by Mr. Monson. The motion carried.

Fourth, the Board considered the Club trophy donation to the NDTA. Club trophy donation is to be $2,500.00. Then, the $1,700.00 for Added Money was considered. Unanimous consent was made to keep the same.

Fifth, the Board considered the Webmaster stipend. After a short discussion, the $250.00 stipend was deemed adequate by unanimous consent.

Sixth, the Board considered the Trap and Field Advertisement. Discussion was positive to continue the Add. Mr. D. Howard moved to continue with the Trap and Field Advertisement with a cap of $500.00. Seconded by Vice President Iverson. The Motion carried.

Seventh, the Board considered the Jerry Gulke Investments. Members had a discussion on creating an Endowment fund with the Gulke funds. Then use the proceeds of that fund to pay Added Money trophies per Jerry’s wishes. It was the wishes of the Board that President Howard and Secretary-Treasurer Wendel would investigate finding more information about starting an Endowment Fund.

The Board then addressed issues relating specifically to the State Shoot. The Gulke Added money was discussed. It was Jerry’s wish that the Added money go toward the Championship Singles Event. Mr. D. Howard made the following motion, seconded by Mr. Monson, which carried:

Added money per Jerry’s wishes will be distributed as follows:

$200.00 to Class Champion (60-40) each 5 classes

$75.00 to Category Champion (60-40) each 8 classes

The Added money for Championship Singles Event would then total $2,950.00.

Second, the Board discussed director assignments for the State Shoot. Assignments seem to go smoothly. Vice President Iverson stated he wanted to return to the Trap Setting Committee.

The Board then moved to the Dennis Powell Memorial. President Howard stated that the Powell Memorial has not been paid out for two years. Mr. Woodworth stated that Ryan Bauer in 2022 and Samuel Abel in 2023 have not been paid. Discussion continued wondering if the memorial should continue and be listed in the State Shoot Program. It was discussed that someone should try to contact Dennis Powell and see if this shall continue. Mr. Woodworth stated that CCGC was going to go ahead and pay the last two years’ Memorial winners. A Motion was made by Mr. Kittleson and seconded by Mr. Schultz that the NDTA will Reimburse CCGC for these two awards. The Motion carried.

Then, the Board discussed further the State Shoot Program schedule. Mr. D. Howard discussed shutting down the shoot-offs during the Hall of Fame Banquet. He proposed a specific time (6 or 7 pm) that the shooting would halt, and the Banquet would take place. This would allow for family and friends of Hall of Fame Inductees to have supper and take in the Award Ceremonies at a decent time. Waiting for shoot-offs can push the Banquet very late into the evening. It was the consensus of the Board that the Banquet will begin at the scheduled time and if shoot-offs are not finished, shoot-off participants will be asked if they want to continue during the Banquet or stop shooting until Banquet has concluded.

Mr. Woodworth had more State Shoot Program issues to discuss. An attendance cap was mentioned but then tabled. Adding options to the State Program were discussed. Jackpots for handicap and Skins option. Mr. Woodworth also discussed setting a schedule for trophy pick up. It was mentioned that a roller shade on the Trophy window would be a good way to let everyone know when trophies can be picked up. “When window is open, trophies can be picked up”. Mr. Knutson mentioned that he would like to continue the trophy distribution. He also mentioned that the Trophy committee members could be divided out to other committees.

Secretary Wendel started a discussion on whether the Gulke Family had been sent a Thank-you from the NDTA. After a short discussion, it was the Boards wishes that Mr. Wendel will make up a card to send to the Gulke Family. The card should be signed by President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer. The card should also state the intentions for the gift that had been determined at this meeting.

The Board then had more discussion about the Hall of Fame display and MGC’s proposal to digitize the display. Mr. Kaffar made mention that he asked some HOF Honorees about having the display digitized. It was stated by Honorees that he talked to, that a “physical” display was very important. Mr. Woodworth then mentioned that the CCGC would be honored to display the Hall of Fame at Bismarck. With that said, Vice President Iverson made a Motion to move the Hall of Fame from Minot Gun Club to Capital City Gun Club in Bismarck. Mr. Kittleson seconded the Motion and the Motion carried unanimously. There was further discussion on getting the HOF display back into NDTA hands.

The Board then discussed the posting of Board meetings on the Website. After discussion, Mr. Woodworth made a motion to adopt the Resolution Motion, seconded by Mr. Kittleson and carried as follows:

The Approved minutes from membership meetings and board of directors’ meetings shall be posted on the association’s website. Confidential or sensitive materials may be redacted in the minutes posted on the website.

The Board then discussed the issue of finding a new AIM director. It was discussed that Jon Secord was the first person to take up the AIM Director position. Mr. Bosh stated that Mr. Secord would like to leave the position but would possibly continue for another year.

Delegate Kaffar then presented his ATA Delegate’s report. He stated that at the Grand meeting, ATA daily fees will increase by one dollar, to $4.00. Mr Kaffar voted NO, however, it passed by a 37-13 vote. William Cook is the new ATA President and Jeff Wagner is the new ATA Treasurer. North Dakota had one All-American, Mike Kempel in the Sub-veteran Category. Also, Brian Larson was awarded the Mega Target Award by shooting 20,700 targets in the target year. Mr. Kaffar also mentioned that the Spring Grand moved its dates back a week in hopes of receiving better weather for the shoot. The AZ State Shoot will be held starting March 12, at Ben Avery Shooting Facility. And dates for the Grand American continue to move forward and this year will start on July 31. Central Zone Shoots will be held on the usual dates. Mr. Kaffar also mentioned that any club that wants to have a zone shoot can have one.

The Board then considered an application for Melissa Woodworth to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. The Board first clarified that the process would be to review the application and score it on the secret ballot. Then, if the candidate is determined qualified, there would be a subsequent vote. By 10-0, it was determined that Mrs. Woodworth was eligible. By show of hands, Melissa Woodworth was approved to be inducted into the ND Trapshooter Hall of Fame.

The Board then considered the applications for Bruce Birkeland and Mike Bennett to be inducted into the Hall of Honor. After review of the applications, a secret ballot was performed. By 11-0, it was determined that Bruce Birkeland would be inducted into the ND Trapshooter Hall of Honor. By 10-1, it was determined that Mike Bennett would be inducted into the ND Trapshooter Hall of Honor.

Vice President Iverson then moved to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Monson. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.