

MINUTES OF QCTA STATE COUNCIL MEETING

Bundaberg

Saturday 20th November 2021

Present: D. Back, B. Muirson, B. Cowley, L. Brandt, B. Allan, M. Robertson, C. Witt,
G. Battiato, G. Noffke.
M. Collins via technology.
Proxy representatives: J. Allan for G. Oats, M. Swale for G. Moore.

Chairman: D. Back **Minutes:** D. Young

1. Meeting Opened: 9.02 am

The President thanked all for coming and read a welcome statement.

2. Apologies: B. Lansdown, B. Beazley, G. Moore, G. Oats.

“That Councillors who have arranged for a substitute delegate be granted leave of absence.”

Moved: B. Muirson 2nd: L. Brandt Carried

3. Minutes of previous meeting:

a) Management Meeting – 10/11/21:

“That the minutes of the Management meeting of 10th November 2021 be ratified by State Council.”

Moved: B. Muirson 2nd: D. Back Carried

Business Arising:

- B. Allan asked if M. Collins had advised that raffles with ammunition as prizes were not permitted in Queensland. M. Collins had advised Management.
- Request from Shooting Australia to move the State ISSF Carnival forward one week.

“That the QCTA accept Shooting Australia’s request to move the State ISSF Carnival to 1st – 3rd July 2022.”

Moved: B. Muirson 2nd: C. Witt Carried

- Discussion re reciprocal rights and recommendation by Management to request that the ACTA consider introducing their own version of walk-through sporting.

“That the QCTA submit a request to the ACTA to consider introducing a walk-through format for the sporting discipline.”

Moved: G. Noffke 2nd: C. Witt Carried

b) State Council Meeting – St George 3/9/21:

“That the minutes of the State Council meeting of 3rd September 2021 represent a true and correct record.”

Moved: L. Brandt

2nd: B. Allan

Carried

Business Arising:

- Re 3(c) – B. Allan explained the meeting cycle, that the meeting prior to the AGM each year is the last meeting of the year. Councillors confirmed their understanding that this is in line with the constitution.
- Re 6(b) – Update regarding sub-committees, those approached to date are keen to join sub-committees for skeet and sporting. This will assist in providing an avenue from shooters to Council.

- Re 6(c) – Revisions were requested to the meeting procedure:
The Management meeting is to take place 14 days prior to the Council meeting.
Zoom is to be considered for Management meetings which will improve security and be more cost effective.

Attendance to be confirmed 7 days out from State Council meetings.

Discussion paper template documents to be renamed to reflect agenda items.

At this stage the proposed date for the next State Council meeting will be 28th February 2022 at Ilfracombe.

Confidentiality has also been an issue with information being leaked during and after meetings. Confidentiality agreements were generally deemed to be unnecessary, however meeting information should not be distributed until it is ratified. This also applies to some information from general Council business. There are generally few confidential items addressed so meeting attendances could be embraced through observers.

- Re 6(l) – The schools program is continuing successfully at Goondiwindi with 18 college students preparing to join the ACTA through the Goondiwindi club. The QCTA has been approached to consider waiving the state fee for these juniors.

“That the QCTA waive the \$20 per member once only fee for the 18 juniors joining the Goondiwindi club through the schools program.”

Moved: L. Brandt

2nd: M. Robertson

Carried

Councillors were requested to enquire which clubs in their Zones were able to accommodate events through the schools program. It was suggested that approaching contacts within the schools would produce the best results.
C. Witt will put points together and refer back to State Council, B. Cowley to assist.

- Re 6(a) – Communications presented answered the enquiry from the SE Zone that requests for an alternative to the state coaching system originated in the SE Zone.

It was accepted that higher level coaches have always had the ability to renew lower-level coaches. G. Noffke stressed the importance of maintaining the operation of the Qld coaching system through the state office, which was supported by Council.

Due to the risk involved in potentially losing the services of the state coaches, and the time allocated to re-establishing the coaching system, it was requested that if Councillors are unsure of a procedure or policy, to ask for information or assistance before implementing an alternative.

The newly drafted coaching policy was adopted pending changes discussed. This will be amended and re-distributed to Councillors for approval.

It was suggested that the coaching team should not get involved in politics, however this was rejected by Council, agreeing instead that politics should not enter the state coaching system. The system had worked successfully for some 15 years prior to unnecessary interference.

“That the State Coaching Policy as presented, subject to amendments, be adopted.”

Moved: B. Muirson

2nd: B. Allan

Carried

Break for morning tea 10.30 – 10.40am.

4. Financial Report:

D. Young presented accounts paid since distribution of the financial statement.

Toowoomba CTC Skeet Carnival costs \$5072.99

K & G Simpson Hall of Fame book \$97.74

“That the financial report be accepted and accounts presented be approved for payment.”

Moved: B. Muirson

2nd: B. Cowley

Carried

A query was received regarding the payment for Qld badges and discussion followed as to the increased price.

5. Correspondence:

“That Inward Correspondence be accepted and Outward Correspondence endorsed.”

Moved: B. Muirson

2nd: J. Allan

Carried

6. New Business:

a) State Trap Carnival

Top Shot Industries has guaranteed supply of Vivaz targets for the State Trap Carnival, also offering \$1000 sponsorship for the event.

D. Back suggested putting a duty roster in place for the carnival. Some duties for consideration included:

- Office, to be run by Northern Zone using MCMS.
- Shoot Marshals, to be appointed by Northern Zone.
- Trap setting, carried out by one representative from each Zone.
- Trophy plates need to be taken from Roma to Townsville.

G. Noffke also suggested employing the use of radar guns to set targets. M. Collins suggested referring to the rules that apply to using this method.

b) Carnival Guidelines

B. Beazley had provided a table to review ground fee and trapper costs for consideration. Councillors suggested that more information is required to consider reviewing the guidelines as a whole as all costs and income need to be assessed.

Some topics briefly discussed included:

- Raising nominations to reflect higher costs of targets, badges, engraving, etc.
- Suggested ground fee was considered excessive as venues have the ability to generate good income through kitchen, bar and camping facilities.
- State currently pays for targets, trappers and all other major expenses.

Discussion followed. Club venues must still have the incentive to host the event, however it is hoped they are also pleased to have shooters attend their venue.

D. Back suggested D. Young prepare some comparative figures to include all aspects of the guidelines, to be sent to Council for discussion. B. Allan offered to assist.

c) State Skeet Carnival

B. Muirson proposed changes to the existing program on behalf of Queensland skeet shooters. The carnival will remain as a 4-day event with the multigauge events to be incorporated, as per the discussion paper. Main points discussed as follows:

- 28g & 410 are not included in the highguns. A sash and graded prizes will apply but no Qld badge or Hall of Fame points.
- Multigauge has been conducted as a separate club-run event so administration of the carnival will be easier.
- The current ground fee of \$500 is considered inadequate as venues will not benefit from income from the multigauge events.
- A per-shooter fee may also be considered to supplement the ground fee.

Comparative figures and guidelines will need to be presented.

“That the QCTA adopt the proposed new Skeet Carnival program as the 2022 event.”

Moved: B. Muirson

2nd: G. Noffke

Carried

Multigauge events will have a sash for overall, 1st & 2nd in grades, and 1st in the sections as per the other championships. This format will operate for 2022 after which costings will be revised.

d) My Clubs My Scores

G. Moore asked that the QCTA write to the ACTA requesting that more time is needed before introducing this program for 2022. It was generally agreed that the document recently released by the ACTA regarding MCMS is difficult for the average person to understand. We are advised it will be going ahead and we are to see how it works.

Discussion followed. L. Brandt believes a large percentage of Central Zone shooters have been unfairly regraded to a higher grade. It may also be a possibility to request to keep the handicap books for an additional 12 months, however books will unlikely reflect the same grades as the program.

The main reason for shooter dissatisfaction is that the rules of the sport have been changed to adapt to the scoring program, when the opposite should apply.

Councillors agreed there was little point writing an unsupportive letter to the ACTA when the new system has already been implemented.

e) Complaint

This item was discussed in camera. Refer to notes as a separate document (p9), available to Councillors present at the meeting only.

f) Councillor Remuneration

Currently Councillors travelling outside their Zone to attend State Council meetings are entitled to receive \$200 as a travel reimbursement.

It has been suggested that for one meeting per year, outside the meeting at the State Trap Carnival/AGM, the QCTA reimburse travel expenses for all Councillors to include air fares, accommodation, car hire, etc.

Discussion followed. It was generally agreed that costs of this nature could quickly escalate. D. Back and B. Cowley would prefer to forfeit their remuneration to be allocated to other activities, such as junior development. The majority of Councillors would prefer to have meetings scheduled to coincide with a club or Zone shoot.

Break for lunch 12.40 - 1.10pm.

D. Back expressed concern that the association may incur significant additional costs if all Councillors claimed full travel reimbursements for the meeting in question, particularly considering the costs of regional air fares.

It was decided to leave meeting reimbursements as per the current arrangement.

D. Young will forward the claim form to all Councillors.

g) Treasurer

At present we do not have a Treasurer. We are required to appoint someone in the interim to fill this casual vacancy.

D. Back enquired if Management could be expanded to appoint an additional non-voting member, however this would require a change of constitution.

“That G. Battiato be nominated as Treasurer.”

Moved: M. Collins

“That B. Muirson be nominated as Treasurer.”

Moved: M. Swale

2nd: L. Brandt

B. Muirson accepted. Carried

h) Double Rise Grading

M. Swale, on behalf of G. Moore, requested that the Double Rise grading rule be rescinded as he does not believe it is supported by Queensland shooters.

This issue and the general lack of support for it has been discussed a number of times at Rules Supervisor's meetings, but they have been told it has already been approved.

B. Muirson confirmed that some 15 months ago it was raised, with Queensland opposed, and was marginally defeated. More recently it was overwhelmingly defeated with Queensland the only state in opposition.

Discussion followed, including how the QCTA can request to amend the percentages. Some Councillors were of the opinion that scores being recorded in the MCMS system may sort the grades out more fairly. Unfortunately, many clubs have removed Double Rise from their annual programs for 2022.

Councillors agreed there was little point writing a letter to oppose this.

i) Talent Identification Camps

D. Back explained that it is intended that all juniors should have the opportunity to compete in Olympic discipline events if they wish to do so, and to receive adequate coaching. Venues with appropriate facilities will be approached to host events or coaching days, and the QCTA will work to confirm dates. Activities will be promoted through clubs and Zones, who will provide potentially interested juniors.

j) Dissolution of Management

On behalf of G. Moore, M. Swale asked about the current purpose of Management and if there had been any improvements since this issue was raised at the St George meeting. D. Back advised that State Council was concerned that for some time there had been a lack of recommendations coming from Management meetings. He had been advised of complaints that there were insufficient Management meetings, however no agenda items were being put forward by Management members to support this.

Discussion followed regarding the need for Management to operate efficiently.

J. Allan suggested that Management should continue to bring business to Council in order to be accountable. Management meetings should proceed but with Council having the ultimate authority. D. Back will continue to do his best to effect improvements.

k) Facebook Posts

M. Collins would like to see letters sent to people who are bringing the association down with their Facebook comments. Accusations regarding people within ACTA and QCTA should not be tolerated.

Some Councillors suggested that it was up to people being named to take action if they did not approve of comments, or to appeal to the page administrators.

M. Collins suggested that if derogatory comments are made about people and there is no confusion as to their identity, they should receive a letter. People should take a screenshot to be sent to the QCTA to be actioned by Council.

Many felt that Facebook comments had little impact and that most people should move on, however complaints will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

7. General Business:

1. B. Muirson requested the LegalVision accounts, invoices and break down of fees.
D. Young will forward these documents.

2. M. Collins thanked Council for allowing him to attend the meeting via technology.
3. C. Witt referred to the matter of underperforming delegates as raised at the St George meeting. Zones need to consider recruiting interested people to Zone Councils for the purpose of getting good quality, dedicated Councillors who are able to attend meetings. Zones need to choose their delegates wisely.
The constitution has the provision to address Councillors who do not attend meetings.
4. G. Noffke would appreciate confirmation of dates for the next meeting which is to be held in the Central Zone.
5. M. Swale would like consideration to be given to ensure that a minimum number of competitors contest a championship before awarding Hall of Fame points. B. Allan suggested that a reduced number of points could be a solution.
6. G. Battiato compared both the QCTA and SE Zone constitutions, and queried the issue of the new Zone president taking office. Correct procedure and previous correspondence were provided by way of explanation.
7. D. Back would like to see State Council, as a group, submit agenda items for ACTA delegates. This suggestion was well received by Councillors.
G. Noffke had examples of items he would like clarified: i) He interpreted that dual affiliated clubs could not be part of the ACTA, and ii) There was some confusion regarding social members. He will prepare a list of queries requesting clarification.
8. D. Back requested that D. Young be copied in to all communications. Some important items had been missed by State Council as they did not appear on the correspondence file. All communications are to be received through the State office.
9. D. Back had invited D. Harwood to attend the meeting however he had previous family commitments. D. Back thanked D. Harwood for his years of service as a State Councillor and appreciated his contribution to Queensland shooters.
10. M. Collins requested that item 6(e) not be included in the published minutes as the matter was discussed in camera.
11. J. Allan congratulated D. Back on the newsletter. The positive articles were well received by Councillors and members. D. Back requested that items for the next issue be sent to D. Young.
12. The insurance issue regarding G. Mifsud was discussed and background to the incident explained. G. Noffke emphasised the importance of lodging this claim through the ACTA, as it was a possibility that future medical issues may need to be addressed.
D. Young is to contact G. Mifsud to obtain all the details of the claim submitted, so that a determination can be made on the financial responsibility.

D. Back has received further information from Outback Insurance regarding quotations for club insurance which he will forward to B. Allan.

D. Back thanked all State Councillors for their time and attendance.

Meeting Closed: 3.10pm