

# Minutes of Montgomeryshire & District Airgun League Annual General Meeting 2025

Meeting conducted 26/06/25

Meeting opened at 20:02

## Apologies

Apologies were received prior to the meeting from the following:

- Dean Wem
- Tabitha Corbett
- Edward Kelton
- Sara Davies
- John Farmer
- Hazel Evans

## Minutes of the last AGM

Proposed to be correct and accepted by M Lewis, seconded by J Beaumont

## Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer report was read out by T Robinson due to the previous resignation and absence of E Kelton. The report opened by highlighting that expenditure still outweighs income at £1452.84 and £1177 respectively at this point. League fees from Newtown and Guilsfield teams were still absent. The engraving costs were not included in the report as no invoice had been issued but it was highlighted that costs had reduced compared to previous years. D Riley thanked the Treasurer for their efforts.

Following this D Riley requested details from both Guilsfield and Newtown regarding their league fees. D Edwards from Guilsfield suggested he would investigate. M Lewis clarified that T Corbett had verbally informed him the Newtown had paid within the last month. S Brown queried this saying that she'd spoken to E Kelton and at that point there was no record of payment. It was later confirmed via text messaging that Newtown had paid their fees directly on 10/06/25.

The aspect of account access availability led to a further discussion with S Brown describing the challenges faced by E Kelton changing the account provider. M Pearce queried who has access; S Brown explained that only he had account access with her as a second signatory

The accuracy of the Treasurer's report and its acceptance was proposed by T Robinson and seconded by T Davies.

## Continuation of the League

Unanimous agreement from membership present. Proposed by N Kelton, seconded by T Robinson.

## Election of Officials

D Riley opened by offering that the positions of Match Secretary, Secretary and Treasurer were open for election. The position of Vice Chair had also become available time constraints cited as the reason for stepping down. C Stevens requested clarification as to why the positions were available as well as the responsibilities of each. This was described with the following statements:

The Treasurer was described as the league's accountant. D Morgan and T Robinson explained using their personal account to transfer money into the league account rather than paying in cash in a branch. The lack of branch availability was discussed by multiple people.

The Secretary's position was described as responsible for incoming discussions, registration forms and keeping the committee up to date with affairs as well as publishing details of events etc. to the league membership. Previously it was expected for the secretary to tie into the Shrewsbury League however A Lawrence has adopted this role along with J Wright of the Shropshire Rifle and Pistol Association (SRPA). Finally accounting for any 'Curve balls' posed to the committee was politely mentioned.

Position of Match Secretary described by R Davies and D Riley as recording and publishing the scores at events and after weekly matches as well as creation of the fixture list and maintenance of the website.

D Riley described the Vice Chair's role as to regulate the elected Chair and stand in where required.

Nominations for secretary: B Edwards enquired if S Brown would stand again, she declined and explained her reasons as facing frustrations in attempting to implement something positive and ending up in a thankless task that she's not feeling she has enough time to devote to. A Lawrence suggested sharing the role between multiple people, M Pedrini followed with there isn't enough people. C Stevens highlighted that she was hesitant to volunteer due to childcare commitments and seeing the troubles experienced by current committee, J Beaumont agreed. M Pedrini, suggested allowing older members of the league with reduced work/childcare commitments to take up the role. M Pearce continued by highlighting the historical role of Megan Jones who held the role for years until J Corbett volunteered and later resigned for the aforementioned work/childcare concerns. No resolution was found at this point.

Nominations for Vice Chair: D Riley (Acting chair), described his position of being ratified as chair due to discussions with J Wright. After imparting this knowledge, M Lewis volunteered for the role, C Stevens seconded.

T Robinson volunteered for the position of Treasurer citing his previous experience in similar roles. This was seconded by A Lawrence. S Brown reiterated the usage of official committee email addresses for communication.

Position of Secretary re-suggested, C Stevens spoke again still with time concerns; A Lawrence suggested it not being the right time to have no time for the role due to the changes coming within the league. No conclusion drawn for a second time.

Match secretary position discussed P Roberts suggested for him to shadow the current Match Secretary, seconded by J Beaumont.

Finally, the position of Secretary was revisited. Due to his ties with the County association, A Lawrence was asked, he replied suggesting that it would not be possible due to his personal commitments; as well as already accepting a higher up role within the association which may pose a conflict of interest. M Pedrini suggested himself operating as a deputy due to a lack of experience; S Brown replied considering how the role could (or could not be split, M Lewis suggested a similar shadowing role to the match secretary. S Brown explained that she wanted to be free from the role.

Further discussion amongst members led to more details of the role being presented. D Riley discussed the requirement to set up meetings e.g. those of the executive committees, the AGM etc. Due to the changes within the league, face to face meetings would potentially become more common. A Lawrence also highlighted that compiling registration documents may be taking a more central role simplifying the process. M Pedrini at this point decided to withdraw from appointment. H Evans suggested by B Edwards and declined by M Pearce, P Roberts suggested approaching other team members not at the AGM and revisit the appointment later.

## Honorariums

D Riley and A Lawrence proposed to maintain the existing honorariums of £120 to Secretary and Match Secretary as well as £80 to the treasurer; N Kelton seconded. T Davies countered this by suggesting increasing all honorariums by £20 in line with rising costs seen everywhere, A Kelton proposed placing it to a vote. T Davies' proposal won. Honorariums now to be as follows

- £140 offered to Secretary and Match Secretary.
- £100 to Treasurer

T Robinson queried whether honorariums are deserved, this was described by D Riley amongst others. S brown described E Kelton's worries regarding league funding. P Roberts followed on by described their community council banking procedures which was seconded by T Davies describing his position as community council chairman and not accepting honorariums offered to him and this could apply here

## Make up of the League

Representatives of the following teams confirmed attendance for the following season:

- Crew Green A
- Crew Green B
- Maesbrook Village Hall
- Guilsfield
- Llansantffraid Lions
- Newtown
- Castle Caereinion

The potential of an additional team based around the Powys Arms at Pool Quay was queried by D Riley. M Pearce described a message from a representative of theirs that suggested they don't have enough members to form a stable and viable team. It was then suggested to using the potential team to fulfil the current 'bye' match within the fixture as a friendly (non-score-counting) match with the aim of lowering them in gently. Furthermore, B Edwards suggested matches to always be shoot at pool quay

D Riley then suggested invitation to large events, e.g. the Christmas Shoot, Presidents Shield etc. The costs associated with insurance etc. was queried by M Lewis and detailed by A Lawrence and D Riley that insurance costs are covered until 31st December. The Christmas shoot was suggested by M Lewis as a good review point for team viability. After some discussion, it was decided to just charge insurance. Furthermore, individual members can potentially be absorbed by other teams suggested by D Morgan.

No team fielded by Llanfair raised by D Riley and discussed by R Morgan.

## Proposals

### Reduction in Season Length

The proposal was described in more detail by the Guilsfield team. The idea of a six week March April break was floated and discussed by S Brown and multiple others. T Robinson followed up by suggesting placing all non-league events after season completion which was debunked by S Brown and multiple others citing reducing attendance seen through rearranged fixtures in previous years. Questions were raised over the requirement for catchup nights within the fixture list. S Brown and T Robinson defended the necessity.

The discussion then shifted to holding cups and events on nights other than Thursdays. Again, the historical use and later removal of Monday night fixtures for cup matches. Guilsfield were particularly vocal in the difficulty they have field a team on alternative days due to other commitments.

### Reinstatement of 4.5 Shot Scoring

R Morgan initially dismissed the idea as being tried multiple times before. M Lewis suggested increasing the maximum as used in the Shrewsbury League as explained by A Lawrence and M Lewis. J Beaumont, suggested it may improve competition in the lower teams and closer matches being more fun. S Brown highlight that she was not against the idea, but it required straight forward scoring, the idea of the Shrewsbury league 'white spot' marking system was mentioned again by A Lawrence. The varying white spot size and it's implications was then discussed by R Morgan and D Riley. A Lawrence suggested a different sized probe instead, T Davies suggested that historical use of similar systems had resulted in increases in rifle power. The motion was taken to vote and ultimately defeated.

As an interim solution, the use of the 4.5 marking system in other competitions was suggested by N Kelton. This amendment was discussed and proposed by A Lawrence and seconded by J Beaumont (with an addition by D Riley that clear notes and diagrams be included). A Lawrence to develop a suitable probe; B Edwards also requested if A Lawrence would be available to mark if required too.

### Catchup Matches to be Shot in Fixture List Order

M Lewis explained the proposal to the attending members J Beaumont clarified the difficulty with two team sharing venues and unpredictable weather tying it back to the proposal. D Riley suggested alternative venue usage, example of CGB shooting their catchup at Castle Caereinion at the end of the season. The application of this idea for shared venues was queried by R Davies, confirmed by N Kelton and A Lawrence.

It was suggested that the most sensible way to ensure Catchups are both kept up to date and in the right order would be to discuss them directly on the Captains Whatsapp group by J Beaumont and S Brown. D Riley went on to state that the Charity Cup etc. needs to be kept up to date as well, T Davies reiterated the difficulties faced by Crew Green B last season. These comments were seconded by M Lewis' experience as a Shrewsbury league captain. J Beaumont responded positively about these comments.

D Morgan went on to suggest that there is no need to cancel a match unless the team can field less than three shooters. M Lewis and T Davies developed the point by describing the potential of an illness sweeping through a team and it being captain's discretion to cancel or not. Both D Riley and B Edwards seconded the point. D Riley again queried the number required as three scoring shots, a default 25 score and the lowest shooting again. M Lewis, T Davies and D Morgan suggested that it would be fairer to say a minimum of four as it allows a break.

D Riley suggested the predictability of 'six to count' seasons, which was then confirmed by T Robinson and S Brown amongst others. R Davies suggested removing the 'count a 25' ruling. D Riley described an idea of a team forfeiting a match due to circumstances of multiple postponements to be discussed with captains.

The original motion was placed to vote; all were in favour.

## Rules

The question of current rules version was queried by J Beaumont. This was confirmed to be version 4 (September 2017) by R Davies. The creation of a sub committee to investigate and re-write the rules by A Lawrence and R Davies was re-discussed.

## Sponsorship

M Pearce requested to make payment for his sponsorship to T Robinson which raised the question of multiple other unpaid sponsorships. A Kelton suggested that he'd offered to pay for his sponsorship earlier in the year but was refused at the time. It was decided that the matter was to be discussed later in line with other points.

### *Shows*

J Beaumont discussed the League presence at shows suggesting that Guilsfield show were interested in providing space. S Brown discussed that it would not be possible without requiring volunteers, C Stevens volunteered. M Pedrini queried insurance coverage for the event, D Riley reiterated what was discussed at the last AGM, A Lawrence continued the discussion. B Edwards offered his 12ft trailer as a range backstop and then requiring bales to extend the range to 18ft.

A stap or sling would potentially be required for juniors. The point that children must be supervised was raised by D Riley. The target and possible having to accommodate a children's height was then discussed by D Morgan. The minimum age requirement was discussed by D Riley, S Brown, C Stevens and D Morgan. D Morgan volunteered to host the shooting aspect citing his experience supporting children participating in clay pigeon events.

A break was held from 9.28, discussions recommenced at 9.40.

A recap of discussions so far regarding Guilsfield show and sponsorship made by S Brown.

D Morgan volunteered to make a stand of appropriate height if required. Two targets on different levels were then suggested by M Lewis. The suggestion of using paper targets was discussed by multiple members which led into a bell v paper debate; Multiple members highlighted that the bell target was a more satisfying experience and more applicable to the league. Discussion then proceeded into the need for a power bank or generator if targets were to be illuminated. B Edwards suggested that there is power available, M Pearce alternatively offered his generator.

The cost of hosting such an event was raised by S Brown, B Edwards thought that a stand was approximately £20. A suggested cost of 50p per shot or members to donate pellets was floated with the final suggestion of £1 for 5 shots by M Lewis and T Davies determined most realistic.

J Hilditch and J Beaumont suggested purchasing some cheap trophies and running a leaderboard. This idea was seconded by M Lewis. Help was again requested by S Brown on the 14th of August date if the idea was to come off.

Finally, M Lewis highlighted the need for a sign in sheet, confirmed by D Riley; S Brown and C Stevens expanded on this by also suggesting a requirement for a disclaimer and parental consent forms.

Returning to the sponsorship discussion; web sponsorship price of £50 suggested by T Davies. M Pearce thought that he'd previously paid £30. Telescope paper ask for £30 for their sponsorships by D Morgan. £30 sponsorship cost proposed by T Davies and seconded by M Pedrini. Trophy sponsoring was then mentioned by S Brown but led to no conclusion.

The headline league sponsorship cost raised by R Davies. A Kelton reiterated that he'd spent £3-400 over the time. N Kelton suggested it being a donation, with multiple agreements from members. M Lewis discussed darts league sponsorships to provide more context. J Beaumont asked if adverts could also sponsor the league and increase cost to £50. M Lewis clarified costs again. S Brown reiterated that any donations should be gratefully received.

S Brown discussed the League sponsored Christmas tree hosted by Llandrinio Church being well received on the day. J Beaumont went on to discuss Guilsfield holding a similar event. S Brown queried if it was worth doing again, to which there were multiple agreements.

## Any Other Business

D Riley opened proceedings by requesting a volunteer to fulfil the still open Secretary position; no volunteers presented themselves.

Presentation evening to be held before the league starts resulted in multiple mumblings and eventual agreements. Motion proposed by B Edwards and seconded by M Pearce. venue and time TBA

The possibility of displaying the fixtures list as a poster similar to the local darts leagues received some discussion. M Lewis to provide more details following his connections to County Darts and pass these on to R Davies

D Riley and A Lawrence took over from this point to discuss changes to the league and its ultimate association with the NRSA. A document produced by the SRPA was first described by D Riley. The summary of which being that the NSRA wish to change how they associate with leagues and wish to remove their involvement with associations in this case the SRPA. J Wright from the SRPA has suggested that the SRPA form a 'club' and that the leagues under the SRPA

become members of that club. The timeframe for this change being 12 months. Insurance and associated costs are set to increase, and the insurance does not cover equipment etc. A Lawrence then developed the point by suggesting the NRSA are trying to increase funds and closing a loophole. It was suggested by A Lawrence that the number of clubs is not sufficient to allow a league to stand alone (posing as a 'club') under the new rules. A Lawrence went on to describe that he has investigated insurance with NRSA and suggests that it is attractive due to the change of equipment being 'club owned' i.e. by the league. If the league insured directly and a claim is made by 3rd party, financial implications would go to the local committee if insurers found a get out. The new insurance will cover these individuals. It is however dependent on 100% compliance with NRSA rule book on a day-by-day basis.

T Robinson queried the association and the league becoming independent.

T Davies raised the question of home insurance covering property which could be expanded to include air rifles etc. A Lawrence and M Lewis responded with not necessarily. It was then clarified by A Lawrence that there would be no ownership loss to the 'club' and accidental damage, theft etc. would be provided with £10k cover. Costs queried by D Morgan as he has his own insurance for other firearms, he went onto speak about not wanting to hand over ownership. M Lewis queried if serial numbers etc. would be required. A Lawrence and D Riley did not know an answer though.

C Stevens queried if other options were available, T Robinson reiterated that his option was viable. A Lawrence suggested this would be considerably more expensive even in 1990s circa £500 insurance for each league to insure themselves and £1 per head from the NRSA was very attractive at the time.

A Lawrence provided the following figures:

- constitution based on operating on county borders. merging a total of 6 leagues.
- membership of 151-200 people would result in rates of: £545 annually. approximately £3.65 per head increasing from £2.00
- £480 PA (approximately £3.20 per head) if below 150 members.

SRPA are offering a grant to form the club. D Riley then added that when the document is finalised by the SRPA, an Emergency AGM should be called to decide the league membership's position.

A Lawrence described the origins of this tightening up requirement.

The question of league safety was then brought up D Riley. Particularly the random 'spot check' of a Crew Green match. A Lawrence suggested that the check had resulted in a positive review, details of this were requested by S Brown.

Multiple discussions developed from this point. D Riley described his findings from a discussion with J Wright in passing. He responded positively verbally but nothing placed into writing. Safety traffic is to increase described by D Riley and A Lawrence.

T Robinson brought the discussion back to the matter in hand; suggesting that it's not a great increase in cost but highlighted concerns surrounding insurance of equipment. This point was then developed again by D Morgan citing repossession concerns as well as the true ownership. A Lawrence suggested that the document is only preliminary at this stage. S Brown asked to clarify level of cover required. A Lawrence suggested that there is more cover available but not

less reading their documents. T Robinson then suggested looking for insurance elsewhere to at least get quotes. S Brown clarified that the increasing paperwork exercise was putting people off.

A Lawrence discussed a centralised billing system for registered members covering participation within multiple leagues removing admin from local officials. Highlighting that the fee covers competitions in the 'club' area.

S Brown queried the requirement for safety inspection forms and range safety officer every week for every match. A Lawrence added that six years of documents are to be kept. S Brown suggested clubs keep the records themselves. Spectators were discussed by members and after discussion as someone viewing or within the range area rather than everyone in the venue. Both the Red Lion (Castle's venue) and King's Head (Guilsfield previous venue) were brought up and used as examples.

N Kelton accused the Guilsfield (Royal Oak) range as unsafe. He described the situation and suggested that the screening in place is inadequate. A Lawrence described the origin of the insurance clamp down in more detail. B Edwards and C Stevens began to describe modifications to their range. S Brown went on to discuss conversations that have occurred previously. D Riley to liaise with E Swain (SRPA) to sign off on each range to provide reassurance. M Lewis agreed with this idea citing his own experience as a qualified range officer. Captains' details to be passed on D Riley to liaise effectively.

Queries were then made of who (and how) spectators should be recorded; Practical assessment deemed to be the best way to decide on a case-by-case basis.

A Lawrence discussed the SRPA presented range layout further; the details of which were queried by R Davies. S Brown suggested that improvements have been put in place and are being developed further since publication of that document. D Riley described changes at the Llansantffraid Lions' venue post change. S Brown discussed the league's historical accident record or rather the lack of but for everyone to not to rest on their laurels. Safety of each range will be confirmed with the SRPA representative's visit suggested by D Riley; D Morgan added the need to consider both left- and right-handed shooters to show the standard. Multiple musings around this point.

D Morgan then went on to add that if no in front spectators are allowed, multiple venues will not be compliant, and it will kill multiple leagues not just venues; agreements were heard from multiple individuals.

Once again, the position of secretary was raised as still open by D Riley; there were again no volunteers at this point.

10.35 meeting closed.