

MINUTES

Attendance. The following were in attendance:-

B deBeer – President
EPJ Harrison – S-G and Chairman CWC

Representatives:-

M Dodson (NZL)
R Gross (USA)
J Webster (GBR)
D Chisholm (CAN)
Mrs C Berry (AUS)
C Hockley (WAL)
L Peden (SCO)

I Robertson (Chairman TRC)

1. Opening and apologies for absence.

The President welcomed representatives to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from:-

C, Cheshire (Vice Pres), D Burger (RSA), S Frost (CAN), J Frey (GER), Y Sakakibara (JAP), G Duncan (AUS), G Alexander (NIR), S Bissonnette (CAN), P Jory (GUE/CI)

2. Minutes of 2015 General Assembly and matters arising.

The minutes had been circulated and agreed at the 2015 World Championships. There were no matters arising not otherwise on the Agenda.

3. President's Report.

The President's gave a verbal report, the text of which is at Annex A.

4. Secretary General's report.

Mr Harrison reported the changes in Membership with Italy advancing to Full Membership and new Affiliate Members Croatia, Lithuania, Mongolia Wales and Brazil, offset by the loss of Malaysia and CPC (touch being maintained) and uncertainty regarding Namibia who have problems of range access. He reported the successes of the F-Class World Championships (CAN, 2017) and the Australia Match (RSA, also 2017); arising from the former was a reminder that ICFRA MUST be represented at World Championships by one of its Officers.

The accounts of the Confederation show a healthy position with a credit balance of a fraction under £25,000: and the budget for 2019 –2015 was presented budgeting for a surplus (Both at Annex B). Mr Harrison remarked that the NRA of UK had been providing excellent Treasury services, and the Meeting endorsed his thanks to the NRA.

Moved by NZL, seconded by GBR, that the budget and accounts be accepted, subject to a minor adjustment in the alignment of the 2018 totals: **Carried unanimously.**

Mr Harrison indicated that he was content to continue a Webmaster and as a member of IRRG following his retirement as Secretary General.

5. Adjustment to Standing Orders.

Mr Harrison proposed a technical change to Standing Orders to make the financial delegation to the S-G £300 in place of \$CAN500: this results from the change in currency for the conduct of ICFRA affairs from Canada (DCRA) to the UK (NRA(UK)). This was **approved unanimously**, so meeting the constitutional requirement for a 2/3 Majority.

6. Palma 2023

This item was dealt with under #7d below.

7. Committee Chairmen's reports

7.a FC Committee Mr Harrison advised that he had been asked to take note of any FC Matters by the Committee Chairman Mr Els. In his written report, Mr Els expressed contentment with the way the sport was developing and with the rules process to date; though there was a constant need to steer a course between the fact the FC expressly recognised that innovation was a key element of the discipline, while preventing misuse of the rules for personal advantage. He concluded by indicating that invitations for the 2021 FC World Championships would be issued before too long and reassuring the F-Class Community that visiting Teams were most unlikely to face personal security difficulties. This last was reinforced by the President. General Assembly expressed satisfaction with MR Els's report which was duly **received**.

7.b TR Committee. Mr Robertson outlined the decisions made in the Meeting of Target Rifle Committee on the previous day, in particular:-

"Machine gunning": Agreed that that firers shooting single string on electronic targets should have the arrival of the shot confirmed instantaneously, but that display of the position and value should be delayed by 10 seconds. This requirement to be subject to consultation with FCC before finalisation.

"Electronic Targets – specification" A working party need not be set up as suggested: but additionally in the rules a requirement should be stated for a full calibration check of targets to be used in (an) ICFRA Match(es) or world championship prior to the event.

"firing during the preparation period". TRC agreed that the penalty for so doing should be at the CRO/Referee's discretion, up to and including disqualification: the norm would be loss of 5 points. It was noted that a revised starting procedure for Team Matches could remove the possibility of such events. **General Assembly** considered this last point and **mandated** that there be no sighting preparation period for team matches: instead the time limit for all matches would be increased by 2 minutes.

"Challenge for a lower score" the wording of 'message 5' should be altered to comprehend the possibility of challenging for a lower score as well as a higher one.

".223 nominal 90 grain bullet" Approved for ICFRA Matches where .223 was itself allowed.

Chairmanship Mr I Robertson(GBR) to continue as Chairman for 2019-2023. The rules to be further tightened regarding change of calibre mid-match.

7.c Veterans Committee. [The Committee had met electronically prior to the General Assembly and the report of the Chairman is attached to these minutes.] The Chairman, Mr Dick Winney joined the meeting at this point and presented ICFRA with a silver salver trophy to be won by the highest score made in the Veteran Individual World Championship by a 'super veteran' i.e. a shooter aged 70 or over. The President received the trophy on behalf of ICFRA, and General Assembly showed its appreciation.

".223 in Veterans World championships". Conscious of the benefits for some older shooters, coupled with adoption of the 90-grain bullet, VWC had approved of the use of .223/5.56 REM in veterans Individual and Team World championships (where .223 was approved by the host NRA for domestic use).

7.d World Championship Committee. Mr Dodson outlined the following.

2023 Palma: following comments by RSA regarding personal safety of competitors there was no need to revisit the approval for 2023.

2027 Palma: Following application by GBR, the 2027 Palma to be at Bisley in July 2027, noting that this might well be the first Palma to be shot on Electronic Targets.

2025 Australia Match: to take place at Brisbane in June 2025.

".223 in ICFRA World Championships" To be permitted subject to the tightening of the rules on changes of calibre mid-match.

“Half-Teams in the LRWC Championships” WCC had approved in principle the holding of ‘half-teams’ matches (subject to range capacity) concurrent with the Palma with the aim of encouraging increased participation in the World Championships rather than encouraging reduction in entries for the Palma itself. The key issue was the relationship between the size of the Palma Match Team and the ‘half-team’ permitted, and this calls into question the number of shooters which should make up a Palma Team. It was remitted to the Secretary General to conduct a consultation with a final day for responses of April 2019.

“Armourer” all mention of an Armourer to be removed from the Palma Match conditions which will now call for a maximum squad of 25 (or such other number as may eventuate from the above).

“Chairmanship” Mr B deBeer was elected chairman of WCC for 2019 - 2023

7.e Commonwealth Committee. Mr Harrison outlined the current position regarding representations through Government to the 2022 Birmingham Organisers for the inclusion of shooting in 2022. In addition he briefed the meeting on the current pressures leading towards a) equality in absolute numbers of males and females – as opposed to equality of opportunity – in all sports including shooting and b) the need for elimination ‘finals’ for all shooting competitions now including FBR. Regarding the former, he indicated that FBR was currently under no overt pressure to change its equal opportunities stance but that the CWG rules would be altered to permit, but not require, mens and womens FBR and mixed pairs; and regarding the latter, steps were in hand to develop such a final for FBR usage. Finally, he outlined the re-emergence of CSF and the need for it to try to establish shooting as a compulsory CWG Event.

At the CWC Meeting in Brisbane in 2018 he had been reappointed as Chairman.

8. Appointment of Secretary-General 2019 – 2023. One application had been received, from Mr Lindsay Peden (SCO), which application had the support both of NRA(UK) and the current S-G. Mr Peden’s appointment was **confirmed** with acclamation by the Assembly.

9. Appointment of President and Vice President 2019 – 2023 One nomination had been received for each Office, namely Mr Des Vamplew (CAN) for President and Mr Deon Burger (RSA) for Vice President. General Assembly **confirmed** these appointments with acclamation. Similarly, the Assembly confirmed the appointment of Mr Ray Gross to IRRG.

At this point S-G presented the President with an ICFRA Plaque recognising his distinguished service to ICFRA over the previous 8 years, and Assembly showed its appreciation.

[S-G note: the appointments come into effect on 11 March 2019]

9.a Standing disciplinary Committee CAN, NZL and AUS were content to form the standing disciplinary committee (not to be confused with the Palma Match Committee), nominating Messrs Westlake, Dodson and Duncan respectively

10. AOB

10.a Data Protection. Mr Harrison ran through the requirements for data protection and privacy policies laid on ICFRA by UK legislation. It was necessary to produce a relevant policy and to publish it; and such a policy was laid before the Assembly. It was approved, subject to any technical comment by Mr Robertson who had the relevant responsibilities for NRA(UK). S-G had reviewed what data ICFRA holds and was recommending to his successor that personal postal addresses be no longer held for individual National Delegates. It was necessary under the regulations to obtain positive affirmation that national representatives were content for their data to be held, and circulated among themselves and he would conduct the relevant exercise. Finally he proposed an ICFRA policy that national representative must hold the circulation list either under lock and key or, more likely, that the PC account in which it resides must be subject to password access and preferably protected by reputable anti-virus software.

10.b WCM Rules S-G noted for information, that a minor clarification was being made to World Championship Management rules regarding appointment of referees: this had been approved by the Chairmen of ICFRA’s main Committees as the constitution requires.

10 c Anti-doping. NZL mentioned the discomfort felt by one of the match officials at the practice of calling for TUEs when it was *known* that competitors would not be tested. AUS pointed out that, under a regime where testing could be carried out by, and at the expense of, National AD

Agencies, the collection of TUEs was actually compliant with the normal regime in place and represented 'good housekeeping'. S-G indicated that, as he had said to the individual concerned, ICFRA's Anti Doping rules were coming up for review in 2019 in any case, and he would wish to draw on AUS's experience in these matters.

11. Closure There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 1150 AM.