

County Representatives Report

WMAS Council Meeting (Inc. Extraordinary Meeting) 3rd October 2015

Listed below are the salient points discussed during the WMAS Council meeting, held on 3rd October 2015:

Extraordinary Meeting:

The purpose of the extraordinary meeting was to clarify the purpose of the Region and what it was there to achieve. The following points were covered:

- Frequency of meetings: these would continue in the current format and frequency.
- Format of meetings:
 - Reports from regional reps. should focus more on events and activities that are coming up and less on what has happened since the last meeting.
 - Applications for funding would be discussed and allocated accordingly on their merit.
 - Coaching courses ~ what's available and when.
 - Updates in relation to Regional competitions.
- The meeting also covered the subject of the WMAS website. It was decided that this would be altered so that it became more of a (single page) signposting tool that pointed visitors in the right direction, rather than remain a heavy maintenance site that tried to cover and update information already contained on other websites.

The regular meeting followed on straight after and covered the following items:

- Although funding was available from WMAS, for worthy projects and for supporting individual archers, it was emphasised that applicants needed to approach their respective counties in the first instance rather than make their initial enquiries to the region. Funding for projects would only be considered if supported by strong, well thought out, and structured applications.
- "Archery UK" magazine: Discussions took place around getting regional messages out to a wider membership. It was commented that as Archery UK is delivered to every member this could be the ideal vehicle to achieve this objective. Discussions centred on approaching the magazine and proposing that a page be given over each issue to news from the Regions. Geoff Thomas explained that the Chairs, from each Region, are starting again to hold regular meetings and that this would be the forum to propose the suggestion. Geoff to take suggestion to next meeting and report back to WMAS committee on outcomes.
- Jonathan Walton suggested that the counties (or even the region) might like to consider creating their own quarterly newsletter, similar to the one he recently trialled in Shropshire. Jonathan handed out copies of the Shropshire newsletter and explained its purpose and format; all persons in attendance thought it was an excellent idea, wondered why it had not been thought of before and seemed keen to adopt the idea.
- Junior and young archers: Discussions took place regarding the development of the regions junior and young archers. The communication from Archery GB development is that regions should be encouraging their younger archers to shoot longer and more challenging rounds such as FITA 60's and FITA 70's, also that consideration be given to organising suitable 720's and head 2 head competitions to support those with their sights set on higher goals. The recommendation is that under 16's should be aiming for the 60 metre distance and that over 16's the 70 metre round. Those assembled thought that this was a good proposal and that to achieve it serious consideration would need to be given to organising between 3 and 4 quality shoots. It was noted that the junior inter county shoot suggested at the last meeting did take place but with only 3 counties taking part.
- Issuing of grants: Although set grants are in place for an assortment of application types the subject of what amount, if any, would be available for a regional archer shooting as a

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representative of the country; the meeting determined that a grant could be made available, up to a maximum of £250.

- A number of grant applications were brought forward and dealt with. These are almost entirely from Archers representing the country.
- Discussions took place regarding the amount of money in the bank and the subject of next years affiliation fees; these took into consideration the sum of £3000 ring-fenced for the judges fund agreed at the last meeting. Mike Vick said that he would recommend, at this moment in time, that the fees should remain unchanged for 2016-17.
- Volunteers to organise next years Postal League: With the retirement of the current incumbent announced, two persons had stepped forward to run next years postal league; the meeting discussed the matter – the task was given to Simon Nelms.