

## Attachment A

# Rules, Governance and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes January 27 - 28, 2017

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### Call to Order

A meeting of the Rules, Governance, and Finance (Rules) Committee of the Advisory Council of the NSCA was held on January 27, 2017 at the NSCA Headquarters. The meeting began at 9:00 am and was presided over by Chairman Ted Sapoznik. On January 28, 2017, the Committee reconvened at 8:15 am to complete its work.

### Attendees

Voting members in attendance included:

Rollins Brown, Bob Kruft, Jim Montgomery, Donald Nolen, Mo Parsons, Adam Pinto, and Ted Sapoznik.

Brad Alford was absent on Jan 27. Brad joined the Committee on Jan 28.

A quorum of the committee was present at the meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

During the meeting, several AC members as well as representatives of the Competition and Awards Committees were present.

### Agenda Items Discussed

- 1) At the request of the EC, a motion was unanimously approved to allow the EC flexibility in scheduling their quarterly meetings. **See Item #1 in Attachment B.**
- 2) At the request of the EC, a motion was unanimously approved to allow the EC flexibility in determining how many EC members would be assigned to each Advisory Committee. **See Item #2 in Attachment B.**
- 3) The committee discussed the 2016 US Open AC Meeting. The committee would like to clarify that since an AC member has the option of attending either the US Open AC Meeting or Nationals AC Meeting (I-C-2-f) that there is a chance that there may not be a quorum present at those meetings to conduct any official business of the AC. However, the committee recommends that in cases where a quorum is not present, that an Informational Meeting still be held during which committee reports and other information can be shared along with discussions on other topics. Meeting minutes of the topics discussed should be taken.
- 4) The committee reviewed the request from a member to modify the 5 Stand Rules as noted in the Agenda (item A). The committee unanimously voted that no further action be taken on this item.
- 5) The committee discussed Small Club Registered Shoot Issues as noted in the Agenda (item B, 1). The Committee recommends the following clarification statement on the issues presented. "Clubs/Ranges may allow non-NSCA members to shoot on a course during a NSCA registered event, if their participation doesn't interfere with the NSCA registered shooters shooting the event." Basically, it is up to the Range Owner to decide what is best for their Club/Range.
- 6) The committee discussed agenda item C, "Should a past/expired member be allowed to shoot Hunter event in an NSCA registered shoot?" The committee determined that no further action was necessary. The rules do allow non-members to participate in NSCA registered events.

- 7) The committee discussed the issue of shooters who do not renew their membership and then start shooting again. The NSCA has been using a policy which was taken from past rule books in classifying those “returning shooters.” If it is discovered that this rule was previously in the rule book and was inadvertently removed, the committee unanimously voted to consider this “change” a housekeeping item. If it is truly a “new rule” we recommend that it go to the National Delegates for their approval.  
***III – A – 1 – c: “Past members who rejoin the NSCA will be assigned the same classification they had when their membership expired.”***
- 8) The committee asked the Competition Committee to review and comment on the issue of clubs using hula hoops in sporting clays events which violates Safety Rule II – A – 9 (agenda item D). Based on the Competition Committee’s input, the Rules Committee, by a vote of 5 yeas and 2 abstentions, voted to add language to II – A – 9 to clarify and address this issue. ***See Item #3 in Attachment B.***
- 9) The committee discussed the issue of “shooting stand dimensions” (agenda item E). There is not a rule that addresses the dimensions of a shooting stand. The NSCA website contains information on shooting stands. The committee recommends that the NSCA review the dimensions of the shooting stands shown on the website, ensure that they are adequate for both short and tall shooters and provide a few options of shooting stand design ranging from simple / low cost to more elaborate designs and that the meeting minutes reflect that members or clubs desiring information on shooting stand dimensions refer to the NSCA website.
- 10) While reviewing the issues in #7 and #8 above, the committee discovered that there is no reference in the rule book to where a shooter must stand when shooting targets at a station. The committee voted unanimously that rule II – A – 5 be modified to address this oversight as a housekeeping item. ***See Item #4 in Attachment B.***
- 11) The committee discussed the issue of the sequencing of shooting the stations during an event using European Rotation (agenda item F). The committee recommends that the “sequencing” of the shooting order at an event using European Rotation shall be determined by the Club running the event.
- 12) The committee discussed (as we do every year!!) the “definition of a broken target,” rule IV – K - 6. As in prior years, the committee recommends no further action on this item. The rule stands as is.
- 13) The committee discussed the request to prohibit squads from intruding on the squad shooting in front of them (agenda item H). The committee recommends no further action on this item but suggests that communication efforts regarding “shooter etiquette” be continued.
- 14) The committee discussed the request to clarify malfunctions as noted in agenda item I. The committee finds that no further action is required as the rules are sufficiently clear. (Rule IV – L)
- 15) The committee discussed the request to require clubs hosting state shoots to provide a contingency plan for the Main event (agenda item J). The committee recommends that the Competition Committee include contingency planning requirements as part of any major shoot bid package and that the NSCA include on its website some suggested formats for creating appropriate state shoot bid forms.
- 16) The committee discussed the “conflict of interest” issue noted in agenda item K. The committee recommends that the Competition Committee consider including language in the bid package sufficient to ensure that situations like this are avoided in the future.

- 17) The committee discussed the issue of a shooter failing to submit their scorecard during a registered event (agenda item L). The committee unanimously voted to modify rule I – A – 3 – c (as a housekeeping item) to make shooters aware that failure to turn in a scorecard will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct. **See Item #5 in Attachment B.**
- 18) The committee discussed the request by a member to modify rule IV – Q – 3 (agenda item M). The committee determined that the existing rules require no modification. The committee recommends that the member and the club involved be informed of the committee’s determination along with an explanation of the existing rule.
- 19) The committee reviewed the recommendations of the “Rule Book Cleanup” sub-committee (Rollins Brown – chair, Brad Alford, Adam Pinto and Ted Sapoznik), agenda item P. The committee unanimously voted to accept the sub-committee’s recommendations which were:
- 1) **Separate the existing rule book into three sections**
    - a) Governance document
    - b) Rules of the Game document
    - c) Awards document
  - 2) **Reorganize the “Rules of the Game” document without making any language changes to any of the existing rules as per the attachment in the Rules and Governance (tab T) in the AC Meeting binder.**
  - 3) **In 2017, continue with the further “cleanup” of the “Rules of the Game” document to remove redundancy, clarify, and simplify this document. (Any recommended changes will be brought to the AC/EC or National Delegates for their review and approval as required)**

Regarding items #1 and #2, the committee considers these to be “housekeeping issues” which do not require National Delegate approval. The committee would like the AC to confirm this assumption.

The committee also recommends that the NSCA consider printing and distributing a copy of the “Rules of the Game” to any member that requests on a yearly basis. (Cost analysis to be completed.)

- 20) The committee discussed the NSCA legal team proposed “Spectator Rules of Conduct” (SROC) (agenda item Q). The committee voted unanimously to include the SROC as an additional rule in the rule book. As a section within the current rule book after existing section I – B, or in the new “Rules of the Game” document section #4. **See Item #6 in Attachment B.**
- 21) The committee discussed the recommendation from the Classification System sub-committee (Brad Alford – chair, Adam Pinto, Bon Krufft, and Rollins Brown) to include “up-classing” in the End of Year Review process based upon feedback from the Classification Survey conducted in 2016. The survey indicated that 75% of the survey respondents agreed that both “up-classing” as well as “down-classing” should be a part of the End of Year Review process. The committee unanimously voted to “up-class” those shooters (except AA class shooters) during the End of Year Review process that had a Current Class Finish Ratio of less than 0.200. Since the End of Year Review process is NSCA policy, only AC/EC approval is required for this recommendation. However, a rules change is required in III – A – 4 – c to ensure that all members are included in the “up-classing” process. **See Item #7 in Attachment B.**

- 22) The committee discussed the recommendation from the Classification System sub-committee to change the method used to initially classify new shooters who have never shot registered targets based upon feedback from the Classification Survey conducted in 2016. The survey indicated that 70% of the survey respondents agreed that *"New members should be assigned an initial classification based on demonstrated ability at their first shoot rather than arbitrarily assigned to E Class. Any such initial classification would be subject to mandatory review by NSCA after a certain number of targets for classification purposes."* The committee unanimously voted to modify rule III – A – 1 – b – 1 as **indicated in Item #8 in Attachment B.**
- 23) The committee asked the Awards Committee to provide input on the sub-committee's request for further input into the issue of All-American points awarded in events of differing number of targets (50/100/200/300). The Awards Committee discussed the topic and recommended that no changes be made to the current system. The Rules and Governance Committee reviewed this recommendation and unanimously recommends to **"Award ½ of the AA points normally earned for events less than 100 targets."** Rules language changes will be developed if this is approved by the AC.
- 24) The committee discussed the recommendation from the Classification sub-committee to consider the implementation of a separate but parallel classification system specifically for sub-gauge events. The committee voted with 6 for, 1 against and Adam Pinto abstaining to **Establish a separate classification system for sub-gauge (20 ga., 28 ga., and .410 bore) events with the following criteria:** 1) AA points, classification punches, and punches to move up in a class would be the same as current classification system, 2) All members' starting class will be one lower than their current class (except for E class), 3) Create All State and All Region sub gauge recognition. Rules language changes will be developed if this is approved by the AC.
- 25) The committee discussed the issue of competitiveness within Master class. 30% of the comments from members obtained from the Classification System Survey were related to the inability of Master class shooters to compete with the top-level shooters for prizes. At this point in time, the sub-committee does not recommend adding more classes to the existing Classification System. However, the committee unanimously recommends that the AC consider the following concept: At Championship Tour events, Master class in the Main event would be separated in either two or three divisions (Gold, Silver, Bronze) based on Current Class Ratio (division cut-offs to be determined). If the AC approves this concept, the committee will develop a detailed plan for the approval of the AC/EC.
- 26) To more adequately classify shooters who are demonstrating excellent shooting ability, the committee recommends that, for any shooter that wins HOA (or ties) in any event, he/she will receive the number of punches that would be given based on the total number of shooters in the event. Rule language to be developed and submitted to the EC if the AC approves of this item.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm on Friday, January 27. On Saturday, January 28 the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.

Submitted by Ted Sapoznik and approved by the RGF Committee on January 28, 2017