



National Sporting Clays Association Executive Council

January 16th & 17th, 2026

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order: January 16th, 11:00 A.M Central Time

Meeting Adjourned: January 17th, 12:00 P.M Central Time

Location: NSCA Headquarters

Attendees:

Officers Present;

John Calandro- Chairman

Mark Baltazar- 2nd Vice Chairman

Brett Seibert- Secretary

Present;

Neil Chadwick, Dan Lavergne, Bert Stelly, Mike Anderson, Anthony Matarese, Steve Green, Desirae Edmunds, Kevin Smith, Gary Prince, Michael Hampton, Nichole Bowers

Absent;

John Townsend

Sammy McFadden- 1st Vice Chairman

Chris Higgins- Parliamentarian

Tim Miles- Past Chairman

Opening discussion

Discussion of items that need further examination, including the website, discussion on how to improve participation in skeet.

Sporting Skeet Discussion

- Create a committee that can provide suggestions for the NSSA chair
 - Present to the skeet council prior to its January meeting next year, a presentation including tournament statistics, participation, sales, and other relevant analytics.
- The Council emphasized that preserving the game's historic form remains important; any modernization should be additive rather than disruptive of the existing game.
 - Context (explaining the purpose of the presentation)
 - How to evolve the game so it can continue to be enjoyed by existing competitors and draw in new ones.
 - Discussion regarding “Sporting Skeet” and how it can be utilized at existing skeet tournaments and sporting clays tournaments.
 - The original game is not modified; an alternative is provided.
- “Sporting Skeet” events to be held at the ‘26 World English Sporting Clays Championship and the ‘26 National Sporting Clays Championship in San Antonio
 - Event entry is set to cost the equivalent of other 50-bird Nationals events at the World English Championship, and will be adjusted if needed for the National Championship.
 - \$10.00 Back to class embedded in the above cost
 - Pays out daily
 - No shooting off
 - No Awards
 - Ties split earned money
 - This offers a scalable format for clubs hosting other championship tour events to follow suit, as many already have unutilized skeet fields.
 - Data to be collected after the tournament and presented to the NSSA to show whether the model is successful and whether any adjustments are needed.

Website and Technology Considerations

- The Council flagged the association website as an item requiring further examination.
- A general need was noted to align technology improvements with member support services and future initiatives.
- Staff indicated that some reporting outputs were delayed due to IT complications and would be distributed after validation.

Executive Council Operations and Delegate Structure

Delegate Minimums

The Council discussed delegate coverage and noted that four states were not meeting the minimum member requirement of two delegates. A proposal was discussed to set a minimum of two delegates per state, regardless of membership totals, to reduce operational risk when a single delegate becomes unavailable or disengaged.

National Delegate Criteria

Adopted criteria discussed for national delegates: current minimum age 18 and a minimum of 1,500 registered targets shot.

New Business

The Council reviewed the end-of-year classification review process and concerns raised by members. The discussion included observations that the program can be refused/opted out of, limiting its effect and increasing dissatisfaction. The Council also discussed the volume of complaints related to classification in general and asked for data regarding participation changes and drop-outs.

Broader Classification Discussion (Averages, Punches, CCR/CCFR)

A detailed conversation addressed whether and how to adjust classification methods. Topics included balancing participation incentives (punch-driven participation) against perceived fairness and regional disparities, and how averages-based systems can incentivize class protection (dropping events to protect averages). The Council discussed that course difficulty, competitor density, and other correlated variables complicate simple averaging schemes.

Participation benefits of punches were emphasized, including their role in encouraging new shooters to compete and progress.

Concerns were raised that an averages-only model can reduce participation due to class protection behaviors.

Regional punch availability disparities were discussed (smaller regions may require extensive travel to earn the required punches).

The Council discussed that prior down-class activity affected a significant number of members and that additional impacts could be expected if opt-out/refusal options were removed.

Punches for Events Without Referees

The item “no punches for events without referees” was raised and tabled.

Governance and Rules Committee Updates

Referee Test Update

The Council directed that the sporting clays referee test be updated to reflect recent rule changes. The Council also discussed the development of supporting training content and standard reference materials.

Shot Camera / Recording Devices Rule

The Council discussed the existing rule on shot cameras/recording devices and agreed that it should be clarified and broadened. The conversation included whether red-dot optics were included (they were not) and emphasized that the rule should cover any recording or transmitting device, not only devices mounted on the firearm.

Direction: revise language to include “any recording/transmitting device” and clarify that devices may not remain on the gun even when not actively recording.

Next step: revised language to be drafted by the rules committee and returned to the Council for approval/rewording.

Time-to-Shoot Rule (Time Between Pairs)

The Council discussed enforcement of the time-to-shoot rule, including when timing begins and how to apply warnings and penalties consistently. The Council agreed that a formal enforcement procedure is needed to ensure consistent application and reduce on-course conflict.

Key issue: When does the timing for the first pair begin? Discussion included that time should start after the initial pair/single is fired, with subsequent timing measured from the last shot.

Practical enforcement: course manager/management to observe and time shooters over several stations to determine whether a shooter is consistently over the limit, then address the shooter off-stand.

Station guidance discussed: a maximum of two targets may be taken off per station (context: application at major events).

Action item: NSCA to draft a written enforcement procedure and coordinate with relevant leadership for review.

Assistance in the Shooting Stand (Accommodation Request)

A state association requested confirmation that an additional person may assist a shooter while in the stand. The Council discussed providing written confirmation (e.g., letter and/or laminated card) to support consistent, respectful accommodations.

Shooting on a Closed Course

The Council discussed concerns about individuals throwing targets and shooting on closed courses. Enforcement challenges were discussed, including how to hold all participants accountable for the activity.

International and Country Affiliations

The Council discussed inquiries from two countries seeking affiliation or incorporation into NSCA. The discussion emphasized the need for a structured approach that accounts for local governance, firearm laws, existing organizations, and political dynamics.

Create a sub-committee to draft an operating outline for country organizations (pricing model, rules alignment, governance, and administration).

Evaluate the feasibility and potential political/organizational conflicts with existing entities in-country.

Action item: consult with a native shooter from each interested country to understand local conditions and constraints.

Delegate Engagement, Recognition, and Member Outreach

Delegate Handbook / Expectations

The Council discussed creating a practical handbook describing delegate activities and expectations.

Delegate Service Recognition

The Council discussed recognizing outstanding delegate service. The process discussed was to have one representative from each region poll delegates and nominate a candidate for an “outstanding service” recognition, with the recognition to be announced at the National Championship in the current year.

Town Hall Meeting

The Council discussed hosting a town hall meeting with delegates and members via a live Zoom call. A plan was discussed to host the call from a regional event to provide an audience presence. Coordination was assigned without a formal committee.

Pro Squad Criteria

The Council discussed conflicting criteria related to Pro Squad eligibility. A specific adjustment was discussed for placement-based criteria, including broadening certain qualifying placements. The Council also discussed that if a participant qualifies at any point during the season, they would join the Pro Squad at the next shoot.

Marketing, Media, and Videography

Videography Contract and Remaining Budget

The Council reviewed the current videography spend and remaining budget. The Council discussed producing a “Sporting Clays 101” video at a host club using remaining funds, and the desire to change the format to improve engagement.

Format adjustments discussed: increased on-course content with professional commentary and/or microphone audio capturing squad interactions.

Operational challenge identified: obtaining strong coverage for the final round on Sunday.

Performance: National Championship-related content produced the highest viewership to date; reposting by the producer increased reach.

Editing concept: splice in high-quality “highlight shots” into Championship video packages to improve reception.

Marketing Budget and Program Concepts

The Council discussed marketing priorities and the discretionary portion of the marketing budget. The Council discussed supporting clubs with marketing materials and improving outreach to new audiences.

Develop printable/digital marketing packages for clubs (posters, scorecards, templates).

Acquire and segment a large hunting-interest email list and provide clubs with state/region targeting capability and prepared email content.

Assign point persons and scripting/outlines for safety and referee training videos; legal review requested prior to publication.

National Championship Review

Survey Review

Survey results were reviewed, with a commitment to read and consider comments.

Daily Start Times

A recommendation was made to start events at 8:30 A.M. rather than 8:00 A.M. The decision was made to keep the start time at 8:00 A.M. in case of any weather-related delays, to ensure that tournament shooters did not have to shoot in late-afternoon/evening sun or darkness.

Target Difficulty at the '25 National Championship

The Council discussed target difficulty assessment at the past National Sporting Clays Championships. Considerations included score impacts across classes and perceptions that some presentations were set slightly too difficult. The Council discussed using comparative analytics (year-over-year and across Championship Tour Events) to inform future target-setting guidance.

Championship Tour: Concurrent Payouts & Host Requirements

The Council discussed establishing more consistent concurrent payout levels for Championship Tour events and balancing improvements in amenities with increased prize pools. The Council also discussed adding minimum informational and operational requirements to the event bidding criteria to improve competitor experience and planning.

Concurrent Payout Levels

Develop minimum payout levels for concurrent Championship Tour events.

Establish a minimum standard for concurrent payouts and define host responsibilities as part of the bid process.

Proposed Bid/Host Information Requirements

- Online registration link
- Payout information link
- Event map link
- Program/event schedule
- Social event schedule
- Ammunition options and price list
- Gun storage availability
- Shoot-off schedule and formalities
- Area attractions and dining/restaurant information
- Sponsors/vendors listing
- International traveler assistance (e.g., gun permits guidance email)
- Hotel list and airport information
- Hotel group/block rates

World and International Events

World Super Sporting

The Council noted that the World Super Sporting tournament was posted for sign-up. The Council discussed reciprocal promotion and recognition with the UK governing body at the World English Sporting Clays Championship.

Communication plan: newsletter, social media posts, and a PDF explaining the tournament format and legitimacy.

Potential media: a joint discussion/episode with leadership from both organizations.

Hosting: discussion included whether the event could be a stand-alone US event at an appropriate venue and whether it should be paired with (or scheduled relative to) other world events.

Bidding: proposal to include the event in a bidding process with key events; suggested presentation format (10-minute video plus 5-minute speech).

USA Sporting Clays Team (Program Status)

The Council received a status update on travel logistics, gear orders, and registration completion. Financial finalization was in progress. Fundraising efforts and donor recognition concepts were discussed, including the development of a premium “founding/lifetime” donor tier and improving clarity on donor benefits prior to contribution.

Points Clarification

The Council discussed clarifying the use of senior points versus open points, and continuing concurrent participation in the Open Points Race.

Hall of Fame

A report was provided regarding Hall of Fame criteria. The Council discussed establishing a points-based criterion requiring qualification before candidacy and a concept for a concurrent Hall of Fame category.

Motions Summary

Motion	Subject	Summary	Moved By	Seconded By	Disposition	Vote
MO1	Pro Class participation outside the Championship Tour	Approved allowing Pro Class in events other than the Championship Tour with matching payouts relative to Master Class; host/organizer responsible for associated costs.	Mike Anderson	Mark Baltazar	Adopted	Unanimous

M02	Instructor Program funding - Associate Chief Instructor (2-year term)	Approved funding of \$20,000 per year for two years (split between marketing funds and the instructor program) to support an Associate Chief Instructor role to liaise with Champions Circle Coaches and systemize the program and develop content as needed.	Brett Seibert	Bert Stelly	Adopted	Unanimous
M03	Fee increase allocation (four-cent proposal) - operations and marketing	Approved a four-cent fee allocation framework discussed as three cents to general	Brett Seibert	Mike Anderson	To be sent to delegates	Unanimous
Action Items						
ID	Action Item	Operations and one cent to marketing, to be advanced through delegate/member leadership and coordinate approval processes on the proposed timeline.	Owner		Due	
A01	Form a cross-discipline committee to develop recommendations for skeet leadership and coordinate collaboration.		Executive Council		TBD	
A02	Prepare and deliver a data-driven presentation to the corresponding skeet council prior to its January meeting		Committee/Staff		Annual NSSA Meeting January 2027	
M04	Next year tournament stats, participation, sales, analytics, Referee and improvement suggestions appointment	Confirmed continuation of the Head FITASC Referee role for the incumbent, Drew Ricketts	John Calandro	Brett Seibert	Adopted	Unanimous
M05	International FITASC Board renewals	Approved renewal of NSCA	Mike Anderson	Brett Seibert	Adopted	Unanimous
A03	Develop a plan and representatives to data-collection approach for the International FITASC Board. Collecting demographics of skeet participants at tournaments.	John Calandro & Nadim Nassir	NSCA Staff		After the 2027 National & 2027 World English Sporting Championship	
M06	Chief Sporting appointment	Approved continuation of the Chief Sporting official role for the incumbent, Mo Parsons.	Brett Seibert	Gary Prince	Adopted	Unanimous

A04	Draft and publish an enforcement procedure for the time-to-shoot rule (including when timing starts and how warnings/penalties are applied); coordinate with relevant leadership for review.	NSCA Staff & Rules/Governance	Next Council meeting
A05	Update the sporting clays referee test to reflect new rule changes.	Governance & Rules Committee	Next revision cycle
A06	Draft revised shot camera/recording device rule language to include any recording/transmitting device; circulate for Council review and approval.	Governance & Rules Committee	Next Council meeting
A07	Develop safety and referee training videos: assign point persons, create scripts/outlines, and complete legal review prior to publication.	Marketing/Training Leads	TBD
A08	Provide written guidance (letter/laminated card concept) addressing approved assistance in the shooting stand for accommodation situations.	NSCA Staff	TBD
A09	Develop enforcement clarification related to shooting on closed courses, including accountability for all involved.	Rules/Governance	TBD
A10	Establish a sub-committee to draft an affiliation framework for interested countries (pricing model, rules alignment, governance, operations).	Executive Council	TBD

A11	Consult native shooters in interested countries to evaluate feasibility, local laws, and political/organizational landscape.	International Sub-Committee Anthony Matarese	TBD
A12	Draft a delegate handbook outlining duties, expectations, and best practices.	Executive Council/Staff	TBD
A13	Implement a regional process to identify and recognize an outstanding delegate; announce recognition at the National Championship (current year).	Regional Representatives (SC Bert Stelly; NE Neil Chadwick; NC Steve Green; W Mike Anderson; SE Gary Prince)	Before National Championship
A14	Organize and schedule a town hall Zoom meeting for delegates and members; coordinate host location/format (potentially live from a regional event).	Mark Baltazar to coordinate	TBD
A15	Develop a revised Pro Squad eligibility language to remove ambiguities and clarify the timing of entry upon qualification.	Executive Council/Staff	Before season publication
A16	Finalize plan for Sporting Clays 101 production and/or revised video format; address Sunday final-round coverage strategy.	Marketing/Media Lead	TBD

A18	Publish standardized host information requirements for Championship Tour bids (registration links, maps, program, ammo, storage, shoot-off schedule, travel, hotels, etc.). Define minimum concurrent payout levels for Championship Tour events and incorporate requirements into host bidding criteria.	NSCA	Before next bid cycle
A19	Publish communications package for World Super Sporting (PDF explainer, newsletter, social posts) and coordinate any joint media content with partner organization leadership.	Marketing/Communications & Brett Seibert	Near sign-up / event promotion window
A20	Complete USA team logistics, financial reconciliation, and publish donor recognition details and benefit breakdown for donor tiers.	Desirae Edmunds, Bert Stelly, Nichole Bowers, John Bowers, and Cindy Daniel	TBD

Deferred and Tabled Items

Punches for events without referees - tabled.

Additional classification system changes beyond those recorded as motions - continued analysis required; revisit upon receipt of validated reports and additional data.

Adjournment

Following completion of agenda items and approval of the event schedule, a motion to adjourn was made and adopted. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon on January 17th 2026.

Minutes Prepared by Brett Seibert