



Victorian Clay Target Association.

Meeting held via video conferencing
Wednesday, 16th December 2020

MINUTES

1. Meeting opened at 7.36pm. Chairperson welcomed all in attendance.
2. Present: Lynne Curtis, Andrew Smith, Brooke Davis, Steve Trembath, Les Kadziela, Ray Peatling, Mal Dyson, Casey Fletcher, Garry Cassells.
Minute taker: Jeff Bell

Apologies: Brendan Moroni, Eddy Bidese, Gary Hayden

MOTION: That the apologies for the meeting be accepted.

Moved: Ray Peatling Seconded: Russell Felmingham

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – August 21st
MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting of August 21 be received.
Moved: Mal Dyson Seconded: Steve Trembath

CARRIED

4. Business arising from the Minutes

4.1 (Item 8a) Power disconnection, lighting and mower at Echuca.

Lynne has had further discussions with Russell Felmingham regarding mower repair/replacement but no further action has been taken at this time.

Andrew Smith has taken on the responsibility for research into the lighting installation. Nick Dean has forwarded a proposed light solution for approx. \$150 – this idea is a positive solution.

4.2 (Item 4.5) Action list

Only four actions that haven't been completed;

- Improvements to toilets/seating/shade for trap 6 onwards
- Skeet and DTL members to receive uniforms
- Letter to Paul Johnson regarding Skeet team selection (letter withheld)
- Write to DTL Team members – especially Juniors.

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting of August 21st be confirmed.

Moved: Mal Dyson Seconded: Steve Trembath

CARRIED.

5. Reports

President invited Secretary to inform the meeting regarding a recent grant application communication.

The Secretary reported that an application to DHHS Shade Grants Program for the construction of shade sails on traps 7-13 at Echuca had been successful. The grant, worth \$29,345.80 (including GST) will be available early in 2021.

The President congratulated the Secretary on the success of the application and reiterated how important this would be for the members moving forward.

It was further noted – whilst a plan had been submitted it would be important for the Executive to confirm the plan or reorganise early in 2021.

i) Treasurer's report

- Transfer of accounting program from Reckon to Xero.

This has been a positive transfer. Anne Bell and the Treasurer have completed the training and Sports Accounting Australia (SAA) has been very supportive.

Reports provided to Executive are those recommended by SAA

- Balance Sheet
- Profit and Loss
- Everyday Account Transactions
- Aged Receivables Summary

Question: It was raised that there was \$5242 in the Suspense Account on the Balance Sheet and what was this?

Treasurer took this question "on notice" and will provide an answer to the Executive as soon as possible (This was provided by email on December 17)

It was further noted that the 2019/20 Audit is based on the reports from Reckon and that Brooke Davis will be making entries in the new program to ensure that the audit and the Xero program align.

Discussion was had concerning three amounts listed in the Aged Receivable report;

1. That there was an over payment of \$145 by Morwell Gun Club in 2016 that was "to be held in credit". It was recommended that this money be refunded to Morwell.
2. That there is an amount owing from PCM Enviro for advertising. PCM Enviro is no longer in existence and this amount should be written off.
3. That there is a similar amount for Smiths Outdoors in Bendigo that still owes. Treasurer to continue to 'chase' this amount.

Question: was asked regarding an amount of \$7272.73 in the 'Prizes' section of the Profit and Loss. It was suggested that this may have been for the purchase of ammunition for the raffle prize (\$8000) less GST.
(Treasurer later confirmed that this was the case).

MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report be received.

Moved: Les Kadziela

Seconded: Russell Felmingham

CARRIED

- Purchase of wad collector – the Treasurer reported that a wad collector had been purchased as part of the Environmental Management Plan funding and would be delivered to Echuca in the near future. DJPR will pay \$7785, VCTA will pay \$815.13 and Echuca CTC will pay \$815.13.
- There will be the introduction of a State voucher system to support Junior participation in 2021. Further information will be forthcoming at the next meeting. This is to support lower economic, disadvantaged Juniors with financial support to cover memberships etc.
- Payments to be made to Sports Academies from Together More Active Grant. Amounts of \$1000 per Academy.

Question: was asked relating to the request made to Academies to explain to VCTA how the funds were being utilised? The Treasurer reported that the Academies had completed this request.

ii) ACTA Report

ACTA has reached an agreement with Martin Smith in relation to the use of My Club My Scores and that this program will be provided to all clubs “free of charge” by ACTA. Currently trying to finalise insurance for next year, this is a large cost to the association. This will include firearm insurance.

The Constitution has been finalised and all clubs should have received this. This will be presented at the AGM in March.

The Nationals are going ahead at this point of time. All events will be 50 target events with a change of format for the event. Competition will go from Saturday to Friday.

The Skeet Nationals are still in the planning stage.

Question: What is happening about the ICAC Investigation after ACTA was mentioned in an ABC 7.30 report?

Both Mal Dyson and Paul Gilbert had responded to the ABC that they were not in administrative positions at the time. The story outlined where the finances for the building had been obtained and the story was more focussed on Daryl Maguire than the ACTA. There have been inquiries from other media outlets as well. ACTA have nothing to hide as it complies with all building regulations and all financial reporting requirements.

(Report continues)

There has been no income coming forward so ACTA have applied for, and received, Job Keeper and financial assistance from the government. Financially the ACTA is sitting ‘quite comfortable’ at this point of time.

ACTA have developed their budgets going forward and it shows a slight surplus showing in cash flow for the coming year. This has been done with a very conservative approach. New Membership to November was down 12% on last year which means that total membership is likely to decline to the 10,000 mark if it continues in this way. Some discussion about Double Rise from a State perspective and that it doesn’t work. Queensland in particular who have stated that they will not run Double Rise events. It has been decided that the current rules will be maintained to be given a chance to work. There will be further development of an algorithm in the MCMS program to handle handicapping. The online handicapping will be run in conjunction with the ‘books’ until June. In June the Rules Supervisors will meet and review the program to see if it is running correctly or if further adjustments are required. Books will be used for all of 2021 with the prospect of no books in 2022.

Question: There will be no AA Elite or opportunity to stay in a grade if you choose. Some rules will need to be changed. Should not the National Handicapper and National Rules Supervisor been asked to look at the proposal before it is implemented?

It was answered that ACTA had two choices, MCMS or Shootmaster, with Shootmaster being unacceptable. 75 ACTA clubs already use MCMS successfully so this was probably the way to go. No rules will be changed until the Rules Supervisors meet. No decisions regarding grading, including AA Elite, will be made before this.

Furthermore, there are still developments to be made within program that could impact the final decision. Grading will occur similar to golf handicapping and the option to remain in a grade ‘may’ cease to exist. Martin Smith has, and will continue, to work with Jim Sheppard, and Ray Peatling’s name has been mentioned as well, to be part of a panel to oversee the construction of the required algorithm.

MOTION: That the ACTA report be accepted.

Moved: Ray Peatling Seconded: Casey Fletcher

CARRIED

iii) Firearm Users Group Report

FUG met on Tuesday, December 15. Previous minutes and the re-established newsletter are listed in correspondence. Two key elements from the meeting;

i) there will definitely be a firearm amnesty in July 2021

ii) licenses are taking 15 days and renewals are taking 21 days.

The new offices in Russell Street have been finished and are now being used.

iv) Committee of Management (State Grounds) Report

(Given by Lynne Curtis in Eddy Bidese's absence)

Lynne has signed off on the Dispute Resolution document and this has now been finalised.

The club rooms at Echuca have been diagnosed as having termites. Gary Hayden has been asked to assist Ian Phillips with rectifying this and to carry out a number of small repairs around the club.

Andrew Smith has the carpark lights under control.

(There was some discussion regarding Gary Hayden's suitability for doing these types of jobs and that the Echuca club needs to look at this further.)

Question: What is happening with the sale of the Dobson property and the lease of VCTA's fallout zone?

Lynne responded that the Committee of Management went back with a proposal that included a redrawn lease in relation to what the land could be used for, as a safeguard. Especially in terms of if the adjoining farm changes hands. This is to protect the interests of both VCTA and Echuca CTC. This included an annual lease of \$1000 and a five year term. This was negotiable.

Legal advice was a five year lease was the best options.

There was no information coming back to VCTA in the interim until Peter Dobson rang Lynne on December 12 accusing VCTA/Echuca of "stuffing up" the sale of property.

There has been a discernible lack of information regarding this issue.

v) Zone Reports

North East Zone – the Zone has held a recent AGM (Dec 2). All positions have been re-elected. The Zone Carnival to be held on the 2nd February at Numurkah/Shepparton.

South East Zone – with the passing of Chris Carroll in October the Zone has had a stand-in secretary in Mark Coleman. The Zone AGM is due in February. The Zone is taking on MCMS for all Zone events moving forward.

North West Zone – nil to report

South West Zone – some further discussion about assistance for clubs with MCMS.

6. Correspondence – as notified and tabled

NB: There have been numerous correspondence items related to the COVID-19 rules and regulations and the gradual adjustment of these over time. These letters have not been included in correspondence.

Items listed for discussion

Inward

28 Firearm Users Group Newsletter – on reflection there are no issues to be raised from this document.

29 Craig Henwood UT event at Echuca in February. Practice on the 19th and competition on the 20th and 21st. Executive members that will be there to assist; Jeff Bell, Lynne Curtis, Casey Fletcher, Mal Dyson, Garry Cassells and Les Kadziela.

NB: Steve Trembath cannot be available due to work commitments for both the UT event and the ISSF Championships. Steve is happy to allow Shooting Australia to run the event.

47 Paul Gilbert – ACTA Response to request for loan delay. A letter was received from ACTA approving the further loan deferment. ACTA preferred that \$5000 be paid in June 2021 and \$15,000 in November 2021.

It was suggested by the Treasurer that if finances permit we should make loan repayment at our earliest convenience.

MOTION: Conditional that the Association's finances permit, the November 2020 loan repayment to ACTA should be made as soon as possible.

Moved: Ray Peatling Seconded: Garry Cassells CARRIED

It was also noted that the interest rate that VCTA is currently paying of 4.3% is to be reduced to 2% in the near future.

48 Paul Gilbert – ACTA ACTA State and Club update – the information in this update was reported in the VCTA report by Mal Dyson.

Outward

9 Ben O'Brien DJPR Report on Board Balance of VCTA. It was reported to the Executive that reports to DJPR had been listing a number of appointed positions to the VCTA Executive to help with the 40% balance of female representation on the board. These were accepted in principal until the Constitutional review is completed in 2021. It was noted that the Constitutional Review is planned for 2021 and that the review will be an important part of the Executive's action plan for the year.

This action was deemed essential to ensure the ongoing receipt of the Together More Active Grant (\$20,000 per annum for 4 years – to finish in 2023).

MOTION: That the inward correspondence be received and the outward correspondence be endorsed.

Moved: Brooke Davis Seconded: Mal Dyson CARRIED

7. General Business

a) Definition of "Bad Weather" (ACTA Rule 4.15(c) page 44 of Rule Book) clarification.

There was lengthy discussion around this issue with points of view including club discretion, insurance impact, total fire ban days and the need to seek clarification from the association insurers.

The consensus of the meeting was that the issue be taken back to the insurance company for clarification and to be discussed further at the next meeting.

b) Uniform Policy – VCTA payment for team vests to begin in 2021 – how to apply for 2021 teams? (Meeting Minutes January 12, 2020 Item 9(v))

Due to COVID and the impact on State and National events, the question was asked about the provision of shooting vests for State teams. It was the consensus of the meeting that all teams representing the state in 2021 were entitled to have shooting vests provided.

(NB. Casey Fletcher left the meeting at this point)

There was further discussion about whether the vest was part of the uniform and whether all team members should get one automatically.

It was the consensus of the meeting that anyone who qualifies for a vest is entitled to get one at VCTA expense, once every three years, but it is not a compulsory uniform item.

It was raised at the South East Zone that there is a request from the Skeet fraternity that there be a change of uniform due to the time of year (May) the National event is held. The request is to return to a tracksuit type uniform.

After significant discussion the following consensus was reached;

- A jacket is a feasible option that could be considered for people to purchase but not compulsory
- The addition of a jacket could mean that VCTA would need to only have short sleeve polo shirts for the uniform
- Dave Sullivan will be making a submission to SE Zone on a suggested jacket
- Jeff to make a presentation on a suggested jacket at the next meeting.

c) Question regarding clubs hosting events on the same weekend as the State Carnival.

It was the consensus of the meeting that, while it is frowned upon, no action will be taken against clubs that host events

d) Incident report form – available for clubs

There was information that there wasn't an incident report available from ACTA but this is not so. ACTA have a form ready for download from their website.

e) Assistance for administration of UT event in February

Further discussion regarding the hosting of the UT event in February.

Items discussed included;

- Ensuring we have enough help 'on deck' to run the event
- Catering will be done by Echuca
- The need to ensure that we are following all current COVID requirements and regulations
- Do we need a trap mechanic? (felt this was unnecessary)
- Jeff to engage the previously used cleaners to clean on a daily basis.

f) Constitutional review in 2021 – need to begin process.

It was again expressed to the meeting that an essential element of the Together More Active Grant was the concept of Constitutional review. Within the allocated funding is an allowance for this to be done by a professional team.

The secretary informed the meeting that he had been in consultation with CPR Group and had initialised the process. The VCTA Executive will need to meet with Steve Connolly from CPR early in the New Year to ensure this process is undertaken. Approx. cost for this is \$6000.

g) Date and format for AGM – needs to be held by mid-February

The Secretary informed the meeting that we had received official advice that VCTA had received permission from Consumer Affairs to postpone the meeting until mid-February.

Concern was expressed that January/February are a busy time of the year.

It was the consensus of the meeting that the AGM be held by video link on Wednesday 17th February.

h) Date for the Commonwealth Carnival – suggest second half of June or second half of July

It was further suggested that the Queen's Birthday weekend 12th-14th June is a possibility, subject to a discussion with Echuca CTC.

Further discussion included;

- Due to COVID there will be reduced prizemoney contribution, \$6000 for ACTA and \$6000 from VCTA
- VCTA is running this event on its own – Tasmania not involved

i) Meeting dates for 2021

February 17	AGM & Special
April 18	
July 18	
October 10	Pre Carnival & AGM
November 11	AGM & Special

- j) Question was asked regarding insurance and novelty events that are held over the pre-Christmas period and whether these events are covered by insurance.
The meeting was told that if it is ACTA members on an ACTA club then the activities are covered.

- k) The meeting was informed that Craig Henwood had been nominated as an ACTA representative on the Shooting Australia Board and had been successful in gaining the board position. This means that both Craig and Desiree Baynes are on the board.

- l) The President thanked everyone, in particular the Secretary, for their hard work, especially in relation to the challenges of COVID, in what has been a most challenging year.
He further wished everyone the compliments of the season.

8. Next meeting – February 17 AGM and Special meeting by video link.

9. Meeting closed.