



Victorian Clay Target Association.

Meeting held at Sebastopol Bowling Club
Sunday, 21st January, 2024

AGENDA

1. Chairperson to open meeting and welcome all in attendance.
Meeting opened at 9.42am
2. Present: Chris Langridge, Steve Trembath, Mark Zielezna, Andrew Jennings, James Patterson, Gary Hayden, Rhys Hirth, Garry Cassells, Colin Dunn, Allan Kidd, Scott Mackenzie, Travis Williams.

Apologies: Zac Biggin, Mark Coleman

MOTION: That the apologies be accepted.

Moved: Garry Cassells

Seconded: Steve Trembath

CARRIED

3. Minutes of the Previous Meetings
 - September 21st, 2023, and
 - Special Meeting – November 9th, 2023
 - Review of State Carnival – November 23rd, 2023

MOTION: That the Minutes of the previous meetings be received and accepted.

Moved: Rhys Hirth

Seconded: Gary Hayden

CARRIED

4. Business arising from the Minutes.
 - 4.1 (Item 6 Correspondence – number 25) *There were further discussion of whether a substitute or emergency could be used/named for those instances where a student was unable to attend. This was 'held over' until the next meeting.*

MOTION: A School Zone Team can name two emergencies for the School Student's Final. The 'named' emergencies must have competed in the qualifying event.

Moved: Allan Kidd

Seconded: Scott Mackenzie

CARRIED

5. Reports

- i) Treasurer's report

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report as presented be received.

Moved: Rhys Hirth

Seconded: Mark Zielezna

CARRIED

- It was noted that VCTA currently has 14 slabs of ammunition in the grey cupboard at Echuca and has the equivalent of 6 pallets of Blackouts and 115 boxes of Green Dream targets in the big shed.
- Fair assessment of split accounts with Echuca CTC – the Treasurer explained to the meeting that he had concerns regarding some of the items that Echuca had been

invoicing the VCTA for. It has been agreed practice that VCTA accept Echuca invoices in the past.

The Treasurer pointed out amounts related to rubbish removal, cleaning and, in particular, locksmiths that raised questions.

It was resolved that the invoices in question be highlighted and passed on to the members of the Committee of Management representatives for discussion at the next meeting.

Concerns were expressed about the overuse of a few traps by Echuca for practice and competition and the impact on those traps' longevity and repair. Referred to the Committee of Management representatives.

- Employee leave owing.

It was raised by the Secretary that Xero had raised that the Secretary was owed 200 hours of holiday time that had not been taken. The Secretary explained to the meeting that his final salary payment would be the week ending February 9. With the permission of the Executive, the holiday payments would be taken at the rate of \$1000 per fortnight until paid out.

MOTION: That payments to the Secretary continue after February 9 (end of next pay cycle) until all holiday entitlements have been paid.

Moved: James Petterson

Seconded: Mark Zielezna

CARRIED

- A question was asked about the purchase of the two second-hand skeet traps and the issue with the 'firing' control.

The secretary responded that this was an agreed purchase between Nick Dean and Lynne Curtis and that the traps were paid entirely by the Flood Grant.

- A question was asked whether there had been any communication with Kyabram Field and Game regarding renting/leasing part of the state Grounds.

The Treasurer and President responded that there had been no such communication.

- A question was asked about the valuation of the land. The Treasurer responded that a proper valuation had been organised through Casey Fletcher, but this had fallen through. The current valuation was from the rates notice.

- Increase in prices for State shooting vests. BEST have given notification that the cost of a basic VCTA vest will rise from \$217 to \$253.

MOTION: That VCTA increase the reimbursement for a State Shooting vest to \$253.

Moved: Mark Zielezna

Seconded: Steve Trembath

CARRIED

ii) ACTA Report

The President and Secretary attended a quarterly meeting with representatives of the ACTA Board on the 7th December. The new CEO, Brett Somerville, was introduced.

The main discussion points included;

- There are two types of nominations for the National Carnival. One is a basic nomination that will entitle the winner to sashes, medals etc. The other will have an additional cost for a purse/prize money. Purses will be graded.
- The appointment of Rule Supervisors by ACTA rather than the State. A list of Supervisors was read out. Some States were unaware who their supervisors were.
- A new Rule book has been published on the ACTA website with several changes made. These changes have not been highlighted as in the past.

- The ACTA Board has agreed to Jim Shepherd and Colin Kneebone travelling Australia to meet with State Executives to seek their opinions and offer explanations for recent changes.

Chris Langridge further reported to the Executive that the State Presidents and Secretaries had formed a Consultative Committee where the State bodies can consult with each other regarding common issues and present a united face to the ACTA Board.

The first meeting was held via video link on January 18.

There was an agreement on the issues that will be raised with the ACTA. These were;

- The issue of the Rule Supervisors and that the State should have right of approval/refusal to the Board's appointments.
- Some of the issues that have been raised regarding My Club My Scores e.g. the inclusion of 'shoot off' scores and a change to percentages for the grades.
- A further meeting of the group is to be held in mid-February.

iii) Firearm Users Group Report

Nil report, essentially the FUG has been disbanded and we are waiting on the Registry Board to decide on the future format of the group.

Firearms Consultative Committee

The FCC makes recommendations to the Police Minister.

There is now a permanent amnesty – firearm dealers can now purchase unregistered/handed in firearms and return them to circulation.

Box magazines in shotguns will be restricted to 5.

There are changes proposed to the Firearm Safety Courses;

- All trainers to be Certificate 4 qualified.
- Extended length of course – day and a half
- Courses to include theory, practical and live firing components
- Instructors to be reaccredited
- New videos and tests will be provided
- SSAA are trying to 'take over' the reaccreditation process.

iv) Raffle

Approx. one third of the tickets (\$5000 in value) have been sold so far with seven weeks remaining to sell the tickets. Ticket sales are slow but regular. Advertising of the raffle has been via Facebook and the sending of emails to clubs. Mini-posters have been sent to executive, zones and Echuca CTC for distribution at Christmas and New Year events. A concerted effort needs to be made to ensure that the remaining tickets are sold.

v) Committee of Management (State Grounds) Report

- Progress of Memorandum of Understanding
- EPA Improvement Notice – this is still a work in progress. Working closely with the new Leasee. It is intended to work with him (Adrian) to relocate the 'dam' further south onto his property and fill in the current dam. This would also mean relocation of the wad wall. A spoon drain will be required to assist with the flow of water during times of high rainfall.

Currently working with Plan Right to ensure that the correct 'permits' are obtained from the appropriate government bodies. Cost of approx. \$1500 to both VCTA and Echuca. Total estimated cost of the project is \$50,000 divided between the two parties.

An extension of time to comply with the EPA notice has been granted until September 30.

Travis Williams suggested that there is an alternative method. Use pipes to replace the open dam and then 'fill in'. A quote is being sort.

Concerns were expressed about the movement of dirt to fill the dam and the accuracy of the price to complete the job.

When the 'plan' is completed we will have a firm plan with permits.

vi) Zone Reports

South East – Morwell Gun Club has reopened. Fantastic facility. 4 traps – 2 have Ball Trap capability. Lots of support from government. Morwell will also get further support from the failed Commonwealth Games bid. This is likely to include trench and lighting facilities.

South West - AGM in four to five weeks.

North West – AGM at the end of February at Patchewollock.

North East – Zone Carnival in two weeks. Funds from a disbanded club has gone to the Zone. These funds will be used for Junior development.

The Karobean Club (new club) is still having challenges with opening – a drawn out process through Council.

6. Correspondence – as notified and tabled

Items listed for discussion:

No.	Date	Sender	Summary
18	13/11/23	Andrew Armstrong – Police LRD	Draft document in relation to Range Incidents Reports
	<i>The meeting was informed of the draft of Range Incident Reports. These reports are likely to form part of the Range approval process. A copy was circulated in the meeting and a copy was forwarded to all members of the Executive.</i>		
21	16/11/23	Lauren – Change Our Game	Board Update Requirement – request for update
	<i>The Secretary reported that a report had been submitted regarding the VCTA complying with the 40% women on the Board and the people and positions that they had been allocated to. With the upcoming changes to some positions i.e. Secretary, there needs to be some consideration as to how the VCTA is going to comply in the future. VCTA will not be able to access State Govt. grants unless it complies with the 40% requirement. This means that we need 8 women allocated to position to comply. Some thought needs to be given to how this is to be achieved. It was suggested that Zones with upcoming elections need to consider these carefully. Executive officers asked to consider how to move on from the current position.</i>		
32	13/12/23	Jack McDonald - DJSIR	Notification of "Game Plan" and introduction in New Year
	<i>Introduced by the Australian Sporting Commission. Trying to provide areas for focus and development.</i>		
33	19/12/23	Kristen O'Halloran - EPA	Amendment of Improvement Notice
	<i>The timeline for compliance has been extended to the end of September. It was explained what the basic terms of compliance are.</i>		
38	2/1/24	BEST	Price increase in shooting vests for VCTA team
	<i>Discussed in Treasurer's Report</i>		

40	5/1/24	Carlo Romeo Jeweller	Quote for the supply of Victorian badges
<i>It was brought to the meeting's notice that the cost of the silver and gold Victoria badges have increased in price again. The badges for 2024 have been made at a total cost of \$6500. Quotes have been sought for alternative prices. CRJ Jewellers (Perth) have provided a lower cost and an alternative 3D badge. Samples and further inquiries are to be sought.</i>			

Outward

No.	Date	Sender	Summary
As tabled – no discussion required			

Letters of complaint re State DTL Carnival

- Bill Jorgenson and Greg Pridmore
- Aimee Norris
- Grady Evans

Three letters of complaint were received regarding the behaviour of Gary Hayden in three separate incidents that occurred at the State Carnival in November.

These incidents were investigated by Allan Kidd and Chris Langridge and their reports were distributed to the Executive prior to the meeting.

There were several points of discussion in relation to the letters. These included;

- The validity of the letters and whether they had followed due process.
- The review of the investigations.
- The actions available to the Executive.
- Gary Hayden was given an opportunity to respond to the accusations.

It was the majority opinion of the Executive that Gary Hayden was guilty of inappropriate language and behaviour as outlined in all three letters tabled.

MOTION: That Gary Hayden cannot represent the VCTA in any capacity for a period of two years.

Moved: Andrew Jennings Seconded: Scott Mackenzie

For: 9 Against: 1 (Gary Cassells) Abstain: 2 (James Patterson & Rhys Hirth) CARRIED

The Secretary is to write a letter to the South West Zone.

Gary Hayden left the meeting at 2.32pm and did not return.

(NB. Gary Hayden resigned from the VCTA on Monday, 22nd January by email)

7. General Business

a. Organisation for UT event on April 6 & 7

Steve Trembath will be going to it and is happy to 'work' during the event. Help will be needed to fill targets, move rubbish etc. Saturday and Sunday.

Mark can attend the event but unsure of time on the Friday.

Secretary advised that practice can start once the office is opened – this will be at Mark's discretion.

3 pallets of targets are being supplied by Spartan Global. Suggested that Green Dreams that VCTA have 'on hand' can fill any shortfall.

It was noted that Easter Monday is the start of the week leading up to the UT event.

People who indicated they are available;

Steve, Mark, Allan, Chris, Travis and possibly Rhys.

Cleaning and waste removal will still need to be organised through JV Property Services and JR Richards.

b. Ordering of targets for ISSF in May 3-5

Steve to contact Shooting Australia to find out who they are sending to officiate the event.

It is the VCTA's event and a Junior qualifying event for Shooting Australia.

The sources of 'flash' targets for the finals was discussed. These usually come from Shooting Australia, via Spartan – this will need to be checked out.

After discussion about the attributes of different targets Vivaz, Eurotargets and Laporte.

It has always been VCTA policy to provide 'easy to break' targets.

It was mentioned that as part of the Carnival sponsorship by Bronzewing that VCTA would support Bronzewing by purchasing the ISSF targets through them.

It was agreed that the ISSF targets be ordered through Laporte (Craig Henwood).

Cleaning and waste removal will still need to be organised through JV Property Services and JR Richards.

It is expected that Jane Vella will run MCMS for this event.

Steve to email the Executive when arrangements are made.

Simone Tannous is to be contacted to organise catering for all VCTA events in 2024.

c. Appointment of State Coaching Director

Two applications were received.

Steve Trembath – who withdrew his application prior to the meeting.

James Willett.

It was emphasised that this is a 'director' position and not a 'coaching' position. The secretary informed the meeting that all applicants were provided with a position description, and it was carefully noted that the position is a voluntary one.

MOTION: That James Willett be appointed as the Victorian State Coaching Director. This position to be reviewed annually at the Special Executive meeting at the AGM.

Moved: Allan Kidd

Seconded: James Patterson

CARRIED

d. Appointment of State Secretary or organisation to cover Secretary position.

Only one application was received;

Mark Zielezna.

There was some discussion about suitability for the position and whether it was worthwhile to readvertise for a wider range of applicants.

There was also discussion about the "Terms of Employment".

Members of the Executive asked Mark several questions regarding his employment and photography to ascertain whether there is a conflict of interest. Mark responded that he is not 'employed' by them but contracted to them so there is unlikely to be a 'clash'.

MOTION: That Mark Zielezna be appointed the State Secretary for 2024.

Moved: Steve Trembath

Seconded: Andrew Jennings

CARRIED

The position is to be reviewed at the Special Executive meeting at the 2024 AGM.

e. Request for suitable time to meet with representatives of ACTA Board re MCMS issues etc.

A phone call was received from Colin Kneebone, representing the ACTA Board, to organise a suitable time for Colin and Jim Shepherd to meet with the Executive to discuss their concerns regarding MCMS and other 'rule' issues.

It was the CONSENSUS of the meeting that the proposed meeting be declined and that it be suggested that a meeting with representatives of the Board could meet with representatives of the State bodies to discuss any concerns. This issue is related to ACTA report and the development of a State Consultative group.

It is possible that the intent of this meeting may have been abandoned and no longer being organised.

f. Constitutional review (Allan)

There was significant discussion at the State Consultative meeting that Tasmania had just completed a Constitutional Review and this was available for VCTA to look at. It was further revealed that one of the objectives of the State Consultative body is to attempt to align the State Constitutions so that there is consistency across State borders where possible.

The Secretary was asked to send a copy of the Tasmanian document to members of the Executive.

Allan Kidd was asked to 'pull apart' the Tasmanian document to see how much it applies to the Victorian situation.

g. Actions/planning for 2024 DTL Carnival post December meeting.

Chris Langridge expressed his desire to make some organisational changes to the running of the Carnival. Particularly on the Friday night to incorporate higher attendance at the Friday presentations and to encourage more social participation within the event.

A critical part of this is to ensure that the tasks related to the Carnival are shared by the Executive rather than in the organisational hands of one person.

An essential part of Chris's proposal is to have a BBQ and some entertainment on the Friday night to 1. Raise the profile of the Friday presentations and 2. Give something back to the people in attendance.

This would have the added benefit of providing better support to sponsors for the event. And a chance to give back those that support the event.

A further idea was to look at inviting a wider selection of distributors e.g. Toyota, BCF etc and advertise in the wider community to make the wider community aware of what the sport is about.

It was further suggested (Travis) that some form of high profile "All Star Shoot Off" could be incorporated (under lights) to encourage people to attend.

Possible support and sponsorship were discussed.

This type of organisation must begin as soon as possible and can't be left too long to arrange.

Discussion about the Bar arrangements was also raised for this type of event.

h. State Ball Trap.

It was noted that there has been no allocation of date or venue for the State Ball Trap for 2024.

With current intent and plans regarding future hosting of the Ball Trap at Echuca there was significant discussion whether it was worth the investment in time and resources.

There was also discussion regarding the challenges in hosting the event in 2023 and the problems that were faced. The event was held on July 29. It is supposed to be a 100-target event.

It was suggested that Morwell be approached to host the event in 2024. Steve Trembath offered to speak with Todd Malone with the purpose to provide a fundraising activity for the newly rebuilt club.

It was noted that the Ball Trap used to be shared/rotated between the Zones until it was taken by the State in 2021.

Steve to communicate to the Executive after discussions with Todd.

- i. The State Skeet Carnival is being held from January 25-28 at the Frankston-Australia Clay Target Club. A member of the State Executive is required to be at the Event on the Friday night to assist with the presentation of the Hall of Fame to Hayden Mountjoy.

Mark Zielezna volunteered to attend as a member of the State Executive and represent the VCTA at the event.

- 8. Next meeting – it was suggested that the next meeting be an on-line meeting. The date will be negotiated between Chris and Mark and advertised to the Executive.

- 9. Meeting closed 3.56pm.