



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sunday 21st November 2021

Zoom Conference Call

The meeting opened at 14.02

Present: President, Denise Bunce, Chairman Richard Jones, Treasurer Francesca Hawker, Secretary Adrian Gifkins,), Elaina Curran, Bob Nicholls, Vicki Ellis, Declan Ashworth and Tim and Cale and members from Cheltenham Archers, Black and Gold Archers, Cleve Archers, Great Rissington Archers, Fast and Loose Archers, Tockington Archers, Tyndale Archers

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies: Roger Crang, Kirsty York, Peter Gregory, Josie Williams

MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

It was proposed by Denise Bunce, seconded by Tim Cale that the minutes, with minor typographical correction, of the last AGM held on 21st November 2021 be accepted as an accurate record.

Passed unanimously.

1. Matters Arising

There were no matter arising,

2. Reports

4.1 Chairman's Report

Afternoon all, Another Zoom meeting ! It was hoped to hold a physical meeting this year. But a couple of issues meant we have to have the meeting this way.

The coach AGM which was meant to be this morning, has been postponed, Graham is away and I believe Josie is stepping down. So we will hold the coaching AGM at a later date, to be decided. I would like to thank Josie for the work she has done in the past couple of years.

The committee had four zoom meetings during the year. I would like to thank Adrian and Francesca for their work during this year, also Graham and Josie plus Elaina and the coaches working at the junior coaching days. On that account congratulations to the junior team at the GWAS junior inter counties winning again. Congratulations also to the individuals who won their GWAS junior champions gold medals, and other medals.

The senior team the next week were not quite so successful, but well done to those who shot for the county!

On behalf of the county, I would like to congratulate Phoebe Pine on winning Gold at the Para Olympics in Tokyo.

Shooting was allowed to start at the end of March, and a couple of county clubs were able to organise tournaments, so archers were able to compete in the county.

4.2 Secretary's Report

I am finding difficult to put together much of a report as much of what I could report here will be covered in the GWAS Representative report.

4.3 Treasurer's Report

The balance sheet was distributed at the meeting and forms part of these minutes and can be seen on request.

It was proposed Adrian Gifkins, seconded by Richard Jones.

Passed unanimously.

4.4 Tournament Organisers' Reports

4.4.1 Senior Indoor

No Report

4.4.2 Friendly, Senior County Outdoor, Junior County Outdoor and Junior County Indoor

We have already been in contact with Worcester County and a date has been agreed. Gloucestershire will be hosting the next County Friendly on Sunday, May 8, 2022 at Deer Park's Shurdington Archery Grounds.

Rounds will be York, Hereford and Bristol. Due to the reduced number of bosses, we had to reduce the number of archers accordingly. Worcester has agreed to our proposed team numbers.

Peter Sisson has generously agreed to come onboard as Tournament Officer and has already submitted the AGB registration forms. We have also registered the event for Rose Award Status. Richard and Adrian have kindly accepted our invitation to judge.

4.4.3 Clout

TC said nothing had been organised as yet but should be held during the first week in September.

4.5 County Coaching Officer

As you know, neither Josie nor I can make the AGM this weekend. I've tried to put together a quick report for you below. The main thing of note right now is that Josie is standing down as CCO. I'd like to thank her on the record for everything she has done over the last couple of years, she brought a drive and dynamism to the role that I couldn't possibly match. She made the Facebook page in to a proper resource and source of information for the coaches, she was also great fun to work alongside. I'm happy to stay on in the role for another year unless someone else would like to do it, but really do think it is best done as a joint role and would hope someone would be willing to fill Josie's position

On other news:

This year we were able to organise a range of workshops including safeguarding, first aid, supporting archers struggling with mental health issues, empowerment and current coaching techniques. We've been grateful for the support given by the County in subsidizing these workshops to keep the costs down for our coaches. Since shooting returned following the lock downs we haven't arranged any workshops as I'm sure most people were busy shooting or coaching (or both).

Going in to the winter we are hoping to organise another safeguarding workshop – it is important that coaches are aware that their safeguarding certification MUST be renewed every 3 years now – first aid training, a further sport's psychology workshop with Erin Prior and one other workshop to be confirmed at this point.

The Coach's AGM is scheduled for Sat 11th December from 1pm at Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Tewkesbury Rd, Cheltenham.

4.6 Designated Safeguarding Officer

A reminder for clubs to keep their information on their website up to date as to who oversees safeguarding. If there was a concern it is easier if the county officer knows who to contact and vice versa.

The county officer has not been informed of any incidents and hopes all is well in each club and feeling supported.

As a registered practitioner I have always questioned as to how often coaches/volunteers should receive an update. I have included the new Archery GB's stance on updates etc.

'Changes to Coach Licence Renewal from 1 January 2022

From 1 January 2022, we are changing our policy for coach license renewal to include the requirement to take part in safeguarding training every 3 years.

This change gives confidence to children, young people, vulnerable adults, parents and carers that their coaches can deal with any issues sensitively, appropriately and effectively.

We work closely with the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) and making this change aligns coaches with industry standards.

Role of the club

Clubs can play their part in creating a safe sport by ensuring that all their coaches are licensed, and as part of this to help their volunteer coaches to meet the costs of attending safeguarding training (which, depending on the course, varies from £15-30 per person).'

Below is the link to access the page on information and courses. If the link is not working type 'safeguarding' into the search bar.

<https://www.archerygb.org/coaches-judges-volunteers/coaches/safeguarding-training-for-coaches/>

Could the county part pay for an update?

If people have concerns then contact sooner rather than later.

4.7 Senior Team Manager

By email since KY had a horse riding accident on Wednesday evening which resulted in a fractured pelvis and while I had hoped to be well enough to attend I am still feeling too fatigued.

This will also result in an update to my submitted report as I will not be able to organise and advertise the session I have booked at Deer Park for 5th December. If you could please just omit the December date from the minutes I

The Senior Team now has two winter practice sessions arranged, courtesy of Dee Park Archers. The dates are the afternoons of 5th December and 20th March.

I have contacted the current team and will also be publicising the date on the GAS website and Facebook page in an effort to attract more archers who are willing to be called upon to represent the County. I am hopeful that with a larger pool of archers who are able to travel to competitions we will be able to select the team on merit and we will begin to see competition for places.

Thank you to Elaina Curran for organising the May friendly with Worcestershire. Due to Covid guidelines still being in place we have reduced the senior team numbers slightly to make space to support more junior archers.

.4.8 Junior Team Manager

After a quiet beginning to 2021 due to a second Covid lockdown, we resumed county junior practices on May 22/21. We have since hosted 6 practices at Deer Park's Shurdington grounds. We continue to follow Covid safety measures by restricting the numbers of archers per practice, assigning lanes and the format is shooting only.

Since adding the Development Squad, practices are usually fully subscribed (18-20 archers). However, since July, there have been a higher number of cancellations due to Covid.

Practices are usually attended by 5 coaches.

Statistics: The current number of county team and development archers (by club) are as follows.

Club	County Team – Number of archers	Development Squad – number of archers	Total	Total in %
Deer Park	11	9	20	51%
Cleve	8	2	10	25%
Cheltenham	2	3	5	13%
Newnham	1	2	3	8%
Tockington		1	1	3%
TOTALS	22	17	39	100%

The breakdown (by club) of archers (county team and development squad combined) who regularly attend practices:

CLUB	Average Attendance per practice
Deer Park	56%
Cleve	16%
Cheltenham	16%
Newnham	12%

Breakdown of attendance at practices:

County Team archers: 37%

Development Squad archers: 63%

GWAS Junior Inter-county: Our Junior Team enjoyed great success at this year's GWAS Junior Inter-County which took place on September 11/21. We took home all 5 team trophies – Recurve Team, Compound Team, Barebow Team and Longbow Team as well as the top team award, The Margaret Lewis Championship Trophy. There were a total of 25 juniors (team and non-team) from our county competing and Gloucestershire was the only county to field a full team (plus reserve archers). Carlos Amata of Cheltenham also won the Recurve Supreme Trophy for individual performance.

Longbow juniors: Earlier in the year we identified the rapidly approaching gap in our team line-up as our only 2 longbow juniors turned 17 this year. The low numbers were already going to affect our ability to field a full team at September's Junior Inter-County as one of our longbow archers resigned from target competition over the summer.

In order to remedy our immediate needs, we requested that the county purchase longbows. We would not have been able to recruit any juniors without the ability to equip them. The executive kindly agreed to the purchase of 2 longbows and 2 sets of arrows.

Next, we contacted all the coaches in the county and club secretaries to ask if they had any juniors (shooting any other bow type) who would be willing to shoot longbow at the inter-county.

These enquiries resulted in several juniors coming forward to indicate their interest in longbow – two from Cleve and one from Deer Park. One of the juniors (previously recurve) stepped in with little notice or preparation to shoot on the team. Her efforts helped us secure the Team Longbow Trophy.

Regarding our long-term plan to maintain our junior longbow numbers, we propose that all clubs purchase at least one longbow and that new juniors at each club are given the opportunity to try shooting, and have access, to this bow style.

Team Management: Besides organising monthly team practices, we maintain a private Facebook page which currently has 7 coaching members, 4 junior archers and 27 out of 34 of our county team families. We email and post on Facebook regularly with tournament news, links to tournament prospectus, AGB news that is relevant to junior archers, archers' achievements, guidelines on county and national records, awards, classifications and handicaps. We also provide support and advice to our county junior archery families.

Future Plans:

- We are looking at possibly expanding our group to include 18 to 20-year olds.
- We will continue to reach out to our county clubs in our ongoing search for potential Development Squad archers.

4.9 County Development Officer

2021 has certainly has been a mixed bag of challenges and opportunities, frustrations and elations but at the same time given us a chance to stand back and take stock of where we are and where we want to go.

I believe the process of gathering information for the first County Newsletter was a very informative one and highlighted several important points, which as a County we can be very proud of but at the same time also need to be mindful that each of our member clubs are very different and do have their own individual aims.

Despite difficult times, some clubs have prospered, facilities have improved, membership has increased and even individual performances have been amazing! However for other Clubs, it has been all about survival, so achieving that aim can be deemed a success!

For this reason alone I do not propose listing individual or club achievements, just to say there have been many of them!

I believe clarifying the list of types and breadth of support the County has provided for both Clubs and individuals more than justifies the modest levy paid for by GAS membership, but also believe we could and should be doing more.

My wishes for 2022 are for:

1. More clubs to work together.
2. Clubs to engage with the Regional Development Officer and get our monies worth.
3. More volunteers to come forward and get active with the GAS Committee.
4. The Senior County Team to learn from all the fantastic work the Junior County Team do!
5. For Clubs to improve the way they market our great sport, particularly in responding to emails showing an interest in joining a club.

From a personal view point, I feel I need to focus on helping my own Club to continue to move forward so I will not be volunteering to cover the Club Development role. As the years role on I want to try to do one thing well.

4.10 Records Officer

DA reported that he has taken over the role from Kevin Macey and DA thanked him for the work that he has done. DA said that he is still struggling to get information for the records, he has regular return from a number of clubs and bits and piece from others. He noted that records is a challenging and complicated job and takes time. He updates records when he can and asks that club records officers send in records and he does not want to approach the archers directly.

4.11 Webmaster

RN said that there was very little to report and that the statistics are down with an average of 40 hits a day and the more people that use the site the better we will be,

4.12 G.W.A.S Representative

There were a number of issues in the background, the most important of which was the National Trust's concerns over grass cutting.

The National Trust is trying to increase biodiversity in the parkland we use for Dunster Week, and this was the reasoning behind the minimal cut we had to work with this year.

There were real concerns that we would not be allowed to hold the event in the castle grounds, but it has been agreed that Dunster 2022 could take place. One of the main issues in 2021 was the cut between the gents and ladies' line to allow the clout to take place.

We have been asked if I would consider not holding the clout next year as this would allow the area to be left uncut, and this has been agreed

It has been suggested that the Dunster Week could be moved earlier in to July, to sit around the third Thursday in the month as is currently does in June. This would allow for the ground to be cut fully as it has been in previous years.

An alternative venue for a June tournament is the Polo Ground across the river, which is used for the annual Dunster Show. However this is not part of the National Trust estate and is held on a private lease which is currently up for renewal. VG will investigate the possible use of this ground for 2023.

DWAA

A considerable amount of time was devoted to the problems that DWAA are experiencing

The acting secretary of DWAA gave an overview of the situation: DWAA had been without a Hon. Secretary since 2019 and the Hon. Treasurer was determined to step down from the position at the AGM. Without these roles being filled, the County could not function.

With no volunteers for the posts, it was decided to call an EGM to see whether the Association should split into separate county organisations or, alternatively, should dissolve. Dissolution and division were both rejected at the EGM. Individual letters were sent to all members to try once more to elicit volunteers. This provided no interest in the key roles of the Association, so, with AGB's advice, the Association has been 'mothballed', with only a skeleton committee left and no county teams or tournaments.

The proposal of other counties taking over DWAA's functions had been put forward but rejected by DCAS, GAS and SCAA. Similarly GWAS rejected the idea of taking over running DWAA, although members in the two counties would remain GWAS members by paying their affiliation fees via their clubs to the GWAS Affiliations Secretary as normal.

Grants for international archers

A review of criteria was discussed in the light of extra expense imposed on our international archers as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was proposed that, in these exceptional times, archers should submit a list of costs actually incurred and Council would then consider grants in excess of the usual £250.

Junior Rep.

VB reported that the Junior Inter-Counties was a great success, although should DWAA have sent a team then perhaps Burnham's ground might not have been big enough.

VB asked about whether any grant might be available to counties to supply longbows and compound bows for their juniors to try. At the Junior Inter-Counties only GAS had a full complement of longbow and compound archers. This was discussed, but it was felt that the variety of bow sizes is too great given the size range of junior archers and that any initiative should come from the individual counties. AG noted that GAS has already done this with longbows.

VB suggested the team make up might be changed and will put together a proposal for the region to discuss at November's Council meeting. AR asked for VB to send her proposals direct to the county secretaries so that county committees might formulate a view before the next Council meeting.

JLO

Finally, PG noted that the individual counties had not provided any work party at the Inter-Counties this year. Work was done by Exmouth Archers, Tenzone and the judges. PG wanted it made explicit in the tournament paperwork that every county should provide at least two volunteers for the work party at the next event. This was AGREED and AR asked for this to be brought to the attention of each county committee.

4.13 President's Report

DB said that she would like to thank everybody, it has been a lot of extra work particularly for our secretary, and he has done an excellent job keeping everybody connected with ZOOM. Obviously there are still things going on in the background and a thanks to all those working in the background.

DB congratulate Phoebe Pine on winning Gold at the Para Olympics in Tokyo, And also noted that Ella Gibson was having a good year also to the juniors who seem to shine every year. Said in light oi the problems that DWAA are having problems forming a committee DB thanked the committee member for keeping things going. It makes Gloucestershire look a good county and this is noted by Grand Western.

3. APPOINTMENT OF LADY PARAMOUNT/LORD PATRON

At the last Management Meeting it was unanimously proposed to nominate Malcolm Wootton as our Lord Patron for 2020/21.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2018/2019

President:	Denise Bunce
Vice Presidents	Rob Richardson and Barbara Williams
Chairman	Richard Jones
Secretary	Adrian Gifkins
Treasurer	Francesca Hawker

Tournament Secretaries

Indoor	Deer Park Tournament Committee
Outdoor	Deer Park Tournament Committee
Friendly	Kirstie York Elaina Curran
Clout	Tyndale Archers
Junior Indoor	Deer Park Tournament Committee
Junior Outdoor	Deer Park Tournament Committee
County Dev Officer	Declan Ashworth
Junior Team Manager	Elaina Curran

Senior Team Manager Kirstie York

County Coaching Organizer	Peter Gregory
Designated Safeguarding Officer	Vicki Ellis
Records Officer	Declan Ashworth
GWAS Council Reps	Adrian Gifkins, Elaina Curran
Rep to GWAS Coaching Committee	Graham Peters
Rep to GWAS Junior Committee	Elaina Curran
Auditors	Rikki Teml, Jeff Grinnell
Webmaster	Bob Nicholls

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020/21

The subscriptions were not increased.

7. PRESENTATION OF JOYCE HARDING MEMORIAL SALVERS AND THE LACEY TROPHY

THE LACEY TROPHY

No Presentations At this time

JOYCE HARDING MEMORIAL SALVERS - most handicap improvement

No Presentations

The AGM formally closed at 14:45.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business

9. DATES OF MANAGEMENT MEETINGS 2020

19th January, 16th March, 18th May, 2022, 20th July, 21st September and AGM 20th November

The meeting finally closed at 15.00.

Signed as a true record.

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Chairman