

O. P. T. A. Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 7:30 PM

Attendance: Pam Muma, Lori Cantelo, Beau Douglas, BJ Jackman, Mathew Tyhurst, Ron Rowe, Verne Higgs.

Absent: Emily Brown, Bill Drikos, Peter Tsementzis

Pam called the meeting to order at 7:35pm via Zoom conference call.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Mathew made a motion to accept the November 15, 2022, meeting minutes. Beau seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

2. Business arising from Minutes

1. Facebook/Website/Twitter: Nothing to report.

2. Hall of Fame Ceremony: Verne said that he has working on the HOF ceremony at St Thomas. He will speak to the club about some logistics and planning. Ron has also volunteered to help with the planning. Mathew said that perhaps we could present the other OPTA awards at the same ceremony, prior to HOF inductions. This would save time at the AGM, where we could strictly focus on OPTA business and cut down the meeting time.

3. OPTA “3000 Target” Membership Promotion: BJ gave some details of the proposed “3000 target club” for a free OPTA membership. The shooter will have to fill out a form or notify the Secretary/Treasurer to get the money back. Beau gave some demographic information to try and predict how it will look. The hope is to have more shooters shoot more targets in Ontario. He wanted to mention that Dave Leunissen and Adam Arpa should be commended for their participation at Ontario clubs, where they shot almost 7000 targets in-province. Beau made a motion to proceed with this initiative moving forward. Verne seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

3. Monthly finances

1. Review of current year-to-date financial results:

The OPTA has received their final financial statements from Millards. Beau also said that he had spoken with our accountant at Millards about our requirements as an organization in terms of tax reporting, and other best practices for the OPTA. We are complying on all relevant issues, and Millards has confirmed that.

OCS funding has been approved for the coming year, and the funding will be \$12,432. We also have received our ATA State rebate amount which will be \$2738USD. Ron asked if the OCS money would be distributed to the clubs, and no, it does not. The money received last year was for Covid-19 relief and was likely only a one-time payment.

4. New business/Open Discussion

1. New OPTA Club: Ron has been working with Chris Lally about having ATA shoots at his Smith Falls club. Ron and Paul Shaw have been in contact, and we are now waiting for Chris to follow up with the executive at the club before moving forward. They have an automatic trap and voice pulls. Ron said he will follow up before our next meeting, and has also volunteered to help out with their first Big 50 shoot.

2. Provincial Championship: Pam asked Lori and BJ for a trophy update. Discussion followed about potential trophies, and more specific discussion about HOA trophies for our shooters. The committee has worked on a 2-year rotation to have similar trophies for both host sites and is looking at moving on from the Shamrock bags. He presented the idea of Storm Shooting coats. Sizing may be an issue, but we could sort those logistics out with the company. Pam asked Beau for an update on the program, and he has started working on it, updating dates and making relevant changes in the short-term. Pam said that St Thomas will be going with a 5-day format, and asked

if we should send that out to the St. Thomas Gun Club shortly. Verne asked for clarification of the contents of the contract. A lengthy discussion ensued about the OPTA committing to taking more ownership of all elements of the contract, and both sides holding each other accountable. Pam said that there is nothing in the contract pertaining to potential consequences for a host club breaking the contract. She suggested that a host club lose their next opportunity to host if they do not honour the contract. Lori questioned whether the OPTA should have consequences as well, and all agreed that we should also be held accountable. Pam suggested that the OPTA forfeit the Special Assessment of \$0.015/target if we do not honour our end of the deal. BJ reminded everyone that we need to approach the Provincials with more of a business-oriented mindset to put on the best shoot possible. A lengthy discussion followed about the targets used at the Provincials, and the quality of product available from White Flyer and Lawry. We do need to strive to present a consistent and quality target for our shooters. Lori said we need to hold target manufacturers to a high standard. Pam said that this year, she would like to have a concrete list of volunteers each day to complete various tasks, such as target setting, classification, shoot-offs, and other tasks. Mathew volunteered to not shoot on the weekend to be a part of the target setting committee. BJ said that we must take a more active role and do a better job to oversee our shoots to ensure that they are fair for all shooters. Verne said that we need to have the right people in place to address any concerns in terms of target presentation. BJ suggested that we add to the contract that host clubs must use a crossbar to set targets, and not use a radar gun exclusively. Others agreed. Lori said that when we get someone to sign the contract, that person at the club needs to be held accountable, and so do we as an organization. Verne reminded everyone that we only have two host clubs in Ontario, and need to focus on working together, rather than dictating too many changes to the host clubs to keep things moving forward. Lori suggested that we take a gradual approach to helping clubs make changes and putting on a better provincial shoot. Pam asked Verne to have a conversation with St. Thomas about target setting and choice of target thrown at the Provincials. He said he would do so, and follow-up at our next meeting.

3. Hall of Fame Nominees: Pam asked everyone to look at the list of nominees sent out. She asked that Beau email the membership about any other potential nominees, as well as other awards, and follow-up at our next meeting.

4. OPTA Sponsorship Update: Beau outlined that several sponsors have come on board for the Provincials this year. Ron said that Napanee will decide at their next meeting as to whether to sponsor the shoot, and reminded the board to contact Vortex about sponsorship. Lawry has come forward to donate a skid of targets to the OPTA for the Provincials, and Verne questioned whether we should accept them. Beau said that they are donating them on the precedent that St. Thomas throws Lawry targets, and not to force us to throw Lawry at the shoot. Pam reiterated that they have usually done this in the past. White Flyer has come forward the past two years for \$1200USD, whether the club is throwing their product or not. Hummasons, and many other sponsors have come forward, and Beau will continue to reach out and work with companies in the coming months.

5. Open Discussion: Verne asked for clarification as to how much funding had been given to clubs in the last couple years from the OPTA/OCS, and Beau provided the funding amounts, approximately \$12,400 per year. Verne asked Beau for clarity on recent events held with Western University, and Beau said that he had gone to an event held by the WFA, at East Elgin. He said it was fun to do; however, he did not see these students as a target demographic for us to attract new OPTA shooters. Pam stated, and others agreed, that a group we should focus on our 30+ crowd and try to attract them to shooting.

Mathew presented a motion to the board regarding a lack of common courtesy by board members who take on roles where they represent the OPTA outside of our board meetings. Discussion followed that, as a board we need to remind ourselves that when any of us take on extra responsibilities or commitments, we maintain open communication with the OPTA President as to whether or not we follow through on these commitments, attend meetings, or anything else relevant to the OPTA. Lori said that it does make sense to formalize this procedure, and the board agreed. Mathew presented a motion, which reads: "The president has oversight on all committees and board members when conducting business on behalf of the OPTA. Updates are expected to the president and/or the board when new or pertinent business arises from committees, meetings, functions etc. If a board member cannot participate in a committee, meeting, function etc., they must give reasonable notice to the president so a fill in can be found to represent the OPTA's interests." Seconded by BJ Jackman. *All in favour. Carried.*

Beau provided an update of the most recent OCS meeting. Something relevant to the OPTA is that Beau volunteered our shooting simulator to the OCS for their booth set-up at the Toronto Sportsmen's Show. Ron asked if the OPTA needed volunteers, and Beau said that the OCS has not figured out the logistics of their set-up yet, but that more information would likely come at future meetings.

BJ asked if the OPTA should put on another Trap Chair meeting this winter. The board agreed that we should move forward with that. A tentative suggested date was February 28, 2023. Pam asked Beau to send that date out to our affiliate club chairs to give them enough lead time to plan for the meeting.

5. Next meeting date – Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 7:30 pm.

6. Adjournment: Pam adjourned the meeting at 9:15pm.

➤ Items on hold for future discussion –