

O. P. T. A. Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, December 15, 2022 at 7:30 PM EDT

Attendance: Bert Blackburn, Emily Brown, Lori Cantelo, Beau Douglas, Bill Drikos, Verne Higgs, BJ Jackman, Pam Muma, Ron Rowe, Peter Tsementzis (all present).

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

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Bill made a motion to accept the November 10, 2021 meeting minutes. Verne seconded. All in favour. **Carried**

2. Business arising from minutes

1. **Ontario Council of Shooters/Facebook/Website:** Facebook has changed rules. Emily has been monitoring the page and removing inappropriate posts/members. OCS has requested an Operational Plan update (or Strategic Plan update) that needs to be done shortly. OCS has a meeting with Minister of Sport tomorrow regarding Covid protocols. Bert asked if Beau had updated the Strategic plan. He has looked at it and will have it done by the 27th, relaying our actions as an association as compared to our Strategic Plan. Bert stated he had spoken with Neville Henderson and Paul Shaw, who felt like we were in compliance with any Not-for-Profit status questions or concerns. Emily stated that she felt the OCS should be the ones to pay the bill for any legal reviews for any member groups and will follow up.
2. **Registered Shoot dates** – Beau stated that he had put in all shoot dates received so far. There were a few dates that may present a geographic conflict. Beau asked and Pam said that reaching out to the individual clubs to rectify/move dates around rather than dictating to them what to do. Ron asked for clarification on the “50 mile rule”, and was reminded that he is correct. Bill asked if TITSC had submitted any dates and they have not. Discussion ensued as to issues at TITSC that have created angst with members and outside groups. Emily suggested that someone from the OPTA reach out and connect with the new shoot managers at the club to remind them of the relationship between the OPTA and our member clubs. Beau said that he would do so in the near future. Lori and other members volunteered to drive out to meet with the club on behalf of the OPTA if needed, which could be helpful to maintain that relationship.

3. Monthly finances

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

- Beau asked if it was required or simply best practice to conduct a financial review annually. Pam stated that we had to do an audit every 3 years and a financial review in the other years, as stated in our by-laws. It is perhaps overboard to do so, but past actions by a previous treasurer has made it necessary to have enhanced oversight of our financial position and monthly accounting.

4. New business/Open Discussion

1. **Hall of Fame nominees**

- Several members have brought forward names as nominees for the Hall of Fame. Peter spoke at length about the nomination of Bob Lee for the shooter category of the OPTA Hall of Fame. Verne acknowledged and added to his recommendation for the Hall of Fame. *Peter, with enthusiasm, nominated Bob Lee for the Hall of Fame. Verne seconded. 9 in favour, 1 abstention in favour of his recommendation. Motion passed.*

Beau spoke at length about nominating Pam Muma. She has contributed to the association and trapshooting landscape over the past 35-40 years. Verne acknowledged and supported his nomination, as did BJ. Emily said that we should revisit the list of nominees from years past and continue to look at the merits of prior nominees and speak to them at a later meeting. Peter said that perhaps we put these names on the table and formalize a nomination of someone in the Contributor category tonight. Beau read off the list of shooters and discussion ensued about various members. *BJ brought forward a motion to nominate Pam Muma for the Hall of Fame. 8 in favour, 2 abstentions. Motion passed.*

2. **OPTA Award nominess**

- Mike Fulop award: Pam nominated Bill Malcolm for the Mike Fulop award. He is a very helpful and enthusiastic member of our association, and his contribution deserves recognition. All in favour. **Motion passed.**

3. OPTA Membership fee/Daily fee

- Beau reminded everyone of the annual \$20 fee to join the OPTA. He said the OPTA daily fee has been \$3 for the last 10-12 years, which is lower than the ATA fee of \$4.10 (\$3 USD). He proposed to raise the daily fee for OPTA registered shoots to \$4 from \$3 per shooter. He also said perhaps we raise the per target fee per club from 1.5 cents/target to 2 cents/targets. Another scenario would be to lower it to \$10 per year to cover our fee we pay to the OCS annually, which maintains our membership and access to their annual grants. Verne supported the idea. BJ said that many casual shooters do not come to shoots because of the OPTA membership fee. Bert said that perhaps we should vote on it at the annual meeting. Beau reminded everyone that the by-laws state that we as a board set the annual cost of the membership. Bert said that if we were to eliminate the OPTA membership completely, it would need to be something we voted on at our annual meeting, as it is a drastic shift from our current practice. Peter questioned whether or not it would be a revenue neutral practice, and if that made sense. He said we need to be sure that we are covering our costs as an association. Bert asked about the per target fee, and said that raising that would not necessarily be a good idea, seeing as we had just raised that fee a couple years ago. Bert said that we should simply charge the \$10 to cover the OCS affiliation fee. Lori and Emily raised concerns about lowering or eliminating the OPTA membership, and associated fees. *Beau presented a motion to lower the annual OPTA fee to \$10 per year, and increase the daily fee for all registered shoots in Ontario to \$4.00 from \$3.00. Verne seconded. 9 in favour, 1 abstention. Motion passed.*

Verne asked about the \$1 per year that we have to forward to the CTA. He does not support the idea of sending \$300-400/year to the CTA, rather than simply those who attend the shoot paying for it. Nothing further.

- Ron spoke about a couple youth shooters, Bryson and Nathan, in his area that have been shooting well, and have both become AIM members recently. They are excited to continue shooting ATA targets in the future.

- Bert said that HGC has begun preliminary planning about building a new clubhouse on the west end of the trap range, and that he was approached as to the possibility of the OPTA Hall of Fame being a part of that new structure. Peter said he thought there was little risk in terms of the OPTA joining onto that facility, and whether or not we would provide resources to the HGC for said building.

- Peter spoke about the viability of a homegrounds here in Ontario, and that he sadly does not see the possibility of the OPTA having the financial backing and resources to build or develop a property for a homegrounds. He supports the the OPTA exploring an agreement with the HGC to be a part of their facility moving forward. He said the construction of the building would likely be a 2-3 year process.

- BJ revisited the problems he has been forwarded in terms of the posting of payouts and sending cheques from the HGC when they were a satellite site for the 2021 Canadian Championships. Emily stated that the HGC staff has the information. BJ asked for clarity as to whether the information will be sent, and she stated that it would.

- BJ also raised concerns about the OPTA Facebook page. He feels that it has become wider in scope and politicized outside the realm of the OPTA mandate. Peter asked for clarification. BJ said that the content is relevant and meaningful for the shooters of Ontario, but not really strictly within the confines of the OPTA. Emily reminded everyone of the history of the page she started in 2014. She said she is the only administrator and spends a lot of time maintaining the page. Beau said that while he agreed the information presented is fantastic, and the activity within the page is valued, that it should be re-named to not exclusively represent our Board and our association. Peter asked if it was somewhat of a branding issue in regards to the OPTA, and BJ stated that he thought it was that. Lori said that Emily is very vigilant in her screening and maintenance of the page, and that she values the information presented within. Beau acknowledged the work Emily does to run the page, which was started as a source of information for OPTA shooters, but that it has grown to a much wider scope than simply what the OPTA represents. BJ said it was definitely a branding issue and the page should be renamed. All agreed to revisit this item at a future meeting.

5. Next meeting date – Wednesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:30 pm EDT.

6. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.

➤ Items on hold for future discussion –

- Strategic Plan
- Hall of Fame Building/Home Grounds
- OPTA Facebook page