

O.P.T.A. Board Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2024, at 7:30PM

Attendance: Beau Douglas, BJ Jackman, Emily Brown, Lori Cantelo, Mathew Tyhurst, Ron Rowe, Peter Tsementzis, Derek Scrimshaw. All present

BJ called the meeting to order at 7:33pm via Zoom conference call.

1. Mathew made a motion to accept minutes of the November 28, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting minutes. Lori seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

2. Business Arising from Minutes:

1. Provincial Tasks:

Mathew sent out a list of tasks him and Peter have been working on. We will forward it to Hamilton to begin to put names in roles throughout the tournament.

2. OCS Follow-up

Mathew asked Emily for clarity on recent OCS votes and procedures, and for specifics of recent votest, as well as the number of reps and votes during OCS meetings. A lengthy discussion followed regarding our representation, and the OCS finances (as they have started to withhold funding from member groups, rather than disburse it, and then have it sent back). OCS leadership determined that the Sportsmen's Show is a meaningful endeavour that they will continue with. It will be funded by the OCS and member groups. Lori asked for a resolution to these discussions. It continued as to the division of duties, who completes the paperwork, and the responsibilities of the rep and those of the OPTA Secretary/Treasurer. BJ asked for a rep that represents the interests and directives of the OPTA Board, and that OCS minutes should accurately reflect our position. Lori suggested that more board members take on roles so that we avoid having "single points of failure" in our Association. Peter supported this position. Emily has been our representative for almost a decade, and Lori and Mathew volunteered to attend meetings and work with the OCS as our OPTA representatives. Mathew asked if we should have an election for the position, and Lori stated that as long as the decision is recorded, we will move forward with Lori and Mathew representing the OPTA with the Ontario Council of Shooters.

3. Website Update

Beau detailed the quote from Will Partridge for updating our website. The total cost would be \$3,000. We would be involved in the process and design, and it would not be published when we are happy with it. Lori detailed our duties in terms of web security, especially when we are collecting payments and donations on the site. Peter asked for clarity on whether we need an updated site. After discussion, Lori made a motion to approve the updating of our website. Derek seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

Monthly Finances

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

Bank: \$46,491. Lottery: \$6,473.

\$2,000 donation from Jerry Mariani has been transferred out of Lottery Account and into our general account.

Cheque to Millards: \$3,503 for preparing our year-end financials.

CTA dues of \$150 have also been paid.

ATA rebate this year will be \$2,708USD.

St Thomas re-imbursed the OPTA for a \$25 late shoot fee that we had been charged.

We have 4 GICs coming due this year, and Beau assumes that we will continue to renew them in a staggered annual basis.

BJ asked about unpaid ATA memberships, and there are still two shooters unpaid for this current year, which is an improvement on years past.

New Business/Discussion

1. OPTA Added Money for Provincials

Beau had sent out a spreadsheet detailing \$23,000 in added money for the 2024 Provincials. In addition to what was sent out, Trap & Field Magazine and Terry Heeg will be sponsoring a daily draw of \$105 for the first 3 days. Vortex Canada will also be donating 2 pairs of binoculars to us to award as desired. We want to make sure our added money is substantial to try and attract more shooters to our shoot. Beau made a motion to proceed with the added money more or less as presented. Lori seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

2. OCS Paperwork

Beau had sent out our most recent submission to the OCS, detailing our objectives and proposed spending in the next period, in terms of OCS funding. Our objectives align with the LTAD as recommended by the OCS. There were also several documents posted under a policy document section of the OPTA website. Lori asked for clarity on our costing/funding of Youth targets at the Provincials, and if we are paying for them out of our general fund, or the lottery account. In the short term, we will pay it out of our general funds.

3. HOF Nominees

HOF nominations were submitted for a few shooters last year and they are on file. We will ask the members for nominations in our next newsletter and go over them at our next meeting. Shooters do not simply stay on the nomination list year-to-year, so we will need new nominations. BJ wanted to make sure we had paperwork to go along with our process in naming people to the Hall of Fame. Emily said that the HOF section of our website needs to be updated and biographies of shooters completed.

4. Provincials Contract

The board reviewed the contract for the upcoming Provincials. The contract will also state that the club needs to have at least one set of lights for shoot-offs. If needed, clubs can rent lights. It was decided that the first two days of the shoot would be shot Singles, Handicap, and then Doubles. We will also shoot Doubles 100 per trap, which might save some labour costs. Lori asked for clarity on the consequences of the host club or the OPTA fulfilling their obligations. In the current landscape, Hamilton has re-iterated that they will do whatever is needed to accommodate us at their club. As a board we will keep working with the club to keep the shoot running as efficient as possible.

5. OPTA Buy & Sell

Emily detailed that fraudulent activity has become more prevalent in recent month. There have been 2 incidents of people sending money and not receiving goods as sold, which has been reported by them to police. Discussion followed about the viability of the Buy & Sell moving forward, and if it is worth the potential damage to our members and the reputation of the board. BJ re-iterated a suggestion that it only be made available to current and former OPTA members. Beau recommended that we get rid of the Buy & Sell, as it has the potential to be a fairly large problem for us as a board of volunteers. Lori stated that it does not seem to be necessarily a service to our members, as there many active users of it across the country who are not OPTA members. Discussion followed about our next steps: BJ suggested we re-visit this at a future meeting to make a decision on the future of this section of our website.

4. Provincial Ad in Trap & Field

Terry Heeg has offered to post a free ad for our Provincials in upcoming issues. Beau and Lori will work together to create something to be put in the magazine. BJ had also been speaking with Terry, as she is looking for someone in the OPTA who would like to contribute to T&F on an ongoing basis. The board would then get them in touch with the magazine to offer a voice and insight from Ontario.

5. Trophies

BJ has ordered the trophies needed for the Provincials. Lori said that they are very impressive.

6. Shooter Obituaries in Trap & Field

Emily reminded people that we can submit obituaries to Trap & Field, as she has done in the past. BJ asked if she would continue to do so, and she cannot, but will send an example of aprior submission for review.

7. Next meeting date – February 27, 2024, at 7:30pm.

8. Adjournment. BJ adjourned meeting at 9:11pm.

➤ Items on hold for future discussion