

O.P.T.A. Board Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2023, at 7:30PM

1. **Update from Paul Shaw** – OPTA Delegate Paul Shaw provided some information for the board in terms of the Eastern Zone potentially expanding to allow Ontario to host a satellite shoot. In recent years, attendance has been dropping and the shoot has lost money, regardless of where it is hosted (Elysburg or Cicero). He outlined a variety of possible changes, including Ontario hosting a shoot, cutting back on trophies, or changing the shoot program. There are many variables (host site, option costs, trophies, shipping, for example) involved in any changes, and Paul will continue to work on our behalf to formalize a proposal in hopes of bringing a satellite zone shoot to Ontario. He will send the proposal to the Board in the coming weeks before moving forward.
2. Lori made a motion to accept minutes of the July 11, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting. Mathew seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*
3. Business arising from minutes: Nothing to discuss*
4. **Monthly Finances**
 1. **Review of current year-to-date financial results**

Year end is August 31. We are still waiting for a couple shoot reports. Unofficially, it looks like the year-end will result in a surplus of approximately \$3900.
 2. **Check Signing Authority Changes**

Beau made a motion that the following Board members be granted cheque signing authority for the OPTA: BJ Jackman – OPTA President, Lori Cantelo – OPTA Vice-President, Beau Douglas – OPTA Secretary Treasurer. Peter seconded. *All in favour, Carried.*
 3. **2023/24 Proposed Budget**

Beau had sent out a proposed for the upcoming year. Lori asked a question about the previous year's total amount in spent on trophies. Beau said the laser engraver, as well as a Shamrock invoice of \$4,006 were paid this year, which added to the total. Our trophies purchased were under the budgeted amount of \$13,000, which includes prelim day awards for 2023 and 2024. Emily asked if the laser engraver should be put on its own line in the budget/ledger. Beau will check with our accountant about how present the laser engraver in our budget and follow-up. Beau made a motion to approve the 2023-24 budget. Mathew seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

New Business/Discussion

1. **2024 Provincials Date:** BJ said that he felt that most shooters were fine with the current dates in early July. He proposed a date of July 4-7, 2024. The Board will check with HGC to make sure there are no conflicts at the club. BJ made a motion to have the 2024 Provincials be held July 4-7, 2024, at the Hamilton Gun Club. Derek seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*
2. **Daily Fees Proposal:** Adam Arpa asked that the OPTA raise our daily fee so that the total of ATA & OPTA fees is a whole dollar amount. While it would raise OPTA revenues, the Board did not feel it was necessary to raise our daily fees at this time. Clubs are free to do what they want in terms of adding an additional fee to make things a whole number, and

easier for the club to administer. Derek said he felt that raising the fees would be one more thing to drive people away from shooting, as costs continue to rise. BJ made a motion to keep our OPTA fee at \$3.00. Seconded by Ron. *All in favour. Carried.*

3. **All-Star Team Requirements:** BJ opened a discussion on behalf of Ron Alton about OPTA All-Star team requirements. Beau said that he agreed we could make some changes to make the team more accessible for shooters. He did think the minimum averages in place (90% for Open/85% for categories) were needed to maintain a standard for making the team. Peter agreed that we need to keep a standard in place, so that it does not turn into a participation award. Peter detailed that, in prior years where requirements were certain target minimums and the 400 HAA targets, the All-Star team was more representative of our best shooters. BJ proposed some target requirements, and Mathew asked if category shooters shoot more than Open shooters. Discussion followed. The consensus was that requirements for Open teams are more than category shooters, regardless of how many targets some category shooters may shoot. BJ will formalize a proposal and present to the Board at our next meeting.
4. **OPTA Have Gun, Will Travel Award Proposal:** Adam Arpa approached the Board wanting to donate \$250 to this award, as an incentive for shooters who spend a lot of money shooting around the province. The Board was very appreciative of his support and will present this amount to the 2023-24 “OPTA Have Gun, Will Travel” award winner. If there is more than one winner, the amount will be split evenly.
5. **OPTA Promotions:** Beau asked the Board to confirm that we are going to continue with our “Champion of Champions” Program, at a cost of \$1,600 to the OPTA. Everyone agreed that we continue things the way they are. He also stated that one of our main sponsors, Paul Needham, will continue with his sponsorship this year.

Emily asked if the Board would support offering a complimentary OPTA membership to the winners of some of our winter league shooters. This would raise awareness of the OPTA to some of our league shooters and may encourage them to start shooting ATA targets. Peter agreed with Emily that there are many that we could recruit to shoot ATA. A discussion followed, and the board was in support of this idea. BJ reminded everyone that the ATA also gives free memberships to new shooters, and Ron said that any AIM shooter can also have their parent join for free. BJ asked Emily to formalize a proposal and send it to the Board.

6. **OPTA Buy & Sell:** Emily said there have been 21 new ads in recent months, and many items sold.

5. Next meeting date (proposed) – October 24, 2023, at 7:30pm
6. Adjournment. Beau made a motion to adjourn. Mathew seconded. All in favour. Carried.
 - Items on hold for future discussion