

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

Attendance: Pam Muma, Lori Cantelo, Beau Douglas, Bill Drikos, BJ Jackman, Emily Brown, Mat Tyhurst, Peter Tsementzis, Ron Rowe.

Absent: Verne Higgs

Pam called the meeting to order at 7:32pm via Zoom conference call.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Bill made a motion to accept the August 1, 2022, meeting minutes. Beau seconded.
All in favour. Carried.

2. Business arising from Minutes

1. **Provincials Update:** Beau said he received the shoot report and cheque from the Hamilton Gun Club recently. The amount was incorrect, but was rectified by HGC. He provided the Board with a report of the financials from the Provincials, where we made a profit of about \$1500 this year, pending a final invoice amount for the Shamrock Leather bags awarded to our HOA winners.
2. **2023 Provincials Date:** Pam asked that we discuss the dates for the 2023 Provincial shoot. Beau had provided a list of dates of nearby state shoots. Beau suggested the dates in the week after the Canada Day weekend. Pam said she thought that date was a good idea, as it would allow for youth shooters and shoot staff to be available. BJ said he thought it was a good date, as it would allow Ontario to have back-to-back major shoots here if we host the Canadians. Discussion ensued and the Board settled on the dates of July 5-9, 2023 for our 2023 Provincial Championships, pending the decision of the St Thomas Gun Club to have a 4 day, or 5 day shoot.
3. **CTA:** Pam said she did not like how the CTA report was done at the latest Provincial Shoot. She stated that she would like to invite Josh Faubert, our CTA delegate, to an upcoming meeting. Peter stated that he was disappointed that we did not take a show of hands to get an accurate picture of the voice of our members. He reminded everyone that we are responsible for trying to promote shooting in Ontario, and if we do not know the will of our members, how can we do so? Emily stated that she is the Secretary of the CTA and sat in on CTA meetings where the idea of a satellite CTA shoot was discussed. She said the CTA has also discussed having two CTA shoots per year, one at a central site, and one would be held as a satellite. Beau asked what Ontario voted for in these discussions. Emily stated that Josh was adamant the CTA hold a central site shoot. She continued that the CTA delegates see great value in coming together and shooting at a centralized site. Peter asked who does it generate value for? Is it the attendees of the Canadians, or the shooters who are not able to travel great distances to attend? The next CTA shoot will be in Brandon, and then in Vancouver, and then potentially Edmonton. Pam said she was most concerned about whether the shooters of Ontario were correctly represented. Both the CTA Delegate and the OPTA Board are here to represent Ontario shooters, and she isn't sure that we were able to capture that at the meeting. Emily said that even if Ontario had voted for a satellite shoot, it wouldn't have gone through. BJ interjected that it didn't matter if it went through or not, but that our one vote needed to be accurate. Emily said they had lengthy discussions at the CTA level and decided to continue hosting at a central site each year. Peter said that while the CTA has to have a plan and it doesn't sound like the CTA is in support of a satellite shoot. The OPTA Board is charged with promoting shooting in Ontario, and that is a prime weekend where the OPTA could host another shoot here in Ontario. Pam asked Beau to develop a survey and send it out to current OPTA members and ask what they want in terms of the Canadians. Lori said there are many people who are passionate about the Canadians, and we need to appreciate that as well. Peter reminded everyone that it is our job as a board to promote shooting and be the voice of our members.

3. Monthly finances

1. **Review of current year-to-date financial results:** Beau said he was waiting on an invoice from Shamrock, which will wrap up our finances from last year. Otherwise, nothing of consequence.

4. New business/Open Discussion

1. **Agenda Items/Meeting Protocol:** Pam asked that anyone who has agenda items to send them to Beau prior to the meeting dates so that we all have a chance to review material beforehand. She also said that meetings will adjourn at 9:00pm, and any items not addressed will carry over to the beginning of the next meeting. She officially welcomed Mathew Tyhurst to the OPTA Board. Emily questioned why the Website/Facebook section of the agenda was removed. Pam said she thought it was repetitive each month. Emily said that there have been 79 Buy & Sell ads placed on the site since January, and thought it was important to update the board. Pam suggested that we potentially do this quarterly rather than monthly. Pam suggested a vote to decide between monthly and quarterly updates. The voting was 8 in favour, 1 abstention to move to quarterly updates of our website and social media channels.

2. **Eastern Zone Satellite Update:** BJ said that there was nothing of consequence to report. Peter re-iterated that there has been no progress on this issue, although it continues to be discussed.

3. **OPTA Champion of Champions:** Beau had sent out a proposal to put in place a season-long “Champion of Champions” event for the shooters of Ontario. He had sent a spreadsheet outlining the proposal. It would allow shooters at our small clubs to have something to shoot for throughout the year. It would take some more paperwork from the club secretaries but would reward shooters for participating throughout the year. The prizes would total approximately \$1600. The board was in support, and we will move forward with it this year, on a one-year trial basis.

4. **OPTA Added Money & Sponsorship:** Beau had sent out a proposal for added money at the Provincials next year, and that we have to be fair to both of our host clubs with our trophy packages and added money. He said that our many sponsors have been very responsive to continue to work with the OPTA in the future, and we can hopefully continue to grow our relationships with them. Pam agreed and said we need to support both host clubs in a relatively equitable way, and that we will work on our added money structure over the winter.

Beau also said that he would like to revisit sponsoring any OPTA shooter that chooses to go to the Grand and compete in the Champion of Champions event. It is an extra event at the Grand, where the shooter represents Ontario, and we should pay for them to shoot it if we have the finances available to do so. BJ said he thought it was a good idea and a nice gesture on behalf of the OPTA. Lori asked for a dollar figure, and Beau said it would be no more than \$100 per shooter. Pam suggested we revisit this next month.

5. **OPTA Free Membership Program:** Peter had been approached by Adam Arpa recently about providing free memberships to any new shooter in their first year of registered shooting. Emily questioned why she had received her paid membership in the mail. Pam responded that the executive decided to provide our Board members with a complimentary annual membership as a thank you for serving on the OPTA Board. Emily stated that she wanted to have it recorded in the minutes as a vote of our board to do so. Discussion ensued and Pam proposed a motion that all Board members receive a complimentary membership while serving on the board. Beau seconded. *All in favour. Carried.*

The board continued to discuss various ways to provide free memberships to any new shooters. Peter presented a motion that the OPTA provide, on an annual basis, up to 50 free memberships to new shooters across the province in their first year of competitive shooting. *All in favour. Carried.*

6. Open Discussion: Peter asked Beau for our current financial situation. Beau provided approximate figures of \$84,000 in our daily account and \$195,000 in investments. Emily reminded everyone of our obligation to continue to update our Strategic Plan, as it is required by the OCS and others as a not-for-profit. Lori suggested that we look at what elements of our Strategic Plan are “actionable items”. Peter asked for peoples input on what we could act upon as a board with our finances. Peter suggested that we revisit pursuing an OPTA home grounds and a Hall of Fame for the OPTA. Lori volunteered to go through our Strategic Plan and suggested that we as a Board sit down together and come up with some long-term ideas as an Association. Pam suggested that we allow everyone the chance to look over the Strategic Plan, and that we re-visit it in the future.

Beau gave some approximate year-end numbers that show that the OPTA, other than the last two years, has operated at a substantial annual loss over the last decade.

Emily asked why St Thomas cancelled their Labour Day shoot, and Pam stated that shoot management was unavailable that weekend, so they decided to cancel. The OPTA was thankful to Oxford for jumping in last minute and hosting a well-attended two-day shoot on that weekend.

Lori asked Pam if audited financial statements for the OPTA were posted online. Pam said that yes, the OPTA statements are posted online. Lori asked if the CTA did as well, and Emily said the CTA finances are presented annually at their AGM.

5. Next meeting date – Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 7:30 pm.

6. Adjournment: Pam adjourned the meeting at 8:58pm.

- Items on hold for future discussion –
 - Strategic Plan