

Irish Clay Pigeon Shooting Association ICPSA

**Minutes – 83rd Annual General Meeting of the Irish Clay Pigeon Shooting Association
which was held on Thursday 11 May 2016 in the Spa Hotel, Lucan, Co. Dublin**

Present:

Present were Stephen Redmond (Chairman), Bill O'Brien (Hon. Secretary), Conor Mooney (Hon. Treasurer), Padraig Galligan, Barry Lynch, Pat Fox, Martin Gavigan, Mark Craven, Robert Dickson, Colin Mullane.

In total 39 members were present.
This included 18 voting delegates.

Also present was the Auditor, Mr. Manus Quinn, of Woods and Partners, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, 16 Melifort Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

Apologies: Tony Shanahan

Welcome by the Hon. Chairman:

The Chairman, Stephen Redmond, welcomed everyone to the meeting and he pointed out the fire exits. He asked for a minute's silence to remember those members who had passed away during the year, especially Tommy Higgins, Ross Kelly and Martin Brilly.

The Chairman advised that the meeting was being recorded for minuting purposes and that those who wished to speak should identify themselves and wait for a microphone to be given to them.

1. The minutes of the previous (82nd) Annual General Meeting of 2015.

The adoption of the minutes of the 82nd Annual General Meeting, as previously published on the website, were proposed by John Delany and seconded by Sean O'Neill.
The vote was unanimous and the minutes were declared adopted by the Chairman.

2. Matters Arising:

The Chairman asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes.
There were no matters arising.

3. Honorary Chairman's Address.

I would like to congratulate everyone who qualified for our National and Provincial Teams and also to congratulate those grounds who hosted the events. The High performance athletes under the guidance of the high performance director (Mr Jeff McCready) made significant progress, which is described in Jeff's separate report later.

The association is growing, as we now have 659 members , 8 clubs and 15 commercial grounds. A warm welcome to our new members and new clubs. Thank you to all our members and clubs for supporting the Association and I wish you continued enjoyment and success.

I encourage members to attend the upcoming home international and World Championship events and support our teams and volunteer to help out.

The Association continues to play an active role in the international clay organizations and thereby ensuring that Irish shooters continue to have access to compete at international and Olympic level.

We would like to thank the Irish Sports Council for committing further funding. Including the support of Juniors and Ladies as part of the Ireland Shooting Academy.

The association has no employees so as to keep running costs to a minimum, therefore we request that more members would come forward to volunteer to share in the workload. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Hon. Sec. Bill O'Brien and the Hon. Treasurer, Conor Mooney, who perform most of the administration duties, which I am sure is very onerous on their personal time. In the medium-to-long term this is not sustainable and this issue will be further reviewed by the incoming board with the intention to subcontract a portion of the administration tasks.

This year 60% of the members renewed through the website, if all members could use this system it would reduce the administration work load. The board will continue to review further ways of cutting costs and make the daily operations more automated. The members of the Task groups have volunteered their time to organise the calendar and the requirements of the individual disciplines, their efforts are very much appreciated.

The Association's Financial situation is positive and continues to improve. The Hon. Treasurer will deliver a detailed report. The National Executive meetings took place on average monthly.

In Ashbourne, I would like to thank to Mr. Mick Murphy and the ACTA subcommittee for managing our National Shooting Grounds (NSG) and continuing to improve the facilities. The Hon. Sec. has been discussing a future lease with the Landlord of the Ashbourne grounds and will report on this at the next National executive meeting.

Again Munster coaching academy is helping our juniors, Ladies and members to perform to a higher standard by continuously organising coaching and open days. Collin Mullane continues to be at the fore front of this progress, recently helping in developing the coaching days to expand throughout other areas of the Country. I would like to thank all the coaches for the effort and time they are dedicating to this, I believe that the future of the association will be strengthened through the Academy's work.

As part of supporting the Ireland Shooting Academy and the development of our association, Kevin Kilty and Jeff McCready were very generous to give up their personal time to deliver a ISSF D Class Coaching course. It had full attendance and was reported to be very enjoyable, informative and successful. Jeff will continue to lead the Ireland Shooting Academy (ISA) as it continues to develop, including new members coaching to help them participate in home

international disciplines, and further progression though to being part of the high performance team.

The Association had a further legal case with a former member, which the insurance company settled though a confidential process. A confidential agreement is the insurance company's entitlement under the conditions of the policy.

The executive has always tried to keep the members informed of the operational decisions, firstly through the provincial delegates and secondly by publishing the minutes of the national executive meeting on the web site. I would encourage the incoming board to continue to publish the minutes. Because, the operations of the association must be transparent, as it is the members' association, with the exception of any unresolved legal issues and other negotiations.

I would like to thank the National Executive Board for their commitment and efforts and I wish the new board the best for 2016/2017.

I am stepping down due to onerous overseas work commitments which would prevent me from fulfilling the duties of Chairman. Thank you for the opportunity and support during the past year.

4. Honorary Secretary's Report:

Dear Members,

2015 was another eventful year, with a lot of learning.

Volunteer members have manned the National Executive and Task Groups for each discipline and are the backbone of the Association.

The members of the National Executive, whom you elected last year, have volunteered their time and have met on 8 occasions during the year, and have been available through emails and phone calls, to assist with the decision making and smooth running of the Association. Every member can help and be a volunteer.

One of the main ways to help is for each member to key in their details and pay their membership online, and help others to do it also. This breaks down the workload to 6 or 7 hundred people. It can be a bit onerous, but imagine one volunteer having to do it 6 or 7 hundred times.

A number of old outstanding issues have been cleared, the books have been balanced and the Grant Applications to the Sports Council have been successfully made and have been secured.

The introduction of online membership has been started and will be in full swing for 2017, together with other automation and use of the internet.

Also, all our commitments to fielding International Teams in every Discipline, to represent our country have been fully met, as well as competing at the highest levels in Olympic Disciplines.

The challenge over the next year is to get brand new members and younger members and lady members into the sport, through coaching, through Leagues and open days.

The other challenge is getting more sound people to volunteer for Committees and Officer positions. There is a distinct lack of candidates for many roles. Most, as we see here tonight, are elected without contest.

The creation of more Clubs and the further development of the National Shooting Grounds will help to reduce the cost of practice greatly, and maintain our Amateur Status. It's now coming to the end of my second year as the elected Hon. Secretary. If elected this time around, it will be my last year on the National Executive, and I will not be going forward in 2017. I can't say I haven't enjoyed the challenges so far, and the opportunity to make a difference, but I wish to get back to Club Level activities, and bringing on new people. That's what I enjoy most. I wish to thank all those who have helped me get the job done, over the past year, And I wish you all well with your shooting at all levels over the coming year. Thank you.

5. Financial Report, Audited Accounts, Auditors Report:

The Hon. Treasurer gave a broad outline of the financial position for 2015.

The Hon. Treasurer then handed over to the Auditor, Mr. Manus Quinn to present the audited accounts and the auditors report for the financial year 2015.

Summary:

Total Income:	€232,267
Total Expenditure:	(€204,924)
Surplus/Deficit:	€ 27,343
Opening Retained Surplus:	€ 68,761
Retained Surplus Closing:	€ 96,104

The auditor stated the following:

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and Irish statute comprising of the Companies Act 2014.

Information on the impact first-time adoption of FRS 102 is given in note 14. The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgment in applying the company's accounting policies.

The adoption of the Financial Accounts and Audit Report was proposed by John Lee and seconded by Angelo Marsella. Following a unanimous vote, the Chairman declared the 2015 audited accounts and auditors report adopted.

6. Election of Auditors.

The motion to retain the existing Auditors, Woods and Partners was proposed by Mark Craven and seconded by Michael Murphy. It was passed by a unanimous vote and was declared carried by the Chairman.

7. Election of Officers:

The election of the incoming National Committee for 2015 - 2016 took place.

The following officers were voted on individually and declared elected.

<i>Hon. Chairman:</i>	Peter Hanifin	(L10187)	<i>(new)</i>
<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	Conor Mooney	(L10911)	<i>(outgoing)</i>
<i>Hon. Secretary:</i>	Bill O'Brien	(L6572)	<i>(outgoing)</i>

8. Election of Provincial Directors/Representatives:

Following an election, all 8 Provincial Directors/Representatives, who had been selected on a one-man-one-vote basis at their respective Provincial AGMs, were declared elected.

Ulster	Barry Lynch	RU025	<i>(outgoing)</i>
Ulster	Malachy Quinn	RU6706	<i>(New)</i>
Munster	Colin Mullane	M10922	<i>(outgoing)</i>
Munster	Michael O'Dwyer	M506	<i>(new)</i>
Leinster	Pat Fox	L5512	<i>(outgoing)</i>
Leinster	Michael Murphy	L10434	<i>(New)</i>
Connaught	Mark Craven	C10345	<i>(outgoing)</i>
Connaught	Robert Dickson	C6623	<i>(outgoing)</i>

9. Motions of which proper notice have been received in writing:

There were two motions.

Motion 1

We at the munster cpsa would like to put forward a motion to allow the board introduce a one man one vote system into the memorandum and articles of the association.

To allow all members have a vote on all future

Motions, rule changes, and election of officers. We at munster cpsa would recommend Internet voting in September or at the time of membership renewal for 2017. This will give plenty of time to make any changes, or have a mid year EGM. Also this do not interfere with the day to day running of the association.

Proposer: Sean O Donovan

Motion 2

Connaught CPSA wish to put forward the following motion to 2016 AGM of the ICPSA;

That the ICPSA National Executive establish a working group to investigate changes to the Association, including

- (i) A "one-man-one-vote" system for all the business of an AGM
- (ii) other changes to the Organisational Structures of the Association.

The group will consult widely among members, Clubs, Provincial Associations, National Executive, Trade Members, Government Sports Bodies and with legal and business professionals.

- (1) To establish and document the changes necessary to implement such a voting system.
- (2) To do a risk assessment on the implementation and cost of operation of such a system.
- (3) To establish any organisational changes that would be appropriate to ensure fitness of purpose for the Association as an NGB covering the next 20 years.

(4) To establish what changes are necessary to the Memorandum and Articles of Association to ensure compliance with the 2014 Companies Act and any legal deadlines for same.

The Group to publish regular reports to the members on progress and costs and make a presentation to members at an EGM within 9 months of being established.

Proposer: Walter Young

These motions were presented by their proposers.
Following a long debate these motions were voted on.

Motion 1: Voting: For – 2, Against – 16 Result: **Motion was not carried**
Motion 2: Voting: For -11, Against – 7 Result: **Motion Carried**

10. Presentation of ISSF “D” Coaching Licences:

ISSF “D” Licences, Badges, etc were presented by Kevin Kilty, Head of ISSF Coaching and Chef de Mission for Ireland at the Rio Olympics Games.

Those who successfully completed the ISSF “D” Coaching Course in February were Colin Mullane, Pat Fox, Butch Kyle, Anna Marie Shiels, Nicola Kearns, Lisa Hoban, Paul McGaughey, Michael Moriarty, Michael Murphy, Tony Shanahan.

11. Anti-Doping Address by Cian Merne, Anti Doping Officer

Good evening everyone. This is a short address to communicate to you all the current situation for shooters regarding compliance with anti-doping requirements and to highlight some of the resources that are available to you on the subject.

Anti-doping is administered by Sport Ireland (formerly the ISC) and the ICPSA is required to be in compliance with their Anti-doping rules. One of my duties as Anti-doping Officer is to submit annual compliance reports to Sport Ireland and we cannot receive any funding if we fail to do so. This address is a required part of that compliance.

Anti-doping is taken very seriously by Sport Ireland and in 2015 nearly €1 million was spent just carrying out tests on Irish athletes. I attended the recent launch of Sport Irelands Anti-doping report for 2015 and the event was attended by both the Minister for Sport Michael Ring TD and the Director General of the World Anti-doping Authority David Howman, a measure of how seriously anti-doping is taken by the Sporting authorities here in Ireland.

In the event that one of our athletes was to fail a dope test, it is Sport Ireland and not the ICPSA that deals with the situation and hands down sanctions in the event that a doping infringement has taken place. Bans currently range from 2 years to life. That ban would include participation in any of the ICPSA’s domestic events such as registered shoots.

Therefore, it is very important that everyone eligible for testing is made aware of their responsibilities as athletes to be in compliance with the regulations. Currently, all ISSF/ESC and FITASC shooters are eligible for testing as the International Bodies are fully signed up with WADA. Indeed, two Irish shooters have been tested in the last couple of years and with anti-doping becoming an even bigger issue facing sport the likelihood of a shooter being randomly tested is increasing all the time. The ICPSA also has the option to call in the testers at any time if we believe doping is taking place.

During the last year within the Irish Shooting Academy I ran Anti-doping seminars for both the Olympic Skeet and Trap shooters. I hope to run a similar seminar for the FITASC shooters this Summer.

However, individual shooters can educate themselves about Anti-doping very easily. A number of useful resources are available on the ISC website under their Anti-doping section and I strongly urge shooters to visit this website.

If you are taking any medication at all, either over the counter or prescription, I strongly recommend that you visit the Eirpharm website at www.eirpharm.com or follow the link on the ISC website to ascertain whether your medication is compliant or not. It only takes a couple of minutes and is very user friendly, you just type in the name of your medication, there is no need to research active ingredients, just use the brand name. There is also a smart phone app which you can download which will allow you to check your medicine on the go.

If you find that you are taking a medication which is banned or restricted in sport such as steroids, insulin and some types of blood pressure medications, you can apply for a therapeutic use exemption or TUE to prove that you need the medicine and are not taking it for performance enhancing reasons. Again, the procedure for applying for a TUE is outlined on the ISC website. While retrospective TUE's can be issued, these are supposed to be in emergencies only. It is best to have your TUE's on file in advance before competing.

Please be aware that many over the counter remedies such as certain nasal decongestants and painkillers containing codeine will result in a positive test. Check everything you take, not just medications prescribed by your doctor. Also, be aware medications purchased here that are safe to use may not contain the same ingredients when purchased abroad. Take a domestically purchased supply away with you when you travel to avoid an accidental infringement.

Also available online is the ISC's Real Winner programme, an interactive e-learning education programme about anti-doping. It takes about an hour to complete, can be completed in several sessions over a period of time and you get a cert at the end. Compulsory completion of the programme is being considered for anyone representing Ireland in our WADA covered disciplines. Even if you don't have to, you should consider completing the programme anyway, it is very informative. You can do it as and when it suits you. I did mine during a few lunch breaks.

Another area that you need to be aware of is that of Dietary Supplements. These are an absolute minefield. Even if the ingredients on the package all check out as safe, there is no guarantee that what is actually in the packet is what it says. Recent laboratory tests showed that 14% of dietary supplements were contaminated with banned or restricted substances. Again, the ISC website provides information on how to check your supplements but this comes with a warning – supplements are not regulated like medicines and just because one batch of supplements tested clear, it does not mean the next batch to leave the factory will do so. Issues with cross contamination and continually changing ingredients are very real risks for consumers. My advice is to avoid supplements unless you really need to take them. If you must take them, follow all the advice and guidelines on the ISC website to minimise the risk of a failed dope test.

For further information, you can contact me and my contact details are on the ICPSA website in our Anti-doping section. This section is currently being updated and will have direct links to relevant sections of the ISC anti-doping web page that I have mentioned tonight.

Athletes are solely responsible for ensuring they are compliant with Anti-doping regulations. It's your body – your responsibility. It will not be my fault or the ICPSA's fault if you failed to educate yourself and fail a test. Please take the time to inform yourselves.

Remember, doping is cheating and we all have a duty to keep the sport of clay pigeon shooting clean and a level playing field for all.

Thank you.

12. Guest Speaker - Jeffrey McCready – (ICPSA - High Performance Director)

Jeff was unable to attend due to commitments with European Competitions, but his report would be made available on the website.

13. AOB:

A discussion took place re the publishing of minutes on the website and the location of the Massey shield.

14. Incoming Chairman’s Address:

The outgoing Chairman invited the incoming Chairman, Peter Hanifin to address the meeting. Peter Hanifin then thanked everyone for their support and the Executive for their nomination. He acknowledged the tremendous amount of work done within the Association over the last few years that brought it back to where it is now viewed in a positive light. This reflected the efforts put in by previous Executive Committees and individuals. He said that there was still a lot to do but that a positive atmosphere was back on the shooting grounds, and numbers were growing which is indicative of this. He would be visiting all the grounds and he would make himself available to any individual or group with ideas for the further advancement of the sport and the Association. The Association’s 659 members will be treated equally and any fears of any discipline/province running away with the Association will not be allowed to happen.

15. Date of the 84th Annual General Meeting.

The date for the next AGM was set for Thurs 30 March 2017, Spa Hotel, Lucan.

16. Meeting Closure:

The Annual General Meeting was brought to a close and the incoming committee moved to a separate room to hold their first National Executive Committee Meeting for 2016-2017.

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