

**Meeting of World Brenchrest Shooting Federation**  
**at Range Club House, Holles Range, Austria**

**Meeting opened 1900.**

**Present**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
Graeme Smith	New Zealand	President
Mike Ratigan VP	USA	Y
Kevin Duckworth	New Zealand	Y
Jefferson Wardlow	Canada	Y
Gian Antoni Quaglina	Italy	Y
Claude Braconi	Italy	N
Anne-Marie Deletang	Monaco	Y
Tipihane Deletang	Monaco	N
Ladislav Ninger	Czech Republic	Y
Markku Ahlava	Finland	N
Janne Juntunen	Finland	Y
Guenther Siefert	Germany	Y
Paal Erik Jensen	Norway	N
John Flatby	Norway	Y
Trond Aasly	Norway	N
Luciani Francois	Luxembourg	Y
Victor Funck	Luxembourg	N
Herve du Plessis	France	Y
Jean-Francois Raybaut	France	N
Jean Louis Espinet	France	N (.22)
Norbet Thiel	Namibia	N
Kallie Venzke	Namibia	Y
Jonathan Young	Namibia	N
Barry Edgley	Australia	Y
Cristian Rando	Argentina	Y
Ian Dixon	United Kingdom	N
Tom Morris	United Kingdom	Y
Aeschlimann Weiner	Belgium	N
Patrick Cammers	Belgium	Y
Alfred Throner	Austria	Y
Paul Schouten Trautig	Netherlands	Y
Bob Klaassen	Netherlands	N
Ulrik Sandgren	Sweden	Y
Stefan Karlsson	Sweden	N
Vlad Lobaev	Russia	Y
Roland Thomsen	South Africa	Y
Lukas Barnard	South Africa	N
Jan Botha	South Africa	N
Manny Garcia	Philippines	Y

## **Mr Duckworth appointed as Secretary of meeting.**

President welcomed delegates and thanked the Austrian Benchrest Federation for doing a wonderful job in staging this championship. Carried with acclamation.

### **Minutes of 2005 meeting:**

Moved as accepted: Germany

Seconded: Philippines Carried

### **Matters Arising:**

No matters arising.

### **President's Report:**

Posted on World Benchrest Shooting Federation website six months ago, so not read.

Moved as accepted: Australia

Seconded: Germany Carried

Any matters to be discussed. No.

### **Applications for admission:**

Belgium

Czech Republic

Ireland

Monaco

President advised Ireland not present, due to urgent medical reasons.

Mr Cammers from Belgium spoke. They are in early stage of benchrest. Not easy to stage matches as unable to reload on the range. Ranges mostly indoors. However expect to grow and very happy to be here.

Czech Republic have few ranges. Problems with components – expensive. Started with rimfire. Waiting on rifles.

Family Deletang from Monaco present at meeting.

Proposed by President that the Interim members be welcomed as full members.

Declared by acclamation.

The President also welcomed Dr Cristian Rando - delegate from Argentina, being this countries first attendance at the championship. Argentina described situation in South America. Components are a problem; hopefully membership of WBSF will help. They are ready to assist promote the Sport in South America.

### **Paper No. 1 Obtaining and retaining membership.**

President used example of Russia and competing organisations looking to represent BR including the ISSF affiliate. South Africa asked what ISSF has to do with benchrest? President says not an ISSF versus others, just an example on competing interests. Philippines said for many countries benchrest is essentially privately funded, not nationally funded. Russia said situation of competing organisations may be common in future. Mr Lobaev explained situation in Russia commenting at the beginning there were very few benchrest shooters in Russia, but grew rapidly. United Kingdom suggested that initial member country could only be challenged after (say) ten years.

President outlined proposal in paper No. 1. Germany said good point that affiliated organisation should talk to other organisations. United States said same issue in United States, and they try

to get shooters from both organisations (IBS/NBRSA). NBRSA does not participate in organisation as such. United States looking to get best shooters regardless of organisation. Australia said if bad for centrefire, much worse for rimfire and that problems exist between Government sanctioned Olympic organisations and others - Czech Republic indicated similar problems. In United States there are two strong bodies, but in small countries the Olympic organisation may be not interested in benchrest at first, but when it gets successful there will be problems. Russia says same problems. Italy says perhaps there will be difficulties in newly free countries.

*Proposed addition to the Rule: A5 Multiple Representation*

*Where an Association / Federation accepts such responsibility, it is required to ensure all competitors from that country who wish to represent their country, are provided with the opportunity to qualify for such teams.*

Moved: President that paper and recommendation be accepted.

Seconded: South Africa Carried

Canada suggested six month period in which comments could be provided.

#### **Paper No. 2 Payment of entry fees.**

President spoke to paper. Austria said an organising committee has costs to stage the event but no money. In addition changing exchange rates also create problems. Canada – payment of entry fees even six months ahead is short. United States agreed there is a problem. Australia suggested that 12 months in advance, 50% should be paid. Canada suggested maybe a particular date in January. Australia said team membership is different from financial commitment. Austria said changing team membership creates problems with a lot of extra work if left until the last minute. United States commented life changes for competitors, perhaps financial penalty if last minute changes (loss of entry fee). South Africa feels six months is sufficient.

Suggested therefore to extend to six months before the event the payment of entry fees.

The following changes apply to WBSF Operating Manual:

#### **4.5 Six Months Pre - Competition.**

*Closing date for preliminary entries by number of competitors and teams by member countries together with payment of full entry fees which are non refundable.*

*The host country may consider a partial refund (50%) should exceptional circumstances exist. (The Delegates Committee considers such circumstances to be competitor illness supported by medical certification, competitor death or family circumstances making participation impossible. In the event of dispute, the matter will be considered by the Delegates Committee for resolution.)*

*In such circumstances a replacement competitor may be entered at no penalty*

*Countries to confirm accommodation / transport requirements.*

#### **4.6 Three Months Pre - Competition.**

*Closing date of final entry of competitors by name and team allocation.*

Moved: United States

Seconded: Germany

Carried

Philippines asked if cancellation within six months, could a substitution be made. President advised present rules accommodate this.

Austria commented that some countries had paid fees from individuals, thus requiring refunds. United States – suggested the organising committee does not give wire information to team members. Argentina expressed concern about other organisations. President commented that the sanctioned body is the only channel of communication and reminded members of their obligations.

### **Paper No. 3 Entry to all events.**

President proposed the following:

*Rule A22: Priority of entry – all events*

*In the event that participation numbers need to be restricted due to range capacity, priority entry will be offered to countries that enter competitors in all matches.*

*Rule A23: All members – right of entry.*

*All member countries have the right to enter one (1) competitor in each championship regardless of the provisions of Rule A22.*

Belgium agrees with proposal. South Africa suggests entry fee is still whole fee, not partial. United States asked if daily fee not championship fee. Canada suggested championship fee not daily fee. United States agrees.

It was resolved that the whole competition fee had to be paid not just a daily fee.

Moved: President

Seconded: Belgium

Carried

### **Paper No. 4 Range sizes versus limited entry.**

Meeting discussed paper submitted by Germany.

Option to have events in the future at venues with minimum 30 benches or 8 relays (no warm ups) or restrict teams. United Kingdom suggested it would be hard getting new ranges built. Sweden has 30 bench range, otherwise no 30 bench range in Europe. Austria says opportunity to extend current ranges is very limited. South Africa comments existing rules deal with priority of entry. Austria – at least one team from each country is desirable, even if beginners cause some problems. Italy – question of mathematics? South Africa – dangerous to limit number of benches, as we may have no bids for championship. Germany – suggests these issues should be included in bidding process. France – asked how many 25 and 30 bench ranges in Europe? Finland/Weimar/Sweden/France/Russia/Spain/Austria has 25 bench ranges. President – comfortable with 25 benches. United States - many large shoots in United States, and wants the sport to grow. Canada – a key part of the sport is camaraderie which is why spreading shoots over two ranges is a bad idea. United States agrees saying aggregates won't compare. The meeting discussed current issue with time availability for day 5 of this championship. United Kingdom – could we drop shoot on the last day? President – what about doing away with warmup group? Meeting agreed that warm-up group was not necessary. Austria said shooters would start on their Group one allocated bench. Canada support, but all countries need to agree in writing. 10 minute first match with no warm-up proposed.

Conclusion: I summing up it was apparent that current rules of 25 benches should remain, with a maximum of 7 relays. At some ranges this will restrict the number of competitors that could be accepted; however the rules provide a method of dealing with this situation. Options are available to dispense with warm-up groups etc to maximise participation. Future bidding countries would be required to explain in detail the arrangements that will be followed.

Moved: President

Seconded: Germany

Carried

Hand vote - All in favour, no objections.

### **Paper No. 5 World Rimfire Championship.**

President outlined paper. Proposed 50 metre score target only - No group shooting. Talk of World Rimfire Championship in Italy. Czech Republic –would like World Championship in Pisa. Australia – asked how much influence have the delegates over rimfire in their country? Mentioned that World Rimfire Benchrest Federation is proposed to be formed. France – World Championship title can only be given by one organisation. In Italy two to three organisations, in United Kingdom BR22 is organising a continental championship and so called World Championship. France had 22 matches, 217 shooters. Australia – several countries want World Benchrest Shooting Federation. How does it come into existence? United States doesn't shoot rimfire. Target is an issue. Rimfire organisations are not compatible in United States. United States looking to convert others to their target. Philippines – Europeans take the lead in advancing proposal. Russia – enthusiasts for every kind of benchrest in room, and World Benchrest Shooting Federation should embrace everything. Australia – Who can represent rimfire here? Might need multiple delegates. Argentina – central control is good, best organisation is Federal. Australia – Are members here prepared to promote rimfire benchrest in their country? France – looking to establish international competition, not rules within countries. Australia – do we have obligation to promote rimfire benchrest? Canada – would involve Canadian rimfire shooters if a governing body existed. Belgium – World Federation should be an example of how to do it, not a rule. It is popular and accessible discipline. Italy – Would you take another delegate for 22?

President – The draft rules as presented would enable the Rimfire people to do their own thing, some countries would have separate delegates, others the existing organisation. France – Even if draft not perfect, need to start as soon as possible, otherwise three World Championships. United States – suggests approving rules.

Conclusion: There was general agreement that WBSF is the master of its own destiny, should proceed to establish a Rimfire Championship on its own terms that best suits the bulk of its members. There may well be competing interests but WBSF needs to have a direction and in time most will join the family.

*Resolution: Agree in principle the establishment of World Rimfire Benchrest Championship Carried.*

### **Paper No. 6 Continental Championships.**

Introduced by Australia. President strongly endorsed regional championships and encouraged members to give early thought to establishing such events.

Carried.

### **Paper No. 7 Past Individual Champions.**

President requested discussion on “right of entry” for past individual champions

United Kingdom view -It is a team competition. United States – absolutely opposed to individual champion having auto entry.

Proposal died for want of a motion.

## **Paper No. 8 Awards.**

Australia outlined proposal.

To replace Section G1 and 2 with the following:

The following list of medals / awards will be presented at each championship.

G1 Medal Distribution.

Teams Championship 2 Gun Grand Aggregate	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 12 medals)
Teams Championship LV Aggregate	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 12 medals)
Teams Championship HV Aggregate	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 12 medals)
Individual Champion 2 Gun Grand Aggregate	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 3 medals)
Individual Champion LV Aggregate	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 3 medals)
Individual Champion HV Aggregate	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 3 medals)
Individual Champion 300 yd or alternative event	(1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 3 medals)

G2 Awards:

Small Group Award LV 100 and 200 yd/m	(2 awards)
Small Group Award HV 100 and 200 yd/m	(2 awards)
Small Group Award 300yd or alternative event	(1 award)

G3 Presentations:

Additional presentations may be made at the discretion of the Organising Committee which could include Top 10 Patches for Individual Classes and Top 20 Patches for Grand Aggregate.

United States – individual awards are a barrier to team shooting - strongly support team concept. Individual medals perhaps of lower quality. South Africa – Agree 100%. Austria – Unsatisfactory to have patches in some places and medals in another. Canada – Team concept endorsed. United Kingdom – only issue is logistics / additional costs. United States – promotes new people and recognises achievement.

Proposed paper as motion.

Moved: Australia

Seconded: United States

Carried.

## **Paper No. 9 Bidding Process - Australia.**

Australia outlined its concerns with the current bidding process and considered a system needed to be introduced to ensure a fair allocation of the championship to all regions of the world.

United Kingdom – A region could have no-one capable of holding such an event. Australia – then region/countries would pass. Germany – If pass, then only can try again in ten years? Australia – works in Australia with state system. Germany – What about point system? Country with least points has preferences for next bid. United States – look forward to visiting other areas, favour new places.

President – suggest in principle acceptance, come back in two years. Australia – Could it be done faster? Canada – Approve paper without example. President – Recommends forming a working party to develop the proposal. Germany – Prior to event, some reasonable event to be held.

Working party: Australia, President, Canada, Germany, South Africa.

Meeting agreed to establish a working party with participants as above.

## **2009 Championship**

South Africa – advised they were match ready. For the event to be a success need the full support of our members. Assurance from South Africa Police that no problems with importing firearms. 3000 beds within 18 kilometre radius. 18 kilometres north of Pretoria.

[www.wbc10.co.za](http://www.wbc10.co.za) will be available after Austria.

Question about barrels. No problem with importation of barrels. Will be able to buy VV powder. South Africa will help with shipping information. Currently South Africa Rand – 10 Rand to Euro Have 30 benches and can therefore accommodate 210 shooters. Proposed date: June 2009. The weather will be a little cooler than Holles. No malaria in winter season.

## **Bids for 2011.**

France has confirmed its bid for 2011 – will be 20th year jubilee of WBC. Range is in Volmerange les Mines in eastern part of France, in Lorraine, which borders 3 countries. Distances to travel to range - Paris 365 kilometres, Frankfurt 254 kilometres, Zurich 399 kilometres, Luxemburg 28 kilometres. Many hotels within 20 kilometres.

Shooters will need to declare weapons at place of entry to France. Freight reception service available.

Range is baffled, one of the largest multidiscipline ranges in the country.- You cannot see the sky from where you shoot. Shoot 100 metres on one range, 200 metres on other. 25 benches. So number restricted to 180 places 200 parking places. 2.40 metre poles in middle of range. 130,000 licensed shooters and 4700 ranges in France. Event will be held end of August/beginning of September.

## **Indications of interest 2013.**

Argentina – Buenos Aires

Russia

Australia

Mr Smith reconfirmed as President.

Mr Ratigan available as Vice President. Mr Ratigan reconfirmed.

## **Constitution for Federation.**

1<sup>st</sup> – South Africa – proposed proceeding with long constitution as tabled by the President.

2<sup>nd</sup> – USA

Carried

**Meeting closed at 2230.**

**President**

**Date**