



President: J.B.De Beer (RSA) **Vice-President** C.C.C. Cheshire, O.B.E. (GBR) **Secretary-General:** E.P.J.Harrison (GBR)

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 August 2015 at Camp Perry Ohio, USA

Present:

President Mr B de Beer
Vice President Mr CCC Cheshire, OBE
Secretary-General Mr EPJ Harrison (also as Chairman Commonwealth Committee and Convenor IRRG)

Committee Chairmen

World Championship Mr DR Flaharty (and as USA Council Member)
Target Rifle Mr IW Robertson
Veterans Apologies from Mr M Barr

Full Members: Australia : Ms C Berry
Great Britain: Mr J Webster
New Zealand: Mr B Mehrtens
South Africa: Mr B de Beer
United States: Mr D Flaharty
Canada: Mr P Westlake
Channel Islands: Mr M Creber

Affiliate Members:

England: Mr C Cheshire
Northern Ireland: Mr G Alexander
Japan: Mr Y Sakakibara

Non-Voting Advisers:

IRRG: Mr R Mullin
CI: Ms L Watson
GB: Mr C Brooks
Canada: Mr S Bissonnette

Apologies: Kenya, Germany, R of Ireland, Ukraine, West Indies, Barbados, Bermuda, CPC, Falkland Is, Guyana, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Malaysia, Namibia, Scotland, Slovenia, Spain, Trinidad.

1. President's opening remarks

1.1 The President welcomed all the delegates to the Meeting. At his request, the Meeting paused in silence in memory of past President AAM Loughnan, who had passed away since the last

general Assembly. Mr de Beer reminded the meeting that the Veterans Match alongside the America Match had been named the “Tony Loughnan Memorial Match” in his memory.

2. Minutes of 2011 GA Meeting

- 2.1 The Minutes were approved electronically following the 2011 Council.
- 2.2 S-G reported that the further study of No/Reduced Danger Area Ranges fell on the death of AAM Loughnan, with additional difficulties in finding suitable technical Representatives. This would be referred to in the TRC Report.
- 2.3 The S-G succeeded in recovering the Malaysian arrears: this is mentioned further in his report.

3. President’s Report

- 3.1 The President gave a verbal report, which Council accepted report *nem con*.

4. Secretary General’s Report

- 4.1 The Secretary-General’s report was as attached to the Agenda. However, this needed to be amended, in that Northern Ireland was now in good standing and there was no need to discontinue its membership
- 4.2 Secretary-General reported that Malaysia’s arrears as agreed at the previous Council had been recovered. Although Malaysia had subsequently fallen behind again, he was confident that a sum similar to that agreed by the last GA would be recoverable again. In view of the changed relationship with CSF, its Observer Membership had been discontinued.
- 4.3 S-G remarked that, as had been the case for his predecessor, he spent too much of his time chasing annual subscriptions from members. In response to NZL, he indicated that he proposed to hand over to his successor a new distribution list containing financial points of contact

Financial Matters

4.a.1 The **accounts** for the Confederation from the date of the 2011 Council to the date of the 2015 Council were presented to the Meeting. The accounts show a modest surplus over the period of \$CAN 7763.08 and a cumulative surplus of \$CAN 28,198, this despite the relatively high incidence of visits to future hosts of, and actual, ICFRA Matches, but offset by the fact that the S-G had declined the available honorarium. However, a query has arisen with the DCRA regarding a small amount of income in 2013, so the accounts could only be considered ‘provisional’ pending reply: any change would in fact increase the surplus slightly. Moved by GB, seconded by NZL that the Accounts be accepted subject to circulation of a final statement when the query had been resolved. Passed *nem con*.

4.b.1 [Item taken AFTER 4.c.1] The budget for the confederation for the period from the date of this assembly to the end of 2019¹ was presented. The proposed Membership rates, broadly calculated at \$CAN 1.66 = £1.00 (but rounded up to allow for F/E Fees) were: Full £250; Affiliate £130; Observer £65. S-G Honorarium £1525. Against a full programme of travel, and with the S-G Honorarium in payment, the budget proposed a surplus of £850 over the 4-year period. Council agreed the new membership fees. Moved AUS, seconded USA that the budget be accepted: passed *nem con*.

¹ Because the 2019 GA is right at the beginning of the financial year for subscriptions

4.c.1 DCRA has provided the 'Finance Officer' service for ICFRA since the formation of the Confederation. It was suggested that perhaps another Country might take over the role, and S-G – noting that his successor must inevitably be British – had reached agreement with the NRA of Great Britain that it would provide the service *in lieu* of its Membership fee. He invited GA so to resolve. Moved GB, seconded NZL and passed *nem con*.

5. Constitution & SO. Amendment to include management of Commonwealth Games FB Event

5.1 Chairman Commonwealth Committee outlined the role played by ICFRA in the Management of the FB Rifle Event at the 2014 Commonwealth Games, providing a "Technical Assistant (FBR)" to the ISSF Technical Delegate. Since it seems likely that this will be required for 2018 and into the future (if shooting survives as a CWG Sport), he invited GA to approve a Constitutional amendment to recognise the role of Technical Assistant and to recognise the 4-yearly 'Meeting of CW FB Nations' held in the margins of the CWG as a Meeting of the ICFRA CW Committee and to recognise its elected Chairman as Chairman of ICFRA CW Committee. Further, he proposed a new Standing Order to provide oversight by the President and the Secretary-General of the appointment of the Technical Assistant. Moved GB, seconded NZL that the Constitutional and SO amendments be made. In Favour 9, against Nil, Postal votes in favour 3. Passed.

6. Management of ICFRA's International Matches

6.1 Following the 2013 F-Class World Championship, S-G had reviewed the events at that Championship in relation to the management of ICFRA's International Matches. He concluded that ICFRA should have a policy of ensuring that a senior official was present at every ICFRA World Championship and International Match: this is akin to the ISSF policy of appointing a 'Technical Delegate' for each of its own major events. He went on to review the functioning of an ICFRA Match Committee in the light of the pressures which arose at FCWC 2013. He proposed that the CRO and Referee should cease to be members of the Match Committee; that the ICFRA official present at the Match should be a non-voting Member of the Committee (unless *two* members thereof had to disqualify themselves, when he/she would vote), and that a fourth "reserve" Committee Member should be appointed to cover the first vacancy should one member have to disqualify himself.

6.2 Changes to the World Championship Management rules require a majority of the 4 ICFRA Chairmen (WCC, TR, FCC and Veterans) and this has been approved unanimously by the four of them, together with WCC in Committee: Council endorsed the changes *nem con*.

7. Palma 2019: New Zealand

7.1 New Zealand provided an audio-visual report on proposals for the 2019 Palma which included, among other things, a statement that the activities of Event Managers and the renovation of the ranges would NOT generate costs to be recovered from the competitors. Council expressed its satisfaction with the proposals. NZL requested that potential competing nations should notify NZNRA of their intentions, and should provide a robust point-of-contact: a form on which to provide necessary information was passed to representatives of competing nations for completion and return.

8. Reports of Committee Chairmen:

8.a.1 FCC Kenny Proulx had produced a short Report to Council outlining development in F-Class Rules and looking forward to the FCWC in 2017 at Connaught Ranges, Ottawa. Canada had ambitions to hold U-25 FC World Championships (which would not be met with sufficient entry in 2017), but such designation was Council's prerogative. S-G had undertaken to mention this to Council, and Council agreed that U-25 F-Class World Championships would be a valuable development for FC Shooting at an appropriate stage in the future, were FCC to raise such a request. Council 'received' the report with favourable comment.

8.b.1 TRC. TRC had passed a number of uncontroversial amendments, mentioning the new provision for a 'ten minute warning' by the CRO of completion of a distance in a Team Match, mainly on grounds of ensuring that any challenges to CRO's timekeeping could be made in a timely fashion. Council endorsed this change.

8.b.2 TRC had agreed to the deletion of the last sentence of rule T2.4 and the corresponding sentence in T2.22 on the grounds that it was not a 'rule' as such. TRC reserved its position regarding the desirability (or not) of setting up a rifle/ammunition combination which ensured the bullet was touching the lead. **ACTION: Chairman TRC; within the period of the 1-year rule.**

8.b.3 The issue of 'monolithic' bullets was raised by USA, but without the request for inclusion in ICFRA Rules. It had been agreed that the USA would provide a suitable Technical Paper for the Committee's consideration within the year, and for resolution by 2019. **Action: US TR representative/Chairman TR**

8.b.4 Regarding Electronic Targets (ETs) it had been agreed that work ceased temporarily in 2013 should be restarted, with IRRG (PH) being copied in on US HiPower Committee deliberations, followed by his likely visit to Australia in 2017 and continuing contact with the NRAA rules officer. The outcome should be an ICFRA specification and associated rules by 2019 : **Action IRRG (PH)**

8.b.5 Debate regarding ETs had added urgency to concerns that the prohibition of wireless communications on the Firing Point was leading to major difficulties with procuring wired coaching sets: arguably advances in technology had overtaken the rules in this area. IRRG was asked to provide a 'scoping' paper addressing the broad issues involved, and to do so within 6 months. **Action: IRRG as above.**

8.b.6 TRC had been made aware of ever-increasing difficulties in the international transport of ammunition/components: indeed, provision of good quality 'issue ammunition' was now less unattractive a proposition that had formerly been thought. TRC was requested to consider further and report back in June 2016. **Action: Chairman TRC as above.**

8.c.1 Veterans Committee. SG reported that Veterans Committee had considered the broad request from RSA to review the Team sizes of WC Team matches, and there was no majority for a change. The election of a new Chairman *vice* Mick Barr had not been completed satisfactorily, though a suitable candidate had been identified. Council felt that the process of Vets Committee holding electronic meetings in lieu of face-to-face should cease. S-G indicated that he (or his successor) would conduct the necessary election and place the Committee on a sounder footing.. **Action – S-G**

8.d.1 World Championship Committee. A full written application had been received from South Africa to host the 2023 Palma Match. WCC noted that South Africa had addressed every relevant point in the World Championship Management document and given the necessary undertakings, and recommended that Council endorse acceptance of the bid. It was noted that Great Britain would be 'due in turn' to host the 2027 Palma and was willing so to do. The SA bid was accepted.

8.d.2 Chairman WCC reported on the relatively minor changes required in the rules (see also 6.1/6.2 above). Canada had proposed that the U-25 Team WC should revert to "one Team per Nation", and this had been passed by 4 votes to 3. However, since the reversal of a full Council decision was involved, Council needed to have final say. After much debate (see below) Council confirmed the change by 5 votes to 1 with 1 abstention.

8.d.3 Council considered various options which might help to achieve the objective of encouraging the U-25 programmes in all countries by providing increased (but suitable) access to ICFRA international opportunities. Considerations include: Teams of 8 on two targets; Teams of 6 on two targets (these foregoing exercising match skills absent from Teams of 5); Multiple Teams of 5 with only one nominated as eligible; larger teams (best 5 to count) and division into a match for big teams and a separate match for small teams. The President referred back the question of how best to encourage u-25 participation to WCC with an action date within the '1-year rule'. **ACTION WCC.**

8.d.4 Canada had also proposed that the U-25 Individual WC should revert to its original scheduling of being shot concurrent with the host-nation preliminary matches (i.e. the same as for the veterans WC). This had achieved a 2;2 split vote in WCC: Council, however, voted by 4:2 in favour of reverting, and asked IRRG to adjust the eligibility date accordingly.

8.d.5 It was agreed in WCC and by Council, that the pre-nomination date for Palma Teams should be the end of day 1 of the Individual LRWC, rather than day 1 of the pre-meeting, and that there should be (a) medal(s) for the highest under-25 and U-21 in the ILRWC.

8.e.1 Commonwealth Committee. Chairman CW Committee briefly summarised in his report the outcomes of the Glasgow 2014 Games, and the meeting of CWG held in the margins thereof. He noted that the existing Chairman of CWC had been re-appointed by the Meeting, which had also adopted "current" (as opposed to immediately previous) ICFRA Technical Rules for future FBR events. He then briefed Council verbally on the threats both to the Fullbore Rifle event at Durban 2022, and the more general – and serious – threat to Shooting within the Games posed by the report "Transformation 2022". It was critical that both threats should be defeated at the Meeting of the Commonwealth Games Federation to be held in Auckland on 1st and 2nd September. This required the Commonwealth Games Associations of every Shooting Country to be vigorously lobbied and persuaded to vote the proposals down. He had approached every CWC Member of ICFRA and reminded the Meeting that any country which has NOT lobbied its CGA to date MUST do so with vigour **immediately** upon the return of its delegates from this World Championship Meeting. The President indicated that the designated SA range had now received an assessment visit by the D2022 Team and the Military, and felt that this might well be a hopeful sign. **Action: ALL Members to ensure that their CGAs require the reinstatement of FBR, and vote against the 'T2022' Document (Agenda Item 009(c)) at the forthcoming CGF General assembly in Auckland**

9. To appoint a new Secretary-General for ICFRA for the period 2015 – 2019.

9.1 Two candidates had put themselves forward for the post of Secretary-General in succession to EPJ Harrison, who retires following the 2015 World Championship. They were Mrs K Robertson (GBR) and Mr CM Brooks (GBR). In the absence of Mrs Robertson, Mr I Robertson spoke briefly on her behalf, and Mr C Brooks was afforded time for a brief statement. In the absence of Messrs Brooks and Robertson, Council divided on a secret vote (including 3 postal votes) and elected Mr C Brooks as Secretary-General with effect from 2 September 2015

9.2 The retiring S-G, had offered to continue to act as ICFRA Webmaster – an offer which both candidates were pleased to accept, and which Council endorsed.

9.a.1 ICFRA needs to have a standing Disciplinary Committee appointed on a contingency basis. The current Members include the Councillors for the time being of New Zealand, Australia and Canada. Following enquiry showing that these three appointees would be prepared to continue in post, Council confirmed their reappointment for the period 2015-2019.

10. ICFRA Office bearers (S-G in the chair). Nominations for the posts of President and Vice President had been invited, and none had been received. The two current incumbents had indicated a willingness to continue, and were eligible under the rules so to do. Accordingly, the Chairman declared them duly elected without a division.

11. AOB. Noting the technicality that Mr Harrison could not remain on IRRG without displacing an existing incumbent, the President - wishing to retain his involvement -, proposed that “as a considered exception IRRG should continue for the time being with 4 members rather than the required 3”. This was agreed unanimously.

12. No further business arose. NZL proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Secretary General – passed with acclaim – and the President closed the Meeting at 1205.

