



President: A.A.M. Loughnan (NZL) **Vice-President:** Prof. A.R. Horrocks (GBR) **Secretary-General:** C.C.C. Cheshire, O.B.E. (GBR)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ICFRA COUNCIL and GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HELD ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 7th 2011 AT 9 a.m. at the QRA Club, Belmont Ranges, Brisbane, Australia**

PRESENT:

President: - AAM Loughnan
Secretary-General: - CCC Cheshire (also as England Council delegate standing in for PN Hinchliffe and GB Council standing in for JGM Webster)

Committee Chairmen:

World Championships - GE Grosskreutz (also as Australia Council Member)
 Target Rifle - IW Robertson
 Veterans - E Newman (Standing in for ME Barr)
 Commonwealth - EPJ Harrison (also as Observer Member CSF)

Full Members: Canada - SJ Bissonnette (standing in for SE Frost)
 New Zealand - BD Mehrtens
 Republic of South Africa - B de Beer
 United States of America - DR Flaharty

Affiliate Members: Northern Ireland - G Alexander (standing in for R McVeigh)

Non-voting

Advisors: Australia - J Fitzgerald
 USA - M Tompkins

Apologies: CC Mallett - Channel Islands
 D Briand - Continental Palma Council
 Prof AR Horrocks - Great Britain
 J Frey - Germany
 S Vayani - Kenya
 JM de Bruijn - Netherlands
 D Lee - West Indies & Jamaica
 M Holder - Barbados
 S Rayner - Bermuda
 G Goodwin - Falkland Islands
 M Persaud - Guyana
 R Moran - Israel
 M Alberini - Italy
 Y Sakakibara - Japan
 A Othman - Malaysia
 GJF Gous - Namibia
 RM McVeigh - Northern Ireland
 HL Hunter - Scotland
 F Quilis Bonet - Spain
 M Homer - Trinidad & Tobago
 L Bartholome - Chairman F Class Committee
 Dr R Mullin - Chairman Anti-Doping Committee

1. The President welcomed all those present at the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** – as listed above
3. **Minutes of the Council meeting held in August 2007.** The President asked that the minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in Connaught Ranges, Ottawa, Canada on 15th August 2007 be approved – Proposed by SJ Bissonnette (CAN) and seconded by B de Beer (RSA). Carried without dissent. Mr Harrison reported that F-Class Committee had reaffirmed the desire that the F/TR bullet weight for .308 WIN should be unlimited (Min 14 refs).
4. **President's report.** His report was as attached to the agenda. He made a particular point in thanking the Committee Chairmen, Phil Harrison and Colin Cheshire for all their hard work and dedication. The report was proposed for adoption by SJ Bissonnette (CAN) and seconded by DR Flaharty (USA) and was carried without dissent.
5. **Secretary General's report.** His report was as attached to the agenda. The Secretary-General made specific reference to his report and in particular to three items: firstly that it was vital that Committee and Council members must be authorised by their NRAs to make decisions at Committee and Council meetings and also during electronic discussions; secondly that Committee and Council members ideally should respond more promptly to e-mails and that it was generally unacceptable for up to 9 e-mails to have to be sent to gain an answer; and finally he said that he was disappointed he had become aware that one individual who was party to the business of ICFRA had quite clearly wrongly briefed his NRA on the workings of the Confederation and that such behaviour was unacceptable.
6. **Accounts** - to agree the financial statement of accounts for the period 2007-2011 (as attached at Annex A) and to approve a budget for the next four year period. The President went through the 4 year accounts to 2011 and also the proposed budget for the forthcoming 4 year period (as shown in the President's report.) The President sought approval for both items and this was proposed by EPJ Harrison (GBR) and seconded by E Newman (USA) and carried without dissent.
7. **To ratify amendments made to the Constitution** undertaken by the Council since the previous General Assembly. The revised Constitution was sent to all members of the General Assembly and approved by e-mail on 7th Mar 2011. Formal ratification was proposed by SJ Bissonnette (CAN) and seconded by DR Flaharty (USA) and carried unanimously.

Mr Harrison then proposed the following minor amendment:

"The revised Constitution of ICFRA and the new Standing orders were approved without dissent on 7 March, so Item 7 of the Agenda acts as a formal recognition of the fact. Since March 7th it has become apparent that one phrase used in the draft Constitution can be interpreted to mean that the World Long Range Team Match is no longer known as the 'Palma Match'. [It is merely not a 'Palma Match' IF the US were not to be participating]. IRRG asks the General Assembly to permit the removal of the words "previously also known as" [the Palma Match] at Clause 45; noting that this is a purely editorial amendment with NO substantive content or intent."

Proposed by SJ Bissonnette (CAN), seconded by DR Flaharty (USA) and this was carried unanimously.

8. **Report by the Chairman of the World Championship Committee (WCC) (Geoff Grosskreutz, AUS).** The Minutes of the World Championship Committee (WCC), held on 6th October 2011, are attached to these Minutes (at Annex B). The Council approved all the recommendations of the WCC including the proposed locations of future ICFRA Matches.
9. **Report by the Chairman of the TR Committee (TRC) (Iain W Robertson, GBR).** The Minutes of the TR Committee held on 6th October 2011 are attached to these Minutes (at Annex C). The Council approved of all the recommendations submitted by the TRC.

10. **Report by the Chairman of the Commonwealth Committee (CC) (Phil Harrison, ENG).** Supplementary comments were also made by him as CSF Observer and Chairman of CSF FB Committee. His report is attached to these Minutes at Annex D.
10. **Report by E Newman (USA) on the behalf of the Chairman of the Veterans Committee (VC).** He reported that the VC had made no recommendations for changes to their programme or rules for the future and that the Committee had re-elected Mick Barr (GBR) as the Chairman of the Veterans Committee.
12. **To receive a written report (attached to the agenda) by the Chairman of the F Class Committee (FCC) (Larry Bartholome, USA).** This report was attached to the agenda and was proposed for adoption without dissent.
13. **To appoint a new Secretary-General of the Confederation.** Two people had submitted their names, curriculum vitae (c.v.) and photos for consideration for election to this position, namely EPJ (Phil) Harrison (GBR) (currently Chairman of the ICFRA IRRG and Commonwealth Shooting Federation (CSF) Observer member on Council, and Chairman of the CSF Full Bore Committee) and Mrs Karen Robertson (GBR), currently employed by the NRA of GB in their Shooting Division. A secret paper ballot was held and to this were added the postal votes received by the Secretary-General. The result was that Mr EPJ (Phil) Harrison was elected as Secretary-General of the Confederation by 22 votes to 5. Mr Harrison expressed his thanks to those that had put their trust in him and hoped that he would be able continue the good work of his predecessor. He emphasised the remarks of his predecessor regarding the undesirability of the need repeatedly to chase Councillors for response to e-mail correspondence.
14. **To elect a Treasurer** – DCRA had intimated that it was willing to continue with its book keeping role in this matter. Council approved without dissent that DCRA be requested to continue in the role of book keeper and thanked them for their continuing services. The Secretary-General asked that the Minutes reflect the thanks of Council to Kathy Corcoran in DCRA for all her hard work in ensuring that the ICFRA accounts were maintained in good order. Mr Harrison asked Council if they were content that he should act as the ICFRA Treasurer as was permitted by the Constitution, this was approved without dissent.
15. **To elect a new President** – There had been only one nomination, that of Mr Bernard de Beer, currently the Republic of South Africa Council member and President of the South African Bisley Union who was proposed by Bevan Mehrtens, Council member for New Zealand, and seconded by the President, Tony Loughnan. Mr de Beer had accepted his nomination. Mr de Beer was therefore elected unopposed and with acclamation as President of the Confederation.
16. **To elect a new Vice-President** — There has only been one nomination, that of Colin CC Cheshire, OBE, currently the Secretary-General of ICFRA. He was proposed by England and Great Britain by Prof AR Horrocks, of which he is the President of the English XX Club, current Vice-President of ICFRA, GB Council member and Vice-Chairman of the NRA of GB and seconded by Bernard de Beer, President of SABU and the Republic of South Africa Council member. Mr Cheshire had accepted his nomination. Mr Cheshire was therefore elected unopposed and with acclamation as Vice-President of the Confederation.
17. **Any other business**
 - a. Consideration of adoption as ICFRA documents of the NRANZ Rules for Range Certification. (Tony Loughnan). The President proposed that a committee be formed to consider the adoption by ICFRA of the NRANZ rules for certification of rifle ranges and report back to the Council with recommendations by the end of 2012. He requested that three actions be undertaken, namely to carry out or obtain peer reviews, to revise the documentation as seen fit and to make recommendations. This could lead to one of three results, that no further action be taken, to adopt as an ICFRA document or to endorse as an accepted solution for range certification.

The President further outlined his purpose which was to provide the ICFRA membership with range design and certification rules based on and appropriate to appropriate ICFRA Fullbore shooting practices so that ranges with adequate safety but not wasteful of land are made available so as to encourage the growth of the sport.

There followed a lengthy discussion on how countries might persuade their range certification authorities to adopt such a new and radical procedure. It was acknowledged that the fact the military authorities in New Zealand had accepted this format might assist other countries to review their own systems. Mr Robertson, supported by others, warned that considerable care needed to be taken to ensure that the Confederation did not acquire inappropriate legal liabilities.

It was agreed that AAM Loughnan (NZL), IW Robertson (GBR), a representative from Canada, Lt Col A Bell (AUS) and DR Flaharty (USA) would form an advisory committee to progress this matter further.

- b. To consider the status of Malaysia as an affiliate member having, as at the date of the Council meeting, failed to pay their subscriptions since 2005. They owe ICFRA \$CAN1295.

This matter was discussed at length by the Council. It was noted that Malaysia had been a member since the inception of ICFRA and that ICFRA had a rule which allowed a substantially reduced subscriptions for those affiliate members with less than 10 members. It was proposed by Mr Alexander (NI) that Malaysia should be asked to pay \$CAN300 by 31st December 2011 in lieu of their unpaid subscriptions and in settlement of their outstanding account for ICFRA documentation supplied, and their annual subscription thereafter would only be \$CAN50 until such time as their membership increased beyond the 10 member level. This was carried without dissent.

- c. **Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.** To appoint three representatives drawn from the appointed representatives of Full and Affiliate Members, the role is described more fully at Paragraphs 63 - 71 of the Constitution. Paragraph 64 of the Constitution states: "At each General Assembly a Disciplinary and Disputes Committee (hereinafter "DDC") will be formed to hold office with immediate effect and until the next following General Assembly. It will be chaired by the Vice President and consist of the Chairmen of the World Championship, Target Rifle and Veterans Committees, one member of the IRRG (not being the Secretary General) and three ordinary Members drawn from the representatives of full and affiliated members. In the absence of the Vice President the DDC will be chaired by one of the ICFRA Committee Chairmen as nominated by the President".

It was agreed that the Council members for Australia, Canada and New Zealand would act as the three ordinary members of this Committee.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting with thanks to all those that had been able to attend and the meeting finished at 11.30 a.m.

Annex B to ICFRA Council Minutes dated 7th October 2011

ICFRA World Championship Committee

The Committee met at 1400 hours on Thursday 6 October 2011 in the QRA Building, Belmont Range Complex.

Minutes

Present: GE Grosskreuz (AUS) Chairman, Mrs DR Collings (NZL), JGM Webster (GB), DR Flaharty (USA), B De Beer (RSA), S J Bissonnette (CAN). In attendance: CCC Cheshire (Sec Gen ICFRA), IW Robertson (Chair, TRC), EPJ Harrison (ICFRA IRRG), AAM Loughan (President)

1. Opening Remarks.

The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting remarking that no introductions were necessary.

2. Minutes of WCC Meeting of 14 August 2007. To approve.

The minutes of the Meeting had previously been circulated and were approved by the Meeting nem con

3. Palma 2015 – USA. Update from USA delegate.

DR Flaharty (USA) provided a comprehensive presentation to the Meeting regarding the plans for, and options relating to, the 2015 Palma Match to be hosted by the NRA of America. Possible venues were Raton (NM), Phoenix (AZ) and Camp Perry (OH). A discussion ensued in which it became apparent that competing Nations would be very comfortable if Camp Perry were selected.

4. Palma 2019 – to consider application(s) to host the 2019 Palma and associated World Championship Matches.

One application to host the 2019 Palma and World Championships was received from New Zealand. This was approved by the Meeting. It was noted that RSA would be likely to apply to host the 2023 event. Following a suggestion from the President the Committee agreed that the now well-established rota for hosting the Palma Match should become the norm subject, of course, to any new potential hosts being given an opportunity to bids. (Rota is - 2003 (GBR), 2007 (CAN), 2011 (AUS), 2015 (USA), 2019 (NZL), 2023 (RSA), 2027 (GBR).

5. Australia Match – to consider timetabling of the match 2011-2015.

Australia indicated that it would be happy for the Match to revert to its normal nominal 4 year cycle, with the next Match being held in 2013, followed by 2017.

The Chairman invited expressions of interest for 2013. The West Indies had instructed the Secretary-General to place an application on the table for a Match to be held in the WI in April/May 2013 at the WI Championship to which two ICFRA Member Nations were already sending Teams. The possible venues were Barbados (16 Targets) or Jamaica (24 targets). RSA also indicated a willingness to host the Match: however, it became apparent that a GB Team Team was NOT scheduled to attend the SABU Meeting, and that any Australian presence was likely to be unofficial. Noting that NRA of Australia needed to consider and confirm whether an Australian Team could attend, the Committee was content for the WI proposal to go forward subject thereto. A preference for the match to be held in Barbados was expressed, with Canada indicating that it would be equally happy to attend Jamaica were the match to be there.

RSA indicated that it would wish to hold the 2017 Match at Bloemfontein and this was agreed by the Committee for forwarding to NRAA.

6. Report from Chairman of TR Committee. To consider any matters arising.

Mr Robertson summarised the outcomes of the morning's meeting. There were no matters which affected the WCC's prerogatives, and the WCC received Mr Robertson's report. The TRC minutes can be seen as attached to the ICFRA Council Minutes.

7. To consider proposals from IRRG for adjustments to the Rules for Management of ICFRA World Championships and to various Match Conditions.

a. Management Rules. Substantial Material in Part One was moved to ICFRA Constitution and Standing Orders in the 2010 review of the Constitution. Approved

b. Long Range World Championships. Two minor editorials. Approved

c. Veterans World Championship. The Veterans Committee has called for no changes.

d. Age-Groups World Championships.

i. From GB: That ICFRA U25s TR competitions are always based on two targets per team. [Rationale: All senior matches involve two or more targets per team and so part of the U25 experience-building process should reflect this requirement].

Mr Harrison gave a brief background to the current situation: There were opposing pressures: on the one hand to replicate the style of Team Shooting likely to be encountered by Under-25s when subsequently shooting for full National teams; and on the other to ensure that team sizes (and hence resource demands) were such that enough nations could bring teams in addition to their Palma and Veterans teams. There was an increasing danger of there not being sufficient teams to merit World Championship status. Following much debate and a decision in 2007 confirmed by a subsequent electronic vote, the balance had fallen in favour of the latter. After considerable debate it was concluded by a majority that the existing conditions be reaffirmed.

ii. From GB: That the U25s TR community have formal representation at ICFRA level. [Rationale: currently all decisions made regarding U25s shooting are made with no input from this age group].

Following discussions the Committee reached the view that ICFRA is a Confederation of NRAs, and it is for NRAs themselves to determine the views of their under-25 cohorts and for their representatives to reflect them into ICFRA Business. However a proposal that a standing Item for "Age Group matters" should be included in future WCC Agendas was passed unanimously, and IRRG was invited to take any consequential action in relation to ICFRA Standing Orders.

e. Australia Match: to endorse proposed amendments.

The new provisions for governance of the Match were agreed without dissent: but an amendment to provide for multi-national Teams was remitted to IRRG to clarify and re-submit to NRAA.

8. Any Other Business of which due notice has been given.

a. To note that the 2017 FCWC has been awarded to Canada.

The Committee took note

9. To elect a Chairman of this Committee.

From the Chair AUS proposed that D Flaharty (USA) be elected Chairman for the period 2011-2015. This was carried with acclamation.

Annex C to ICFRA Council Meeting dated 7th October 2011

Colmslie Hotel
Brisbane
12 October 2011

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ICFRA TARGET RIFLE COMMITTEE HELD IN QRA CLUB BELMONT RANGES ON 6th OCTOBER 2011

Present:

Iain Robertson	GB	Chairman
John Fitzgerald	AUS	
Tony Loughnan	NZ	
Chris Schulenberg	SA	
Peter Westlake	CAN	

In Attendance:

Colin Cheshire	Secretary General
Phil Harrison	Chairman IRRG
Serge Bissonnette	CAN

Apologies:

Tom Whitaker	USA
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1. Minutes of Previous Meetings. The Minutes of the Meetings of 14th and 31st August 2007, previously approved electronically, were confirmed.
2. Matters arising. None.
3. Rules to be considered.

a. That Rule T2.4 be amended by deletion of the words "Must fall within the envelope defined by the SAAMI or CIP minimum and maximum chamber drawing for .308 Winchester of .223 Remington as appropriate" so as to read

"T2.4 Chamber Dimensions: Bore groove and throat dimensions should be selected to suit the bullets used. A throat diameter smaller than the diameter of the bullet will significantly increase pressure and should not be used."

Approved by consensus

b. That Rule T20.4 be amended so as to mandate two convertible sighting shots in a tie-shoot ie the first sentence to read "Tie shoots will comprise 2 convertible sighters and 5 shots to count at the longest distance of the match." "Consequential" to be incorporated

Approved by majority vote AUS, CAN, NZ in favour; GB and SA dissenting.

c. That the dimensions of the ICFRA Long Range Target be reviewed and reaffirmed.

The Committee was assured that the ICFRA Long Range target as agreed in 2007 would be used for ICFRA events at the 2015 World Championships. It was understood that USA intended to use the US National Long Range target in the associated National competitions.

Approved by consensus

d. That in the event of a challenge for a second shot on the target (Message 6), the competitor should not be required to ‘repudiate’ his shot and should be awarded the score for the shot of higher value, if a second one is found, failing which the original value stands.

The Committee noted that the Draft 2011 Rules proposed by IRRG contained a consequential amendment to the wording of Message 6 itself.

Approved by consensus

e. That the proposals permitting (but not requiring) the use of the “supervue” outlined at Annexes T/D3 and T/C5 for targets in shared use for TR and FC firers be adopted.

The Committee was assured that the proposed target and consequential marking system was in routine use for National competition in Australia and worked well.

Approved by consensus

f. That, subject to the overriding effect of decisions on a to e above, the rule changes proposed by the IRRG in the draft rules [File TR Technical Rules 2011 TRC proposal. doc dated 03/08/2011] be adopted.

(1) The NZ representative proposed that rule T1.8 be amended by the deletion of the last three sentences, so as to place the responsibility for the safety of the firearm / ammunition combination exclusively with the firer. The Committee considered that consequential amendments, which could not be reliably settled during the meeting, would be required. Also, T1.8 was the enabler for inspections to ensure technical compliance with non-safety-related rules and that aspect of the rule needed to remain. The principle of the proposal was accepted.

Decision It was decided that the IRRG would produce a draft amendment to T1.8 to ensure that the safety responsibility for the firearm / ammunition combination lies exclusively with the firer and would draft such other amendments as necessary to enable compliance testing and that the Committee would consider the draft by electronic discussion after the meeting.

(2) The AUS representative stated that Australia would not support the draft amended form of rule T2.5 authorising the use of electronic triggers. It became apparent that there was no consensus within the Committee on this point and that some representatives saw a need to obtain instructions from their governing bodies.

Decision The Chairman would initiate electronic discussion on the admissibility of electronic triggers after the meeting.

(3) The NZ representative proposed amendment of the dimensions of the short range targets as published in the draft table in Annex T/D3. It was considered that the underlying issue was one of arithmetic in preparing some elements of the table.

Decision IRRG would review the published draft short range target dimensions as an administrative change with advice from the NZ representative.

Consequent on the above, it would not be possible to recommend a draft rule set to the Council at its meeting on 7 October.

Decisions

The Chairman would brief the Council of the issues which the Committee would discuss electronically for decision under the “one-year” rule.

Once the Committee had reached a decision in principle on electronic triggers, IRRG would produce a further draft rule set incorporating all changes agreed and including draft changes arising from 3f (1)-(3) above, for consideration under the “one-year” rule.

4. Rule developments to be authorised.

a. That the IRRG consider and if thought appropriate propose rules allowing shelter to be provided for competitors.

Chairman IRRG provided a draft proposal, which would permit shelters to be provided for all competitors, or none, subject to constraints such as range layout. Extant rules prohibiting screening on an individual basis would be maintained. The principle of permitting, but not mandating, the provision of shelter against inclement conditions was accepted.

Decision IRRG would incorporate a draft proposal in the draft rule set to be produced as decided at item 3f.

b. That the IRRG consider and if thought appropriate propose an Annex to the Rules to regulate electronic targets.

It was agreed that such an Annex was necessary. The AUS representative stated that rule development was underway in Australia alongside the rapidly-expanding use of electronic targets in competition up to National level. Chairman IRRG and the NZ representative had practical experience from administering the 2010 Commonwealth Games. It was noted that there were no current plans to conduct an ICFRA event on electronic targets, and that the ICFRA event programme was largely set until beyond 2015.

Decision IRRG would commence preparation of an Annex to the Rules to cover electronic targets. The offer of assistance from NRAA by including the IRRG in their discussion of the matter was gratefully accepted. IRRG would report progress in time for the matter to be reconsidered in 2015.

5. Any other business.

The NZ representative raised the issue of hand-made bullets, which had been raised to him by a NZ competitor. The Chairman was able to provide more detail from limited information gained at Bisley. The bullets in question are turned from a soft bronze bar and typically have a long bearing surface and a needle nose, giving a very high ballistic coefficient. Their ricochet characteristics are also dramatically different from lead-core bullets. With a suitable machine tool they can be produced in industrial quantities at very low unit cost. At least one UK manufacturer is already producing and selling such bullets to both private users and foreign governments. Such bullets are both highly consistent and very little affected by wind compared with jacketed lead bullets of the same calibre and weight. The Committee recognised that the availability of such bullets raised a variety of issues.

Decision The NZ representative would arrange preparation of a discussion paper to initiate consideration of the issues by the Committee in electronic discussion. It was desirable to have the paper available by the end of the year.

6. Election of Chairman. Iain Robertson was nominated by John Fitzgerald, seconded by Tony Loughnan. There were no other nominations.

Approved by consensus

Meeting closed at 1100 hrs

Iain Robertson

I W ROBERTSON

GB representative

Chairman ICFRA TR Committee

Actions:

Chairman 3f, 3f(2), 5, 6

NZ Representative 3f(3), 5

IRRG 3, 3f(1), 3f(3), 4a, 4b

Annex D to ICFRA Council Minutes of 7th October 2011

Reports of the Chairman ICFRA CW Committee and of the CSF/ICFRA Observer to ICFRA General Assembly 2011

Chairman of ICFRA CWC.

The principal events of the last 4 years have been the CSF Championships in Delhi in April 2010, followed by the Commonwealth Games events in October.

The events were shot on the brand new Range at Kadarapur Delhi. This is of revolutionary design, being a No-Danger Area Range to 1000 yards built to the design of LHT Design of New Zealand. It was equipped with electronic targets and was designed on a 'single firing point' basis, with the targets being moved up and down range according to the distance/distances required.

While the NDA concept was demonstrated, as was the flexibility of the range for shooting multiple distances simultaneously, multiple problems arose, as has been well documented. At the CSF Championships (the Games 'test event'), the electronic targets built to a design from Sius Ascor, proved to be unable to cope with the extreme heat experienced (47 Celsius). This required a modification to the target installed on the spot coupled with early starts to shooting and a regime whereby only one distance was shot per day regardless of the normal programme. That is to say, the three three hundred yard shoots were all shot on day 1, rather than day1, day3 and day 4 – and so on. That event was completed with some unease on the part of the competitors, but no major controversy.

The Commonwealth Games was, quite frankly, a shambles. The Australian Ammunition was supplied in multiple batches and the weight of individual rounds varied so widely that it was necessary to weigh the entire competition issue (rejecting over 200 rounds). It was necessary again to shoot the event on the basis of a single distance per day: the time required to move targets back and forth ruled out the traditional programme, and the wear and tear on the targets of the manual handling was, at the very least, prejudicial. While the event more or less staggered to the 600 yards stage, at the long ranges there were multiple failures to record shot arrival and, worse, mis-indications of position. This required shooters to change firing point mid-shoot on multiple occasions and reduced shooter (and jury) confidence to zero. The classification juror was, quite simply, overwhelmed with the number of potential mis-indications to be dealt with.

In hindsight, the principal cause of the problems was almost certainly in the electrical supply rather than the targets themselves: however, it was not possible to diagnose this at the time. New Zealand won the Pairs event, and Messrs Patel (ENG), Corbett (AUS) and Calvert (NIR) took the medals in the individual event. While such an outcome would of itself have raised no eyebrows, there are many outstanding shooters who will reasonably have felt that they had a raw deal. I pay tribute, in particular, to the RO Team of Messrs McDiarmid (AUS), Bornn (CAN) and Turner (ENG), who dealt with the most difficult shooting event I've ever witnessed, with unflappable good humour and competence, a view which I know is shared by the shooters.

There remains for me to pay tribute to my predecessor, Sandy Peden for his tenancy of the Chair of the Committee, and to indicate that my prime objective in the next 4 years (there being no electronic targets in prospect for Glasgow) in finally resolving the interface between ICFRA and the Commonwealth Shooting Federation.

Switching to.....

CSF Observer/Chairman of CSF(FB)

I have nothing to add to the previous remarks regarding India. The 2014 Games will be hosted by Glasgow, with all shooting to be held on the Barry Buddon facilities at Dundee. At this stage the quality of the facilities seems uncertain – the FB Range has had no work done on it since before the 1984 Edinburgh Games, and I detect neither urgency nor enthusiasm on the part of the organisers. The 2018 Games will be held *either* here on the Gold Coast of Australia (with a many shooting events as can possibly be managed) *or* at Hambantota in Sri Lanka with shooting in the programme – but I have no information about FBR at the time of writing.

The President of CSF, Graeme Hudson, suffered a heart attack in August. He reached hospital in time to prevent the worst outcome and is now convalescing – and we wish him well in that. As a consequence, he has relinquished the post of President of CSF and the CSF Exec has appointed Harry Murphy (GIB) to act as President until at least the Olympic Games. An urgent appointment was vital since moves are afoot in the CGF which adversely affect the interests of shooting in the Games, and reflect uncomfortably pressures seen elsewhere, notably in respect of the

Olympics. Principal among them is a move to reduce the CG shooting events to just those held in the Olympics + FB Rifle Pairs and Individual; a position which had been endorsed by ISSF.

European Shooting Federations are co-ordinating a 'Regional' position in opposition to the various changes and hopefully a reduction in the confrontational nature of the stance previously taken by CSF, a stance we believe to be counterproductive. In particular we:-

- a) seek immediate restitution of women's 50m prone rifle on grounds of gender equity and popularity: its removal has caused a storm of protest
- b) note that concentration on the Olympic events removes 25m Pistol (Centre Fire and Standard) – events which are far better entered by CW nations than 25m rapid fire; and protects 50 free pistol in which Commonwealth standards are low in comparison with world standards (this being a factor in determining whether an event should be in the games)
- c) seek restitution of those ISSF-discipline pairs events which meet the minimum entry criteria for the Games (the 10:6:3 rule)
- d) Are seeking to defuse the confrontational effect of CGF wishing to recognise ISSF as its sole adviser on shooting matters. The ISSF has no Commonwealth overview whatever (as evinced by its support for the reduction of the programme) and many commonwealth nations are not, and cannot be, members of ISSF.

The cumulative effect of the proposals is to chip away at shooting's great strengths in the fight for continued inclusion in the Games despite its crippling disadvantage in terms of entertainment and television value. In this respect, I am informed that the BBC has indicated *in writing* that it would not mind in the least if shooting was not in the Games. For these reasons, (and despite a fractious relationship with former CSF management), I have placed FB Rifle's weight unequivocally behind the burgeoning resistance. Whereas the individual causes do not affect our interests directly, the broad thrust is most prejudicial: no shooting = No FBR, period!

Matters come to a head at the CGF General Assembly at St Kitts-Nevis on 11 November, with a day of 'workshops' on 10th. The formal vehicles of resistance are a submission from CSF (which I hope will have been modified along the lines outlined) and a formal motion from Wales. I ask everyone present to do whatever they can to assure that their national CGA/NOC supports the Welsh proposal, and speaks in favour of the thrust of the resistance.

Finally: at the meeting of FB Nations in Delhi, a motion from the chair (opposed by the President) that the shooting technical rules of the Commonwealth Games be those of ICFRA (as necessarily amended), to be coupled with the CSF Conditions of competition, was passed by 20-0. This means that the core reconciliation of ICFRA with CSF in rules matters is achieved; and the rules for 2014 will be as the technical rules for the forthcoming Championships (NB, not as may be altered as a result of the meetings in which we currently partake). A motion to admit handloads to the Games was defeated by 18:2, an unsurprising result given the varying legal access to hand loading facilities throughout the Commonwealth. I would add that I plan that the "Meeting of CW Nations" in Glasgow should be a Meeting of ICFRA CW Committee, thus reducing further the unnecessary interface issues between ICFRA and CSF.