



INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FULLBORE RIFLE ASSOCIATIONS

Minutes of the ICFRA Council and General Assembly meeting held at Connaught Ranges, Ottawa, Canada, on Wednesday 15th August 2007

<u>Present:</u>	S.E. Frost (CAN)	-	President
	Prof. A.R. Horrocks (GBR)	-	Vice-President
	C.C.C. Cheshire (GBR)	-	Secretary-General
<u>Full Members:</u>	S.J. Bissonnette (CAN)	-	Canada and Chairman, Palma & World Championships Committee
	G. Grosskreutz (AUS)	-	Australia
	D. Lee (WI)	-	West Indies (& Jamaica)
	R. van Lingen (RSA)	-	South Africa
	A.A.M. Loughnan (NZL)	-	New Zealand and Chairman TR Committee
	C.C. Mallett (JER)	-	Channel Islands (& Jersey)
	D.M. Mesletsky (GER)	-	Germany
	I.W. Robertson (GBR)	-	Great Britain
	H.J. Walter (USA)	-	United States of America
	A.G. Peden (CAN)	-	Chairman, Commonwealth Committee
<u>Affiliate Members:</u>	R.J. Aitken (SCO)	-	Scotland
	R. Arthur (BAR)	-	Barbados
	J.P. Craven (IRE)	-	Republic of Ireland
	M.E. Barr (ENG)	-	England
	D. Davies (WAL)	-	Wales
	G. Faulkner (NI)	-	Northern Ireland
	M. Persaud (GUY)	-	Guyana
	S. Rayner (BER)	-	Bermuda
	S. Sehmi (KEN)	-	Kenya
<u>Observer Member:</u>	E.P.J. Harrison (ENG)	-	Commonwealth Shooting Federation/IRRG
<u>In attendance:</u>	W. Bartholome (USA)	-	Acting Chairman, F Class Committee
	Mrs. C. Berry (AUS)	-	Australia (EO of NRA of Australia)
	J. Frey (GER)	-	Germany
	P. Ndolo (KEN)	-	Kenya
	M.F. Martel (CI)	-	Channel Islands (& Guernsey)
	M.W. Tompkins (USA)	-	United States of America
	K. Westling (CAN)	-	Acting Chairman, Veterans Committee
	P. Wilson (IRE)	-	Republic of Ireland
	H.R.M. Baillie	-	Irish Rifle Club (Bisley) – for Item 15
	P. Coley (IRE)	-	Irish Rifle Club (Bisley) – for Item 15
<u>Apologies:</u>			
<u>Councillor</u>	<u>Country</u>		<u>Replaced by or proxy given to</u>
R.G. Chombart	CPC		None/Germany
J.D. Cantlay	Zimbabwe		None/South Africa
G. Goodwin	Falkland Islands		None/None
G.J.F. Gous	Namibia		None/South Africa
S.J. Hijman	Holland		None/None
P.N. Hinchliffe	England		M.E. Barr
M. Holder	Barbados		R. Arthur
H.L. Hunter	Scotland		R.J. Aitken
L. Ingram	CPC (Chairman, Veterans)		K. Westling
R. McVeigh	Northern Ireland		G. Faulkner
P. Monaghan	GBR (Chairman, F Class)		W. Bartholome
Y. Sakakibara	Japan		None/None
D.T. O'Leary	Wales		D. Davies
S. Vayani	Kenya		S. Sehmi
<u>Nothing heard from:</u>	J. Singh Sohal (MAW), A. Othman (MAS)		

1. **Welcome** - The President welcomed everyone to this the second ICFRA Council meeting.

2. **Apologies for absence**

The Secretary-General advised Council that the members as shown on Page 1 of these Minutes had apologised for their absence.

3. **President's report and Finances– as attached to the agenda**

The President advised that the only comment he had to make on his written report was to correct his comments about the entry numbers to both the DCRA Meeting and Individual World Championships which were now both full.

The President advised that he had a reasonably up to date statement of the Confederation's finances which are as attached to these Minutes at Annex A. He commented that there still might be errors as some countries had paid their dues on arrival at Connaught Ranges but that the Treasurer had not yet had time to adjust the accounts.

The President recommended that the accounts together with a draft budget for the period 2007-2011 be approved which included:

- a. That ICFRA pay an annual honorarium of \$CAN 2500 to the Secretary-General in lieu of annual expenses but that expenses to the ICFRA Council meeting continue to be paid in addition.
- b. That ICFRA continue to pay travel expenses for a representative (normally a Fullbore jury member) at both the Commonwealth Shooting Federation Championships and Commonwealth Games and also a representative at the F Class World Championships all only if required.
- c. Provision for the hosting of the ICFRA web site

The approval of the accounts was proposed by Mr. Walter (USA) and seconded by Mr. van Lingen (RSA) and carried with the one vote against – Mr. Mallett (Channel Islands).

4. **Secretary-General's report – as attached to the agenda**

No issues were raised.

5. **Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting 14/15 August 2003**

The President asked that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14/15 August 2003 be approved.

Proposed by Mr. Mallett (Channel Islands)
Seconded by Mr. Faulkner (Northern Ireland)

Carried without dissent.

6. **Matters arising from the Council Minutes of the 2003 Meeting:**

By-Laws – undertaken at 2003 Council meeting to be produced by Col. Gilchrist (USA) and the late Colin O'Brien (GBR):

- a. Election procedures
- b. Membership
- c. ICFRA trophies and medals
- d. Voting procedures

None of these have been drafted due to the untimely death of Colin O'Brien (GBR) and the retirement of Col. Gil Gilchrist (USA). Volunteers are required to undertake the drafting of such by-laws or it could be undertaken by the IRRG if so voted by Council.

It was proposed by Mr. Bissonnette (Canada) and seconded by Mr. Robertson (Great Britain) that these matters be dealt with by the IRRG. Carried without dissent.

7. **Report on Rule drafting activity (Richard van Lingen and Phil Harrison - IRRG)**

Mr. Harrison referred to the report of the IRRG sent out with the agenda and additional statement made in April 2006. There were no questions.

The Secretary-General commented that it was hoped to produce a hard backed loose leaf set of ICFRA Rules by early New Year 2008. This would allow amendments to be produced without a complete reprint of the Rules.

It was asked if the Rules would be available on the proposed ICFRA web site and if they would be downloadable to which the answer was affirmative.

8. **The status of the International Rules Review Group (IRRG)**

Following statements by Mr. Harrison and Mr. van Lingen on the current informal status of the IRRG Mr. Loughnan (New Zealand) proposed that the Council adopt IRRG as an executive agency of Council and co-opt such members as required.

This motion was seconded by Mr. Robertson (Great Britain) and carried without dissent.

Mr. Harrison indicated that, in his view, IRRG had enough guidance, together with firm decisions on contentious topics, to complete the Rules. He suggested that this be by submission to Committee Chairmen, followed by a final circulation for ratification by Council. This proposal was agreed noting the USA request that Match conditions be finalised within one year.

9. **Anti-Doping Policy, as approved by Council in 2005:**

At the President's invitation, Mr Harrison outlined the rationale for ICFRA's Anti-Doping Policy as approved by Council, USA dissenting. He pointed out that:-

- a. ICFRA has had an Anti-Doping (A-D) Policy from its inception, and that the last 3 Palma Matches had all been shot under A-D regulations of the host Country,
- b. That the legislative regime in some Countries was such that membership of an International Governing Body (IGB) with an A-D policy was mandatory (even by law in some cases) for all recognised National Governing Bodies,
- c. That if ICFRA wished to stand as part of the Community of IGBs and hold events of the genuine status of "World Championship", an A-D Policy was necessary, and
- d. That the A-D Policy had been carefully worded to align it with WADA provisions while maintaining ICFRA Control of the A-D Regime.

Responding, Mr Walter (USA) drew attention to the costs associated with widespread testing, the lack of legal basis for dope testing in an amateur sport in the USA and the cultural opposition of USA Shooters to such regimes.

Following reassurance that an ICFRA World Championship could be shot under the Anti-doping regulations of the NRA of America, the USA agreed to support the implementation

of the Council's Policy subject to some minor changes in the wording, to be agreed with Mr Harrison. The revised Policy would then be sent to all Members.

10. **Report by the Chairman of the World Championship Committee (WCC)**
(S. Bissonnette, CAN)

The Minutes of the WCC meeting held on 15th August are attached to these Minutes at Annex B. Council approved the matters contained in the Minutes.

The Secretary-General proposed that Council agree that once the WCC had assessed the bid by USA (due in early 2008) to stage the World Championships in 2015 and NZ (should a bid by USA not be forthcoming) then Council would accept the recommendation of the WCC without further consultation. This was agreed.

11. **Report by the Chairman of the TR Committee (TRC) (A. Loughnan, NZL)**

The Minutes of the TRC held on 15th August are attached to these Minutes at Annex C.

Mr. Loughnan proposed that the recommendations as outlined in his Committee Minutes be approved by Council, this motion was seconded by Mr. van Lingen and carried without dissent.

12. **Report by the Chairman of the Commonwealth Committee (CC) (A.G. Peden, CAN)** Supplementary comments by CSF Observer (E.P.J. Harrison)

Mr. Peden gave a short report for the reasons that the CC had been established and thanked Mr. Harrison for his support in ensuring that the revised Commonwealth Games Rules now included all the recommendations of ICFRA.

Mr. Harrison advised that the latest information on the fullbore matches for CSFC (2009) and CG (2010) was that the new range was to be at the Central Police Reserve facility at Kadapur in India and that he was continuing to press for information on the state of play regarding the range construction. He also advised that due to his involvement as Chairman of the CSF Fullbore Committee and as the CSF representative on the ICFRA Council that he would ensure, where possible, that CSF fullbore rules followed ICFRA TR rules guidelines.

13. **Report by the Acting Chairman of the Veterans Committee (VC)**
(K. Westling, CAN)

The Minutes of the VC are attached to these Minutes at Annex D.

Mr. Westling proposed that Council adopt the recommendations of the VC, this was seconded by Mr. van Lingen (RSA) and carried without dissent.

14. **Report by the Acting Chairman of the F Class Committee (FCC)**
(W. Bartholome, USA)

Mr. Bartholome gave a short report on the work of the FCC and the proposal to remove the bullet weight restrictions of F Restricted.

Mr. Frost expressed his concern that F Class Restricted now bore little relation to the F Class proposed by George Farquharson when he proposed that all that should be done was to add a telescope and a bipod to a standard TR rifle so that those getting on in years could continue to shoot. Now it appeared that F Class Restricted would be becoming a form of Match rifle where it required considerable technical skill and expense to compete. Mr. Frost also asked how widespread had been the consultation within the F Class committee and with their NRAs on the proposed removal of the bullet weight for F Restricted. Mr. Horrocks (GB), Mr. Loughnan (NZ) and Mr. van Lingen (RSA) all said that this matter had not appeared in front of their Shooting Committees and/or Councils.

Mr. Bartholome then proposed and Mr. van Lingen seconded that the Council adopt the F Class Match conditions, F Class Rules and regulations and the Technical specification of rifles and ammunition.

Before a vote was taken Mr. Loughnan proposed an amendment that the documents as proposed above should be adopted but with the exception of the bullet weight for F Restricted. This was seconded by Mr. van Lingen and carried with one dissent – Mr. Bartholome (USA).

It was agreed that FCC should be asked to reconsider the issue of bullet weight.

15. To consider the problem of which organisation should represent the Republic of Ireland &/or All Ireland.

Written submissions were sent from each of the involved parties prior to the Council meeting.

Mr. Frost invited Mr. Bailie (IRC(B)) to make any additional comments on the IRC (B) report.

Mr. Bailie thanked the President and advised Council that there were only three points he wished to make:

- a. That IRC (B) wished to be admitted to ICFRA as a full member
- b. If there was a conflict of interest that ICFRA try and resolve the issues.
- c. That ICFRA should recognise the evolution of IRC (B) (originally the IRA – Irish Rifle Association) and the success that IRC (B) had had in running All Ireland teams over many decades of both TR and MR Class teams.

Mr. Frost then asked Mr. Craven (IRE) if he wished to make any comments.

Mr Craven said that the NRA of Ireland was a bona fide organisation set up some 7 years ago and which had SSAI (Shooting Sports Association for Ireland) affiliation. He said the Republic of Ireland wished to train and select teams for the future and that there was no proposal or desire at present to combine with Northern Ireland to form All Ireland teams.

There followed a lengthy discussion in which most members of Council sought answers to many questions from both IRC (B) and NRA of Ireland. Following a proposal by the President the NRA of Ireland and IRC (B) were asked to leave the room so that Council could deliberate on the matter.

A further lengthy discussion followed covering many points at the end of which the President proposed that a secret ballot be taken on the Motion that 'IRC (B) be admitted as a full member of ICFRA'. The result of the ballot was 10 votes against and 6 votes for resulting in a rejection of the proposal. Both parties were advised of the outcome.

16. Election of a new President – nominees must come from within the full members of Council – Rule 16.1.

Mr. Frost advised that Mr. Loughnan had agreed to put his name forward as a nominee. Mr. Frost then asked if there were any other nominations. Mr. Mallett proposed that Mr. Loughnan be elected as President and this was seconded by Mr. Bissonnette. Council voted on the matter and Mr. Loughnan was elected without dissent.

Mr. Loughnan thanked the Council for the honour bestowed on him and advised that part of his agreement to take on the appointment was to stand down as Chairman of the TR Committee but remain as a member of that Committee. He advised that Mr. van Lingen had agreed to replace him as Chairman of the TR Committee but this needed to be confirmed by the TR Committee.

15. **Election of Vice-President**

Prof. Richard Horrocks had signified that he was happy to stand for re-election if that was the wish of Council – Rule 16.9. As for the election of President the nominees for this position have to come from within the full members of Council – Rule 16.6. Great Britain had nominated Prof. Horrocks. There were no other nominees. Mr. Peden (Canada) proposed that Prof Horrocks be re-elected and this was seconded by Mr. Lee (WI) and Prof. Horrocks was re-elected without dissent.

18. **Election of Secretary-General**

Mr. Frost advised that as there were no other nominees Mr. Cheshire had signified that he was prepared to remain as Secretary-General until the change over of Presidents was complete and until the Rules of the Confederation were in print. Mr. Westling (Canada) proposed that Mr. Cheshire be re-elected and this was seconded by Mr. Robertson (GB). Council re-elected Mr. Cheshire without dissent.

19. **Any other business**

- a. Mr. Walter (USA) proposed that any Council member and affiliate member be allowed to attend Committee meetings but without the ability to speak. This was seconded by Mr. Grosskreutz (Australia) and carried without dissent.
- b. Mr. Walter advised that his previously requested item for consideration on the matter of Committee structures be allowed to lapse whilst USA gave the matter more thought.
- c. Mr. Walter requested that a formal letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Ian Cheeseman for his sponsorship of the U25 and U21 matches. Council wholeheartedly approved and the President agreed to write such a letter.
- d. Mr. Loughnan advised that following the closure and subsequent re-opening of Trentham Range in New Zealand the NRA of New Zealand had a package of documents relating to range construction requirements approved by the NZ MoD and which were considerably less onerous than those contained in the MoD UK pamphlet JSP 403. He was prepared to make this available to any country which might need such assistance in developing new ranges. Mr. Loughnan was thanked most sincerely for this and USA, Australia and Canada requested copies.

There being no further business the President closed the meeting at 4.30 p.m.

S.E. Frost
President

C.C.C. Cheshire
Secretary-General

20th August 2007