

Minutes of Panda Committee Meeting held Monday 17th April 2023, 8.00pm on Zoom

Present: Phil, Mandy, Keith, Mark, Paul, Anthony, Rosemary

Apologies: Retrospectively from Nick Lock

The **Minutes of the meeting 13th March** were proposed by Keith, seconded by Phil and accepted by all as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Anthony had applied to Yorkshire Sport for funding for some of his CPD training. He had not heard anything either way as yet and was not hopeful of receiving anything because we do not fit into any special category (area of social deprivation, disability, ethnic minority etc).

Keith checked on Anthony's progress: Anthony had emailed the County Coaching Officer, who said that he should submit his paperwork including showing his CPD. He has not done any over the last 3 years and so needs to do some extra training. Everything is in hand.

Required standard for shooting all-carbon arrows

Paul had put a lot of work into studying AGB classifications and handicaps, and had produced 2 tables which were circulated to the committee. Anthony invited Paul to explain his proposal.

Paul felt that the original proposal from Anthony was unfair to female archers, and also barebow archers. Female archers were expected to shoot to a higher standard than the gents. Paul therefore suggested we look for a level standard of Bowman 3rd Class (B3) across the board because there is so much variation in scores for handicaps. A single handicap had dividends for junior archers, but a single classification across the board made it simpler for people to see what they were working towards. Different rounds give different handicaps and archers can get higher handicaps at shorter distances.

Anthony pointed out that classification compares you with other archers of your bow style, whereas handicap is purely on your own score.

Following discussion of the differences between recurve and barebow accuracy, the poundage of bows and the trajectory of arrows, Keith said that we need to keep it simple. He queried if a B3 score gained 3 times equates to an average of roughly 5 per arrow (which is what we had been looking at). Paul commented that some of the rounds on the table he produced do not even have the proposed handicap available.

Anthony's concern was whether arrows were hitting the target or not. It should not matter whether the arrows are shot from a compound bow or a bare bow, the point is that the archer needs to have a high probability of hitting the target. Paul said that with compound and barebow he was not comparing like for like, and could not do so; Anthony stressed that we need to compare like for like, and therefore a single table of handicaps is best.

Paul was uncertain how easy Anthony's proposed table would be to understand.

Anthony explained that the software shows the handicap achieved by an archer each time a score is entered, and therefore the records officer will be aware of people's handicaps. If archers do not know their handicap, they can ask Anthony.

Paul was concerned that members may choose to do their own thing, and therefore it was best to use a classification level that people can look up very easily.

Mandy had concerns about how committee members and other archers would know who was entitled to shoot all-carbon arrows. Anthony pointed out that at our last meeting he had agreed to email the committee as and when archers achieved the required standard, so the committee would know.

Paul was concerned at the possibility that a group could be shooting with no committee member present; a club member could turn up with carbon arrows, claiming to be eligible to shoot them, and the group would not know if this was correct or not. This could get people's backs up and cause trouble. At the end of the day the committee has to ensure that club members adhere to our rules and also to the AGB lost arrow policy. We want to protect the club from causing injury to anyone, as such injury could possibly result in us losing our shooting venue. None of us wants that.

Mandy said that we have talked about this for long enough, and we need to close the discussion with a vote. Then we can move forward. She proposed that we go with the B3 classification standard. It was reiterated that an archer must shoot at least 18 dozen arrows to reach B3 standard, so the standard has to be reached on more than one occasion.

A vote took place. Six committee members voted in favour and one against. So it was agreed that club members must reach the Bowman 3rd Class standard of shooting in order to be eligible to shoot all-carbon arrows.

Sport-80 admin access for webmaster

On 23rd March Rosemary had contacted AGB to request admin access for Mark Fletcher, our club webmaster, so that he would be able to use the Club Management System. On 24th March Rosemary received an email from AGB to say that this access had been granted. This means that Mark is now able to see members' personal details on the Sport-80 portal.

The committee were all satisfied, and happy for Mark to have this access.

Mark had unfortunately been unable to access the CMS webinar he had booked; there are no more webinars available at present, but there will be more in due course. He had not yet logged into the Sport-80 portal, but would look for the email with the details, and try it out when he has time.

Lifting of Covid restrictions

Keith felt that we should forget masks and gloves, give people a choice, and fall in line with the rest of the country. But members can remain in their bubbles if they wish. Anthony asked about leaving target faces on bosses – Keith suggested leaving them on half of the bosses, Anthony agreed that we should leave some bosses blank for people who wish to use their own target faces.

Keith proposed that we drop the requirement for masks and gloves; Phil seconded the proposal. The committee agreed unanimously to this proposal.

Mandy said that because of her strict situation at work she will continue with the protective measures, but she is happy not to impose them on others. Paul was of the same opinion.

It was stressed that all members must be mindful of others and show consideration.

It was agreed that Mark would change the information about this on the website, and Rosemary would send an email to the membership to inform them of this change of policy.

Change of time for summer shooting

This would only affect the Saturday archers.

There had been a suggestion to revert to the pre-covid times of meeting at 12.30 for sighters at 1pm, to make Saturday the main club session again. Those who want to shoot in their bubbles could do so, whilst others could turn up and shoot as and when they were able.

Mandy was not sure how this would work practically with the number of bosses required and the space on the field. It would likely require people being willing to share targets.

Because not many people have been shooting over the winter, we don't know how open the club members are to sharing targets and shooting together.

Keith suggested that we keep things as they are for now, and review the situation after the email has gone out about lifting the restrictions. There is no problem with Saturday mornings until we want to run a beginners' course, and that is not likely until later in the summer. Keith was not sure if and how a handicap shoot would work out.

Anthony pointed out that to qualify for Bowman 3rd Class, shooting must take place in a competitive environment. AGB require this as preparation for tournaments and competitions.

Keith and Mark confirmed that at present Saturday morning has only one detail shooting.

Paul pointed out that according to our constitution, any 2 members can nominate a day as a tournament day. Anthony said that in that case, all archers shooting that day would have to submit their scores to him; he is being flexible at present, but he will be stricter with newer members as they approach bowman standard. He will not send out an email at present, but will monitor people's scores and as they approach the relevant standard he will make them aware of the need for a competitive environment.

We agreed to leave shooting times as they have been throughout the winter.

Any Other Business

Mandy asked us to review how often the committee meets; she finds monthly meetings onerous at present, and feels that sometimes we are meeting just for the sake of it, and not achieving anything. She suggested meeting 6-weekly, or preferably bi-monthly.

Keith pointed out that our club constitution requires monthly meetings; we could think of changing this at the next AGM.

Mandy said that she will put forward a proposal for the AGM, she is mindful of the need for at least 28 days notice.

Mandy also commented that the large foam boss had been damaged again a few weeks previously and no-one had contacted them to say that it needed repair. She reiterated that members must report any damaged equipment to Paul or to the committee.

Rosemary will remind members of this by sending an email.

Anthony asked if Paul should also inform people when equipment is being taken out of service for a while, for repair – communication needs to work both ways. Paul said that he had previously been doing this, but as it wasn't reciprocated he didn't bother on this most recent occasion.

Mark had informed the committee about a possible problem with the cabin door. The top corner looks bent, and also the seal damaged. He was not sure how we would go about repairing this.

Paul had not been able to get a good look the damage last time he was there, he said he would take a closer look on Saturday (22nd) if the weather was OK.

Date of next meeting

This was agreed as Monday 22nd May, at 8.00pm on Zoom.