

Minutes of Panda Bowmen Committee Meeting held 7th April 2025, 8.00pm on Zoom

Present: Anthony, Rosemary, Sally, Duncan, Phil, Keith

Apologies for absence: Paul, Mark

Minutes of meeting 24th February 2025

These were agreed by all to be an accurate record of the meeting.

There were no matters arising.

Taster session and beginners' courses

The taster session on 29th March had gone well. Some 15 or 16 people attended, of whom 6 had already booked onto the following beginners' course. Others were asking about courses, so Anthony plans to run a second course Saturday mornings from 24th May to 21st June.

He will also offer a course to the person who enquired on behalf of a group of around 10 people; this course to begin on Saturday 19th July, the week after our anniversary event.

Sally enquired about 2 people who had dropped out of a course. (Anthony had received emails from them but Sally had not, possibly due to problems with her email.) Anthony said he will offer them places on the next course, so keep hold of their money for now. If they don't want those places, then Anthony will ask for bank details and Sally can raise a refund for them.

On 5th April Chee, a trainee coach from Thirsk Bowmen, joined us at our beginners' course; he is doing supported practice and Anthony found it very helpful to have an extra person assisting. Chee will also be there on 12th April.

This looks like being a good year for income from beginners' courses.

Pandamonium

So far Anthony has received 7 entries; 2 came in very quickly, the others more slowly. Last year entries were slow to come in, so we don't need to worry yet.

One person had rung to check if BLBS membership was sufficient for entry. Anthony had to say No, because the arrangement between AGB and BLBS only covers 2-way shoots, and ours is 1-way. So entrants to Pandamonium need an AGB number. We may lose a few people because of this, but probably not many. Keith felt that most longbow archers now have dual membership.

Anthony will need to know which Panda members are shooting, so that he can allocate space on targets.

We will need raffle prizes, and help on the day

Keith suggested marking the field out the evening before, as we did last year. Anthony agreed that it was helpful; he will get some marking paint. He will also contact Sean again to ask him to be our judge.

Prizes will be consumables, something along the lines of bottles for 1st prizes, chocolates for 2nd prizes... We will also need something for the judge. (Sean likes red wine!)

The gazebos are in working order. Sally will order the cake as she did last year. The cheese and sherry can be bought locally shortly before the event. Tea and coffee will be available during the day.

We agreed to hold our next committee meeting just before Pandamonium, on **Monday 12th May**, so that we can discuss and sort out any problems or loose ends relating to the event.

70th Anniversary event

The practice shoot on 5th April had gone well. The only tweak needed to the scoring is to have fewer ends with normal GNAS scoring and more of the random ones. The score sheets worked well; in discussion on the field after the shoot, we agreed we would not count the golds and whites, and we would count the scoring arrows rather than hits.

We need an entry form for the event. Keith queried if there is a template that can just be altered? Anthony offered to amend the Pandamonium template and produce the entry form. His offer was gratefully accepted!

Panda members need to book as well as visitors, as we need to know numbers for the food.

On the form, people need to indicate which **distance** they intend to shoot. The 19 yards can be for juniors and people with accessibility issues; otherwise, people can shoot 55 yards.

As we are providing food, the form also needs to ask for information about **allergies**.

Reminder: the food is a BBQ and the entry fee is £15 - £3 to shoot and £12 for the food. After discussing the option that people could pay just the £3 to shoot and not partake of the BBQ, we agreed to stick with the £15 entry fee. (That is simpler than having to police who eats the BBQ food.) If people do not want to eat the BBQ food, that is up to them.

Printed entry forms for the anniversary event will be available at Pandamonium.

Rugby Club fees

Sally had been waiting for an invoice from the rugby club, nothing was forthcoming, so no payment has been made for the current year. Sally had spoken with Mandy, who explained that she had simply dropped a cheque to the rugby club for the relevant amount each year.

Sally was not really comfortable with that.

Anthony explained that we pay per capita; as the rugby club don't know how many members we have, we need to initiate the payment. But we do need a receipt. At present we charge our members £25 a head for the rugby club, so we should just pass that on saying that it is based on our current membership.

Sally would like to have something from the rugby club – a receipt at least. Also, she is trying to move Panda on to online banking; so whilst a cheque is still possible, she would prefer it if we could get the rugby club bank details and pay the fees online.

Anthony commented that he and Rosemary see the rugby club treasurer from time to time at the club, so we can have a word with him. We will explain that we have had a change of treasurer and ask for bank details.

We do not want the rugby club to increase our fees, but we have been paying the same rate for a number of years now.

Container roof

We've been having good weather lately, the container roofs could have been painted!

When Paul was equipment officer he had a particular product in mind for painting the roofs and could get hold of it. Nobody present at the meeting knew exactly what product it is. Rather than buy the wrong thing and go ahead with the work, we agreed to wait for Paul to return from holiday, then Anthony will ask him about it and arrange a date when the work can be done.

Date of next meeting

This was agreed for Monday 12th May 2025, at 8.00pm on Zoom.