

## WTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 24, 2009  
Hodag Gun Club  
Rhineland, WI

The meeting of the Wisconsin Trapshooting Association Board of Directors was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President Bruce Stiteley. Directors present were SE: Brad Patterson, Gary Fechter, SW: Dennis Taylor, NE: Gary Strasser, Ray Martin, NW Glenn Hammerly, Alt. Delegates Kevin Doerring and Kyle Wojicechowski, Secr-Treas. Arlene Otto. Virgil Bomkamp, SW, and Delegate Jay Adams were present via conference call. Bruce thanked the members for attending.

**501c3:** Bruce announced the granting of the 501c3 to the WTA. We will not have to collect state sales tax on the entry admissions or the WTA/ATA daily fees, or pay State Sales tax on the cost of trophies. Having this would exempt the WTA from having to pay a Capital Gains Tax on the sale of the farm property. It also enables a person to donate funds to the WTA and receive a tax exemption. It was suggested by the Wisconsin DNR that we apply for it as it would be advantageous in receiving grants. The Board thanked Bruce for the many hours and work he has done in preparation for this change in status.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Arlene provided financial reports to the Board Members. She then reported on a meeting held on 10/23/09 with Jen Powers, our new accountant. Jen said that we would be saving approximately \$11,000 in taxes next year as a result of the 501c3 status. She will be working with our lawyers with any changes in property and home grounds issues. Arlene reported having moved \$20,000.00 out of the checking into 2 new CD's. Brad reminded us that a \$5000.00 payment must be paid to the WGC by January 1 as a prepayment on the 2010 State Shoot.

**DELEGATE'S REPORT:** Jay reported on the great honor bestowed on Cathy Wehinger as she is being inducted into the ATA Hall of Fame on August 10, 2010. Anyone planning on being at the Grand next year might want to reserve tickets for the Hall of Fame Banquet. Congratulations to Cathy! Jay also spoke of a complaint the ATA received regarding a Wisconsin shooter in Wyoming who was tied for a shoot-off but had left the grounds thereby disqualifying himself. The remaining shooter was on the grounds, but had been disqualified as he had been consuming alcohol. The first shooter returned to the grounds and was awarded the trophy. The ATA rejected the complaint, but stated that they would prefer it be decided by a coin toss as they had both disqualified themselves. A statement to that affect will be placed in the next State Shoot Program under shoot-offs. Jay also thanked Kyle for turning in an article for the Trap & Field, which will be in the next issue. 2010 Central Zone shoot will be held at Sauk Prairie, weekend prior to the Grand, following Iowa State Shoot. Jay reported that so far he has received only 10 All State Team Applications. Shooters must submit them to Jay or Gary Tesker by December 31<sup>st</sup> if they feel they may make the teams. They will not be considered for the teams automatically as in the past, but need to submit an application. Applications are available on the Website, or from the Secretary.

**5-MAN TEAM SHOOT:** In a decision made with Pat Gerbensky (Waukesha Gun Club President), it was decided to conduct the 5-Man Team Shoot after the Grand, on Saturday August 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Waukesha Gun Club. Pat suggested it be held as a Registered/Non Registered Shoot, and be on

Saturday with a Pig Roast Saturday night and a registered shoot on Sunday. This would be a fun-shoot weekend. Dennis made a motion to change the Team Shoot to be held on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Ray seconded the motion. Unanimously accepted. Dennis then made a motion it be a non-registered shoot, held by the Waukesha Gun Club, sponsored by the Wisc. Trapshooting Assoc. Glen seconded the motion. Motion unanimously accepted. Our WTA Mission statement is to grow the sport of trapshooting, and as that, registered trapshooting is a part of it. All shooters are urged to enter teams. Jay is checking with the ATA to get permission to have a one-day league shoot for the 5-Man, making it possible for a shooter to register those targets. Pat Gerbensky will be asked to attend the next WTA Board meeting.

**CENSUS & SURVEY OF WISC. CLUBS:** Bruce distributed a form and asked for suggestions and approval to send out to ALL non-registered gun clubs supporting shooters in Wisconsin. A data base will be set up by Jay. The Directors are to take the forms to clubs in their area to get the information coordinated.

**BANQUET:** Arlene reported the Marriott would not be available on Saturday night for the Annual Awards and Fund Raising Banquet, however it is available on Friday. County Springs (about 10 miles west) would be available on Saturday. After much discussion, Dennis made a motion to change the Friday State Shoot program to an 8:00am handicap start (not the annual meeting), Banquet following shooting on Friday night at the Marriott, and the Annual Meeting be moved to 8:00am on Sunday. Gary Strasser seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**'ROUND THE TABLE:** As this is the last year on the contract we have with Richert Farms to lease our farmland, they want to know if we are planning on selling the farm land or will continue to lease it to them. Because of government farm programs, he needs to know as soon as possible. Current rental rates in the area will be checked out by Gary Fechter and Bruce. Ray suggested a 2 year contract at a reasonable rate with a 1<sup>st</sup> right of refusal. Insurance: Arlene submitted copies of previous coverage to an agent recommended by Jeff Mainland. As of yet, no response. Bruce will check with Dennis Kozlowski. Gary Strasser is working on the Trap & Field ad and attendance pins and will have them ready for approval at the next WTA Board Meeting. Ray will be checking with John Muir regarding registered shoots at the Gateway Club. He said he liked the idea of a non-registered 5-Man, this would mean not having to pay the \$20.00 for a membership, Kevin agreed. Dennis commented on requesting All-State records from Trap & Field. Currently the cost is \$35.00/shooter. Brad asked the Directors to start thinking of the 2010 State Shoot, and also reminded the Directors to stay in contact with shooters in their Zone by participating on the Website.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Next meeting date set for January 23, 2010. All State Teams should be selected by that time, as well as Hall of Fame.

### **Lunch Break - 12:05 - 1:10pm**

**Hodag Gun Club Proposal:** Virgil Davis, and Glen Kral presented us with information on their club. Hodag Gun Club was formed in 1946 to get public access to lakes and shooting sports with 1 trap and 2 rifle benches, and now own approximately 900 acres including several adjoining residential homes that they rent out. It is located approximately 3 miles from Rhinelander. They

have no debts and have substantial monies in the bank. Electrical power and water is already on the land. The Hodag Gun Club has a small campground near their clubhouse. Their verbal presentation, including maps, was followed by a video. The Sports Club wants to partner with WTA to form the Home Grounds. They would lease the land needed to the WTA at \$1.00 per year for the first 5 years, followed by 6% of the WTA gross income. Specifics of this would have to be negotiated. The WTA would own and operate whatever facilities are needed. The Hodag Sports Club would continue to own and operate their existing facility and the lands. They (Hodag Sports Club) would put in a Sporting Clays Course and an Archery Range, and have already built a new rifle range. They are willing to work with us and our needs on a long term basis and want to have it happen. Rhinelander would be able to support the numbers of shooters. There is sufficient lodging (53 motels), 313 restaurants, 207 lakeside resorts and 28 campgrounds, 2 medical clinics, 1 hospital, 7 banks, 24 churches and many shopping, golf courses and sporting facilities available all within 30 minutes radius. Copies of the proposal are to be published on the WTA Website or available from the Secretary. Contour, topographical and wetlands maps will be provided and the NRA will be contacted to design and layout the grounds. Dennis and Bruce are to check with the Secretary of the DNR regarding the possibility of grants as they were the ones who suggested we obtain the 501c3, and if there are lands available in central Wisconsin. After viewing the video, the Board members broke up into groups and toured the lands.

Mr. Dewayne "Spec" Debyle joined the meeting and addressed the Board Members. He said that he has had it in his mind for a long time to bring the WTA Home Grounds to Rhinelander. He wants the shooting sports to be magnified in the North. For them it would bring a good reputation and credibility to Rhinelander, as well as to the WTA. He suggested we contact the NRA to lay it all out. He asked for a letter of commitment from the WTA as soon as possible so that if the WTA decides against it, they can proceed with other venues. Glen Grabski asked him to explain the proposal. The 6% of gross would be on income made through shooting at the club. He said the Hodag Club wants the WTA to get estimates, and show funds to match. They would not want us to start and then run out of funds. The WTA could not get mortgages or loans on the Hodag lands. A raising of hands showed that no one was against the proposal. The goal is to build a great home grounds, have a good shoot leaving lasting memories, and the shooters will come. The Hodag Gun Club representatives left the meeting.

Gary Strasser made a motion to pursue a Letter of Intent to bring the Home Grounds to the Hodag Gun Club in Rhinelander. Gary Fecter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Bruce will ask our attorney to write the letter, addressed to the Hodag Gun Club. Bruce and Gary Strasser will contact the NRA. Bruce will tell Mr. Debyle that we will have a Letter of Intent written by our lawyer, in their hands by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Ray stated that this is the best proposal we have received and if anyone knows of any other proposals or offers they should contact their zone director prior to January 1, 2010 and it will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Paying the Bills:** Gary Strasser made a motion to pay the bills, Kevin seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Arlene Otto, Sec./Treas.