



WTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 8, 2008
Mukwonago, WI

The meeting of the Wisconsin Trapshooters Association Board of Directors was called to order at 9:07 AM by vice president Dennis Taylor. Directors present were SE: Joe Zukowski, Brad Patterson, SW: Virgil Bomkamp, NE: Bill Simonar, Mike May, ATA Delegate Jay Adams, Treasurer Arlene Otto, and Secretary Helen Mar Adams. Excused were Bruce Stiteley, Greg Knorr, Glen Grabski and Ray Martin. Also in attendance were John Atkielski, Jay Nigbor, Don Mittag and Dick Otto.

1. Hall of Fame (HOF) Committee Report: Jay Nigbor and John Atkielski gave a report on the new guidelines and selection process for HOF selection. Twenty-six of WTA Hall of Fame members responded to a survey asking their opinions of the new HOF process and selection. All responses were positive and felt the new process would work. They were happy to see the changes and felt they were long overdue. There was a discussion about how to retain and retrieve a shooter's records. Personal record keeping varied between shooters from writing it on yearly reports to entering data in a computer program. Jay Nigbor indicated he verified and/or corrected records for HOF applicants by using "Trap & Field." Board of directors received packets with the top two HOF nominees: John Atkielski and Larry Wehinger. Brad Patterson made a motion to accept the HOF nominees as presented with Bill Simonar making the second. Motion carried. Jay Nigbor said the HOF notification letters are drafted and will be mailed in the next two weeks. Members of the board congratulated Jay Nigbor and John Atkielski for the job well done and would also like to thank all of the current HOF members for their overwhelming support and taking part in this process.

2. State Shoot Program: A copy of a letter received from the Waukesha Gun Club (WGC) was distributed regarding the state shoot. The request for a two page ad by WGC was discussed. Paul Becker of Riverside Foods was contacted about switching the sponsoring of the doubles event (event #3) to sponsoring of the handicap event (event #2). Kozlowski Insurance had sponsored the handicap event #2 in 2007. Paul agreed to switch the sponsorship. This allowed WGC to sponsor the doubles event (event #3) on Tuesday with donation of \$1000 for the event. The WTA will provide the trophies. The WTA will put a half-page in the state program explaining WGC's special events to be held during the state shoot.

It has been decided to have bingo under the tent on Saturday starting at 11 AM for the women. Arlene Otto indicated it will cost \$75 to purchase the bingo equipment. She is waiting on bids for lunch from the Coach House and Machine Shed. Limiting the number of participants was discussed. It was decided not limit the number of adults participating in the women's bingo event. Last year the cost of the women's event was \$428 with only nine women participating. It was decided to keep the prize cost between \$200-300. The prize budget will be evaluated after this year to determine if it needs adjusted. It was acknowledged that depending on the number of participants, everyone may not win a bingo prize.

The WTA Kolar gun option will be held this year in memory of Paul Sedwick with the WTA paying for the insurance.

One of WGC special events indicated a doubles' handicap shoot off. It was felt a clarification was needed on the wording before putting the information in the state program. Dennis said he



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will check with WGC to see what their gift certificate prizes are for. The WGC ads can be put on pages 3-4 or on the back inside cover of the state program.

3. WTA Website and Newsletter: Brad Patterson said most of the pages on the new website are done. The pages not completed are the state shoot, newsletter and the shoot result page. These pages will be done when he receives either documents or the event is held. Brad said he has deleted twenty users of the discussion threads because of their use of aliases which is not allowed. He monitors submitted threads four to six times a day. Brad encouraged board members to start threads. He is in the process of adding a 2007 state shoot picture page with pictures submitted by Jay Adams. He asked the directors to be sure they submit results to him from the upcoming zone shoots. Brad indicated pictures would be appreciated. The cost for the new website currently is \$2,200.

Brad said users need to use the view date button after clicking on the date to see the entire day's events. He can add a shoot program as well as a link to the gun club's website if he receives the information. The same is true of the links page. Brad will add gun clubs but needs the information to add the link. In the interest of promoting the sport of shooting, registered and unregistered shoots will be posted on the calendar. Eventually, there will be a link forwarding users from the old website to the new website. Jay Adams said his ATA article includes information about the new WTA website. Brad said the discussion threads boxes may not be visible due to the age of the operating system of a user's computer.

Ads on the website were discussed. Brad said www.trapshooters.com charges \$85 to \$100 to set up the advertising box with a \$500 yearly fee. Brad will do further research into putting ads on the WTA website.

Brad reported the spring newsletter is nearly completed. The newsletter will be printed by Pointer Marketing with the same cost as last time. Dick Otto discussed the process he uses to update WTA members so no more than one newsletter is sent to each address. Gun clubs will be included in the mailing.

4. Zone and Team Shoot Trophy Budget: Dennis reported the trophies for the zone shoot will cost \$1,150 for 2008 which include belt buckles and patches for high singles, doubles, handicap and HOA for each zone shoot. The price includes money clips for the champion of champion state trophies. The WTA's only income during the zone shoots are the daily fees collected. The host gun clubs give out the HOA lady, veteran, sr. veteran and junior trophies. Jay Nigbor suggested considering giving medallions in place of buckles.

Dennis reported team shoot trophies (belt buckles and patches) cost \$1,250. The barbeque sponsored by the WTA costs \$450 with the only income to the WTA being the daily fees. Dennis said the board may want to consider eliminating the patches another year which would be a \$450 savings. Recob's Target Shot donate the clocks (\$60 each) for the team shoot.

There was a discussion of the date conflict with the WTA zone shoots and the Illinois State Shoot and the Central Zone Shoot spurred by a letter directors received from Tim Thompson.



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The matter was tables until after this year's zone shoots. The directors will consider having next year's zone shoots two weeks in a row and possibly the first two weekends in June to avoid other major shoot conflicts.

5. Banquet: Arlene shared suggestions from Bob Weber after his recent banquet which included using pink hats in their gun raffle. Bob said the pink hats were the first to sell. Dennis will check with Recob's Target Shop about getting pink hats. Seventy-five hats were in the WTA banquet raffle last year with not all selling. Bob suggested considering lowering the price on the hats. No action was taken. Bob also suggested having cash prizes or gift certificates instead of all guns in the hat raffle. One of the raffle prizes at his event had a Winchester Gun safe as a prize. Arlene said Bob thought there would be more success if there were more eye catching items on the raffle table. She said we need to make a list of items for the raffle and directors need to get donated items. Helen Mar Adams was directed to contact gun clubs regarding consideration of donations for the banquet.

6. WTA 501c3 Update: Dennis reported that an attorney had been secured as legal council to help the WTA attain their 501c3 status. The attorney has experience with helping other organizations get their 501c3 status including the ATA. A \$2,500 retainer fee has been paid to the lawyer. The first action regarding the filing of the 501c3 paperwork will be the rewriting of the by-laws and mission statement so they are in line with the 501c3 purpose. Securing the 501c3 status may take five to six months. Virgil Bomkamp asked about the WTA's corporation status with the state. Dennis said the organization is reincorporated and didn't know whether the WTA needed to hold new elections yet. He felt the board of directors could be kept as is without a vote on the matter by the members. Other information needed for the 501c3 application includes people from Wisconsin that have shot in the Olympics, college team or received scholarships from the ATA. Education will be a key component of the organization's purpose including hunter education, and law enforcement and Olympic training. Members will need to vote on the by-law, etc. changes which hopefully can be done at the state shoot.

Jay Adams said he has not been in contact with the land owners in the past month and a half. The land owners have been very patient and understanding with the delay of the WTA because of the acquisition of the 501c3 status. He felt a letter should be sent to the land owners from the board of directors for commitment purposes. Jay said he sent the legal description of the land and draft home ground design to Bruce. The information would be used to determine environmental impact and for the NRA to review range dimensions. Brad asked if the new home grounds would be operational by July 2009. In answer to his question, it was decided a one year contract should be considered for use of the WGC and the 2009 state shoot.

7. ATA Delegate Report: Jay Adams explained due to not receiving any news from shooters and the date of the "Trap & Field" deadline occurring a day before the last WTA board of directors' meeting, he did not submit an article in the last "Trap & Field". He has posted a delegate report on the new WTA website. A positive with posting delegate information on the website is there isn't a two month delay as with the "Trap & Field" articles. However, not all WTA members have access to the internet. Jay has obtained 2007 completed careers and target



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attainment information for the banquet. He submitted completed career information about Paul Sedwick to "Trap & Field."

Jay will bring the 2008 revisions for the state team application form to the next meeting. He indicated there would be no changes just updates to the forms. Jay said the 2007 ATA Averages book was published. He has received questions about the state race and is checking on it.

Jay addressed the issue of the target year ending date. He said he has been in contact with the Illinois delegate regarding the matter. They are looking at preparing a proposal to the committee for consideration of changing the September 1 target date. Jay is collecting statistics to support the proposal.

Jay reported on a proposal all delegates received from Kent Harris regarding the modification of the ATA handicap system. Some of the changes suggested by Kent Harris included mandatory reductions for short yardages, special category for 27-yard shooters, a master's class, 3-hole targets and no punches for a score of 96 x 100.

Jay said at the last Grand American, the ATA changed a policy which now allows delegates to recommend removal of an H-code prior to the two year wait requirement. He has received two requests from WTA members. He is doing research regarding the requests.

8. Other Business: Mike May reported the HOA youth runner-up trophy has been ordered. He contacted Midwest Shooter Supply regarding the possibility of changing state team trophies supplied by them. They will make a decision in April regarding changing the plaques to pouches.

Trap help at the state shoot was discussed. The WTA shoot offs should not be affected by WGC special events with regards to trap help.

Bill Simonar reported that a senior veteran trophy is an option for the local gun club hosting the zone shoot.

Joe Zukowski reported the state shoot pins have been delivered. He submitted a state program ad from Select Inn.

The next meeting date will be at the team shoot on June 21 unless an additional meeting is needed in May.

Virgil made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Brad making the second. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.