



County of Worcestershire Archery Association

Minutes for the committee meeting 19:35 on 14th Jan 2025 online via MS Teams

Attendees:	Karen McKay, Andrew McKay, Andy Stanford, Mark Pattisson, Scott Potter, Tony Carter, Melissa Preece, Sharon Medhurst, Gavin Fudge, Saskia Bakker, Steve Lester, Kathryn Lester	
Apologies for absence:	Maxine Saunders, Penny Neaverson	
Minutes of the previous meeting:	Minutes from last meeting (01/10/24) were accepted and approved by the Chair.	
Review of outstanding actions from previous meetings	Action	Status Update
	Development plan working group to comprise Karen, Andy, Saskia, Scott, Mark P & Helen.	KSM to set up a kick off meeting – will send email (look at a Tue or Wed date)
	Karen / Andy to organise range assessments for all CWAA venues, ongoing. WFCA Cricket Club – Done SCOA field – Done EAC competition field - Done	Ongoing.
	We proposed a ‘meet the committee’ series starting with Andy S – Andy to write and send to Saskia to publish as a blog. Karen will write the next one.	Andy to write & send directly to Saskia when done. Copy to Karen.
	Karen to follow up with Mark about setting up and email address for safeguarding (Melissa) and communications officer (Saskia).	Mark to advise when done.
	Ask if WMAS could match the coach bursary contribution of CWAA. Was not raised at last meeting. WMAS reps to raise at next meeting.	WM reps to raise at next meeting – 4/2/25
	Treasurer & Saskia discussed website cost savings. Saskia also discussed with Mark P. Agreed to continue with current arrangement and at renewal Saskia to look at moving hosting of site and emails to a different provider.) To do at renewal. (end feb 25)	Mark P/Saskia B will sort offline.
	WFCA to contact WMAS for support with funding for the Cricket Club disabled access as they may be able to help.	Melissa/WFCA to send details to Sharon M - include details and how it would benefit WMAS
	Sharon/Maxine to find out if the WMAS meetings have to be on a Tuesday so that we can assign either Penny or Andrew to the WM rep role.	Temporarily assigned Andrew M
	Andy Stanford to write/share job descriptions & KSM to share ones which already exist.	Ongoing.
	Please canvas members and discuss at club level to provide feedback to the committee via your club reps on whether a joint CWAA & CWAA field shoot would be of interest.	Ongoing.

	Maxine Palmer to send 5 counties match spec to Andrew McKay	Ongoing.										
Reports from officers (where not enclosed separately)	<p><u>Chairman's Report</u></p> <p>No report. 1 AOB Item.</p> <p><u>Secretary's Report</u></p> <p>Various entry forms circulated along with minutes and info on team selection as required.</p> <p>Long email received from AGB member M.S.Christison sharing his views on various AGB topics such as handicaps, membership, magazine, 50+ etc. He's wanting other clubs/counties to write to AGB with the same concerns to add weight to his cause. Receipt acknowledged & email forwarded to Andy S for review.</p> <p>I have an enquiry in with AGB regarding Mark P's access query, awaiting a call back.</p> <p>Have been receiving a lot of suspicious emails from Ionos, sample emailed to Mark P for investigation – are they genuine?</p> <p><u>Treasurer's Report</u></p> <p>Renewal income:</p> <table><tr><td>2024/25 Income</td><td>ytd £2,866</td></tr><tr><td>2023/24 Income</td><td>£2,982</td></tr></table> <p>2025 very similar to 2024 so we're in a good position.</p> <p>University of Worcester have not paid their affiliation fees plus a number of direct members with Worcestershire as county – chasing up</p> <p>Mark P commented that he's UoW's coach and hasn't heard from them in ages. They show as an active club on the AGB portal.</p> <p>We finally received the refund of £600 from AGB for the County Team Event last year</p> <p>Bank balances:</p> <table><tr><td>Current</td><td>£3,970</td></tr><tr><td>Deposit</td><td>£11,688</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>£15,658</td></tr></table> <p>Judges Bursaries:</p> <p>Need to authorise payments to the following</p> <p>Andy Stanford</p> <p>Jasmine Simpson</p> <p>Luke Wilson</p> <p>Sue Richards</p> <p>Saskia B to submit judging claim to Treasurer - DONE</p> <p>Need to authorise payment to Steve Short £270 for Eaton Manor, AS/AM will set up and authorise between them.</p>		2024/25 Income	ytd £2,866	2023/24 Income	£2,982	Current	£3,970	Deposit	£11,688	Total	£15,658
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	<p>Expenses coming up:</p> <p>5 Counties Match this year is our responsibility to host. It's my understanding that WMAS pay for it (TBC). We need to know what's needed asap so that we can research suitable venues. We could potentially host it at Lilleshall but hiring targets from 10 Zone as proposed by Andy S.</p> <p><u>Records Officer's Report</u></p> <p>No report.</p> <p><u>Team Manager's Report</u></p> <p>The start of the year has been busy again, the county has a number of events coming up in the next 3 to 4 months. 2025 will see our county getting back to a more normal with the introduction of county training sessions being re-introduced and along with more structured county team days.</p> <p>1st March – Team training day at Eaton Manor – this will be 2 x half day sessions shooting and team building at the Eaton Manor venue. Eaton Manor is an indoor venue with the capacity to shoot up to 70m indoors, the venue has heating over the shooting line, so it is ideal for our needs. Invitations will be sent out shortly to those who have shown interest and have replied to my emails.</p> <p>8th March- Intercounty indoors @ Gloucestershire, now I have had replies from interested archers, I will be selecting the team to represent Worcestershire.</p> <p>13th April- County Trials @ SCOA, round is a UK record status Double WA720, with the 50 plus distances, so 60m is available for those who wish it.</p> <p>11th May- County Friendly match with Gloucestershire @ SCOA, UK record status Double WA720, with 50 plus distances of 60m.</p> <p>We will be looking into more team training days this year, these are still yet to be arranged, and it would be good to have them at various clubs across the county, if your club are interested in hosting a training day please drop me an email and can discuss.</p> <p>A team training day/ half day for the National County team event is in discussion with Evesham archery club, they host the team last year and proved to be a great success.</p> <p>I had a discussion with the team manager from Gloucestershire on Friday evening with reference to archer numbers as we will be including the 50 plus distances, talks are still on going, I will update more later.</p> <p>I have been in talks with the chairman at WFCA with regards to the use of foam targets for the county match with Gloucestershire, we have come to an agreement that works for county and club. I will look in the logistics of getting the targets to SCOA for the match, I will keep you updated as I know more.</p> <p>Looking ahead for 2026, I would like to have discussions with the county committee regarding the Gloucestershire match for 2026 and years to come. As some are aware, they are a very demanding county in regard to what they want etc. I think we will need to re-visit how we carry on with this match for the future. Can we pencil in some discussion time for this in the near future please?</p>
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	<p>Scott & Mark have been discussing training/coaching sessions including how we can build a stronger team. One suggestion that came up was is to have bow style 'leads' splitting into smaller sub-teams (including juniors).</p> <p>Redhill are happy for any county juniors to go over to Redhill to shoot on a Monday evening with their juniors/ Please get in touch with Sharon Medhurst if you would be interested.</p> <p>Scott was asked by Elena if the Gloucs match could be WRS for ranking points, but meeting attendees said you can't claim ranking points on closed shoots and in any case 6 months' notice is needed to apply.</p> <p><u>CCO's Report</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CCO report to committee January 2024</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Having been co-opted in as CCO for this year I have made a start. My concern was (and still is) that my archery workload was already so high that I won't be able to do a proper job. Let's see.2. I have a program for 2025 developing. Rolled out are:<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Club Development Assistantb. Recurve bow setup & theoryc. Arrows specification & buildd. Compound masterclass with Andy Rike. Squad training day @ Eaton Manorf. Coaching archers with impairments with Andrea Galesg. Coaching & engaging juniors with Marc TamlynIn planning are<ol style="list-style-type: none">h. Preparation & planningi. Sports phycolegy for archers with Erin Prior (note this is £600 for ½ day)j. How to coach unsighted bowtypes<p>I am managing these through Eventbrite https://cwaa.eventbrite.co.uk</p><p>In addition I am talking to Scott about getting something together for the Squad throughout the year. And (maybe) something aimed at juniors.</p>3. I would like to agree a job description for the role of CCO (now that the one that GNAS published has been deleted).4. Also budget considerations. Some of the above are going to be expensive to put on. However my previous experience as CCO (about a decade) indicates that very few fail to cover their own costs. <p>I think it would be constructive at this point to look at the annoyances that combined to cause me to quit the last time around.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Content. I have been put in position 'to do something'. Historically, it has been very challenging to work out what 'something' is. Then, having devised some program effectively blind, to find that nobody is interested.2. Communications. This appears in two ways. Firstly, lack of reaction from the rest of the committee. When I send an email around the committee it would be very useful if members could respond, if only to acknowledge receipt. A couple of folks can be relied on to respond, but the silence elsewhere has the effect of leaving me to operate blind. There might well be technical issues at play here, and I have discussed the idea of an audit of the communication systems (primarily email) with The Secretary. Secondly, propagating the information through to the archers at whom these events are aimed. It was extremely galling to spend time & effort to organise an event, only to have it under-attended (maybe cancelled) due to lack of interest. Only to then meet archers around the county who tell me "I knew nothing about it, I'd have come". <p>All of this results in time, effort & money being expended on sessions that attract little or no interest.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Money. In my previous stint as CCO I accumulated several thousands of pounds of profit from the numerous courses I ran. Karon (treasurer) always kept this separate in the books, and made it clear that this was the CCO's budget. When she left this practice stopped, and the committee started regarding this as just more cash in the pot. This was not something I was happy with: the bulk of this was volunteer coaches paying for their CPD & other training. Spending the money on coaching stuff seemed acceptable. Using it for general expenditure less so. <p>Mark P aims to get coaches outside of their comfort zone including things like coaching barebow, Andy S suggested perhaps we could ask Ralph Barwise to assist with coaching in barebow style. Andy S will sound him out on the idea.</p>
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	<p>Attendees discussed the have-a-go taster sessions in Feb & April at Claines. The aim being to encourage enthusiasm and to weed out those (estimated 20%) who won't actually take up the sport but want to just have a go at it once – thus freeing up spaces on club beginners' courses for those who are more serious about trying the sport. These are open taster sessions so any club can refer someone – please speak to Mark P for more details.</p> <p>Attendees also discussed the idea of having one evening a month at DAS just for club juniors.</p> <p><u>Welfare Officer's Report</u></p> <p>No issues to report. Melissa P attended a sports welfare event by Active Herefordshire & Worcestershire.</p> <p>Andy S has been contacted about something similar from Active Black Country, a lady called Liz Griffin. She may attend the county trials and will share info on available support.</p> <p><u>West Midlands Delegate's Report</u></p> <p>No report. The last meeting was cancelled.</p> <p><u>Regional Development Officer's Report</u></p> <p>No report.</p>
Reports from clubs (where not enclosed separately)	<p><u>Droitwich AS</u></p> <p>No report.</p> <p><u>Evesham AC</u></p> <p>Evesham Archery Club has had a good year, back to a membership of around 80 despite a drop during renewals and a healthy financial situation.</p> <p>This winter season we're repeating our "winter archer" club competition encouraging archers to shoot a wa18, Portsmouth, Worcester and frostbite each month as well as the postal leagues. We also paid entry fees for the Garrington Cup shoots out of club funds which definitely encouraged participation, and we're doing that again this year.</p> <p>In Summer we ran our usual club activities as well as an open York/Hereford and the Archery GB 50+ tournament and CWAA outdoor champs. Next year the 50+ will be run over 2 days.</p> <p>We trialled a series of Junior have a go's aimed at 5-10 year olds using snake bows, which were so popular we've now started a junior beginners course indoors in addition to the general beginners courses we ran through the year.</p> <p>For next summer we're planning a few have a go's and more beginners courses.</p> <p>We've just had a second coaching day with Duncan Busby and Nikki Hunt which was very popular, and we're looking forward to our second ever Potato Day social event with jacket potatoes and a number of awards and badges accumulated throughout the year.</p>

	<p>It was noted that the AGB 50+ event is now 2 days and on the same weekend as the CWAA Senior Champs which causes issues both with hire of timing systems and with availability of judges. We may need to move the County Champs, depending on field availability.</p> <p>Andrew M will obtain a quote for ChronoTir timing system for the County. Noted that EAC charge a hire fee of £100 per set plus a £500 deposit.</p> <p><u>Malvern Archers</u></p> <p>Membership structure has been re-jigged, prices have been increased and this has been a success, indoor fees are now included in the fee and attendance is up and overall it's worked well. Membership levels are stable.</p> <p>Dates for 2025 tournaments are issued.</p> <p>Club has beginners courses planned and overall is looking healthy.</p> <p>Club now has the use of Manor Park facilities for free (meeting room/bar etc) so may be able to utilise those for coaching and other events.</p> <p><u>Redditch & Bromsgrove C of A</u></p> <p>No report.</p> <p><u>Redhill Archers</u></p> <p>Redhill Archers Report for CWAA committee meeting 14/1/25</p> <p>We ended 2024 on a high with a great Christmas shoot which was enjoyed by all.</p> <p>Our membership is at an all-time high with approx. 130 shooting members of which 30 are Juniors.</p> <p>We started the New Year with our now annual Novice tournament which had 60 archers over 3 sessions, the feedback has been excellent. It was great to see archers from many of the county clubs.</p> <p>In Feb we are hosting the County Junior shoot and March the Vegas</p> <p>The start of the Outdoors begins with the Double 720 on the 5th April, which is full with a waiting list.</p> <p>This is followed by The America shoot on 5th May which has plenty of spaces</p> <p>Our next taster session is on the 1st March followed by a beginners course later that month</p> <p>We are taking part in Start Archery in May and running free have a go's for the community.</p> <p>Sharon Medhurst Redhill Chair</p>
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	<p>It was noted for information, that at Redhill, interested parties have to do a taster session before they are allowed to join a beginners' course.</p> <p><u>Saints & Sinners Bowmen</u></p> <p>Saints & Sinners Bowmen Report-September 2024-January 2025</p> <p><u>Non- shooting News</u></p> <p>AGM was held on 17th November at the clubhouse and was attended by 17 senior members out of the current membership of 24.</p> <p>Club fees were raised to £90.00 pa for seniors and £45pa for juniors. Due to rising costs and falling membership the club is facing its worst financial crisis for many years and discussions will continue during 2025 to decide on what must be done to keep the club in existence. As the majority of the club membership voted for the fee increase we do not expect many members to not renew in January 2025.</p> <p>The club decided to cease hosting Indoor Archery at Bewdley Leisure Centre from 06/12/2024 as it was losing the club a large sum of money. Arrangements were made with WFCA for any archer wishing to shoot indoors to attend their mid-week sessions if spaces were available. It is highly unlikely that we will reinstate Indoor Archery on our own shooting calendar due to the rising costs of venue hire which makes the fees unsustainable. The club will continue to talk to other local clubs to find alternatives.</p> <p>Storm Daragh caused some issues to our outdoor shooting venue with perimeter fir trees falling across the field just missing the club house and the fence behind the shooting line had panels blown off. Hard work by club members in the days following enable the field to be restored to its pre storm state to enable shooting to continue.</p> <p><u>Shooting News.</u></p> <p>New Years Day Shoot 01/01/2025-Cancelled due to the weather</p> <p>Three archers received gold Aim for Paris Pins from Archery GB for their virtual challenge. Henry Evans was 1st overall in his catergory with Kathryn and Steve Lester placing third in theirs.</p> <p>Henry Evans was first Longbow men at WFCA WA18M Tournament.</p> <p><u>Stourbridge C of A</u></p> <p>The recent indoor shoot was well attended but very cold. The heating was broken and as they are building a new sports hall it will not be fixed.</p> <p>Club shoot dates have been set.</p> <p>Still having issues with management at the social club so have a potential risk with the ground and are investigating other options. Have looked at buying a field but the required £70K is too much so looking at option of something smaller like Malvern's size.</p>
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	<p>Currently have 5-6 juniors who the club are looking to develop.</p> <p><u>Worcester Bowmen</u></p> <p>Club has been quiet over the winter. Now have 45 members.</p> <p>Some novices attended the shoot at Redhill and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, hopefully this enjoyment will encourage archers to attend more competitions.</p> <p>Have a newly qualified L1 coach (now 3 in total). Working in line with their club coaching development plan. A barrier to progression in coaching is that not all courses are local for the in-person days required. The development assistant information has been shared.</p> <p>Mark P asked that all clubs discuss and feed-back to him on what interest there is in L2 coaching courses</p> <p><u>University of Worcester AC</u></p> <p>No report.</p> <p><u>Wyre Forest C of A</u></p> <p>Club Report for January 2025</p> <p>Our last club committee meeting was cancelled due to illness.</p> <p>In November, we hosted a WA18m and for the first time this was WRS not just UKRS. We trialled 3 sessions for the first time as this event has always been oversubscribed and this did seem a success. (albeit a long day!)</p> <p>Our UKRS Portsmouth is full for February and has been since October and the CWAA Portsmouth for March is now filling up well too.</p> <p>Looking ahead to the outdoor season, WFCA are hosting their usual UKRS Western on 1st June- all distances available. A WRS Double 720 on July 27th which is the WMAS Champs and a WRS 1440 on 3rd August which is the CWAA Champs.</p> <p>The indoor season has been going well and has been well attended by our own archers and those visiting from other clubs. We had a fun Christmas shoot- thank you to Penny for organising that. We also had a club Christmas party which was a skittles and curly wurly night with a fish and chip supper. A great evening was had by all. In lieu of Christmas cards, we again had a fundraiser for the Air Ambulance and a good donation was made.</p> <p>WFCA have been taking part in both Selby and British Archer postal leagues and we have been completing regular Portsmouth and Frostbite rounds for these.</p> <p>Attendance at indoor sessions has increased slightly.</p> <p>The club managed to fit a Stafford round in the hall with a bit of a squeeze and 8 county records were submitted.</p>
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Any other business	<p>Sharon M – Redhill hosting the Junior indoor shoot. Does any other club want to have a go at hosting for 2026?</p> <p>As most of the juniors are from Redhill, it makes sense that they host it.</p> <p>Saskia B – There are issues with the online events calendar on the CWAA website with most clubs unable to log in. Suggested that we could put a simple list of shoots with links to club websites to obtain the prospectus and entry form as this would be simpler. We could also include shoots from elsewhere in the region in this way.</p> <p>Saskia will meet with Mark P to discuss ideas and will report back to the next meeting.</p> <p>Scott P – Proposed that we could hire bosses from 10 Zone for the County Match, will also speak with WFCA (Martin P) as may be able to borrow bosses and agree a price per boss. Noted that the WFCA stands will need someone to assemble them so would need tools + extra time and would need to be transported to and from the venue.</p> <p>Andy S – For awareness only, Andy shared that due to a medical issue he may need to take on less activities for a while.</p>
Next meeting:	Tuesday 11 th March 2025 from 19:30 on MS Teams
Meeting closed:	21:28