

# Lancashire Archery Association

**Minutes of the committee meeting held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 2.00pm  
Venue: Shevington Methodist Church, Gathurst Rd, Shevington, Wigan.**

Present: Joanne Proctor JP, TO, Blackpool bowmen; Jean Stretton JS, RCA; Roger Stretton RS, President, RCA; Geoff Tittensor GT, Chorley Bowmen; Mark Murphy MM, Mossley Hill; Colin Mudd CM, Bowbearers of Wyresdale; Rod Lyons RL, Mossley hill; Barry Marsden BM, Mossley Hill; Roy Samples RS, Burscough Archers; Simon Brown SB, Nethermoss; John Caswell JC, Clout TO, Blundellsands; Joshua Green JG, Junior Team Officer, Chorley Bowmen; Mark Leach ML, Records Officer and Webmaster, Eccles AC; Kim Doherty KD, P&S; Helen Brown HB, Senior Team Manager, P&S; David Kellet DK, P&S; Angela Kellet AK, Treasurer, P&S; Graham Burrows GB, Chair, High Elm Archers; Yvonne Stead YS, AGB.

Minutes taken by Mark Leach. Meeting started at 2.00pm

1. Apologies for absence:  
Jude Lane JL, Secretary, Eccles AC; Lorraine Morris LM, P&S; Phil Morris PM, SPOC, P&S; Simone Smith SS, Preston Grasshoppers; Jim Smith, Preston Grasshoppers; Andrew Taylor, RCA; John Woollam, Mossley Hill.
2. Minutes:  
All had received the minutes. No changes to be made
3. Matters arising:  
No 6 – proposal re 'loans', agreed at a follow up meeting that this would not be something LAA could provide.  
No 6 – Expenses protocol has been put on the LAA Website  
No 7 – Chethams to collect our documents this month.  
No 7 – Clout. Roxanne Prime and Harlie Mason have been put in touch with each other.
4. Correspondence – Nil
5. Officers Reports;
  - a. Chair –

This is my first report since taking office in November and to some extent I am still finding my feet.

Firstly, I would like to thank Eccles Archery Club for the invitation to the official opening of their new indoor range an informative and enjoyable event accompanied by an extensive buffet. It is good to see that it is still possible to create such facilities.

I have attended the initial meeting of the Regional County Chairs and Secretaries video conference, an initiative to improve communications and the exchange of ideas within the region, this will be followed up in February with a meeting of the NCAS Regional County Chairs and these groups will meet quarterly going forward. These groups are intended to be a means of support for counties.

Within the LAA we have already started a similar exercise initially with Safeguarding officers. Hopefully we will see more such groups developing and clubs within the county supporting each other.

Looking forward, there are a number of things I would like to see the LAA build on over the next few years.

The first is already under way which is a drive to getting people back to shooting and attending tournaments. To encourage this I think it would be good to see more open and novice shoots on the calendar in recent years we have lost a lot of the more informal non record status shoots for various reasons. I know that EAC are hosting a Novice shoot in April which will include a pre-shoot talk explaining the tournament process and operation to novice archers and allow novice archers to "experience" shooting under formal record status tournament conditions with traffic lights etc.

I would ask that clubs and coaches encourage their novice members to attend this event and support Lancashire shoots when they appear on the calendar.

Secondly, I would like to see LAA opening up opportunities to encourage archers to try other types of archery, clout being the obvious one and again steps are already under way to encourage this, but there is one type of archery I am often asked about, which is field archery and opportunities to try it in Lancashire.

The third is probably going to be a bit more controversial, as I would like to see the coaching group become more closely linked to (preferably part of) the LAA. There was a 5 year plan in place working towards improving the situation which was held up by the Covid pandemic. As a coach myself I believe there is a lot more the "coaching group" could and should be doing in Lancashire. I have been in contact with our CCO and we intend to have a conversation in February regarding how we can move forward.

Graham Burrows  
**Chairman Lancashire Archery Association**

b. Treasurer – see attached

c. Secretary –

After several meetings with our new Auditor, we have now a new expenses protocol in place – explaining who can claim, what to claim and how to claim.

The LAA indoor championships are on February 26<sup>th</sup> at Preston College – a new venue as our longstanding venue is no longer available. The entry form is on the LAA website.

A mix up at the NCAS indoor championships led to most trophies not being given out. LAA agreed to have all those trophies engraved – this has now been done at LAA's expense, and the trophies are with Andrew Neil.

The LAA junior and senior championship days are now back to their original dates in June. Entry forms on the website.

I attended the first AGB webinar on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan – re Membership and structure updates. Interesting!

Eccles AC are holding a novice shoot – judges and experienced archers will give info on what to expect at a competition etc, and will be around to help with scoring etc.

All LAA club safeguarding officers (apart from 2) are now on a data base that is with our new Safeguarding Officer – she can now start networking.

Jude Lane

d. Outdoor Tournament Organiser –

Since taking over this role last November I have concentrated on organising the LAA indoor champs.

As the South Ribble tennis club is currently not available for archery, we have a new venue. This is the sports hall at Preston College, St Vincent's Road, Preston. This has been checked out by Phil and Lorraine and deemed to be satisfactory. There is loads of parking and good facilities. We should have food and drinks available.

The afternoon session is now full. There are spaces still in the morning.

The targets are being provided by Tenzone who will deliver on Saturday, put up the targets, then remove on Sunday. There is a cost of approx £700 for this.

I have opened a new account with Lloyds bank to cover the banking needs of the tournaments and Kim Doherty has kindly helped with sorting out spreadsheets etc to manage the accounts.

I have applied for record status for the three other LAA tournaments this year, the Juniors, on June 10<sup>th</sup> at Eccles, the LAA York Hereford at Asshetton on June 11<sup>th</sup> and the 1440 at P & S on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Entry forms will be available soon.

Joanne

e. Indoor tournament Organiser – see report above

f. Clout Organiser –

Not much to report. Three entries received so far for the Lancs Clout. Will start to bump it soon online and will send a mail-out.

John Caswell

g. Clout Officer –

As of yet I have been unable to plan a training session. I hope to sort on out soon, I need to get available dates from coaches we used previously as I know they also have a busy schedule.

Roxanne Prime

h. Junior Organiser –

3 junior sessions planned so far for 2023;

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Blackpool Bowmen

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Rochdale Company of Archers

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Eccles Archery Club

1<sup>st</sup> session was a success, we had a total of 10 Juniors at the session, representing 5 different clubs of Lancashire. We also had 5 coaches each from different clubs volunteering at the session. A big thank you to Blackpool for letting us use their facilities, and a thank you again to coaches who are volunteering their time for these sessions.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> session is a week today at Rochdale and we hope to see many more juniors there.

An email was sent out on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2023 to all the clubs of Lancashire reaching out to find what we currently do or are working on to welcome juniors into the sport.

There's been a discussion amongst the coaches around putting together a coaching kit for the juniors for spares and repairs of kit. With a range of experience through the juniors as these sessions are open to all we're seeing a range of repairs, from those using club kit and needing a new arrow rest, or a pressure button to borrow, to nocking points being tied on personal strings. I was wondering if it'd be possible to buy a few items to bring to these sessions so they're available. Items such as:

- T square
- Brass Nocks
- Nock Pliers
- Serving
- Hot melt
- Lighters
- Fletching glue
- Super glue

- Allen key sets
- Pliers
- Screwdriver set
- Knife
- Limb gauges
- Therabands
- Nock tool
- String wax
- Grub screws

\*\* There was some discussion around purchasing the above items and a proposal put forward - that the Junior officer go ahead and purchase said items. Proposed by JG, seconded by AK – all agreed. **JG to purchase small equipment**

i. Team Manager (seniors)

Winter training sessions

Three LAA Winter Squad sessions have been organised – one at Eccles, two at P&S. Thanks to those clubs for offering use of their facilities, to the archers who have attended so far and to coaches Vlada Priestman and Craig Hobin for their time and help.

After discussion with Jude and some of the LAA Squad archers, the decision was made to cancel the first session due to the very cold snap and lack of heating at EAC (at the time). It was a shame we didn't get to train at Eccles lovely new range, but it couldn't be helped.

The second session went ahead at P&S and was well attended by 17 squad members, along with Coach Vlada Priestman. The archers mainly concentrated on technique and training for the upcoming Lancashire champs, some outdoor work was also done and we had an input from Vlada on goal setting which saw a good deal of interaction from squad members. The atmosphere was positive and archers were respectful of the premises. I would personally like to thank the archers and Vlada for making my first training session as manager enjoyable, helping to allay my nerves.

Target faces were purchased for this training session at a cost of £14.14.

There was unfortunately some confusion about whether or not the Squad had exclusive use of P&S range. During the course of the day, 3 P&S members (non-Squad) turned up to shoot. Notice from the club secretary had gone to P&S members stating that the LAA training sessions "would entail closing the range to members". I have since been told by the Club Chairman, that it was not his intention to close the outdoor range to the members while the squad trained there.

A third winter session is planned for 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at P&S again. Craig Hobin will coach at the session. Vlada has said she would also be available.

*Future*

Discussions were had with several archers and it was the general agreement that a summer session might be useful to work on team H2Hs in preparation for the National County Teams event in September. I will try and get this arranged further in the year.

### County Matches

The county match details have been published on the LAA website, LAA Facebook page and have also been sent to LAA Squad members.

The 3-Counties match is to be hosted by Cheshire. They had changed the date to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and the round to a Double WA720. The date of the match clashed with the Barnsley National Tour Stage which could have meant a reduction in available county level archers. This was pointed out to the Cheshire manager at the time.

An appeal has been put out to Lancs archers for 2022 scores to be submitted for the above match. At the time of writing only two set of scores has been received. It is still early days, but quite a few of the county squad have cited the clash as a reason they wouldn't be available.

Update to above: In the past week I have been contacted by Cheshire's James Cornford who describes himself as having taken over the Cheshire team. He has asked if Lancashire would be open to a different date for the 3 counties match. He is also putting this proposal to Warwickshire. I think it might be worth sitting down with James and a rep from Warwickshire to try to find a date that does not clash with any major or popular shoots attended by the counties' archers.

The other matches are to be the National County Teams event at Lilleshall in September and the Intercounties in October, though no definite date or venue has been agreed for that yet.

### Shirts

Orders are being taken from archers for the new LAA shirts, I set the order deadline for 4<sup>th</sup> Feb.

A good number of orders were taken during the LAA Squad session at P&S in January – many more than the minimum required for an initial order. Archers have paid for the shirts themselves (£35 each).

A number of Lionhart shirts or various sizes were available for archers to try on at the latest training session so people could be confident in the sizes they were ordering.

### Year Bars & Badges

Year bars and badges have been acquired from Angela Kellet and Paul Tittensor and they are with The Trophy Centre, Preston for engraving (price quoted £6.50 each).

This year is a little different as *two* years' worth (a total of 35) have to be engraved. The 2021 team bars were never awarded as engraving had not been completed, so 2021 and 2022 bars will be presented to LAA Team members at the LAA Indoor Champs at the end of February.

---

j. CCO – No report

Records/website Officer –

### **Web Master Report**

Tournament entries are coming in thick and fast. Looks like in 2023 we are moving to a post-Covid world.

Brief death notification & Obit for Ces Priestman.

### **LAA Records Officer Report**

Chaos. As LAA Record Officer I try to keep in sync with AGB. The AGB National Records page is now full functional, but it is going to be a huge amount of work incorporating the 50+ (Masters) age group.

If an under 18 junior shoots a Ladies/Women's LAA Record, I include this as both. My suggestion is that we adopt the same strategy for senior and 50+ age groups. However... MANY of the current senior records were shot by over 50s. How do I go about dealing with this????????????

More in the Agenda Item.

### **LAA Zoom Licence**

The LAA Zoom License renewed automatically. Thanks for Angela for reimbursing me: £143.88. The LAA Zoom License is still being used by LAA Clubs, County and Region occasionally. The facility is there for clubs. Please use it.

k. Judges SPOC

Nothing to report from Judges since the last meeting.

Phil Morris

l. Safeguarding Officer – No report

m. NCAS and GNAS news –

### **NCAS -**

- Cheshire AA website has an article called 'an introduction to Field archery' – very worth a read.
- Cheshire are putting on a clout training session, start time 13.00, cost £2.50, venue - Wirral Rugby & Cricket Club, Thornton Common Road, Clatterbridge,

Wirral. CH63 0LT. I am assuming information on this will go onto the Cheshire website

- NCAS are organising specific group meetings on Windows Teams ;-

2 meetings for Chairs and Secretaries have already taken place

4 further groups initially, with more to follow if found useful –

- Chairs – 08/02/2023 at 7.30pm. Graham Burrows
- Safeguarding – 26/01/2023 at 7.30pm. Zara Longlands
- Field – 15/02/2023 at 7.30pm. Paul Tittensor (who will feed back to Barry Marsden, who will then take things forward to try and promote Field Archery in Lancs)
- Flight – 02/03/2023 at 7.30pm – no one has come forward to attend this meeting – anyone interested in being our representative, please contact Jude.

I personally feel these meetings are useful - pulling the region together, supporting county officers, sharing ideas – the idea for the Eccles Novice shoot came from one of these meetings.

#### **AGB –**

ML, GB and JL attended the first AGB webinar on ‘membership structure’ – now waiting for feedback/decisions once all the webinars are completed.

ML reported that AGB are considering having various categories of membership, including a ‘competitor’ membership type (for those who attend UKRS & WRS everts), but they would have discounted entries for Lilleshall tournaments.

#### 6. Addition to the role of Treasurer –

We are experiencing cost increases across the board, and we need to maintain LAA funds.

We propose to put a Delegation of Authority on the LAA Accounts to enable the Officers to monitor the spending more closely. This will safeguard our Treasurer and other Officers, as they will no longer have to take sole responsibility for the spending, we feel this is important in the current climate.

- Up to £50, and within the remit of the Roles of the Treasurer, - Treasurer approval only required
- Over £50 and under £100 – Treasurer and 1 further Officer to approve
- Over £100 – Treasurer and 2 Officers to approve, following discussion.

Proposed by ML, seconded by AK – all agreed.

**ML to add to website**



7. New expenses form and Addition to the Expenses Protocol –

The new (simplified) expenses form was shown to the meeting – this will now go onto the website – **ML to add to website**

Expenses Protocol -

All other expenses will be at the discretion of the Treasurer and LAA Officers where necessary, on receipt of the relevant expenses claim form and supporting receipt for the costs incurred. Eg Engraving of Team Trophies – all agreed. **ML to add to website**

8. New AGB classifications, handicaps & county records

ML reported that the new AGB Classification & Handicap tables had been issued. There were now 64 tables, but if an archer shot only one bow type, only one of these 64 tables applied.

ML stated that he (personally) thought the tables were excellent, but (a) there had been no formal announcement from AGB to members and (b) these new tables would create huge work for club, county and regional records officers.

For example, AGB provided an Excel spreadsheet to calculate a scoresheet's handicap and classification, but this would only work for those records officers who had a Microsoft Office 365 account. (ML does, but many don't.)

ML stated that he had previously written to AGB suggesting a national scores database would solve all problems, but AGB had not replied.

YS said that all comments MUST go via the response page on the AGB website, and she had been specifically told NOT to report comments back to AGB.

ML stated that he tries to keep the LAA records 'in sync' with the national records, but this causes problems. For example, nearly all of the lady Longbow records were obtained by an archer (JL) who was over 50. Should the LAA website have 50+ records, and should these be populated by historical scores, or should we 'start with zero records' and populate going forward?

A discussion followed, and it was felt that we had no option but to 'start a fresh'. A show of hands agreed with this. (This was NOT a proposal and vote, but it gave some guidance to the Records Officer.) **To be followed up at the next LAA meeting**

9. First Aiders – Following some discussion around this subject, JL is to meet online with YS to get some clarification. ML asked if there could be a generic Risk Assessment from AGB – **YS to take this back to AGB**

10. Affiliation fees –

ML asked club officers at the meeting & the LAA treasurer about new club/AGB members and the systems in place for ensuring that LAA & NCAS fees were paid to the county and region.

GT of Chorley, RS of Burscough Archers & SB of Nethermoss reported that their clubs always send LAA & NCAS affiliation fees in a timely manner. The LAA Treasurer, AK, reported that 'yes, she receives affiliation fees throughout the year' but was unable to provide a detailed breakdown at this time as she did not have her lap top with her.

#### 11. AOB –

The chair, GB, thanked ML for standing in.

GT informed the meeting that Peter Gregory (Mr Clout) of Goldcrest, Cheshire and the CAA Clout TO was offering free entry to any archer who was attending their first clout tournament and would offer a brief introduction the evening before (after the field was set) if required. GT enquired whether LAA should have a similar scheme.

**To be discussed at the next meeting.**

#### 12. Date and time of next meeting –

ML reported that the website stated the next meeting was due on the 6<sup>th</sup> May. The floor advised that this was the day of the coronation, and we would need to find another date.

The 29<sup>th</sup> of April was provisionally chosen.

Meeting closed at – 4:00.

(There followed a discussion that was not minuted.)