

**IBS Annual Membership Meeting
January 14, 2017
Grantville, PA**

The 48th Annual Membership meeting of the International Benchrest shooters was held on January 14, 2017 in Grantville, Pennsylvania near Hershey. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by President Jeff Stover. A moment of silence was observed for those of our shooting friends that had passed in 2016.

Recording Secretary Joan Borden held a roll call to determine a quorum of clubs, which were either present or proxies held. Jeff Stover, Dick Grosbier, Bill Gebhardt, Frank Danisienka, and Robert White of the IBS Executive Board were in attendance. Approximately 50 members attended.

Joan Borden gave the Recording Secretary's report. Membership as of January 2017 is 922 members which is an INCREASE of eight from January 2016.

The Treasurer's report was given by Bill Gebhardt. The organizations finances are growing because of not paying for subscriptions to Precision Shooting Magazine. Total cash assets are \$112,886.

The IBS Secretarial and Treasurers books were reviewed before the meeting by a CPA located in Tunkhannock, PA. At the meeting the books were further reviewed by Jeff Green, who reported the financial records were in order and did not have any discrepancies.

First VP and Match Chairman Dick Grosbier reported that the 2017 schedule is on the IBS website.

Second Vice President Frank Danisienka gave a report on awards. This was Frank's first year in that position following in the footsteps of John Cascarino. John had established a system of detailed spreadsheets documenting shipments of patches, stickers and trophies. This base allowed for a smooth transition to Frank's oversight of the complicated awards program.

The **Long Range Committee** report was given by David Matthew standing in for Committee Chair, Stanley Taylor who was unable to attend. The other committee members were recognized: Mike Wallace, Ken House, Steve Wilson, Alex Wheeler, Richard Schatz, Larry Bryant and Shannon Lowman. Top 20 Shooter of the Year plaques were presented. Awards for those not in attendance were either handed to others to deliver or will be mailed by IBS.



600 yard Shooter of the Year: Tom Jacobs

1000 yard Shooter of the Year: Robert McMichael

Female-Junior-Rookie Shooter of the Year: Amber Brewer (see left)

Amber's accomplishments were exceptional in that she was able to capture all three titles in one year. This was an unprecedented feat. Further, she finished 7th in the overall standings.

The Long Range Committee for 2017 will be the same as 2016.

The **Group Committee** report was given by Ken Harshman in place of Committee Chair Hal Drake. Hal was at the meeting venue on Friday but had to return for work on Saturday. Kent announced the Group Nationals will be in Holton, Michigan. The Group Committee has been negotiating with Bob and Nancy Scarbrough on the management of the Nationals. Also, they have been looking at bringing in a very experienced scorer for the week to ensure consistent and accurate scoring. *A copy of the Group Committee Report follows at the end of this report.*

Group Shooter of the Year: Harley Baker

Group Committee for 2017 is: Hal Drake (Chairman), Dale Boop, Mark Trutt, Sid Goodling, Kent Harshman, Brian Dolinsky, Russell Rains and Bob Hamister.

The **Score Committee** report was given by Chairman Jerry Powers and the annual Shooter of the Year awards were presented.



VFS Score Shooter of the Year:
Wayne France



6x Score Shooter of the Year:
Randy Jarvais



Score Rookie of the Year:
Josh Shrom

2017 Score Committee will continue to be: Jerry Powers (Chair), Kim Llewellyn, Ricky Read, Orland Bunker, Wayne France, Charles Brock, Hilary Martinez.

Records Committee Report was given by Chairman Kent Harshman. He thanked his committee members Dave Tooley and Bobby Hart.

Kent announced the new records. There were 20 record submissions and four 250-25X submissions in 2016. Nine of those submissions for records were ratified – one in 600-Yard, four in 1000-Yard, two in Group and two in Score. All four 250-25X submissions was also ratified.

New 600 Yard Records:

06/12/16

John Ross - 600-Yard 2-Gun Score Agg.

CURRENT RECORD IS 394/1.9982"

Confirmed Record: 395/1.8755"

New 1000-Yard Records:

07/24/2016

Michael Gaizauskas – 1000-Yard HG 10-Shot Score

CURRENT RECORD IS 100/3.353”

Confirmed Record: 100/2.871”

07/24/2016

Michael Gaizauskas – 1000-Yard HG 10-Shot Group

CURRENT RECORD IS 3.044”

Confirmed Record: 2.871”

2016 Season

Tom Mousel – 10-Match 1000-Yard LG Group Agg

RECORD COMING INTO 2016 IS 4.4374”; HIS NEW RECORD IS 4.3155”

2016 Season

Robert McMichael – 10-Match 1000-Yard LG Score Agg

RECORD COMING INTO 2016 IS 47.5; HIS NEW RECORD IS 47.9/4.5461”

New Group Records:

08/10,12/16

Bob Scarbrough, Jr. – HV 100/200 Yard Group Grand Aggregate

CURRENT RECORD IS .1675”

CONFIRMED RECORD: .1628”

08/09-12/16

Bob Scarbrough, Jr. – 2-Gun 100/200 Yard Group Multi-Gun Aggregate

CURRENT RECORD IS .1966”

CONFIRMED RECORD: .1937”

New Score Records:

08/27,28/16

Dean Breeden – Varmint Hunter 100/200 Grand Aggregate

CURRENT RECORD IS 500/26X

CONFIRMED RECORD: 500-30X

08/27,28/16

Dean Breeden – VFS/Hunter 100/200 Yard 2-Gun Aggregate

CURRENT RECORD IS 1000/57X

CONFIRMED RECORD: 1000-58X

250-25X Recognition...

07/10/16

Dave Short (HVS) – 250-25X; 10 WO's

07/16/16

Dean Breeden (LVS) – 250-25X; 17 WO's

09/04/16

Josh Schrum (HFS) – 250-25X; 13 WO's

09/10/16

Dick Grosbier (HFS) – 250-25X; 13 WO's

Kent reminded all the match directors in attendance that they need to use the NEW record submission form instead of the old one. The new one has additional information which is not called for on the old one; the new form can be downloaded from the IBS website.

Voting Results for Election of Officers: The election for officers was straight-forward as the three positions had no opposition: 1st VP – Dick Grosbier and President – Jeff Stover.

Stover related the membership's vote totals for temporary rule changes to become Permanent:

BL#1: Allow for comprehensive rule book changes/updates (only once per five years)

Yes - 215 No – 21 Did Not Vote - 25

SC#1: Recognize a 2-gun 200/300 Grand Aggregate in Score Competition

Yes - 217 No – 16 Did Not Vote - 27

TP#1a: Amend the Tournament Procedures requiring the Range Officer to say the words “check your bore” in the sequence of range commands prior to ‘commence fire’

Yes - 173 No – 69 Did Not Vote - 19

Stover expressed his concern that 69 members voted against adding the ‘check your bore’ command before ‘commence fire’. He related that, in recent years, two of our competitors suffered loss of eyesight due to bore obstructions. The IBS strives to ensure safety of all shooters. The fact that shooters suffered serious injuries because of bore obstructions makes it all the more important that competitors on the line be reminded to ‘check your bore’. **Bore obstructions are-BY FAR-the single most likely cause of accidents in our sport. All IBS shooters need to be aware of that both in competition and in practice.**

President Jeff Stover gave a power PowerPoint presentation which will be posted on the IBS website.

Jeff thanked the Executive Board, Committees, webmaster Dick Grosbier, and Recording Secretary Joan Borden for their efforts. He also thanked the people that kept track of the points throughout the year. Phillip Yott-1000 Yard, Brian Dolinsky-Group, Wayne France-Score, Donna and David Matthews-600 Yard and Herb Llewellyn-Precision Rifleman.

He also thanked Paul Hammer as the IBS Editor and liaison to accurateshooter.com.

The President's Report contains a graph to illustrate the single greatest expense for the IBS is awards. There was also a graph that related to number of unique shooters in each discipline. The partnership with accurateshooter.com will continue for 2017 and be expanded. Last year, the IBS Executive Board approved paying \$250 to the person responsible to report on the shoots to be on accurateshooter.com. To be a featured match, the discipline committee or match director must identify the person who will need to pull together the information and photos.

Stover presented a concept that he had discussed with the Executive Board. He recommended the IBS seek the hiring of a part-time Executive Director. This person is needed to fully take advantage of accurateshooter.com and fulfill many other duties that volunteers simply do not have the time to do. If an Executive Director is hired it would be expected that he or she would implement the 300-yard Tackdrivers' Showdown fun match among all the types of precision rifles (Heavy Varmint, 600- yard Light Gun, F Class, tactical, etc.). The President committed to prepared a detailed proposal to the Executive Board as to the duties and other aspects of this new position.



Ray Metz (center) with Gebhardt (left) and Stover (right)

A President's Award was presented to Ray Metz of North Fort Myers, Florida. Unfortunately, Ray could not attend the meeting. Ray donated five rifles and large amount of front rests, tools, scopes, bullets and may other quality items. The value of the donation is around \$15,000. The rifles remain in Ray's ownership until sold later this year. Frank Danisienka, the IBS 2nd VP is inventorying all items (except for rifles and barrels) and will be selling them for the IBS. All proceeds will be used to create the **Ray Metz Fund** for furtherance of benchrest.

2016 By-Laws and Rule Book Items:

There was only one rule book item for consideration at this meeting and it related to the Score discipline. The proposal was to eliminate the need for a magazine cutout in actions used in the 6X discipline. There was vigorous discussion. Some of the traditionalists said the magazine harkened back to the original intent of the class. That is, the class' genesis was deer rifles that had been accurized. On the other side of the fence were those that said these rifles are now purpose built for competition. The rules allow custom actions with no safety and stocks can be flat bottomed, although limited to 2.25 inches in width. President Stover reminded the group that participation in 6X has continued to decline. In the last four years, it has collapsed to one-half of its former levels (27 now vs. 50 four years ago).

Dean Breeden made a motion to accept the amendment. This motion meant that magazine cutouts would no longer be required. All IBS members can vote on agenda items discussed at the Winter Meeting. Nevertheless, it has been custom for only those that compete or have an interest in the item to vote. A couple of shooters stood up and said they had an interest in building rifles to compete in 6X and wanted to know how to proceed.

The question was called and the vote was 6-5 to reject the amendment (meaning you still needed a magazine cutout). Shortly thereafter, a member approached the podium to question whether one of the 'reject votes' came from an attendee that was not a member of the IBS. Non-members cannot vote. The accused shooter then consulted with Recording Secretary Joan Borden. She had no record of his having paid¹.

¹ Further examination of the membership rolls on January 15, 2017 revealed no record can be found that the shooter was a current member of the IBS.

President Stover then said the vote would then be 5-5 with the motion failing. He reiterated that anyone in the room with an interest, being current or *potential* 6X competitors be asked to vote. Because of the irregularity in the first vote, the President called for a revote. In this case, IBS members that had in an interest in competing voted. The result was 8-5 to APPROVE the agenda item. This means there is a one-year trial to eliminate the need for a magazine cutout. A vote to make it permanent will go out with the ballots in the fall of 2017. At that time, the admonition to NOT vote on items in which a member does not have a vested interest.

January 18, 2017 UPDATE: After the meeting, an IBS member challenged the second vote on the motion to approve the agenda item to remove the cutout requirement. The IBS Executive Board (EBoard) has revisited the issue. The EBoard concedes the revote was a violation of Roberts Rules which, per the Bylaws, the IBS operates under. Therefore the second vote is void. The only vote that is valid is the initial vote which ended in a tie (5-5) after the one 'yea' vote was not recognized since it was cast by a person who was not a member at the time of the vote.²

All rifles competing in the 6X Score discipline must continue to adhere to the prevailing rule relative to the magazine:

The action will have a magazine cut in its bottom and the magazine shall be capable of holding two or more loaded rounds of ammunition for which the rifle barrel is chambered.

Before adjourning, Stover reminded competitors in the room that the new NBRSA front bag rule (allowing the front bag to wrap around the forend, and not allow a rifle to be lifted vertically from the front bag). To effect a change in the IBS rules there will have to be an rule change agenda item circulated in the 2017 season for consideration at the 2018 IBS Winter Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

(Summary prepared by Jeff Stover on January 15, 2017. This document does NOT replace the official minutes of the meeting of the Recording Secretary Joan Borden.)

² That person paid his dues at the conclusion of the 2017 IBS Annual Meeting.

January, 2017 Group Committee Report for the 2016 Shooting Season (presented by Kent Harshman)

Group Committee Members – Sid Goodling, Bob Hamister, Russell Rains, Dale Boop, Mark Trutt, Brian Dolinsky, Hal Drake and me; Hal wishes to thank the committee for their work in 2016. A special thanks to Brian Dolinsky – for not only serving as a committee member, but also for his work in tallying the GSOY points.

We had 6 club matches last year – 3 at Mainville and 1, each, at Union County, South Creek and Camillus. We expect that to be pretty much the same in 2017 with 2 notable exceptions – one, the Memorial Shoot at Union County has been moved from its traditional Mother’s Day weekend to the 2nd weekend in June; and two, we understand that Mr. Jason Brown, the match director at South Creek may be offering to host TWO matches this year, possibly,

I would share with the membership that we had a somewhat disappointing Group Nationals last year at Fairchance with respect to the facility and what we feel were very reasonable expectations for cleanliness and availability of restroom and shower facilities; effectiveness and working order of the moving backer system; and proper repair of stationary backers with respect to the ability for shooters to clearly see their shots. As a result of that disappointment, the Group Committee has made it their #1 priority this off-season to see that we do not end up with a repeat of this kind of a performance from a venue holding the Nationals...

To that end, the following initiatives are being pursued to better accommodate our shooters at the Nationals:

- We are negotiating with an outside party - in this case - Nancy and Bob Scarbrough Jr., to hopefully coordinate and execute the Group Nationals match in Holton, MI in 2017. Nancy and Bob have shown themselves to be exceptionally able to accomplish this task in professional fashion, as they have administered the IBS Nationals, the NBRSA Nationals, and the World Championships extremely well in recent years.
- Secondly, we will be negotiating with a person of our choice to administer the scoring of the match.
- It is our hope that these changes will lead to having more clubs consider holding our Nationals, given that their work load will be significantly reduced.

I’ll close by transitioning into what I guess is the next line of business at this point; in the interest of continuity, and given that the current committee is deeply engaged in the Nationals’ initiatives at this point, I would propose a motion to retain the Group Committee as it currently is for 2017.