

# Connecticut Trap Association Meeting Minutes January 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

President Minervini    Vice President Giaquinto    Secretary Kula    Treasurer Farber

Club	Delegates	
Andover	Darryl Larson	Ralph Fish Jr.
Bristol	Ron Kulmann	Tim Nicoletti
Fairfield	Joe Cimino*	Alex Shook*
Fin, Fur and Feather	Bob Hruskocy	Dan Gutt*
Hamden	Gabe Lupo	John Bellmore*
Hartford	Malcolm Ross	Joe Wheeler
Pahquioque	Rich DeSerio	Chris Marvin
Wolcott	Jim Docherty	Bill Morgan
At Large	Noelle Feucht	John Russo Jr.
ATA	Rich Latouf*	
ATA Alternate	Cheryll Pittera*	

\* Not present

**Opening Remarks:**

President Minervini stated that Cheryll Pittera had reluctantly resigned her position as Secretary of the CTA, citing increased responsibilities in the care and administration of duties for her parents and related out of state travel which she felt would not allow her to carry out the duties of her position with appropriate focus and diligence. She thanked the officers and delegates for the opportunity to serve the CTA and its members, and indicated that she may consider returning when her family responsibilities President Minervini acknowledged Secretary Pittera's years of service to the CTA, and asked for a round of applause from the officers and delegates. All of those present responded unanimously.

The role of CTA Secretary will be filled by Karen Kula, who also serves in the position for Pahquioque, and Fran McDonald has agreed to take on the responsibilities of ATA Trophy Chairperson, a role which Secretary Pittera had also held.

President Minervini also indicated that Secretary Pittera had not discussed resignation of her role as Alternate ATA Delegate. She retains that role pending further discussion with President Minervini.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Farber stated that since that fiscal year ended on September 30, there had been little activity other than paying a few expenses.

Treasurer Farber reported on a change already approved by the Board to extend CTA payment of target fees for Connecticut State category winners participating in the Grand American Champion of Champions from the current Singles and Lady Champions to all 9 categories. This change is consistent with ATA practice. Not all eligible category winners are likely to participate in the Champion of Champions event, so the increase in expense will not be significant.

In response to questions from the delegates regarding the balance in the CTA account, Treasurer Farber indicated the current balance was about \$50 K.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report by Delegate Feucht was seconded by Delegate Ross.

### **Reading of the Minutes:**

Delegate Feucht made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded by Vice President Giaquinto.

### **Report of Officers:**

#### **Vice President:**

Vice President Giaquinto stated that he has requested that Delegate Hruskocy resume the practice of posting the meeting minutes to the website for reference, and indicated that Delegate Hruskocy is working on that request.

#### **Treasurer:**

Treasurer Farber reported that he would be ordering pins for the state shoot participants. In later discussion, Delegate DeSerio requested that the state pins revert to the pre-100<sup>th</sup> anniversary circular format with the president's name and the year. Treasurer Farber indicated that was the intent, and asked how many pins he should order. After some discussion, the quantity was set at 350 pins.

**Secretary:** None

#### **President:**

President Minervini indicated that after discussion with Secretary Pittera, he wanted to remind all the delegates that reports from all shoots must be forwarded to the CTA Secretary. Those clubs running the shoot computer program themselves are responsible for sending the shoot report, new ATA memberships or renewals, and financial reports must be submitted to the CTA as well as the ATA. These reports must be filed and maintained for at least a year. The financial reports are to be submitted to Treasurer Farber and all other reports to Secretary Kula.

Delegate DeSerio indicated that the booklet that accompanied the computer program includes a listing of all available reports for reference.

Delegates requested that Secretary Kula provide her email address to them, and she indicated she would send an email with that information. Delegate Hruskocy requested that all email correspondence include a subject line that identifies it as CTA information.

President Minervini requested that all delegates and officers provide their contact information on a form created by Secretary Kula to be passed among the delegates and officers.

**ATA Delegate:** None – not present.

**Program Book – Delegate Hruskocy:**

Delegate Hruskocy reported that he had received some corrections to the prior program trophy details from Fran McDonald. He also indicated that he would like to act on a suggestion from Rich DeSerio that we assume prior year ads would be repeated, that we include them automatically in the new program and bill accordingly, and discontinue next year if the bill is not paid. Delegates expressed some concern about potentially providing free ads, but Delegate Larson and Treasurer Farber indicated that bills had nearly always been paid.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Treasurer Farber will send bills to the 2017 program participants in mid-March and include a message indicating that we will be processing renewals automatically. Bills will include deadlines for copy changes and for payment, and will indicate that any unpaid bills will result in exclusion from future programs. Delegate Hruskocy's email address will also be included as contact information.

Treasurer Farber also requested that he be copied on any new ads so he can send a bill.

**State Shoot Update:**

President Minervini stated that the new cashier for the State Shoot this year will be Barbara Jay. She will be running the Rhode Island State Shoot this year as well, and has worked previously under Joyce at the Connecticut State Shoot. Barbara's team will use the 3S System. We need to ensure that she can provide sufficient staff for the Shoot, and that we have squading tickets at least 2 weeks prior to the Shoot; she can pick these up at the Rhode Island Shoot. Pricing for her services has not yet been discussed, but now that she is confirmed to run the shoot, that will be the next step.

Delegate DeSerio stated that we also need to determine how many squads we want to pre-release on PreSquad.com. He asked if we would have another meeting prior to the State Shoot, and President Minervini indicated that he would like to, but not for at least 5 weeks. Delegate DeSerio explained that our recent practice of releasing all or most squads has discouraged some out of state shooters from making the trip to Connecticut when it appears that all events are sold out, so our objective is to ensure that some number of squads remain available on the day of the shoot for each event. We can indicate both on the Shoot Program and on PreSquad.com that some number of squads will be held until the day of the shoot. Delegate DeSerio further requested that the number of squads pre-released on PreSquad.com be an even multiple of the number of banks to be used for an event.

President Minervini indicated that he will email a meeting date for determining the number of squads to pre-release when he is back on-line later this week.

President Minervini indicated that he will be ordering targets for the Shoot and has confirmed with the cook. He is also working on the contract with the Hartford and should have that

signed this week. Delegates and officers expressed a strong preference for black rimmed targets, specifically New York State black rim. President Minervini indicated he would order the preferred targets within the next three weeks.

### **New Business:**

Fran McDonald will be assuming responsibility for ATA Trophies as well as CTA Trophies. President Minervini indicated that he would speak with Joe Cimino about receiving and storing the trophies, and about ordering the Friday trophies for the State Shoot.

Delegate Hruskocy asked if the Honoree for this year's State Shoot had been identified, as he needs that information for the program. The Honoree has not yet been announced, but officers will be mindful of the program deadline and will notify Delegate Hruskocy when the decision is finalized.

Delegate Ross handed out flyers to remind clubs that the Hartford club offers open shooting on Thursday at member rates for ATA shooters, who may shoot skeet as well as trap. He encouraged other clubs like Wolcott who have similar policies to officially share and publish those policies to encourage shooters to visit other Connecticut clubs.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Items Tables from Previous Meeting:**

##### **1. National Trapshooting Day:**

A motion had been made and seconded to begin rotating National Trapshooting Day among the clubs beginning in 2019 rather than always celebrating that day at the Fairfield Club. The club hosting National Trapshooting Day receives a \$500 stipend to provide Shamrock leather bags as prizes. Vice President Giaquinto stated that he had spoken with Delegates Cimino and Shook, and both were agreeable to rotating the event. He suggested that we rotate alphabetically among the clubs, beginning in 2019 with Andover. Clubs may choose to pass on hosting the event, but if they do so, they must wait until all other clubs have had their turn before they have another opportunity to host. So, for example, if Andover chooses to pass on hosting in 2019, the opportunity will move to Bristol, and Andover will wait as long as 7 years until the shoot has rotated through all of the remaining clubs before they have another opportunity to host. Hosting clubs can choose the actual date for celebrating National Trapshooting Day from among their ATA shoot dates.

Delegate Russo suggested an alternative method of drawing for the order of rotation and weighting the number of draws per club based on targets shot or some similar criteria. After some discussion, all agreed that the alphabetical approach was easier to administer. Given the number of years that their club has hosted the event, Fairfield will skip the first rotation. Delegate Russo moved to vote on the motion, with multiple delegates seconding, and the motion to rotate National Trapshooting Day was unanimously accepted.

##### **2. CTA Shoot Dates:**

A motion was made and seconded at the last meeting to carry forward club shoot dates from year to year rather than re-negotiating on an annual basis. For example, if Pahquioque typically hosts a shoot on the first Sunday in June, that first Sunday in June slot will carry forward from year to year and the date will be adjusted appropriately. Clubs that want to host additional shoots for a given year would then be able to choose from remaining available dates.

Months during the ATA season with 5 Sunday's will need to be managed on an exception basis under this approach. For example, both Hamden (April 29) and Hartford (July 29) are hosting shoots in 2018 that fall on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. In 2020, those months will have only 4 Sundays, so both Hamden and Hartford will need to select different Sundays for those shoots in 2020. (Note: Every year has 4 or 5 months with 5 Sunday's; the specific months vary from year to year.)

The proposed approach, including the exception management of 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday shoots, is expected to save about 2 hours during the October CTA meeting.

Delegate Ross moved to vote on the motion, which was then unanimously accepted.

### **By-Laws:**

A committee chaired by Treasurer Farber was formed to review By-Laws. Treasurer Farber reported that some differences of opinion remained within the committee, and indicated that the committee would work to resolve those differences and report prior to the CTA meeting at the State Shoot.

### **Shoot Computer Program:**

President Minervini has been unable to reach our contact, who has apparently retired.

Delegate DeSerio reported that he has spoken to a woman representative who indicated that as of January 1, 2018, support for the old version of the Shoot Computer Program is no longer available. The old version has been stable for years, and one club is now using the new version, which has not yet been purchased by the CTA.

Delegate Docherty reported that his club has been using the new version of the program and found it to be very easy to use and includes more functionality than the older version. Delegate DeSerio indicated that the new version was used at the Poconos this year with similar success. President Minervini stated that he would get the contact information from Delegate DeSerio, and work out an approach for obtaining the program for the remaining clubs. If necessary, the CTA will buy the disks/program download to share with the clubs.

### **State Team Pins:**

President Minervini stated that we are 3 years behind in providing pins to the state team and getting pins to the team members is paramount. Delegate Docherty reported that he has talked with a vendor who can create a mold from images of Vice President Giaquinto's pin to replicate the old design, then create category variations in minimum quantities of 25 pins/category. The pins would have a void area on which we can engrave the specific team year. The vendor recommended using fine pewter and possibly plating it with a gold or silver finish for an additional 60 cents per pin.

President Minervini requested that Delegate Docherty contact him next week to arrange a meeting to review the details of the vendor's proposal and to finalize a decision.

President Minervini called for a motion to adjourn. Delegate Marvin so moved, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.