

Minutes  
NCAC Shooting Sports Committee  
December 6, 2016

Attendance: Steve Crowe, Ken Feng, Joe Flaig, Kurt Johnson, Freeman Jones, Hal Noer, Andrew Petty, Demi Pullas, Jerry Saggars, Brian Suddeth and John Wolfgang

Meeting Started at 7:31 PM

The November 1, 2016 meeting minutes were accepted as distributed.

We still need district representatives from Aquia, Goose Creek, Old Dominion, Piedmont, Seneca, Washington DC, White Oak and Zekiah districts. These District Chairmen have been notified of the need. The shooting sports committee staff advisor is now working with the District Executives to complete these appointments.

Training courses (within 100 miles from the council) for the next two months are included in our Shooting Sports Committee Calendar located on the NCAC website. Hal Noer notified the committee that he is holding a NRA BIT session on 12/26/16, a NRA Pistol Instructor session on 12/27/16 and an NRA Rifle Instructors session on 12/28/16.

We are setting up two course dates (one in the spring and the other in the fall) for 2017. Both these sessions will be a joint USA Archery Level 1 and Level 2 course. The minimum course for camp staff and merit badge counselors is USA Archery Level 1. These courses will probably not be held on NCAC property as the Camp Snyder schedule is full.

The CVOA has requested support from the committee for their Area 6 Venturing Conference at Camp Snyder April 7-9, 2017. They are interested in air rifle and archery. Our It was suggested that our next Venturing shooting sports activity be a shotgun shoot – possible at Prince Georges Skeet and Trap. John Wolfgang is to look into this possible with possible help from the Berwyn Road and Gun Club.

John Wolfgang reported that all shooting sports events at the Goshen 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary camporee will be managed by the council shooting sports committee. We expect to have archery, shotgun small bore rifle, small bore pistol and Cub Scout BB and archery ranges. Ranges at Marriott, Olmstead and Bowman will be used. We will provide pistol shooting for Venturers and Explorers only. Cub Scout family camp BB and archery shooting activities will be held in their camping area. Recruiting of shooting sports staff is underway. We are in the process of contacting current certified NRA instructors from Camp Stall, Merit Badge Counsels and Range Masters. All shooting sports logistics will be performed by members of the shooting sports committee. Several committee members suggested that we look into a shotgun rabbit thrower for use during the camporee.

We plan to use the Goshen ammunition procurement process for ammunition purchases. It was also recommended that Camp Airy ammunition purchases be added to this buy.

Summer camp activities at both Goshen and Snyder are finished. The Goshen shooting sports staff worked with John Wolfgang during camp closedown to develop an inventory of what is at Goshen (rifles, bows, ammunition etc.) We have now started the annual Fall equipment maintenance cycle at Goshen and Snyder. We will have everything winterized by the last week in December. During the holidays in December we will hold our traditional archery repair sessions at Camp Snyder. Equipment repair and winter storage preparation is scheduled for the Goshen shooting sports equipment the last two weeks in

December.

Discussion followed about the general lack of concern by users of council shooting sports equipment. We have had many late returns of rentals, damage to archery equipment, failure of notification to camp staff of equipment damage and very late returns of rental equipment. Because of this the committee unanimously passed a resolution to: **Require all shooting sports equipment and range users to provide a \$100 cash security deposit when renting a facility(range) and/or equipment. Said deposit would be refunded following safe and timely return of equipment of close down of facility.** The committee felt that this deposit be in cash only (i.e. not credit card or account shuffle in the BSA.)

Work on the Special Use Permit update for the rifle and shotgun ranges at Snyder is still suspended pending approval of the NCAC Board of Directors and cognizant council committees. Risk management analysis for the new ranges and presentation materials for the proposed ranges has been developed.

We cannot proceed with the Special Use Permit modification submission until we have developed a Plat drawing for the new range locations. This requires a land survey. The approval to proceed with the engineering contract for range surveying, from the Chairman of the Camping Committee has been received. We are now waiting for a response to our updated Statement of Work from the engineering firm before having the professional staff sign the contract. The shooting sports committee team working on this activity is reviewing the final package for submission

There is some concern at both the national BSA and national NRA levels about instructors not using the NRA First Steps program in the merit badge program (Rifle Shooting and Shotgun). Merit Badge counselors should use the First Steps course and report results to the NRA. There was much discussion on the newly announced shooting sports activities for BSA participants. All activities require special permission from national, and additional equipment and supplies. There are specific problems with every one of the new shooting sports activities, such as single source equipment or supplies restrictions, reliability of specified equipment and additional range and instructor requirements.

John Wolfgang reported that only 4 out of 48 Archery Merit Badge Counselors (8.3 %) are qualified (to BSA standards) for range operations. Similarly, 9 out of 58 Rifle Merit Badge Counselors (15.5%) are qualified and 3 out of 32 Shotgun Merit Badge Counselors (9.3%) are qualified. The National Advancement Committee set standards for merit badge counselors. However; the shooting sports range operating standards as specified in the **Guide to Safe Scouting**, and **BSA Shooting Sports Manual** still must be met for all range instruction activities. John Wolfgang is to discuss these concerns with the council Advancement Chairman.

The 2017 University of Scouting will include three shooting sports sessions (Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and Venturing). Steve Crowe has asked to have all three sessions be two hours in duration. This will permit presentations on the various changes in shooting sports released during 2016.

The Federal Youth Handgun Safety Act requires parental permission prior to the youth participating in shooting activities. Furthermore; this signed permission slip must be carried, at all times, by the youth while they are on the range. The NCAC shooting sports committee is developing a shooting sports permission slip for this purpose. This only affects youth in the Venturing and Exploring programs. Learning for Life Explorers follow the same guidelines as Venturing for their shooting sports activities. One additional difference is that National Exploring operates a National Law Enforcement Pistol Competition ([www.learnignforlife.org/Exploring](http://www.learnignforlife.org/Exploring)). A draft Permission Slip has been developed and is under review by committee members.

Brian Suddeth and John Wolfgang are to review the materials for inclusion in the council website. Items we are considering for inclusion as part of the website and district roundtable presence are:

- NCAC "How to" Shooting Sports manual (draft in review by committee)
- Event help request form for shooting sports (developed)
- Firearm and Archery Instructors List (being developed. Have received NRA/BSA list and USA Archery list)
- NCAC Shooting Sports Merit Badge Counselor List (updated every month) Must be password protected (under development)
- University of Scouting Shooting Sports Presentations (developed)
- Where to Shoot information for council troops, teams and crews (Draft under review. Need scout camps added to list)
- Shooting Sports Committee Minutes (developed provided each month)
- Pointers to various national BSA Shooting Sports Manuals (developed provided each month)
- NCAC Shooting Sports Standard Operating Procedures (under final review)
- NCAC shooting Sports Pistol Permission Slip (developed, under review)

Several of these items still need to be finalized in form compatible with the website.

The committee discussed issues we have had with teleconferencing. Andrew Petty is to look into using GOTO meeting system instead of teleconferencing.

Action item list was reviewed and updated.

Next Shooting Sports Committee meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2017 via teleconference from 7:30-9:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned 9:28 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Wolfgang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being more prominent than the last name "Wolfgang".

John Wolfgang  
NCAC Shooting Sports Committee Chairman