



Minutes of the
Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc.
Board of Directors' Meeting
August 17, 2011

1. Call to Order:

The President called the regularly scheduled monthly meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. at the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc., Activity Center.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by the High Power Rifle Division Director.

3. Roll Call:

The Secretary called the Roll.

Board Members Present:

President – Vice President – Secretary – Treasurer – Executive Officer – Chief Instructor – Black Powder – Bullseye Pistol – Cowboy – Cowboy Fast Draw – Full-Auto – High Power Rifle – High Power Rifle Silhouette – Junior – Pistol Silhouette & Cowboy Lever Action – Practical Pistol – Rifle/Shotgun – Smallbore Rifle Silhouette – Tuesday Night Steel – .22 Pistol (Proxy)

Board Members Absent:

None

A Quorum of the Board was present. The Range Manager was also in attendance as well as ten guests who will speak later. Sign-In sheets are attached to the official Minutes.

4. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

The Board reviewed the Minutes from the previous meeting. No corrections were noted and the Minutes were approved unanimously.

5. Reports:

A) Range Manager Report:

- The Range Manager's Monthly Statistical Report (for July 2011) is attached.
- Presented a "New to the Range Shooter" graph.

B) Division Reports (as of 07-31-11)

NR – Not Reported / NM – No Match

DIVISION MATCH REPORTS				
Division	# of Shooters	# of Women	# of Juniors	# of Non-Members
Airgun				
Black Powder	18	3	0	6
Bullseye Pistol	12	0	0	0
Cowboy	19	0	0	6
Cowboy Fast Draw	34	3	3	17
Full Auto	52	0	2	16
High Power Rifle/Benchrest	76	5	39	22
HP Rifle Silhouette	20	1	0	2
Junior Division-Air Rifle	34	8	34	0
Pistol & Cowboy Lever Action Sil.	14	0	0	1
Practical Pistol	245	21	0	0
Rifle and Shotgun	68	2	0	0
Small Bore Rifle Sil./STC	25	1	1	2
Tuesday Night Steel/ HerHandgun/.22 Tactical	485	27	24	0
.22 Pistol	36	7	1	1
MATCH TOTALS	1138	78	104	73
Chief Instructor Training	0	0	0	0

Total Non-Match Range Use: 5488

Total Number of Shooters (Including reported Match Totals): 6626

C) Executive Board Reports:

1. Executive Officer:

- Reported that work has started on the Training/Air Rifle Building

2. Treasurer:

- A) Distributed a report on the Club's financial situation (copies attached)

3. Secretary:

- No report

4. Vice President:

- Reported on the plans for the Annual Meeting in January.

5. President:

- A) Will send the Five Year Plan and letter to Game and Fish concerning the proposed Clay Bird Facility
- Reported that the membership is now up to **4312**. Detailed report attached.

A Motion to accept new members was made by the President and seconded by the Bullseye Pistol Division Director. The Motion passed unanimously.

D) Education/Safety Report:

1. Chief Instructor

- An RSO Instruction Class is scheduled for August 26 & 27th, 2012

6. Unfinished Business:

- A) None

7. New Business:

- A) **Shade Cover:**

A Motion was made by the President and seconded by the Executive Officer to appropriate a not-to-exceed amount of \$2600.00 for the purchase of a shade cover for the Sporting Clays Facility. The Motion passed unanimously.

8. Special Session:

The Practical Pistol, Tuesday Night Steel and Rifle/Shotgun Division Directors have presented to the Board a request for the removal of the Club Membership privileges for Joe Platt (member # 217.0). Included as evidence of Mr. Platt's bad behavior were five incidents presented to the Secretary. Two Additional supporting statements were provided by R. Bella and R. Soloman. These were attached to the letter written to Mr. Platt by the Secretary informing Mr. Platt of the charges against him. The abbreviated charges are as follows:

1. Repeated attempts to intimidate RO's and other competitors when rulings are not in your favor.
2. Verbal attacks against those who disagree with you.
3. Numerous blatant violations of the rules during competitive events.
4. Disrespect of Match Directors and RO's during competitive events.
5. A history of unsafe conduct during competitive events.

The President recognized Mr. Platt and the guests in attendance. The procedure for the special session was outlined by the President in which he stated that everyone would be given a chance to speak as long as the discussion remained civil.

Mr. Platt responded as follows:

- He read the charges made against him. He stated that he was not going to dispute those charges. He apologized to the three Directors who wrote the complaint. He has competed at Rio for fifteen years. He admits that he has a problem and is trying to take care of it. He has enrolled in an Anger Management Program to try to help him better deal with personal conflicts. He has actively volunteered to help over the years and mentioned that he had donated two swamp coolers to the Club for the maintenance Building and two air conditioners to the Main Range Safety Officers building as proof that he cares about the club. He asked for an opportunity to do better. He apologizes and still wants to continue competing in Rifle/Shotgun and other matches.

The witnesses to speak on this matter of Mr. Platt:

Eight witnesses were present to speak on behalf of Mr. Platt. Their statements are summarized as follows:

1. He never witnessed an argument between Joe and anyone else. Does not think that Joe would intentionally threaten anyone.

2. Feels that Joe should have another chance as banning him from the club is too drastic. Admitted to having a serious confrontation with Joe, but that it was eventually resolved.
3. Joe should have another chance.
4. Mr. Platt's behavior has been a long time problem to the Practical Pistol competition and is well known. His attitude and character mean that he should not be in a position of authority, but feels banishment from the club is too severe.
5. In the past, Joe was very a focused and intense competitor. His opinion was that Joe seems to have toned down some.
6. I think that Joe has mellowed. We have had our moments of contention.
7. It would be wrong to disbar Joe. He has always been strong about safety, shooting glasses etc. where other competitors are concerned. Disputed that Joe was unsafe.
8. He never shot anyone or hit anyone. There are procedures to handle match situations. He felt that the Divisions could have handled this. Seems drastic to bring the Board in on this. He feels that this is an individual freedom issue. He never hurt anyone. He and Joe have been crosswise several times but didn't view it as a serious problem.
9. She said that Joe is just very competitive and that his contributions outweigh his problems.

In Rebuttal:

- The Rifle/Shotgun Division Director said that Mr. Platt offered to shoot him with bird shot at 15 yards to see whether it would be a "hit". The Division Director felt threatened by Mr. Platt when he poked him on the arm as they were speaking about the Bird Shot Incident. He described Mr. Platt's activities in setting up a match and felt that he didn't need Mr. Platt's tantrums. He doesn't want Mr. Platt to show up at Rifle/Shotgun matches. He is personally frustrated by Joe's behavior and feels it severely affects other competitor's ability to enjoy their sport as well.
- Mr. Platt took exception to the comments on bird shot and said that is was a metaphor.
- The Tuesday Night Steel Division Director said that he had known Mr. Platt for 15 years and that there had been problems over that time and that he had spoken to Joe on several occasions about his behavior.
- Witness No. 8 asked the President why this matter had not been handled at the Division Level.
- The President responded that the Division Directors had talked to Mr. Platt numerous times over the years to no affect on his behavior. People travel long distances at great expense to compete in our matches and are unhappy when some Range Officials change the rules to their benefit and no corrective actions are taken.
- Mr. Platt said that he felt the safety concerns some had were related to several accidental discharges because of a light trigger pull on a new gun he was using but no one was injured and the problem had been fixed.
- Witness #8 said that he felt Mr. Platt was a safe competitor.
- The Secretary remarked that there have been no outstanding problems of this nature among the other 12 Divisions of the club.
- The President stated that anyone can be banned for violating rules. Everyone on the Board has donated time and effort to the Club just like Mr. Platt, but that does not excuse bad behavior.

- Mr. Platt said that if the Board's decision goes against him he would still want to be able to help on the Range.
- The Board then went into Executive Session.

9. Executive Session:

- The President opened the session by stating that these three Directors had pressed charges against Mr. Platt and that since they were most familiar with the history and current charges the board would look to them for guidance on any penalty assessed. Some Divisions have established rules on behavior and their penalties thereof.
- The evidence included several reports concerning Mr. Platt from the three Practical Division Directors. In any tactical style competition some people will occasionally get Disqualified (DQ'd) but Mr. Platt has gotten more than most people.
- The Tuesday Night Steel Division Director said that some penalty should result. Possibly a ban of at least 6 months.
- A general discussion ensued on possible penalties. Penalties from six months to permanent ban were discussed. Several Directors spoke of at least a one year ban followed by probation.
- The overriding opinion of the board was that although verbal disagreements over match penalties were not unusual during the Practical style matches, Mr. Platt's behavior was considerably and consistently beyond the normal and in one case resulted in physical contact with a Match Official. No one including Mr. Platt disputes this.

After a discussion among the Practical Division Directors a motion was made by the .22 Pistol Division Director (Proxy) and seconded by the Black Powder Division Director that Mr. Platt be banned from the Range for a period of two years followed by a one year probationary period. Upon return he could not hold a position of authority. He would have to be reclassified to shoot on the competition ranges. If there is one incident of unsportsmanlike behavior that is documented by a Division Director he would be banned for life. A vote was taken with the following result:

For disciplinary Action: 19 Ayes

Against disciplinary Action: 2 Nays

The Motion passed.

Note: The Club By-Laws require a 2/3 (66%) vote to expel or ban a member. The results of this vote were 91% in favor of banning Mr. Platt from the Range.

10. Call to Adjourn:

A Motion to adjourn was made by the Tuesday Night Steel Division Director and seconded by the Bullseye Pistol Division Director. The Motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

The Board of Directors approved / ~~disapproved~~ these minutes with / 3 corrections.

Secretary
(CIm/08-24-11)

Date