

**FINAL**

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION**  
**Bisley General Meeting**

**Minutes of the Bisley General Meeting**  
**held in the NRA Pavilion, Bisley**  
**on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 from 9.00pm**

**Present:**

<b>Chairman:</b>	Mr D Lacey
<b>Secretary General</b>	Mr A Mercer
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr A Reynolds
<b>Members:</b>	17 Registered

**BISLEY GENERAL MEETING**

**Notice of the Bisley General Meeting**

The notice of the Meeting was taken as read.

**ITEM 1 - SPEECHES**

The Speech of the Chairman is attached hereto and initialled by the Chairman.

**ITEM 2 - OPEN FORUM**



**Chairman**

## Proceedings

Welcome to the Bisley General Meeting of 2023.

I am joined this evening by Andrew Reynolds, our Treasurer and Andrew Mercer, our Secretary General.

I would like to welcome all our Vice Presidents who have either been here, are here or are coming here, and particularly to welcome those from overseas: Stan Frost from Canada, Philippe Ginestet from France and Clifford Mallet from Jersey.

I'd like to start the meeting by announcing the results of the King's Price Stage I score, which was shot earlier today on Century Range. The results were published on the stats board this afternoon, but for those of you who haven't seen them, 781 competitors shot the first stage of His Majesty The King's prize.

The bronze badge was won by David Luckman with a score of 105.16v. The provisional last score in is 99.10v, finishing 31.1v at 600 yards.

Moving on to the other competitions, we started the Imperial 2023 with the Military Adaptive Championship on 22nd June. It was both uplifting and humbling to talk with these young, and not so young, competitors from all three services. Their determination and positive approach in the face of life-changing injuries sustained while serving our country is an inspiration. The event brings together a like-minded camaraderie, but is also very competitive as you might expect.

The winner of the Veteran Military Adapted Championship this year was Chris Parks with a score of 348.38v. The Serving Military Adaptive winner was Del Oswald with 334.20v.

At the same time, the Services were finishing their operational shooting competitions. And we're delighted to recognize the recipients of the respective Kings Medals for 2023:

For the Royal Navy & Royal Marines, Sergeant Tom Hughes, the Royal Marines;  
For the Army, Corporate Nishal Thapa of the first Royal Gurkha Rifles;  
For the Army Reserve, Warrant Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class, Jim Douglas of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers; and  
For the Royal Air Force, Corporal Kenroy Mitchell.

The Civilian Service Rifle meeting that followed saw 132 individual competitors. The class winners were in the historic category, Seth Ellett for Iron Sights, Sean Clarke in Practical Optic, Mark Eustance, and in Service Optic, Peter Cottrell.

A record 26 teams competed in the Falling Plates competition, which was staged on Pirbright ranges. Shot in two classes, the winner of the Modern was Wall of Lead, while the Open Class was won by High Power Rifle Association A Team.

The CSR meeting culminated in the Methuen Cup Match, which saw 20 teams competing. The Lee Enfield Rifle Association won the Historic Class with 834 points while the London Practical Shooting Club won the Practical Class with 1304 points.

Turning to F Class, 40 competitors entered the F Class matches across five days of competition. The winner of the F Class St George's in F/TR was Peter Dommert with a score of 140.10v, with the F Open St George's winner this year, David Lloyd, who shot 146.16v. Peter Dommert was also the winner of the prestigious Farquharson for 2023 in F/TR with 303.15v. While the F Open Farquharson champion was Dee Cownley with 312.25v.

Match Rifle had 131 entrants. The Hopton was won by Nick Tremlett with a score of 997.117v, beating John Lindsay III by six points. John won the Albert, the last shoot in the Hopton, with a score of 218.21v. This year saw the 150th Elcho Match. England came through the victors in challenging weather conditions, retaining the match with a score of 1716.154v, beating Scotland by 13 points, with Ireland third on 1669.140v.

The Imperial Gallery Rifle meeting had over 750 cards returned. Our thanks go to all the range officers, stats and admin team who help organize this very enjoyable and relaxed event on the Melville range.

The McQueen competitions sponsored by Accuracy International had a very successful meeting, and our thanks go to Martin and to Mary Camp for the smooth running of this very popular competition. The winner of the McQueen A, the issued rifle category, was Stephen Lewis. The winner of both the Cadet and the Under 25 prizes was Oscar Deakin, equalling his success of last year.

Target Rifle has seen 878 entries with 22 overseas countries represented. We continue to be grateful and delighted by this level of support for the Imperial.

The Grand Aggregate had 683 entries, with three Australians taking the top spots. Steve Negus winning with 643.75v. Mitch Bailey coming second with 639.70v, narrowly beating his dad, Jim Bailey, who was third on 638.67v.

We continue to have an excellent cohort of young shooters with 198 Under-21s, and 70 Under-25s, which is just over 30% of all entries. Our special thanks go to the school masters and our friends at the Council for Cadet Rifle Shooting, with whom we have an excellent working relationship.

Now, I would like to extend my thanks to those who've worked very hard over the last five weeks of competitions:

to our Chief Range Officers, Peter Turner, John Miller, Lisa Railton, and Rob Hughes;

to our Chief of Staff, David Camp, chief Butts Officers, Colin Scoles, Eleanor Lowry and Ellis Wake on Stickledown, and Martin Banks and Ellis Goodger on Century; and

to all the RCOs and butt supervisors who keep the Rangers running for us.

My sincere things also go to all the markers who have done such a sterling job in all weather throughout the meeting, and to the staff who have prepared the Camp and the ranges.

I would also like to thank the front-counter team for ensuring that everyone had their squadding cards on time, the stats team who have produced all the results, the Range Office and Armoury staff who have ensured the ranges run smoothly, as well as all those working diligently behind the scenes to ensure a successful Imperial meeting for all of us.

I now throw the meeting open to the floor. We've got a microphone at the front and for the minutes, please let us know your name and your question.

Barbara Hobson, North London Rifle Club

I'd like to ask please, for the membership, for an update on the Exhibition Hut.

Secretary General

The plans for what we are going to do with Exhibition Hut will be included in the Estate Development Plan which will be published in September 2023, in draft form.

Robin Pizer

I'm surprised at the poor attendance tonight, and I just wonder what you've done really to deserve it. However, that won't stop me saying a few words, if I may.

It's really about Rule 150. There is a serious problem with Rule 50 and some target rifles, and it's known that some of these target rifles have been altered after proof by at least one gunsmith.

This alteration involves setting the barrel back one more complete turn of the barrel shank, so the proof mark is visible in roughly the same place as normal. The barrel is then re-chambered with a non-standard reamer to ensure that the bullet from GGG, a commercial cartridge, before it is fired, is in contact with, or very close to, the rifle lands of the barrel. Rifles modified in this way need a new proof mark, and it is illegal for a gunsmith to give such a rifle to a customer without re-proofing it.

Barrels showing this modification were deposited with the Birmingham Proof House in 2018. Roger Hancox, the Birmingham Proof Master at that time, said that they had examined the barrels, and some certainly had been modified after proof and therefore the proof marks were invalid, and an offense would be committed if the firearms have been subsequently sold.

All target rifles need to be tested with properly calibrated gauges, but this has not happened - why?

Chairman

If I may just summarize the question. The question is “why is the NRA not testing every target rifle for compliance with the rules of proof“

Robin Pizer

With Rule 150.

Secretary General

This is not my area of expertise, but my recollection is that barrels are green stickered.

Robin Pizer

Any gunsmith can put a green sticker on, and if they put the green sticker on their own rifle then no-one would know, and they are not doing the testing. Because of what has happened, every single rifle should be tested before this meeting started. Every single target rifle, because you will find some are non-compliant with Rule 150, and therefore are in the illegal possession of that shooter.

Secretary General

If you would like to share your evidence with us.

Robin Pizer

The evidence is with the Birmingham Proof House. They contacted you, or at least they contacted the NRA, I don't know who in particular, and warned you of this situation.

Secretary General

Not so.

Chairman

Just for people's background, there was, a detailed report done on Rule 150 several years ago by me and by Alice Gran. I believe that's still on the website, and so those who are interested in the background will find it there<sup>1</sup>.

One of the conclusions was that the Proof House doesn't run shooting competitions, and the NRA doesn't administer the rules of proof. I think it's very important that we don't veer into each other's territory. It's a requirement under our rules that every competitor must have a rifle that is safe for use with the ammunition that is issued. I'm not sure why target rifle users would be more prone to doing things that are illegal than other shooters. If people are behaving illegally and there's evidence of

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://nra.org.uk/rule-150-enquiry/>

individuals behaving in breach of the proof rules, that would certainly be something that we would want to know. But I think the conclusion of the Rule 150 Enquiry was that to have the tools to test every rifle was just not something that the NRA was geared up to do.

Robin Pizer

It's very easy. The South Africans can do it. The point is, most shooters trust their gunsmith to produce a rifle shooting compliant with the rules and they will be totally utterly unaware of this modification. It is the gunsmiths that are doing this that you have got to track down and sort out.

Chairman

Again, as the NRA, we are not the body to administer the rules of proof.

Robin Pizer

It is not the rules of proof, it is the Rule 150.

Peter Hobson

Mr Chairman, would it help if I gave some clarification on this? I've not been involved in this particular argument, but I was asked to provide evidence of this to your committee? Would you like me to clarify it a little for you?

Chairman

If you could, but I'm conscious we have a number of other questions, so we might circle back to this - that would be very helpful.

(to Robin Pizer)

I think we've heard your point and any evidence of any wrongdoing should be brought to our attention. As far as I'm aware, the NRA has no plans to test every TR competitor's rifle for Rule 150 compliance.

Robin Pizer

Well, if you go and see the evidence with the Birmingham Proof House, you should have done this in 2018, and you have done nothing since then. The only way to test this is actually to test every single rifle. It's not too difficult if you've got the right gauges. But you do need to have properly calibrated gauges, and you might want to get checked with the Proof House that they are properly calibrated.

Chairman

I suspect you also need the skill to use them and that's an important factor.

Robin Pizer

It is certainly true.

Chairman

This is also a useful opportunity to remind all competitors that it is their responsibility under the rules to have a rifle that is safe to use with issued ammunition. And that responsibility lies with the competitors in whatever category they shoot.

Robin Pizer

But do remember that most shooters will not know this has been done to their rifle. They will assume, as I would, that my gunsmith produces rifles for me which comply with the rules. There is one or two gunsmiths who are not doing this and not telling the customer and are not warning them.

Chairman

Thank you. Can we move on to the next question?

Alexander Gill, Captain Army Target Rifle Team

Speaking in my capacity as Match Secretary, firstly a public thanks to the range office for their forbearance with what must be a number of target bookings, and the complexity of the system.

Having spoken to a number of other people trying to book targets and lanes, I can't help but think that email ping pong that we ended up playing with the Range Office, because there's no transparency on the booking system, makes things more challenging for both the customer and probably the NRA. I gather there's a plan in place for airline or theatre seat style booking system where you can see live availability.

I know a number of other people who book targets would be grateful for an update on the progression of this. Thank you

Secretary General

This has been an ongoing problem that we've had. We have had two attempts to get this done, and we currently have two proposals. One which is the best technically at a cost of over £200k, which is unaffordable, and another which is significantly less than that, which we are still trying to work out if it is fit for purpose.

There has been a late entry by an NRA member, and we are reviewing that option as well.

The reality is the £200k option would work, but it is simply unaffordable at the moment.

Tim Webster, Central Bankers Rifle Club

I wanted to ask a question about the policy of the NRA for access by pedestrians and cyclists and those less able to walk around, to the ranges and around the camp. I'm a keen cyclist and since the weather's dried up, I've been able to cycle around the camp.

There doesn't seem to be a policy here in the NRA to encourage walking and cycling, which I would've thought was a commendable idea with a lot of cars around camp. As I rode along on my bicycle with my trailer, I started to observe the potholes.

I'm not getting at the NRA on potholes, but actually, the cyclists and walkers both have to walk on the tarmac. They are often driven to the side of the road by the cars, although the cars are generally considerate. There are a great number of potholes which either the cars are avoiding, or the pedestrians and cyclists have to avoid.

My local council in East Anglia has a system when you report a pothole of asking you to indicate the depth by showing whether a golf ball could sit in this hole or a tennis ball. And the extraordinary thing is that around the main core of the roads in the centre of the camp, according to my survey, there are 37 holes of golf ball depth and there are 49 holes into which you can insert a tennis ball and not see the top of it.

That really is not an ideal situation. I know there's money involved, but even some temporary patching of the worst offenders would help. And there are some, particularly at the junctions of certain roads, where you've got a good road 90 degrees to another good road and a very poor junction in the middle.

I would encourage the NRA to look at it, but I'd be interested in what the NRA's policy on this is.

Another indication, or a lack of perhaps forward thinking, is access to the ranges at 600 yards. You can actually get a wheeled vehicle, without lifting it over the sleepers, onto the firing point at four places. One is range 11 at the beginning of the range, one is range 18 at the end of the range. The other place is range 13, where there's a good disabled access point, and range 15, where there's a perfectly good disabled access point with a nice convenient NRA rope across it, which you have to unhook and then hook back up again.

A small gap of perhaps a meter wide on every single range would enable somebody who has put their equipment on a trolley or a cyclist or a walker who's not able to negotiate sleeper, and there are walkers who can't negotiate the sleepers, to walk in between the sleepers, but a car can be prevented from filling the space.



One final thing for walkers and cyclists, again at 600 yards, there's a ditch behind the firing point and there's no means when everybody's put their equipment on the grass waiting to shoot, for a walker, cyclist or trolley puller to manoeuvre their equipment along the grass bank behind the ditch,

A white line, perhaps one and a half meters from the ditch, which was the access point, the footpath if you like, all the way down would solve it. Nobody lays their equipment there and then people trying to move up and down the range can move in a straight line.

But I'm interested to know, does the NRA actually have a policy where they consider people not in the cars, and how they can access the camp and the ranges and the firing points?

### Chairman

Okay, so just picking up on a few of those points. Do we have a published policy? No we don't, but we're always interested in ideas that anybody has for policies, Published policies helps with administration because when people ask why are we doing certain things, we can say because it's in a policy.

So I'd certainly welcome any suggestions you might be able to send me at [chairman@nra.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nra.org.uk) for a policy that would help people understand the different needs of the different groups.

Picking up on your last point, the white line. That is something that the GB FClass Association uses at their competitions, and they cone off the area to stop encroachment so that there is a clear path for RCOs. At the crossing points at 600 yards, a V-shape coning would keep people's kit away from the crossing points, which I think is an excellent idea.

And perhaps Andrew can include that in the wrap-up session with Peter after the Imperial, or it may be something that's been tried and didn't work?

### Secretary General

I think there's some excellent suggestions there. I would love to see your [Tim Webster] plans of the potholes to see if it tallies with my plan.

We had contractors booked in April/May, and they got rained off and we haven't been able to secure their return since then, which is disappointing. But there is budget for it but we missed our slot and we've been a little busy since. That is a limp excuse, but that happens to be the truth.

In terms of disabled, or less mobile access, like you, I walk my dogs when the ranges are shut. Even over Christmas during heavy weather, I can't recall seeing a ditch behind the firing point at 600 yards ever carrying much water, so I've always wondered why they are there.

But I think easier access between the sleepers is an excellent idea, and I'm grateful for some of the sound and practical suggestions you have raised.

Chairman

And in terms of the quality of the roads, I'd love to see the entire camp with glass-smooth roads, but. I can just feel the Treasure twitching at the budget implications. And of course there are also people who say to me, potholes are great because they slow down the cars.

Thank you very much for your question.

Mike Jenvey

The condition of the roads is a condition of the site licence, and the roads are deteriorating. So for safety reasons and site licence requirements, they need urgent work.

Chairman

Could I take the next question in order?

Mike Jenvey, RAFTRC and Member of General Council

One of RAFTRC members has asked me to put forward a proposal that is it feasible to have a TR open class. So that'll be open calibre and hand loads to shoot alongside the main Imperial TR meeting as a way to get more people to participate.

It has been asked for for several years, and there doesn't seem to be any movement, consideration or thought.

Secretary General

For you to say it hasn't been considered is not the case. It has been requested, it has been considered, and it has been consistently rejected by the Shooting Committee. But, as part of the wash-up, I am very happy to take that back to the Shooting Committee for their consideration.

Mike Jenvey

Because looking at the decline of the number of people shooting TR, attending the Imperial, apart from the 150, it's gradually going down. We've got some 830 entries in the grand? [870] It used to over 1100.

Secretary General

One of the interesting questions that I know the Shooting Committee wrestles with is would hand loaded ammunition encourage the participation of youngsters and cadets.

Mike Jenvey

If they allowed the different calibre rifles, it would give other people who want to develop skills in another way, a chance to participate in different competitions, and test themselves against other people in the same conditions.

Chairman

Andrew, is that something you can take to the next Shooting Committee, and get their views again?

(Yes)

Mike Jenvey

I have a sequence of questions being asked by people relating to Site 5, who are opposed to the service development pitches. I have a caravan on Site 5.

The first question please is what is the business case for this to go ahead? Because I don't think it's ever been stated. So that's the first question.

Second question is how many have expressed an interest so far in the proposed developed site?

People have said that accommodation should be to facilitate shooting. Why haven't other types of accommodation been considered to cover a more broader range of costs and purposes.

Why is this being proposed when the Bisley Estates Master Plan has not been produced? This is effectively the tail wagging the dog for a significant development, and has not incorporated any major plan to try and work out what actually is needed across Bisley.

Does the plan go against the aim of the charity in the development which will affect quite a few ex-military personnel who will not be able to afford to continue shooting as their vans will not be able to be moved and they can't afford to continue in that case.

Finally, why does it seem that some occupants of Waldegrave and Spencer sites use the accommodation as a commuting base for London, which I think would probably go against the lease conditions as they should be related to shooting.

Certainly copies of the lease documents available online specifically refer to shooting as the primary occupancy.

Thanks very much.

## Chairman

I'll run through those questions in no particular order. On the point of caravans that cannot be moved: all caravans must be able to be moved. That's the definition of a caravan. They may need care to move, and I know the NRA has moved vans very carefully in the past.

In terms of the aims of the charity, the Charity Commission have been very clear that we are required to obtain a market return for our land in order to fund the activities of the charity. That's very clear direction that the Charity Commission gave us back in 2020. Providing low cost accommodation to former members of the Armed Forces is not within the charitable activities of the NRA.

As to the range of accommodation, I think, Andrew, you published a list of the accommodation that's already available on camp, including Crawford Cabins and ABC Lines. There is a wide range of accommodation at different price points, including with clubs like RAFSA. We are conscious of the need to maintain that range of accommodation, and I think that's a good thing.

As to how many have expressed an interest in Site 5 sites, there have been 20 expression of interest, now that we have published the cost of it.

In terms of what is the business case. The business case is what is the demand for accommodation on camp, the desire to improve the camp infrastructure, and to generate effective revenue streams while still providing, and I think this is a key point, unserviced pitches for everyone on Site 5. Nobody is being moved off camp, and there is a place for every Site 5 five caravan on camp.

## Secretary General

Every Site 5 caravan that's capable of being moved, yes.

## Chairman

So that's a very important point, that this is not about moving unserviced caravans off camp, it's simply moving them to a different place.

As to persons on Waldegrave and Spencer site commuting into London, we expect all tenants to comply with the terms of their lease. That's a requirement that we have for every tenant. Whether traveling to London is a breach of someone's lease, I have no idea. But the general principle, and it's an important principle, is that we expect all tenants to comply with the terms of their lease.

## Peter Hobson

Good evening, ladies, gentlemen, Mr. Chairman. My name is Peter Hobson.

My main business is as a defence contractor and I'm heavily involved in the projectile energy velocity equation.

I'm considered an SME, subject matter expert, on this and this whole saga came about because I also worked with Radway Green on the development of the 155 grain bullet, which RG provided for us in that transition period<sup>2</sup>.

One of the things we found out at Radway Green was that the so-called Rule 150 barrel, which is an undersized CIP barrel, required a lower pressure cartridge, which is still the stipulation today, so that we don't exceed the 50,000 PSI proof ceiling for the 308 CIP cartridge.

You can up that pressure by simply engineering a type of barrel so that you get swage effect, of which the swage will eventually break at roughly the same pressure. Match Rifle shooters, hand loaders, certainly F Class, know full well you get a much better cartridge dispersal if you put your bullet into the lands than if they're off the lands.

However, we control pressures by our lands. When you buy a factory cartridge you cannot do that. A group of people decided that they could up their reliability of their cartridge velocities by modifying their rifles so that the cartridge actually went into the lands instead of off the lands, which was stipulated by RG to maintain a reasonable start pressure without spike. That led to what was called unfair practices, which I interpret, and most others did, to cheating by a small number of people.

This was a very, very serious allegation. It needs to be proven and after today Mr Chairman, I will commission a study on this by Shrivenham using my company's expertise to get to the bottom of this, so we have an answer on this Rule 150 issue, whether we actually can use low pressure cartridges or we should actually at the advance of everybody else, have a high pressure cartridge, and whether the jump that's stipulated or no jump is stipulated is there for reason.

We've already had an incident where one credible ammunition manufacturer blew primers all over the place in hot weather. So we were already on the cusp of where we should be. Yes, there was some over pressure rounds. I was also involved in that by the way. I pressure tested most of the rounds. I have a full ballistic facility.

I have all the ammunition that was ever issued to the NRA from 1999. So I have history and I will commission Shrivenham at my own cost to get to the bottom of this, so it is taken out of the NRA's hands, and we get to the bottom of this allegation of cheating

### Chairman

I think it's an important principle that we take an evidence-based approach to these issues to ensure fairness to everybody, so having the evidence for that will be very useful.

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<sup>2</sup> Mr Hobson contacted the NRA after the meeting to say that he wished to withdraw his comments relating to Rule 150 and he would not be investigating this matter further.

Peter Hobson

It needs to be put to bed. Mr. Chairman. It's gone on too long. It's damaged a Chairman, an ex-Chairman, it's damaged the reputation of people here. It has to end.

John Webster, ex-Chairman of the NRA, member of numerous clubs

Peter, there has already been a report done by Shrivensham. Thank you for your kind offer but there is no need to pay for another report.

Robin (Pizer), please read that report, read it carefully. Please read all of it, not the bits you want to support your conspiracy theory that people are cheating and the NRA are wilfully ignoring that. This issue has been put to bed. It is time for you to stop resurfacing this particular issue and let it go.

Peter Hobson

Could you let me have that report, because I haven't seen it. I'd like to see it. I haven't followed this until tonight and it's come up again, and it'll continue to come up unless we stop this.

John Webster

It's been on the NRA website for some years. The reason that it keeps coming up is that Robin Pizer will not let it go.

We've had Counsel's opinion, we've had a report from Shrivensham, we've had our own people look at this. There is nothing more to do.

I regularly attend these meetings. We always hear Robin make all sorts of nonsensical allegations. He's even accused me of cheating in the past.

Peter Hobson

I don't think that is the case.

John Webster

Sadly it's true. That is the point. Robin will not let anything go.

Peter Hobson

Am I missing something?

John Webster

Yes, you are. Robin Pizer will not let anything go because he is a conspiracy theorist to his core. And I think the rest of the attendees and the rest of the membership are completely fed up with this person's crusade to try to bring down the NRA.

Peter Hobson

Well don't include me in that please John.

John Webster

I don't include you. My general theme is that people are fed up with Robin Pizer getting up at these meetings and making baseless allegations against the NRA.

Chairman

Perhaps just for those who might find it useful. John, would you be able to send me a copy of that report?

John Webster

You should have it, Mr. Chairman. It is on the website if not.

Mike Jenvey

Mr Chairman, if you search on the internet for NRA Rule 150, it comes straight up. It was published on July 11<sup>th</sup> 2016, and its on the NRA website, and has the links to the appropriate documentation.

Chairman

Thank you very much. Good to see the system works.

So Peter, it sounds like it's all on the website. If you go to the NRA website and search Rule 150, it will bring up all of these documents.

Robin, I will give you the opportunity to respond briefly if you wish to.

Robin Pizer

I would, yes.

I have no intention of trying to bring the NRA down. I am satisfied because I've seen the evidence of what has happened to some rifles. It is correct that there is at least one gunsmith that is producing rifles which has had the alterations described a few moments ago. That, as Peter says, is cheating.

But if the shooter doesn't know it being done, the shooter actually isn't cheating, it is the gunsmith that has got to be got at.

And John, you have criticised me, so I'll just remind you of a meeting that we had in 2013. You insisted that I talk to you and John Bloomfield, and John Bloomfield told me, and you, that there was at least one gunsmith who was giving TR rifles to customers that did not comply with Rule 150. That was in 2013.

John Webster

Not true!

You know, that is not true. Stop lying, Robin, because I'm fed up with it. It's just not true.

Robin Pizer

I'm not lying, John. John (Bloomfield) did not give him the precise details of why the rifles were being modified, but he did want to know if such a shooter was cheating. It was agreed that it would be impossible to prove that the shooter had known the rifle was non-compliant, and shooters trust their gunsmith to give them a rifle that complies with the rules, that the shooter would have to lose their score and it was the gunsmith that had to be dealt with. .And who was the gunsmith? John Bloomfield said he would do this, and yet these rifles have continued to be used.

And I'm afraid John, I stand by that.

John Webster

May I reply, and I'll be very quick.

People may recall that Robin together with John Carmichael alleged that there was systemic cheating going on. You may recall that in 2013 there was a significant amount of people blowing primers. The allegation was that the NRA was wilfully ignoring evidence that many rifles were non-compliant because there were about 1000 blown primers on one day. The day before there were around 70 blown primers. In order for that to be systemic cheating, a large number of rifles had to be disassembled and have their jump shortened overnight.

That is just obviously wrong. Many here were likely at that Imperial Meeting and would remember if this happened. There simply aren't enough gunsmiths on camp to do that sort of work overnight.

John Carmichael then raised a series of allegations, which I said as the then Chairman, I would look at personally. There were four rifles where there was still evidence that it was possible somebody had a short throat. Each one of those was measured by John Carmichael. Each one of those was then measured by the NRA. They passed the NRA test, after they failed John Carmichael's test. You can reach your own conclusion if that is evidence of cheating.



Chairman

If there are no other questions on any other subject?

Phil Northam, General Council Member

I've been asked to bring up the problem of NRA equipment and parking in (caravan) sites 8 and 6.

I wrote to you, Andrew, a couple of years ago, and I think, Rick Wells, and staff parking was moved off site 6 towards Bullet Lodge, and that seems to have worked.

But over this weekend, we have had tractors, trailers, equipment, etc parked in amongst their caravans, basically blocking entrances, blocking ways in and out.

I've worked in the regulatory industry all my life and I've never known a site that would allow industrial equipment under health and safety laws to be parked in amongst their recreational environments.

And basically, some of the residents get fed and they are saying if you can't separate it, they'll ask Guildford Borough Council to force you to separate it.

It is a thorn in their side and they are really hacked off with this.

Secretary General

I'm just very disappointed you haven't taken the time to come and tell me before this meeting.

Phil Northam

It came up about an hour ago, and it has come up repeatedly and I have written to you the year before last, and I brought it up at General Council.

Secretary General

And I thought the problem had been solved, which you've alluded to this evening.

Rather than use this public forum, I'd ask you to refer them to me.

Phil Northam

So the general impression is that if they approach the NRA about it, they're given an answer, they go away and nothing happens. They're getting fed up.

Secretary General

You said yourself that the cars were moved.

Phil Northam

The cars were moved, but the industrial equipment hasn't. The industrial equipment is still there, and that and that includes materials, tractors and trailers.

Chairman

Can I suggest, Phil, I'm more than happy to assist with this sort of thing. You've got my email [chairman@nra.org.uk](mailto:chairman@nra.org.uk).

The wonderful thing now working with members and people on camp, is that people can just send me a photo showing me exactly what the issue is, and that's really helpful. Best thing for me is if they send me a photo and we can then say, who drives that tractor? And then we can see there are some tractors in the wrong place, identify who was driving it at that time and take the appropriate action.

It's having this information as evidence that helps us drive improvement.

Please give people my email address and ask them to report any problems.

With that, I will call last orders.

Thank you all very much for coming along this evening and I hope to see you on Saturday for the King's Final.

Thank you all very much.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm