



NASRPC Update, 17th April, 2016

Apologies if this is a bit of an Epic update, but there are many aspects to it.

Contrary to what may have been reported elsewhere, the NASRPC has not, and has no intention of, restricting anyone from representing Ireland in the UK leg of the IGRF series.

Anyone who meets the criteria for team selection is eligible and the NASRPC leader board will select the teams on merit alone.

Also contrary to some reports we have been sent, NASRPC has not removed either of the Team Captains from their roles.

That is not to say that any of this may not happen, as there are currently very disruptive and divisive actions been taken on an almost daily basis, the result of which we feel is to undermine the NASRPC role as administrator of Gallery Rifle in Ireland, and by association its image and role as NGB for the sport internationally.

These sorts of actions, if continued, will fall under the definition of 'bringing the sport into disrepute' and appropriate actions will be required.

But, while we are very close, we do not feel we are quite there yet.

We have decided that we want both Captains to make a show of leadership in order to stabilise the gallery rifle teams.

We have asked them, through the Pat Grimes, the National Discipline coordinator, to declare that they recognise the NASRPC as NGB, recognise its National Discipline co-ordinator as the individual ultimately responsible for decisions in relation to the sport.

We have also stated that, should they be not willing to do so, in essence not recognising the body responsible for fielding the teams they wish to Captain (*who can at the same time Captain an NASRPC team whilst trying to destroy it as a member of the so called GRPAI?*), that we would accept their resignation from their roles due to this conflict of interest.

Following discussions with Pat he has asked us to defer this until after the UK leg of the IGRF series, due to the short timeframe involved and his wish to field the best team possible for Ireland at the event.

As he is the individual with ultimate responsibility for the sport, within the NASRPC and hence Ireland, we have taken his request on board and deferred this decision, until the return of the teams from the UK.

This destructive and divisive behaviour must end and, if necessary, NASRPC will intervene.

Some background..... (Actually quite a bit of background)

In recent weeks there has been a lot of confusion surrounding Gallery Rifle within the NASRPC, and by extension Ireland.

This has led to challenges to the NGB status of the NASRPC, challenges to the role of the NASRPC in administering the Irish team and captain selection for IGRF matches and various divisive actions, the result of which is a lack of clarity in the selection of teams and captains for the IGRF matches.

NASRPC have made all possible attempts to clarify these situations amicably, but our patience with this is limited.

Most recently, Pat Grimes, Gallery Rifle National Discipline co-ordinator and Declan Keogh, National Development Officer, met last week with the current Smallbore and Centrefire captains for the IGRF teams being fielded by NASRPC, asked them to itemise their requirements for the teams and agreed to address what could be done to meet those requirements.

They all agreed to hold an information meeting for all Gallery Rifle squad members, where they would outline what was possible, with particular reference to the upcoming UK leg of the IGRF series.

Both Martin Hayes and Jimmy Byrne, respective centrefire and small-bore captains, responded promptly with what they felt was required and the meeting was scheduled for today, Sunday, to outline the response.

During the week it transpired that Martin Hayes will not be able to attend the UK IGRF leg and informed Glenn Forde that he wanted him to take his place as Captain. They then informed Pat Grimes.

Pat was not in agreement and felt the team itself should choose its own replacement Captain. Following much to'ing and fro'ing of emails and calls, Pat asked the NASRPC national committee to intervene and mediate as the matter was at an impasse and time is of the essence with the UK IGRF match only a few short weeks away.

The committee reviewed the communications, the gallery rifle rules, and the team selection rules and decided that Pat, as National Discipline co-ordinator was responsible for the decision as per those rules, and his view that the team should select its own replacement Captain was the fairest outcome, so that decision would stand.

Then today's Gallery Rifle training session occurred - there was a good turnout, with a dozen or so guns, indeed some new participants. Unfortunately neither Martin Hayes (holidays) nor Jimmy Byrne (unwell) could attend and had made their apologies.

Following the training session the scheduled information meeting took place:

Declan Keogh outlined some of the team supports that had been achieved and some that were being worked on.

- Some competition ammo had been sponsored by Gunshop.ie, for which we are very grateful. Gunshop.ie have always been great supporters and facilitators of our sports.
- Yet further ammo sponsorship was being discussed with other vendors.
- A subsidy of up to €250 Euro had been secured per team member (of which there are up to 10) to aid with transport, accommodation and permits to compete in the IGRF match and which may be reimbursed with appropriate receipts upon return from the match.
- A Team Strip is being investigated.
- A number of people had been approached to look to undertake personal and team development with squad members. Nicholas Flood and Frank Feeney had also attended the meeting to outline the types of training they could bring to the squad.
- Nicholas Flood next outlined his own experiences as a professional competitive target shooter, how that had taught him to develop and personalise his training programme over the years and how we would like nothing better than to bring that experience to bear within the NASRPC in the development of training programmes for our teams for IGRF events.
- Frank Feeney also outlined how he had developed a programme for the mental and physiological preparation of teams and events, beginning with a simple questionnaire, after which a programme could be developed on an individual basis. He has been trialling this programme with a number of members of BRC - with some marked success. This was also something that would apply quite well to NASRPC Irish teams.
- Declan Keogh outlined that these training supports had a cost, which would need to be investigated properly but thanked the guys for their input and expressed the enthusiasm within the gallery rifle squads to look at these aspects of development and what it can do for our success in the run up to the 2017 World Championships.
- Pat Grimes then outlined the NASRPC's position, including our request of the team captains. At this point the meeting devolved as people started to claim we were looking to eject the Captains, were looking to prevent people competing, etc.

A few of the people there started to claim that NASRPC had no part to play in Gallery Rifle

Mark Nolan re-asserted GRPA's plan to continue to seek NGB status, even in the face of no IGRF recognition. He called for votes of confidence in the team captains and votes of no confidence in the NASRPC committee.

At this point Pat pointed out that as neither of the team captains were present to represent nor defend themselves, only a very small percentage of the Gallery Rifle squad was in attendance and no votes had been advertised as part of the agenda it was unhelpful, counterproductive and invalid to call for any votes.

The meeting was adjourned.

Following the meeting Pat contacted the committee to make his recommendations, which we are implementing.

We will keep you informed of progress on this matter.

Hopefully matters will resolve themselves, amicably, and the updates will be shorter and more succinct, going forward.

NASRPC Committee