



THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH RIFLE CLUB

CLUB ROW, BISLEY CAMP, BROOKWOOD,
SURREY GU24 0NY

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 216504

Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts

1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

The British Commonwealth Rifle Club (Charity No: 216504)

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Club are to promote interest and skill in rifle shooting within the Commonwealth, including by assisting teams and individuals from the Commonwealth competing at prize meetings of the National Rifle Association and the National Small-bore Rifle Association, the better to enable them to take part when required in the defence of their Countries and the Commonwealth.

Main Activities

In typical years the Club holds various events:

- A two-day annual prize meeting in early July which generates most of the Club's surplus for the year.
- A team match in mid-July where club teams compete against teams from the various visiting Commonwealth countries.
- A Club Championship and other trophies which are based on scores made in the National Rifle Association's Imperial Meeting.
- A reception to welcome all our overseas visitors during the National Rifle Association's Imperial Meeting.

These events are timed to give our Commonwealth visitors the opportunity for appropriate 'warm-up' practice before the start of the National Rifle Association's Imperial Meeting.

The Club house is made available to our visitors from the Commonwealth to use as a base and to provide secure equipment storage.

After two years of being impacted by Covid-19, it was a huge relief that our activities could revert to normal. We were delighted to be able to welcome our friends from overseas, with national teams from Jersey, Guernsey, Kenya and Canada, and individuals from Australia, South Africa amongst others. Sadly, some Covid-19 protocols still limited attendance from some regions – most notably the Caribbean. Although the Club house was open to members, the kitchen remained closed.

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings. The events we organise are all focused on our Commonwealth visitors, directly: by providing opportunities for competition to aid performance, or indirectly: by raising funds to provide that support.

Grants & Grant Policy

The charity has not previously made grants and has no current plans to do so.

Contributions made by Volunteers

The Club is run entirely by volunteers and would like to thank all those who give their time on behalf of the Club's activities as it is recognised that it could not function without their support. Whilst every contribution is important, it would be wrong not to recognise that of David Rose for his immense efforts (yet again) for promoting and organising the Prize Meeting.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of Main Achievements

The Club's Open Prize Meeting took place as normal. As with last year, there was a strong appetite for getting back out onto the ranges. Unfortunately, we were limited to 180 entries due to ammunition shortages (the entries sold out within 6 hours) but by reducing the course of fire slightly, we managed to accommodate all 200 that wished to participate. Yet again, this was the premier Club event outside the National Rifle Association's Imperial Meeting and provided a valuable warm-up for that event.

Our usual Overseas Teams match (hosted by the Club to provide our overseas visitors with valuable match practice in preparation for the international matches during the Imperial meeting), was well attended with teams from Canada, Kenya and Australia.

Achievements against main objectives

As planned, discussions regarding the lease renewal are ongoing. We are pursuing a strategy of retaining the Club house; our assumption is that the annual lease costs will increase. We have issued a licence for regular usage of the building to a third party and continue to seek other groups from within the shooting community. We are mindful that any third-party usage should not impact the Club's own activities and are setting limitations accordingly within any usage agreement.

The building repair work identified is well under way. The major external work has been completed – replacement of the corrugated steel roof and supporting timbers, removal of the chimney, and remediation of drain issues. As planned, internal works have been underway – the main room was redecorated, and some remedial electrical work completed. Until we have a much clearer view on the lease renewal, we have taken the decision not to do any work on the kitchen and this will remain closed through 2023.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set

The Charity does not explicitly run fundraising activities. It does turn a modest excess of income over expenditure from the annual prize meeting, although overall entries were back to a normal level, the shortage of ammunition and sharp rise in costs (due to the war in Ukraine) limited the surplus achieved.

Investment performance against objectives

The Club does not have substantial funds. The club funds are held in a COIF account and our bank account.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

The Club returned to surplus this year, primarily due to reduced expenditure on building works as these are largely complete. Income from third party usage of the club increased as we received a full year's licence revenue (only half year in 2021). The Annual Prize Meeting generated a slightly larger surplus this year as we were able to return to more efficient range usage from the social distancing limitations of 2021.

The activities generate an appropriate level of surplus over expenditure that allow the Club to fulfil its charitable objectives and maintain an appropriate level of reserves.

Policy and Justification for holding reserves

Reserves need to be maintained to protect against reduced entries or surplus from the Open Prize Meeting as annual subscription income does not cover the full running costs of the Club. This revenue is not guaranteed and can be impacted by many external factors outside the Club's control (e.g. COVID-19 and now rising ammunition costs due to the war in Ukraine).

Building maintenance and dilapidation costs are also unpredictable (as winter storms have proved previously), so adequate reserves need to be maintained to perform immediate emergency repairs as well as longer term reparations.

The Club house is leased on a 21-year full repairing basis which ends in late December 2024 and requires that the building is brought back to a similar state to the start of the lease. The professional survey we commissioned revealed that extensive work was required to achieve this. Our ongoing approach of managing revenue streams appropriately has ensured that the Club could meet those repair costs out of the reserves rather than having to put out an emergency call for donations or increase subscriptions significantly.

Reserves held

£29,277

Principal Sources of Funds

- The annual Open prize meeting is the primary source of income and contributed a slight increase in surplus of £6,613 this year.
- Building hire to 3rd parties was significantly increased, generating £4,925.
- Annual membership subscription income of £1,660 was slightly lower than 2021.
- Donations tend to vary year on year, with 2022 (£661) slightly lower than 2021.
- Overall income was up by £12,819 compared to 2021, with a net surplus of £2,492.

Investment Policy and Objectives

The Club has a cautious attitude to investment both to protect and provide timely access to reserves.

Principal Risks facing the Charity

The Club house is leased on a 21-year full repairing basis from the National Rifle Association (NRA); the current lease ends in late December 2024. Discussions with the NRA regarding renewal have been very positive, and a draft contract is currently under review.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association and is governed by its rules which were amended in 2020 at the Annual General Meeting.

Trustee Selection Methods

The number of Club officials, committee and trustees, their respective roles and any conditions regarding election and tenure are set out in the Club constitution (which may only be changed at a General Meeting of the members).

Fundamentally, no-one has the right to appoint any of the charity trustees – all members of the committee are elected annually by the membership for limited terms and those elected become the charity trustees.

The Club rules regarding officials are as shown below:

Officials and Committee

Officials

18.

(a) The officials of the Club shall consist of a Patron, President, Vice-Presidents not exceeding 20 in number, a Captain, Vice-Captain, Honorary Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer.

(b) The Committee shall have power to invite any person to accept office as Patron of the Club for such period as the Committee see fit.

(c) The President, Vice-Presidents, Captain, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Independent

Examiner shall retire at each Annual General Meeting and shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Vice-Captain shall be appointed by the Captain from amongst the members of the Committee.

(e) No official (other than the Patron, President and Vice-Presidents) shall be eligible for election or appointment to the same office for more than three successive years.

19.

Vice-Presidents shall, while holding that office, be exempted from payment of the annual subscription.

Committee

20.

The Committee shall consist of the Captain, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer and eight members of the Club elected at the Annual General Meeting. The officials and members of the Committee shall take office on the 1st January in the year after their election and retire on the ensuing 31st December.

None of the eight members of the Club elected to the Committee shall be eligible to be re-elected as an ordinary member of the Committee for more than three successive years.

Election of officials, Etc.

21.

(a) Nominations to the offices of Captain, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and to the Committee shall be notified to the Honorary Secretary not later than noon of the third day before that appointed for the Annual General Meeting. Any member may propose himself for a specified office by notifying the Honorary Secretary that he is willing to serve if elected. As soon as possible after the closing of nominations, the Honorary Secretary shall post a list of the names of the members proposed for the various offices and in any case where the number proposed exceeds the vacancies a ballot will be taken at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Any member desiring to propose for election as President, Vice-President or Honorary Independent Examiner any person other than the retiring holder of each office respectively shall give notice as aforesaid to the Honorary Secretary.

Otherwise notice shall not be required for elections to the offices of President, Vice-President or Honorary

Independent Examiner.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The Charity Commission's own trustee guidance is used as the starting point, with further reference to the guidance and best practice information available from organisations such as the NRA or NCVO.

Peer support is provided by the other trustees (of whom approximately half are also current or former trustees of other charities).

The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works

The committee are the Trustees. The Club is affiliated to the National Rifle Association. The Club has links to rifle shooting governing bodies throughout the Commonwealth with vice presidents of the club appointed (by members vote at the AGM) from all relevant Commonwealth countries.

Relationships with related parties

The National Rifle Association is the Club's landlord.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	British Commonwealth Rifle Club
Registered charity number	216504
Charity's principal address	The British Commonwealth Rifle Club, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey GU24 0NY

Name of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Simon Belither	Captain		
2	John Warburton	Vice-Captain		
3	Stephen Penrose	Secretary		
4	Will Steward	Treasurer		
5	Henry Awin	Committee member		
6	Sarah Bunch	Committee member		
7	Seth Dowley	Committee member		
8	James Watson	Committee member		
9	David Rose	Committee member		

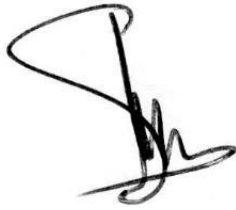
Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
CM Brooks	
GMLN Gilpin	

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Belither', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Signature(s)

Full name(s) Simon Belither

Position Club Captain/Chairman of Trustees

Date 28th July 2022

The British Commonwealth Rifle Club

Income & expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2022

Income	2022	2021
Competitions – Income	43,714	35,740
Subscriptions Collected	1,660	1,824
Locker Rents	10	30
Interest received	95	1
Facilities and teas income	4,925	2,234
Other income	2,600	240
Donations		
- Building Maintenance Fund	661	757
- Hospitality Fund	-	20
- Total donations	661	777
Ammunition sale	-	-
Total income	53,665	40,846
Expenditure		
Competitions – expense	37,101	30,391
Catering	4,004	-
Rent, Services, Insurance, etc	5,602	4,022
Upkeep of Clubhouse and Garden	3,816	18,824
Affiliation Fees	396	381
Administration and Sundries	252	463
Total expenditure	51,173	54,081
Surplus / (deficit)	2,492	(13,235)
<u>Distributed between</u>		
Surplus / (deficit) in the General Reserve Fund	5,647	(10,188)
Transfer to / (from) the Building Maintenance Fund	(3,155)	(3,067)
Transfer to / (from) the Hospitality Fund	-	20
Transfer to / (from) the Milton Tucker Memorial Fund	-	-
Total transfers to club funds	2,492	(13,235)

Balance sheet

Assets	31st December 2022	31st December 2021
Cash at bank and in hand:		
- Charity Deposit Account	9,835	9,740
- Other bank accounts	11,624	10,429
- Cash in hand	100	564
- Total cash	21,559	20,733
Prepayments and Accrued income	3,435	2,723
Debtors	3,436	938
Stock	2,867	2,517
Total assets	31,297	26,910
Liabilities		
Accounts payable / creditors	(1,245)	(125)
Accruals	- 775	-
Net assets	29,277	26,785
<u>Distributed between</u>		
General Reserve Fund brought forward	20,332	30,520
General Reserve Fund surplus/deficit for the year	5,647	4,812
General Reserves transferred to Building Maintenance Fund		(15,000)
General Reserve Fund	25,979	20,332
Building Maintenance Fund brought forward	5,757	8,824
Building Maintenance Fund surplus/deficit for the year	- 3,155	(18,067)
General Reserves transferred to Building Maintenance Fund		15,000
Building Maintenance Fund	2,602	5,757
The Doug Cornish Prize Fund	100	100
Hospitality Fund	150	150
Milton Tucker Memorial Fund	124	124
Freddie Payne Memorial Fund	142	142
Life Members Fund	180	180
Total of club funds	29,277	26,785

The British Commonwealth Rifle Club is registered with the Charity Commission as a charity under the Charities Act 2011, with registration number 216504.

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Report of the Independent Examiner:

I have been presented with accounting records for the Charity and I am satisfied that these accounts have been prepared from them.

There are no matters arising therefrom which I wish to bring to the attention of the membership.

Paul AE Charlton, Hon.Independent Examiner, , 2023