



2026 AGM DRAFT MINUTES

Date: Sunday 01 February 2026

Venue: The Cafe Meeting Room, Millride FTC, Essington

03.02.2026

MEETING COMMENCED: 14:00

ATTENDEES

Shaun Shore (Chair), Chris Large (Secretary), Dave Pitt (Treasurer), Karl Morris (Competition Secretary/Castle), James Osborne (BFTA Rep/Castle), Pete Rowley (Castle), Ian Stoddart (Competition Secretary/Millride), Nick Murphy (Castle), Simon Atkins (Millride), Phil James (Harriers), Andrew Shepherd (Millride), Lee Hadlington (Throckmorton), Rob Jack (Throckmorton), Gary Lewis (Throckmorton), Simon Francis (Throckmorton), Rodney Howes (Millride), Bob Selvey (Millride), Carl Hill (Harriers).

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

S Shore opened the meeting and thanked all those for taking the time to attend.

- 1.1 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Chair reiterated the request for MFTA members to put themselves forward to assist Simon Francis and Alan Bewley in the preparation of the BFTA British Open. It's a prestigious event for the region to hold and any help would be appreciated. He did confirm that marshalling and the general event management on the day will of course be provided by the BFTA.

2. PERSONS AND CLUBS PRESENT, QUORUM ESTABLISHED

Clubs present: Castle, Harriers, Millride and Throckmorton. Quorum was established.

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Alan King (P Chase).

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM - 02 FEBRUARY 2025

The Minutes of the 2025 AGM were accepted and approved as a true representation.

Proposed: Castle. Seconded: Harriers.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Each Officer submitted an annual statement for the meeting. Copies of these are attached to these Minutes.

- 5.1 **SECRETARY'S REPORT:** C Large thanked the Committee and the members present for their support of the region, and highlighted it had been a good season in terms of numbers, which was reflected positively in the accounts. He also noted the region would play a key role in the BFTA season during 2026, with several of our clubs hosting national events, of which both he and the rest of the Committee were very proud.



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5.2 **COMPETITION SECRETARY REPORT:** Karl Morris spoke of a number of issues, some of which are covered in later noted Minutes. With regard to the issues raised on the non-use of clocks by some, he requested the rules are there to be adhered to, and really do help to maintain the flow of an event. In fact, with numbers up and shoots not taking as long as in previous years, it could be said it has made an overall improvement for the League. He also reminded clubs hosting events, that in the interest of fair play, it is not acceptable for a course to be shot the week or day prior to an event, and urged course builders to enforce this rule for the benefit of all visiting the ground.

5.3 **TREASURER'S REPORT:** D Pitt requested that all MFTA affiliation fees are paid promptly (at or before the Masters) to ensure all monies are in and the accounts can be completed in full by the end of the financial year. He thanked those clubs that had already paid in the lead up to the AGM.

D Pitt highlighted that the balance sheet was looking positive, and although there were several more outgoing costs to be factored in, the final balance should once again be an improvement on last year.

D Pitt stated that as in previous years, the majority of the MFTA funds are held in the bank account, with a reasonable amount held in cash for known outgoings.

6. ELECTION / RE-ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE

Current Committee at the time of the meeting: **Chairman** - Shaun Shore, **Secretary** - Chris Large, **Treasurer** - Dave Pitt, **Competition Secretary** - Karl Morris, **BFTA Rep** - James Osborne.

S Shore thanked his fellow Committee members and the rest of the FT community for their continued support whilst in the role of Chair.

All Committee members were willing to re-stand for their positions. It was voted unanimously to re-elect the existing Committee.

Vote: Carried by unanimous vote.

7. MFTA SUMMER LEAGUE 2026 - DATES AND FORMAT (SEE ATTACHED DATES)

7.1 C Large outlined the dates for the Summer League, explaining that July and August had been left mostly clear in order to avoid a clash with other events outside of the UK. The League dates were based on a series of six shoots, hosted across our clubs.

7.2 S Shore brought to the attention of the room, the situation that had arisen in that Harriers (through the voice of Bobby Banks) had withdrawn from hosting any MFTA events for the foreseeable future. This had occurred due to a personal disagreement with an individual some weeks earlier, who was no longer welcome at the Harriers ground.

S Shore highlighted that in the context of a regional league, the MFTA cannot uphold this viewpoint, as it is not possible for an individual club to ban an individual from attending a regional league



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event. What happens at club level is for the club to decide, but at a regional level, events must be open to all competitors who hold a current Midland BFTA Card (a point reaffirmed by several in the room). With this in mind, the MFTA was therefore unable to offer Harriers any further events until their viewpoint changes. It was agreed the Secretary would write to the Harriers Committee to confirm our position and ask them to update the MFTA should their stance on the matter change.

It was also asked that something was put in writing to outline the MFTA's viewpoint on inclusion, in an attempt to stop this kind of damaging situation occurring in the future.

- 7.3 **ALLOCATION OF SUMMER LEAGUE ROUNDS:** N Murphy asked whether East Tree FTC (FFTA) could be approached to assist in retaining six rounds, however the consensus of the room was it was a little too far for our members to travel.

In light of the situation with Harriers, the Summer League was **reduced** to five rounds with three to count. Venues were allocated as per the attached Summer League Dates sheet. Clearly with the region being down to fewer hosting clubs, the repetition of venues is not ideal but necessary to facilitate a full league.

- 7.4 **REVENUE:** C Large raised the question of revenue from the Summer League, and asked if it was reasonable for the MFTA to retain some revenue for running costs. The proposal was:

£ 6.00 p/person - Host Club

£ 3.00 p/person - Given back in end of season cash prizes

£ 1.00 p/person - MFTA

Proposed: S Shore.

Vote: Carried by unanimous vote.

- 7.5 **FORMAT:** The format of the Summer League was also discussed, with respect to reverting back to the Main BFTA Shoot Rules (proposed B Banks) or to keep the current amended MFTA Summer League rules with the inclusion of two standing lanes and two kneeling lanes (proposed K Morris).

Proposed: S Shore.

Vote: Unanimous in favour of adjusted MFTA Summer League rules.

As per last season, the Summer League results will not be submitted to the BFTA for Grading.

8. 2026/267 MFTA WINTER LEAGUE DATES (ATTACHED)

The proposed dates of the 2026/27 Winter League were put forward. The list featured ten fixed dates plus the MFTA Masters/Clubs Cup. Two options on dates were put forward, with Option 2 being preferred which saw seven rounds before the Christmas break, and three in the new year (+ the Masters and Clubs Cup).



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Again, with the withdrawal of Harriers from hosting events, significant and unnecessary pressure was placed on the remaining four clubs to host multiple rounds, and the multiple hosting of events by some clubs is unavoidable. Please see the attached Winter League 2026/27 Dates sheet. The MFTA Winter League will run to the standard Main Shoot Rules.

9. MATTERS ARISING

9.1 **BFTA CARD UPDATE:** C Large explained that he had received some requests for BFTA cards and urged the remaining clubs to send their requests in soon. Final submission to the BFTA are to be submitted mid February.

9.2 **CONTINUED USE OF CLOCKS AT MFTA EVENTS (WINTER LEAGUE):** It was proposed by B Banks that the use of clocks in the MFTA Winter League was dropped.

Proposed: B Banks.

Vote: Not Carried by unanimous vote.

9.3 **ALLOCATION OF SHOOTING PARTNERS IN THE WINTER LEAGUE:** K Morris raised the proposal that competitors should be allocated a buddy partner at the point of booking in. S Francis put forward the suggestion that buddy marshalling or the pairing up of friends could be conducive to coaching (either intentionally or unintentionally). In addition this may also mean newcomers benefit from meeting a wider circle of people within the FT community. The general feeling was that for many, spending a morning shooting with their friend was a large part of why they take part - this was acknowledged but stated there is no reason why friends cannot be on successive lanes. The proposal would strengthen the spirit of competition (as seen in many other regional Winter Leagues and national events).

Proposed: K Morris.

Harriers: Abstained. Castle: In Favour. Millride: Against. Throckmorton: In Favour.

Vote: Carried.

9.4 **MFTA INTER REGIONAL TEAM SELECTION:** K Morris raised the point of how the MFTA chooses it's Inter Regional Team (for the 2027 event). It was proposed the team members should consist of the top 12 from the overall positions in the preceding Winter League, with three wild cards chosen to allow the team to have a the best possible chance of winning.

S Francis stated that for many, getting into the top 15 was their main goal, so those who have managed that should earn their place in the team.

It was agreed this method of picking the team (top 15) would remain by a unanimous vote.

Proposal: Not Carried.

9.5 **AUDIT OF MFTA KIT FOR BFTA EVENTS:** S Shore asked for clarification on what kit the MFTA currently holds for BFTA events. He stated the kit needs updating as some items are missing or are in need of attention.



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- J Osborne volunteered to provide a set of laminated Main Shoot Rules for the kit.
- S Shore asked to purchase whistles - this was approved by the Treasurer.
- Only one high-viz vest remained, K Morris confirmed the MFTA had some spare which could be used.
- S Francis agreed to source new filling material for the kneeling rolls.

9.6 **MFTA v FFTA v SEFTA (THE TRI-REGIONS CUP):** C Large stated the Lee Blissett/Tri-Regions Cup was confirmed for Sunday 28 June, and it would be great to see a lot of support for the event. Further details will be posted online closer to the date.

9.7 **MFTA AFFILIATION FEES:** Due by 31.03.2026. Covered in the Treasurers Report.

9.8 **NWFTA REGION IN RELATION TO THE MFTA:** C Large stated he had been asked by some (ex) NWFTA members how they can be more closely integrated into the MFTA. It was highlighted that the only way they can get a BFTA card was to join an affiliated MFTA Club, as stated by the BFTA.

However, S Shore raised the point that if they are looking for an easy way to obtain a BFTA card, they could reinstate Byley as a BFTA affiliated club, and by default apply to host national BFTA events, which would significantly boost their income if that was one of the aims.

A discussion ensued in light of the non-use of Harriers, and it was unanimously agreed that it would be a good idea for both the MFTA and Byley, if the MFTA approached them to see if they would be interested in hosting a round of the MFTA Winter League 2026/27 on a guest venue basis. This has been successful in the past with other grounds so could be beneficial to both parties. C Large agreed to contact them in due course.

10. AOB

10.1 **GRADING:** K Morris proposed the MFTA grading boundaries should be assessed, as AA and A are very heavy, leaving B and C in a dire state with no real competition. It was suggested it could fall in line closer to the BFTA percentages. S Shore stated that moving to the BFTA figures would have little impact, so suggested he provide sample models for comparison - in an attempt to even out the grades.

10.2 **ROLLING 16 vs ROLLING 10:** K Morris asked if the Rolling Grading System could be changed to a Rolling 10 for the 2026/27 season, to better reflect the position of the MFTA shooters.

Proposed: K Morris.

Vote: Carried by unanimous vote.

10.3 **MFTA MASTERS:** S Shore reminded the room that in addition to those who have qualified, those receiving a trophy or form part of a Clubs Cup Team are invited to shoot the Masters. As is the case that we usually have spare places, it was also suggested we open up the shoot to all who wish to attend (eg. Open Class and Stick Class). Clearly they would not be in the running to receive a trophy for the event, but would not be charged to attend.

Proposed: S Shore.

Vote: Carried by unanimous vote.



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10.4 **TROPHIES 2026/27:** S Shore raised the question of the allocation of trophies in relation to the numbers of competitors in each grade. It was suggested the distribution of trophies was:

Main Winter League

10+ in grade	1st, 2nd and 3rd
6-9 in grade	1st and 2nd
1-5 in grade	1st only

Proposed: S Shore

Vote: Carried by majority vote

Silhouettes

1st - 3rd	Gold Badge
4th - 6th	Silver Badge
7th - 9th	Bronze Badge

Proposed: S Shore.

Vote: Carried by majority vote.

10.5 **VOTING:** S Shore suggested that due to the low numbers of clubs, the voting at the AGM should be opened up to any MFTA member who holds a current MFTA card. This would give the opportunity to have a better representation of the regions at the meeting.

Proposed: S Shore.

Vote: Carried by majority vote.

MEETING CLOSED 15:32

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

07.02.2027

MFTA Summer League 2026 Season



DATE	EVENT	VENUE
15	MARCH	
22	MARCH	
29	MARCH	MFTA SL 1
		THROCKMORTON
5	APRIL	
11/12	APRIL	BFTA CHAMPS/ INTER REGIONALS
		MILLRIDE, MFTA
19	APRIL	
26	APRIL	BFTA GP 1
		CASTLE, MFTA
2/3	MAY	NEFTA CLASSIC
		EMLEY MOOR, NEFTA
10	MAY	
17	MAY	MFTA SL 2
		MILLRIDE
23/24	MAY	H+N OPEN
		EAST TREE, FFTA
31	MAY	
7	JUNE	
13	JUNE	BFTA GP2
		WOMERSLEY, NEFTA
14	JUNE	BFTA GP3
		EMLEY MOOR, NEFTA
21	JUNE	MFTA SL 3
		PURLEY CHASE TBC
28	JUNE	TRI-REGIONS CUP / LEE BLISSETT
		SYWELL
5	JULY	MFTA SL 4
		THROCKMORTON
12	JULY	
19	JULY	BFTA GP4
		ETL, SEFTA
26	JULY	
2	AUGUST	BFTA GP5
		FROBURY, CSFTA
9	AUGUST	
15	AUGUST	BFTA GP6
		TONDU, WAFTA
16	AUGUST	BFTA GP7
		NELSON, WAFTA
23	AUGUST	MFTA SL 5
		MILLRIDE
30	AUGUST	EFTA OPEN
		EAST TREE, FFTA
5/6	SEPTEMBER	BFTA MASTERS
		EMLEY, NEFTA
13	SEPTEMBER	
19/20	SEPTEMBER	BRITISH OPEN
		THROCKMORTON, MFTA
27	SEPTEMBER	MFTA WINTER LEAGUE 1
		CASTLE

MFTA Winter League

2026 / 27



DATE	EVENT	VENUE
2026		
27 SEPT	WINTER LEAGUE 1	CASTLE (CONFIRMED)
11 OCT	WINTER LEAGUE 2	CASTLE (TBC)
25 OCT	WINTER LEAGUE 3	THROCKMORTON
08 NOV	WINTER LEAGUE 4	PURLEY CHASE (TBC)
22 NOV	WINTER LEAGUE 5	MILLRIDE
06 DEC	WINTER LEAGUE 6	THROCKMORTON
13 DEC	WINTER LEAGUE 7	PURLEY CHASE (TBC)
2027		
10 JAN	WINTER LEAGUE 8	MILLRIDE*
24 JAN	WINTER LEAGUE 9	THROCKMORTON*
07 FEB	WINTER LEAGUE 10 + MFTA AGM	MILLRIDE
21 FEB	MFTA MASTERS & CLUBS CUP	CASTLE (TBC)

*** SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

BEST 7 OUT OF THE 10 ROUNDS TO COUNT

Shoots will commence as a shotgun start at 10:00am.

Booking-In from approx. 8:30am.

All competitors **MUST** attend the pre-shoot briefing at 9:45am.

Access times to the grounds and practice ranges may vary.

Competition entry fee: £10.00 p/p.

All MFTA Winter League trophies together with the MFTA Masters and Clubs Cup trophies will be awarded at the MFTA Masters on Sunday 21 February 2027.