

ACWSA MICHIGAN REGIONAL MEETING

RICHMOND HISTORICAL SCHOOLHOUSE

NOVEMBER 11, 2019

1. Call to Order : 10:11 A.M. 8 teams represented, 2 absent, 1 Proxy from 15th Virginia Cavalry.
 2. Motion to accept minutes from Spring Meeting made by Bruce Miller- Seconded by Sean Buckert. Motion passed without dissent.
 3. a) Commander's Report: Paul stated that he thought it was a decent year, attendance was stable. A few safety incidents occurred during the season- fragment in the eye, friction primer set off while still held in hand.
First Richmond skirmish – Feedback from the attending NWT teams was positive, all enjoyed themselves while shooting with old friends. Attendance was nearly doubled by the attending NWT teams from the usual turnout.
Insurance situation: Need to get NSSA attendees on the roster to be covered at a skirmish. Once they are registered they are good for the remainder of the year.
Picnic was a success. Paul also announced there are now new target frames at both Blue Water and Richmond ranges.
b) Adjutant Report: All rosters with dues have been emailed out to team commanders. Dues are to be in to the treasurer (Mike Zandarski) by January 15, 2020.
c) Paymaster Report: Discussed expenses incurred during the year, a summary sheet was passed out to team commanders. Balance is positive after deductions.
d) I.G. Report: Bob Hubbard submitted a written report read by Chris E. of his findings after doing a safety check at First Richmond. One trigger pull failure found. Will continue random check next season.
e) Artillery: Norm reported a new gun on the line (Cal) All went well during the season.
f) Medical Officer Report: (Norm) Checked first aid kit, battery in defibrillator is good until October 2020. Suggestion was made to schedule a training class in the proper use of the defibrillating unit at an early skirmish.
g) Recruiting: (Cal-Jon) Lapeer show, lots of interest, no sign ups. Suggestion was made that new additions to the ACWSA Recruitment Facebook page be sent a letter of introduction and an invite to visit a coming skirmish.
h) Quartermaster (Cal for Sherry) A list of items was submitted to the region of accouterments and supplies that are available to those new shooters who are just starting off. Cal will determine a way to track the items so they do not get misplaced. NRA Grant- At this time, the Smith carbine is unavailable to purchase. May have to resubmit request if a 2 band musket is not allowed as a substitute. If not approve, monies must be returned to the NRA and the application process starts over again. Commander requested that the sheds at both Blue Water and Richmond be inventoried for supplies, wire, cardboard, paint, targets, etc. and submit as a report by the beginning of next season.
i) By Law Committee: No changes.
4. Old Business

a) Metal Targets: Mike discussed the cost of the proposed targets. Acorn was \$7.25 each, a wider submitted was \$8.00 each. Total cost may be around \$8000 for the number of targets originally quoted. Suggestion was made to reduce the number of targets which will raise the cost per unit but keep our costs within reason based on participation.

b) NRA Grant: See previous discussion under "Quartermaster" " Part 3 h."

5) New Business

a) There were several outstanding skirmish receipts that were not submitted in a timely manner. Going forward, it is requested that all receipts and monies be returned to the Treasurer no later than 2 Weeks following the skirmish.

b) Payments to Ranges: Treasurer must issue check through the ACWSA Michigan Region Account, so there is a paper trail of payments made to host clubs. Discussion developed to committing to a range facility without board approval. Board of Directors should always be final approval before a commitment to a range is finalized.

c) Host Team Responsibility: Mike Zandarski would like host teams to take over the registration process. This is easy to do with the excel program or by hand based on smaller participation.

d) Discussion of possibly registering prior to a skirmish. This was tried before when the ACWSA Michigan region was formed. Host teams are free to request prior to their skirmish for commitments from attending teams.

e) Number of team members in competition: Motion by Bruce Miller, 2nd by Doug Reed, to compete with "3 person smoothbore teams, 4 person Carbine, and 5 person musket teams". Motion passed. Discussed number of required targets per shooter. Sean correctly pointed out that it is up to the skirmish director to make such decision. Discussion then went to teams who like to shoot together with out farming out. Accommodations could be made so long as targeting will fit on boards and frames.

f) Safety issues: Be cognizant of open boxes during revolver events, careful handling of friction primers for mortar. Members were reminded that a trigger pull inspection can take place at any time unannounced. It is up to the skirmisher to always have a firearm in safe operating condition in order to participate.

Non-members (including family) are NOT allowed inside the safety areas at any time during the skirmish. This is an insurance issue as well as a safety violation.

g) Bob Hubbard, Jr. requested that he be allowed to shoot a Henry or a cartridge firearm during the musket competition. Targeting would be prorated appropriately. The request was approved by the commanders. This exception applies only to Bob Hubbard, Jr.

h) 2020 Skirmish Schedule. Teams volunteered and were assigned dates. It is reminded that the flier for the shoot must be emailed to the Regional Commander or Adjutant prior to publication for approval. Gary Van Kauwenberg in Wisconsin will not publish the flier if it sent directly to him by host team.

i) General Concerns: Commander received an email during the summer from a current member of the ACWSA who was also a former member of the N-SSA. The letter states the person is of the opinion that the same issues are beginning to occur in the ACWSA that drove that person away from the N-SSA.

Among the issues, the need to win, and the lack of fun that originally was present when the ACWSA Michigan Region was formed. Discussion followed.

j) Newsletter- Keep sending in ideas for articles or better yet, write something yourself and share your knowledge of Civil War history, firearms, or your favorite tale from the Late War. Also include pictures, we like to see them.

k) Concessions: Suggested that Sunday was not worth setting up for food, low sales, lots of work. Saturday is the day to have food available, as the day is longer for skirmishers. Host teams that supply their own water must notify regional commander not to bring water and ice. This saves the commander extra needless work.

m) Sean is putting together a list of sutlers to have available for new skirmishers. He plans to have it together by next fall's meeting. We hope he does not knock himself out compiling this list. :0

n) Our good friend and always a gentleman Don Iverson has retired from skirmishing after 45 years. The 1SC Brigade presented Don with a commemorative plaque at their recent brigade meeting. Don was very pleased and promised to make it out to the skirmishes to visit next season. Don is a military veteran who has always been a friendly and cheerful person and our region will miss him competing on the firing line or at the artillery matches. We all wish Don well in his retirement!

6. Election of Officers:

For Paymaster two nominees were submitted, Mike Zandarski and Sandy Leghorn.

For Regional Commander, two nominees were submitted, Cal Huey and Paul Lipka.

Officer serving the next 2 year term beginning March 1, 2020:

Paymaster – Mike Zandarski

Commander- Paul Lipka

Thank you to Sandy and Cal for considering running for office. It is very important that the members have the ability to make a choice in their leadership over the next term.

7. Motion to close meeting: Made by Doug Seconded by the entire group @ 1:17pm.

Meeting adjourned.

Chris Einowski

ACWSA Michigan Region Adjutant

13th Michigan Infantry