



Lincolnshire Bell Target Shooting League
"Hitting the mark **together**"

**Lincolnshire Bell Target Annual General Meeting Held at Anderby Village Hall on 13th
August 2025**

Committee Members present:

Chairman: Vince Loy

Vice Chair: Jim Brown

Secretary: Wendy Fletcher

Treasurer: Hayley Brown

David Potter, Steve Carr, Graham Prestwood, Bev Brown, Ruth Dudley, Tim Watson (via video link)

Apologies: Maggie Loy (Safeguarding officer)

13 members of the league

Welcome

Vince welcomed and thanked everyone for making the journey to attend the LBTL AGM 2025.

Nominations for committee positions:

Chairman: Vince Loy

Proposed by: Graham Prestwood

Seconded by: Wendy Fletcher

CARRIED

Vice Chairman: Both Jim Brown & Tim Watson both declared they would like to stand.

Jim Brown

Proposed by: Bev Brown

Seconded by: Graham Prestwood

CARRIED

Treasurer: Hayley Brown

Proposed by: Vince Loy

Seconded by: Graham Prestwood

CARRIED

Secretary: Wendy Fletcher

Proposed by: Graham Prestwood

Seconded by: Tim Watson

CARRIED



Safeguarding & child protection officer: Maggie Loy

Proposed by: David Potter

Seconded by: Tim Watson

CARRIED

Webmaster: Graham Prestwood

Proposed by: Vince Loy

Seconded by: David Potter

CARRIED

Digital Media & Advertising master: David Potter

Proposed by: Vince Loy

Seconded by: Tim Watson

CARRIED

Area development representatives:

Lincoln: Jim Brown & Graham Prestwood

Newark: David Potter & Steve Carr

Costal Area: Bev Brown, Ruth Dudley & Tim Watson

Committee Remains unchanged.

Vince declared that there are 2 committee member vacancies available.

Committee Member Vacancy 1: Virginia (Ginny) Crosby

Proposed by: David Potter

Seconded by: Ruth Dudley

CARRIED & RESOLVED

Committee Member Vacancy 2: David (Dave) Evans

Proposed by: Steve Brown (League Member)

Seconded by: David Potter

CARRIED & RESOLVED

Ginny & Dave joined the committee table.

Chairmans report

Vince reported that it has been an exciting 12 months with some challenges along the way and it's been amazing how the membership has grown in the last year. We are currently standing at 329 members which is well over double the 148 members we posted at our last AGM in 2024.

Our digital presence has been massively improved over the last 12 months. Especially on our website, Facebook page and our YouTube channel. Over the next year he plans on contacting all venues and ask to take photos and videos of your shoots and send them in so we can start populating the YouTube channel and at some point, do some interviews with our members about their bell target experiences, abilities and how they feel about bell target.



The committee has encouraged all the venues to complete their risk assessments and send them in. (Risk assessments are needed for our insurance.) Vince reminded all venues that their risk assessments need reviewing annually or if there is any change to the venue and range. Currently we have received 100% of our venues risk assessments- Thank you very much.

The committee has distributed a LBTL roller banner to every venue for promoting the league and encourage every venue to either leave the banner up at their venue or display the banner when they have their shoots.

The committee has developed a formal disciplinary procedure, should it be required. Hopefully it shouldn't be needed. A copy of this procedure is available to view in the welcome pack, that is available to each venue on the Venue WhatsApp Chat. (If you run a venue and are not on the chat, please contact one of the committee to add you.)

We have standardised range safety & commands. We have implemented breach flags and have given every member a breach flag free of charge to use.

We have a robust safeguarding policy in place to protect our members from misconduct and inappropriate behaviour.

We are pleased to announce we secured a vendor, East Midlands Rifle Range, to provide NSRA RCO training to our members. It was very difficult, near on impossible to try and find training via NSRA. EMRR offered to fill the gap in training that we needed. The league paid for the course to go ahead, and members paid for their registration with NSRA. The committee are planning on trying to secure another RCO training course for late 2025, early 2026 depending on EMRR availability. We would like to go ahead with the league pay for the course and the individual member pay for their registration. EMRR also gave us an option to train some members/committee members to become NSRA RCO instructors, as they are being trained themselves to train RCO instructors. We will investigate this when EMRR have finished their training.

We had a successful day at the National Shooting Show in Harrogate in May 2025 with 318 new shooters, many having multiple tries to win prizes that was generously donated by various shooting shops and people all over the UK. Thank you to Andrew Dickinson for organising this day. To Bev & Steve Brown for transporting all the equipment & to Andrew Dickinson and Dean Dowell for setting up the stall. We couldn't have done it without you. We are pleased to say that bell target was fantastically received by the show organisers and within a week we have been formally invited back for May 2026 at their new location at Stoneleigh Park. They have offered us the same size stand and the same facilities for free.

We have secured a venue for BELL FEST 2025 on 26th September at Stanhope Hall, Horncastle and now making all the arrangements for the county championships. Other leagues wanted to participate in this, but we felt as it is our first year in organising this event, we would keep it just to Lincolnshire Bell Target League members only with the view to expand next year. Every venue should have received a poster with all the details. Entries are free of charge and 5 classes available to shoot in, open, men's, ladies, veterans and young



guns. The committee will be discussing about side competitions in a side room that had been booked. Keep an eye on the LBTL Facebook page for details.

The virtual league had been a huge success with 124 people participate in it. Thank you to Steve Brown and belltargetscoreboard.co.uk for producing and running this event that we can all enjoy. The scoreboard that Steve has produced is very important to our league. The winter virtual league starts on 1st October 2025; make sure you register yourself.

Steve thanked everyone who took part in the virtual league, he has learnt a lot and plans to make it bigger.

The young guns campaign was a great success, to bring in youngsters and hopefully secure the future of the sport. Theddlethorpe will be running their young guns again and Mansfield will also be running young guns.

The Rasen Raiders, Market Rasen took bell target to the brownies & guides event and had through 190 youngsters – Well done.

This type of interaction with the young community helps people realise guns are not demons and can be handled & used safely in a controlled way.

LBTL has purchased a yearly subscription from belltargetscoreboard.co.uk so every venue affiliated to Lincolnshire Bell Target League can use the scoreboard for free.

We will be launching an online registration system that will be launched before October for everyone to sign up using that and don't need to fill in paperwork

The committee has done various pop-up events to raise funds for local charities, Willoughby fete, Great North run event and Fulstow fete. It is over £1000 that has been raised.

Finally, I must thank the committee and the venue organisers who work tirelessly and put in many hours unpaid to make Lincolnshire Bell Target League to further improve the league for all our members.

Vice chairman comments

Jim Brown commented that bell target is a fantastic sport and it's great to see inclusion and all people can partake in the sport. Bell target is great for the venues, helps with revenue, it gets people together and help socialise. The virtual league has been a great help, get people shooting again and competing against each other, which had to stop previously due to covid.

Secretary Report

At the AGM in 2024 we had 148 members, and now we have 329 members. We are still having new members sign up weekly so the number of members will be going up. A reminder to all venues to please send it copies of the filled in membership forms to the secretary by email secretary@lbtl.co.uk so we have a record of everyone, and they can be uploaded to the database.

Safeguarding Officers report



Although Maggie is unable to attend the meeting she has sent the following report.

Wendy read out the following report.

Over the last year, we have had a couple of instances where we have needed to intervene promptly and appropriately in response to safeguarding concerns. These have been successfully addressed in professional and empathetic manner, working in conjunction with the relevant agencies and following legal and regulatory requirements.

We are committed to creating and maintaining a safe and nurturing environment where the welfare of all individuals is paramount. We recognise our responsibility to protect children, young people and adults at risk from harm whilst promoting a culture of vigilance, respect and accountability responding promptly, effectively and appropriately to any safeguarding concerns.

Our safeguarding approach is built on principles of prevention, protection and empowerment ensuring that everyone regardless of age, ability, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion or background is treated with dignity and respect. The safety and wellbeing of those in our membership will always be our highest priority.

Treasurers Report

Hayley's treasurers report

Firstly, I would like to thank all the treasurers from each team for promptly sending over their shooters subs each month you have been a great help in making my role a little easier.

It has been a successful year for Lincolnshire Bell Target League, and I am pleased to present the financial overview for 1st July 2024 to 30th June 2025.

Income:

- Shooter Subs: £8,128.50
- Membership Fees: £1,457.50
- RCO Contribution: £385.00
- Sport England Unspent Grant funds: £19.35
- Northern Shooting Show 2024: £589.36
- Northern Shooting Show 2025: £1,615.00

Total Income: £12,194.71

Expenditure:

Our expenses this year included:

- Bell Target Lights
- Website Fees
- NSRA Affiliation Fees



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- League equipment including 10 Hatsan Rifles.
- Printing Costs (posters, promotional materials)
- Bank Service Charges
- NSRA RCO Course which 22 members attended.
- Promotional Items and Medals for the Northern Shooting Show
- Breech Flags
- Card Machine (enabling us to accept card payments at events)
- Equipment Repairs
- Prizes for the Northern Shooting Show
- Resignation Gift for our previous Chairman

The total expenditure for the year was £8,070.32.

All these expenses were approved by the Lincolnshire Bell Target League Committee and were essential to furthering the sport of Bell Target shooting within our community.

Our community account bank balance on 1st July 2024 was £289.15 & at the end of our financial year, 30th June 2025, our balance is £4413.54.

We have Bell Fest planned for 6th September 2025, where funds will be used to cover costs, enabling members to shoot for free.

Thank you for your ongoing support, which continues to drive the growth and success of our league.

Vince also added that within in the £4413.54 that is held in our balance, we have set aside £1000 for any repair or replacements to any league equipment.

Questions from members

Wendy handed out copies of questions to the committee and members that had been sent in to be answered at the meeting.

The questions and answers are:

- when will the league Levy stop?

Answer - There is no plan to stop the levy, it was never said or intimated that it was a temporary charge. It has facilitated numerous benefits to the wider membership. Bought and supplied 10 Hatsan Junior/ladies guns which have been distributed between the clubs. Funded an RCO course for 22 members, allowed us to put together and stage the county championship – something previous committee aspired towards but unfortunately were unable to fulfil. Developed and provided an electronic scoreboard and virtual



league free of charge to all Lincolnshire league clubs. Bought and supplied to all clubs for all members breech flags, bought and provided a roller banner for each club to promote the sport. Currently developing electronic registration system. The list goes on; we don't personally think the league has been remiss in giving back to the community.

- How was the standard weight setting used to calibrate targets worked out & why do we use a weight measurement and not force to set the targets.

Answer - Jim Brown for the history behind the weights.....As for weight we don't use weight as weight is a static reading, we are measuring in kilogram force using the meter – it is a force applied by pushing against the sear until it trips and the result recorded in kilograms force.

- Accounts will a full set of accounts be presented and will this be circulated beforehand so people can ask questions?

Answer - The accounts will be presented at the AGM. There will be no interim accounts published. There is no plan to change this.

- How much did the Levy on the membership raise?

Answer - £8128.50

- What is the purpose of a Lincolnshire Bell Target?

Answer - To bring people together through the shared tradition of bell target shooting, building friendships, strengthening local ties, and celebrating Lincolnshire's sporting heritage. We strive to create a welcoming, safe and all-inclusive environment where everyone—young and old, novice, experienced, able bodied or not —can enjoy the challenge, fun, and fellowship of the sport.

- How do people pay their annual fee?

Answer – As they have always done the club collects the sign on fees and deposits them in the League account – no change. Once the beta testing of the electronic system is done and we are happy to roll out there will be the facility to make an online registration and deposit by the individuals themselves but until this time it will continue in the same way as you implemented a number of years ago

- Do we have a registration form for members and is a section 21 of the firearms act included?

Answer – Yes, we do have a registration form for members which has been on the website for quite some time also in the welcome pack.

- Can we have sight of the closing document for sport England Grant.

Answer – There is no closing document, there are a series of emails to the Treasurer and nothing more.

- New venues kit was loaned. We believe this has changed if so to what?

Answer nothing has changed. Where and what did you hear had changed?

- Can we confirm when the year for subscriptions starts and ends?

Answer - subscriptions start on the 1st of October and the end on the 30th of September the £5 fee is payable on or before 1st October until the 31st of March then as of the 1st of April until the 30th of September new members will pay £2.50

- Are we planning to have one type of bell target which are remotely set.

Answer - It would be ideal if all clubs in the league were to use at the same target but at a cost of approximately £190 for the more affordable versions or up to £300-£320 from City Air per target this isn't practical or feasible to implement we can only ask that as targets wear out and clubs replaced them we collectively use the same target but this will be down to the individual clubs and their funding.

- When will the levy for the league stop?

Answer - this was answered in the previous question.



- Committee meetings when and who can attend?

Answer - Committee meetings are held as face-to-face meetings on a quarterly basis and are for the committee to attend the annual AGM is an open meeting for all to attend.

- The weight of pellets used in Bell target was raised a few months ago was a decision made on this

Answer - It was agreed the pellet weight for competition would be set at a maximum of 8.48 grains, for normal club night any weight pellet that keeps the air rifle legal is acceptable

- Are there any plans to restrict the power of rifles used to a more suitable level for use indoors and close range from a safety point of view regarding lead splinter rebounding into the seating area at the venues?

Answer - No but we can revisit and assess the difference a 6/7 ft/lb gun versus a 10.5/11.5 ft/lb delivers in fps and joules of energy using 8.4 grain pellets and make a judgement but it is unlikely we will change as it allows people to use a wide variety of guns not just specific targeting specimens therefore making it more accessible to all - if we were to change we may lose a significant number of our membership who cannot afford to change or modify their gun

- Proposal to add pistol shooting section to shoot Bell target.

Answer we will discuss as the committee, but we don't foresee there being any issue implementing, though it would be down to the individual clubs to facilitate if they wanted to put on an evening specifically for pistol shooting as it is outside the leagues remit to instruct clubs that they must implement or allow pistol shooting at their venues.

Vince added that for the winter virtual league, we plan to have a set of adjudicators that will go round to all the venues and confirm all the targets read the same and will be checked multiple times a year.

Vince asked if any members would like to pose any more questions to the committee and then we will feed back at a later date via email.

Jim suggested to have a vintage event at some point where everyone can get together a view and try vintage rifles.

Ginny asked if any member that needs to sit down for medical conditions, do we need proof that they need to sit down. Vince replied it is up to the individual venues as long as they are not leaning on the table. A member added that there is a process with the NSRA to allow shooters to sit down and use a Belgian spring. They would need to apply for an exemption certificate.

Meeting Closed