



# Chairman's Chat

## March 2025

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Hello from the Lincolnshire Bell target League Committee

By way of Introduction, the current committee members are:

Chairman – Vince Loy

Vice Chair – Jim Brown

Secretary – Vacant

Treasurer – Hayley Brown

Webmaster – Graham Prestwood

Digital Media and Advertising - David Potter

Child Welfare Officer – Maggie Loy

Area Development Representatives:

Jim Brown & Andrew Dickinson, for Lincoln area.

David Potter & Eddie Anderson, for Newark area

Tim Watson, Bev Brown and Ruth Dudley for Coastal Area.

- National Shooting Show arrangements are coming along nicely. Andrew Dickinson despite having a full on commitment to his new job has been working away in the background with risk assessments, event plan and securing the stall – Volunteers for the event were assigned and tasks allocated – we hope to see a good selection of our members at the pop up range – as before the date for your diaries is Great Yorkshire Show Ground, Harrogate on the **10<sup>th</sup>& 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025**
- We hope to have the “club contract” ready to distribute once the committee signs off on the final draft and it will be issued out to the various venues, it will detail the League’s commitment to the clubs and in return the club’s commitment to the League. Going hand in hand with the contract there is also a “disciplinary form” which we all fervently hope to never have cause to use but will detail the safety, conduct and moral standards that are expected to be upheld by clubs with membership to and representing the league and the potential consequences of failing to follow the guidance.
- We have secured a provider for the RCO courses and are in the process of firming up a date – most likely to be Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April from 10am to 4pm – we will be checking with various club captains exactly how many RCO trained members they have and the course will be offered out to the clubs with the greatest need – the league will cover the cost of the course but the candidates will have to pay for the NSRA registration fee at a cost of £17.50 per candidate the provider will obtain and provide the registration for all candidates so you will only have to pay the fee read the booklet and turn up (£17.50 payment will need to be made 3 weeks prior to the course commencement), the provider is based in Nottingham and Mr David Potter has very kindly offered us the use of the Rutland Arms to conduct the course at Newark. One final point if you fail to turn up without a valid reason the club you represent will be billed the full course fee at £32.50 per candidate. The RCO course is valid for 5 years and we hope to eventually have 2 per club as a minimum, so we hope to facilitate additional courses depending on uptake later in the year.
- The new membership portal is progressing nicely – Thank you again to all involved for the sterling work and we hope to see the system in use in the next couple of months.
- \*\*\* We have secured a venue for the County Championships \*\*\* please put this date in your diaries **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025** we are working on the format and hope to start registration for the event shortly after the National Shooting Show.
- Back to Basics initiative will be implemented, it has been noted, that we collectively have been slipping in our range discipline, resulting in minor safety concerns being raised, committee members will be visiting all venues over the upcoming months to review risk assessments and general range safety but it is incumbent on the Club captains and RCO’s to ensure safety standards of the highest order at all times. All clubs should have a folder with a copy of the current risk assessment, (copy to be sent for the committee records as well please) and a printed copy of the Insurance policy document which can be downloaded here <https://www.lincolnshirebelltargetleague.co.uk/insurance>

- Development and Support Requests, should be submitted through the leagues official email [info@lbt.co.uk](mailto:info@lbt.co.uk) or website contact form [www.lbt.co.uk](http://www.lbt.co.uk)
- The Coastal Development team headed by Bev Brown and ably assisted By Anderby captain Steve Brown have secured a start up at **Stanhope Hall in Horncastle on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> 4pm to 7pm** please support guys we'd love to expand into the area to the south and this is a perfect venue to do that – show some love and come along for a great afternoons shoot.
- Coastal development team Headed by Tim Watson, with Bev Brown, Ruth Dudley and myself - We are currently in discussion with Fulstow village hall and will be conducting a hall inspection on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and hopefully 1<sup>st</sup> try out event the following week
- Lincoln development team Jim Brown, Graham Prestwood and Andrew Dickinson are working with 2 x Public houses with a view to providing try outs and if successful hopefully leading to development of additional venues
- We are working on hosting an event for The Blind veteran Society and hope to put this together for them late April / early May – updates to follow
- The Girl Guides have approached Market Rasen Club to provide a pop up range and instruction on the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup> June at Market Rasen Race Course – Dave Carter is dealing with all the details and is carrying out an inspection of the site this week to check suitability – hopefully it is suitable and we can collectively support the guys and bring our sport to another national organisation which can only help in promoting our sport.
- Just a reminder – Steve Brown Anderby Village Hall Captain will be starting the Virtual League in earnest April 2025, he has run a very successful trial over the winter and is now ready to roll it out to the league membership – I believe the uptake has been phenomenal but there is still time to get your name added and pit your skills against the rest of the league.

Over the last couple of weeks I have been watching the scores posted on Facebook and all I can say is WOW – a couple of venues are recording over 200 bells per 4 round session, the average scores are going through the roof, just a couple of month ago 102 and 103 would be a winning score – you need to be hitting 105 or 106 just to be in the mix these days – amazing shooting people you should all be congratulated

On a final point it would be wrong of me to not make mention of Eddie Anderson of the Rutland Dead Eyes and his amazing 109 point 4 round score, 27.5, 27.5, 27 and 27 with 18 bells.... that 110point maximum score is 100% starting to look achievable.

Have a great weekend – until next month – Ring some bells

Vince Loy