



Location: Stowmarket Golf Centre



Date: 21 September 2025



Time: 14:00

# GVA Annual General Meeting 2025/26

Opened at 1405

## 1. Welcome – RC opened

2. **Attendees-** MF, JD, AR, NB, BS, AC, AM, TM, TB, KP, CP, WP, SP, CP, RC, MD, RP & SD and apologies- CR, TG, TB, JB, CW,

## 3. Minutes of last AGM 2024 -agreement from everyone

4. **Chairperson's Report-** RC to present this, improvement work on the range, targets and hard standing, thanks to the team, investing in the indoor range, viability and cost- committee still looking. Ran successful beginners courses plus extras from charities. More income means lower fees, thanks to everyone for the help. External field shoot- fairly successful- queries for next years shoot, trying to organise for next year. Registering with Archery GB for “on target” for development of the archers. Reduction in club numbers- up from the same point from last year, volunteers are asked for, Always looking. Improve target days within the club, not as successful as other things have come into play, support available please do ask. Around 100 members mark, tripled in size since move, junior ranks need to grow. Back to level that the club was pre-covid, social offering for those not interested in comps, support for comp goers. 29<sup>th</sup> consecutive year with no issues.

5. **Secretary Report** - Another great year for the club with membership again around 100, we always loose a few members in October who decide not to renew. And regrow again from Beginners Courses or existing archers returning or moving to the area. We are the biggest club in Suffolk – but there are only three clubs.

The coaching team have focused on Beginners Courses this year and phased out Taster Sessions which it was felt to be drain on the club’s volunteer coaching resource with little benefit to the club. The coaching team have also moved to a three-week beginner’s course from the previous four weeks course. With the third week being a round shot with club members which has been well received, with great interaction between participants and club members. Well done to Chris P who has been co-ordinating training this year.



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We have not done as much development coaching of club members as we would wish due to external factors. But hope to improve this next year as we recognise the importance to existing archers and their wish to develop and the improve.

However, the club once again supported the Essex and Suffolk County Archery Association (ESCCA) who ran both winter and summer monthly coaching events. Including our club hosting the session in June at our range attended by some of the clubs' archers.

The club is now using Club Events a system that we can use to manage a range of events as it takes bookings, payment, acceptance or T&C's and capture of participants details. Facilitating near zero touch by the club committee and enables equipment to be prepared and allocated in advance. It was also used to manage this AGM to collect attendees, committee role nominations and proxy votes for those not able to attend.

A two-day Field Shoot with UK Record Status was ran by the club in June in Haughley Park. Attended by 76 archers from 40 clubs, including 10 international UK archers and 11 national records were submitted to AGB for ratification. Thanks to Stephen L and all the club helpers Chris W, Martin, Alan along with others over the weekend who volunteered and gave up a lot of their time to prepare, setup, run and clear down the event. Thanks also to the visiting judges who all provided a lot of help and advice to ensure it was record status shoot, including our own club Judge Robert C.

The Range and Equipment team Chris W, Martin and John have done a fantastic job improving our club facilities this year. With the standout highlight a hard standing in front of the club hut area. This will overcome the difficulties we have during the wet winter months when the area is often waterlogged and dangerously muddy.

There is a new secure cabinet to store all the club bows and give more space in the existing cabinets to provide easier to access. The clubs long-range was extended last year to 100 yards. As a result, we believe we have the clubs first 100 yard 252 achieved, well done Peter.

Maintenance of the clubs' bosses is ongoing with replacement foam on order. We also have backstop netting across the full width of the main range.



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This year the committee decided to use the AGB OnTarget Club Development programme to look for ways to improve the club further. As covered in this month's club newsletter and an 8 page article in Summer 2025 Archery UK magazine. Thanks to Trevor G, Martin and Stephen L who are our club leads and are going through a registration process and club health check before engaging with a revamped OnTarget programme in November.

After what was a painful and slow process with HMRC the club finally received its registration for a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC). This allows the club various tax benefits, gift aid on donations. It also puts the club in a better position when seeking grants etc.

The club ran its ever-popular fun shoots Halloween, Christmas and Easter, which were well attended and enjoyed. Once again thanks to Caroline and Norman and others who make them happen.

The club introduced the Hatton Cup last year named after the original founders of GVA in 1998 Maureen and Roger Hatton. Its awarded to the most improved archers handicap from one summer seasons to the next. This year's recipient was Gavin Ward who was awarded the cup at the club competition as he is on holiday today. The runner up was Lynne, well done both of you.

The committee would also like to record its thanks to Stephen L, Tracy and Anna for their contribution to the committee this year. I would also like to thank Sam for stepping in during my absence and keeping the club running.

Trevor Benjamin

**6. Treasurer's Report** - £800 up from last year, paid golf club slightly more due to more members, £3500 from training courses increase from last year, some profit from field shoot of £267, other things have gone down but not by much, expenditure was up from last year due to courses, St Eds money will be used from 2026, year end looking good.

## **7. Election of Committee Members for 2025/26-**

All in favour of everyone - 7 in person committee members, 8 in person non committee members. All proxy votes accounted for and are for the proposed changes.



*Suggest adding the table below to record who was elected on the committee.*

<b>GVA Committee Role 2025/26</b>	
Club Chairperson	Trevor Benjamin
Vice Club Chairperson	Vacant
Club Secretary	Sam Punton
Assistant Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Robert Clark
Assistant Treasurer	Teresa Mitchell
Membership Secretary	Jackie Benjamin
Welfare & Safeguarding Officer(s). X2	Trevor Gibbs, Jackie Benjamin
Data Protection Officer	Trevor Gibbs
Club Representative(s) X3	Ade Coote, Kaitlyn Punton, Vacancy
Lead Session Coach	Chris Punton
Lead Development Coach	Vacant
Web Master / Editor	Trevor Benjamin
Tournament Officer	Vacant
Records and Medals Officer	Chris Punton
Range Masters	Chris Wiseman, Martin Fox, John Dowsing
Grants & Funding Officer	Chris Mannox

## **8. Archery GB – Fees 2025/26**

Over 21 is £65

Under 21 is £25



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## 9. Agree Club Fees 2025/26

- Club Membership Fees 2025/26 adult fees reduced to £108 p/a or £9 p/m juniors under 18 reduced £30 p/a or £2.5 p/m
- 1<sup>st</sup> Oct adult £173 over 21, under 21 £55 or disabled adult £133.
- New Joiners' Equipment Loan

## 10. Club Constitutions Changes – no changes.

## 11. Presentations

- **Club Handicap Competition Awards Presentation**

Compound men- Brian Sturges

Recurve men- John Dowsing

Barebow men- Robert Pickup

Compound Women- Sam Punton

Recurve Women- Teresa Mitchell

Compound under 14 female- Kaitlyn Punton

Recurve under 12 female- Calleigh Punton

Barebow under 12 male- William Punton

- Hatton Cup was presented to Gavin Ward (not able to attend) Awarded at club comp.

## 12. Any Other Business

Grants to help fund improvement, club fees are used also, new committee before plans to be made for club improvement.

**Closed at 1449**