Testimony for Board of Directors – Australian Clay Target Association

As a candidate for the Board of Directors, I seek to uphold the integrity, accountability, and competency that warrant such a position. Working in collaboration with fellow directors, I aim to enhance administrative functions and advance clay target shooting for all members. My core values centre on accountability, adaptability, and practical utility, which I seek to apply alongside my professional background and administrative sporting experience to support the community.

Within my professional field, I maintain high standards of scientific rigor and analytical competence, utilizing detailed observation to evaluate macro-level outcomes. This ability to balance micro-scale detail with broader strategic implications translates directly to board-level oversight, policy development, and sound governance.

Since beginning my involvement in clay target sports in 2015 in Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, I have taken an active role across sports administration, volunteering, funding acquisition, and state-level execution. At the grassroots level, I held active committee roles as Treasurer, Secretary, and President of the Eastern Goldfields Clay Target Club (EGCTC). During my executive tenure, I designed and implemented a new state government-aligned club constitution and by-laws, working directly with local regional government bodies and the Department of Sport and Recreation.

Alongside a strong committee, I guided the club through operational challenges following the COVID-19 pandemic. I facilitated over $80,000 in external funding through corporate sponsorships and multi-year state and local government grants. Together, we modernized club facilities by installing a newly engineered, fully operational combined Ball Trap/DTL layout, two winched tower layouts replacing obsolete infrastructure, new skeet traps, and a complete 5-stand sporting layout. I helped initiated ongoing preventative maintenance and long-term facility improvements, spearheaded the EGCTC Skeet Carnival, and expanded the popular EGCTC Trap Carnival, promoting all clay target disciplines at the club. My commitment to organizational improvement and sporting excellence was recognized with EGCTC Life Membership in 2022 and Eastern Goldfields Sportsperson of the Year in 2019.

At the state level, my involvement encompasses executive governance and rules administration. Serving as Southwest Delegate on the Western Australian Clay Target Association (WACTA) executive, I introduced a revised tournament procedures manual to streamline the WA State Skeet Carnival. In officiating, I have served several years as Shoot Marshal for the WA State Skeet Carnival, collaborating closely with the WACTA committee. Additionally, I serve as an ACTA Rules Supervisor, Skeet Referee Examiner, and club skeet coach at Collie Clay Target Club, dedicated to upskilling members and upholding officiating standards.

Complementing my administrative experience, I have actively competed across multiple disciplines and represented Australia at the highest levels of skeet shooting at home and overseas. Collectively, these experiences as a high-level competitor, certified official, and proven administrator provide a comprehensive perspective on operational requirements and strategic needs. If elected, I remain committed to advancing transparent governance, safeguarding financial sustainability, growing grassroots participation, and fostering long-term success for the Australian Clay Target Association.

I appreciate your time and consideration of my application.

Best,
Matthew De Paoli
ACTA Member 89008