

Southern Minnesota Sportsman's Club Newsletter

For May 2018

COVERED AT THE MAY, 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 5th was our Spring Cleanup. Brian and the rest of the board want to send our thanks to everyone who showed up and pitched in. The grounds were cleaned up, many new backers and target hangers were made and old ones repaired. The berm behind the plate range was raised, levelled and two tiers of tires were added on top of that to prevent ricochets and splatter from leaving the area. The indoor range was cleaned and prepared for another year too. A special thanks go out to the crew that stayed late working on backers and hangers.

A special thanks also goes out to our range manager, Mark Briske. Many members have mentioned the great job he's doing. The board members also want to point out what a great asset it is to have Mark and Shelly here. Take a moment to thank them for all they do.

There are several more classes that are being offered just members of SMSC, their family and friends including a new course, "The Prepared Armed Woman". Check the [Training page](#) on our web site and the club calendar for more details.

Some reminders from past newsletters that are still very relevant

Anyone interested in suppressors and other NFA items: Gerad Welch started a special interest group of members interested in learning about, buying, owning, and bearing National Firearms Act (NFA) items, such as suppressors (silencers). The next meeting will be on May 17 at the SMSC clubhouse from 7:00-8:00 pm. We will have a special guest bringing some suppressed 9mm pistols. If interested please contact gerad.welch@gmail.com.

A chance to volunteer your time to assist our club: We are looking for volunteers to help out every other month with our safety orientations. Our goal is to have enough people so that we have two full teams and each team would only need to work every other month. The work is not difficult or terribly time consuming. We need people who can perform some data entry, print badges, and present the orientation. If you can help us out or have any questions about it, please contact us at membership@smsclub.org.

Free Firewood - If you are interested in cutting and removing any of the fallen trees on our property as free firewood (or lumber if you have a sawmill), please contact the Range Manager or email us at clubmail@smsclub.org

If you require handicapped access to the ranges, please contact our range manager. The ranges are now locked and normally only accessible through the badge reader controlled gate just east of the clubhouse. You can check out a key for the gate on the west side gate should you require it. If you have an old key, swap it for one of the new ones, the locks were changed in April.

SMSC can now accept electronic payments. Check the membership page <https://www.smsclub.org/join/> for links to pay for membership renewals and more. The Range Manager is also able to accept credit and debit cards as are the team at the safety orientation meetings.

The June board of directors meeting will be held on June 14, 2018 starting at 7:30PM at the SMSC clubhouse. We welcome all members to attend, ask questions and provide input. Also any non-members who would like to address the board with any business are invited to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

There will be Concealed Carry and Basic Handgun classes taught at SMSC. These courses are being offered at a deep discount and are for SMSC members, their family and friends. The Basic Handgun course will use replica handguns with no live firing. The concealed carry class had a prerequisite of either already having a concealed carry permit or having attended the Basic Handgun course. Class sizes are limited to 20 and you must sign up for a seat ahead of time. These courses have been added to the [training](#) page on our website and they also link back to the calendar entries with all the details. Yes, you will have to click a few times...it's good practice for your trigger finger ;-)

There are many other events including indoor pistol and rifle shooting listed on the club calendar at <https://www.smsclub.org/calendar>.

NON-CLUB EVENTS

Have an event related to shooting sports or archery that you'd like to have included in an upcoming newsletter? Send an email to clubmail@smsclub.org.

RANGE INFORMATION

Range Hours:

0800-SUNSET MON-SAT

0900-SUNSET SUN

For sunset time each day, go to: <http://sunrise-sunset.org/us/rochester-mn>

Every member is responsible to know, follow, and enforce firearms safety and all posted rules at all times. We suggest you regularly review our Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.P.), you can download them from [here](#).

If you bring a guest, you are responsible for them and their actions while on the range.

They must also provide us with a signed and dated waiver form. You may download and print the waiver form ahead of your trip to the range:

<https://www.smsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/waiver.pdf> or you may get a copy of the waiver from the Range Manager. Please provide the Range Manager with the waiver before entering the range.

To keep everyone safe, members who violate any posted range rule will receive a warning on their first offense. The second offense will result in range access suspension until review with Board for the purpose of reaching a decision regarding when to allow access again.

Do not let anyone through the gate with you, either coming in or going out, other than your immediate family or your ONE personal guest. **Every member must badge in and out.** Your SMSC ID badge should be visibly displayed at all times inside the fenced-in (range) areas.

Eye and ear protection is required at all times for everyone inside the fenced-in area.

You must also badge out of the range! This is to help ensure we know who is using the range. Be sure that you do not allow anyone to “tailgate” when entering OR LEAVING the range. Everyone should badge in and out. Do this for your own protection.

Security cameras have been installed, and are fully operational. These have already helped to make the range safer and have greatly reduced the amount of damage done to the range. Be sure you read the posted rules and follow them!

Before driving out to the range, be sure it is open by checking out the online calendar at <https://www.smsclub.org/calendar> to ensure that no special event is scheduled.

Change in membership details: *Membership is for the member ONLY. The member's spouse or partner, sharing the same address, per information on their driver's licenses, and their children or grandchildren under age 18, living at the same address, are allowed on the range with the member for no additional charge. Spouses or partners, with the same address, may have their own badge for range access if they pay the badge fee (\$10), complete the Safety Orientation, and provide a completed Waiver.*

Club WiFi guest password is "clubhouse" (without quotation marks).

You are responsible to keep the club notified of your current email address. The club uses email and the website (www.smsclub.org) EXCLUSIVELY to communicate with members. If your email address changes, please notify us via email at clubmail@smsclub.org. We use email to notify members of their renewal date. If you do not have a valid email address on file, you will NOT be notified. This newsletter is also emailed, and it is published on the web site. It contains information you need to know. Without email, you must go to the club's website to stay current on important club business, rules, etc.

Safety orientation class/badge replacement dates and times are on the calendar at www.smsclub.org. Classes are not necessarily always on the same day each month, nor will classes always be held at the same time. Our next class is Thursday, April 5, 2018.

You may purchase a lifetime membership. The current price is \$1500. The fee was raised in February of 2015, and announced at that time.

Your thoughts and ideas on how the club may be more useful or "user-friendly" to members are appreciated. PLEASE SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH US at the monthly board meeting or by emailing them to: clubmail@smsclub.org Communications to SMSC or its Board of Directors should also be sent to this address.

Your 2018 board of directors and officers: (Terms expire 12-31 of the stated year.)

Brian Rognholt (2018), President

Mike Woodcock (2018)

Anthony Deveau (2020)

Gerad Welch (2018)

Scott Groth (2018)

Marta Toth (2020)

Dean Black (2019), Vice-President

Michael Swenson (2019), Secretary

Dale Meyer (2020)

Hilary Melville (2019)

Peter Brooks (2019)

John Milton, Treasurer