



Southern Minnesota Sportsman's Club



Newsletter For February, 2020

COVERED AT THIS MONTH'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March Board of Directors meeting will be:

- 7 PM, Thursday, March 12, at SMSC Clubhouse
- Members welcome.
- Non-members welcome through the Non-Member Business portion of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

- Financial information was posted in the clubhouse.
- January financials are in the black; improved from last January.
- Member dues rate increase has not had an obvious negative impact.

General Operations Info / Caretaker Report:

- **Septic / Water:**
 - Well water passed all tests.
 - Septic tests will occur after spring thaw.
- **Skid Loader and Recent Snow Clearing:**
 - Skid loader snow bucket broke. It will be repaired tomorrow.
 - During last week's snowstorm, Mark had the flu. Special thanks from the Board to Al Wussow, who came out and cleared the lots.
- **Indoor range air quality:** Wayne Keffer will inspect on Tues., Feb. 18, and provide a quote.
- **Calendar requests:** March 21, 10-4 for Concealed Carry Class
- **Range Manager Housing:**
 - Down payment of \$10,000 made to Winona homes. Target delivery date is May 1. They will hold on their site, at no cost, if we need more time to prepare for delivery/set up.
 - Remaining balance due for the home is \$86,000.
 - Winona homes will send someone to provide a more accurate estimate of the cost to move the existing home (rough estimate is \$3000 to \$4000).

SMSC & SMTTC have begun talks to consider merging into a single club. Meetings will continue.

Spring Range Clean-up Day: Clean-up day is scheduled for May 16. The safety orientation scheduled for that date will be pushed back to 5 pm. E Welhaven will coordinate the work items.

SMSC Standard Operating Procedures Update:

- **Membership section currently reads**

***Membership:** Membership is for the member ONLY. The member's spouse or partner, sharing the same address, and their family. Spouses or partners sharing the same address may have their own badge for range access after paying the badge fee (\$10), successfully completing the Safety Orientation Class, and submitting a completed Waiver.*

- **Updated Content:**

***Membership:** A member must be at least 18 years of age. Membership is for the member ONLY. A member has the rights and privileges afforded to a member by the SMSC bylaws. Spouses or partners sharing the same address may have their own badge for range access after paying the badge fee (\$10), successfully completing the safety orientation class, and submitting a completed waiver. A badge holder and their family and guests may use the range per the guest policy.*

Volunteerism Survey Summary:

- M Swenson presented a summary of the responses to the volunteerism survey. Several responses did not provide contact information; a second version was emailed. An upgrade to a paid version of SurveyMonkey was required to enable sending emails to all of our members, and to enable downloading the survey results rather than copying and pasting everything (very time consuming and tedious).

Amnesty Month: The Amnesty Month for expired memberships worked well last year. We will do that again this year. Expired members will be sent emails, and changes will be made to the membership program to accept the reduced lapsed membership price.

Activities:

- See [club calendar](#).
- See [training events](#).

(NOTE: When there is blue, underscored text in the newsletter, click the text to open a drop-down window, then click the blue text in the drop-down window to be taken to the information.)

HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM PAST NEWSLETTERS

There is now a waiver box at the gate.

New Member Orientation classes are held on the first Thursday of even-numbered months, and the third Saturday of odd-numbered months. Details are on the [club calendar](#). Click here [to volunteer to help at orientation class](#).

We need volunteers to help with New Member Orientation classes. More volunteers mean fewer times we would need each person to work. It takes less than three hours each time.

The work is easy. We need people to: perform simple data entry, make badges, or present the Orientation material. We will train you. You don't need to be a computer guru. If you can help, or want more information, please contact: membership@smsclub.org. To volunteer to help, click here: [Sign up](#).

Our club relies on volunteers to get things done. We need your help with projects.

Events and improvements require our members' help. If you are willing to volunteer, please send an email to membership@smsclub.org

Free Firewood - If you are interested in free firewood (or lumber, if you have a sawmill), please contact the Range Manager or email us at clubmail@smsclub.org.

SMSC can now accept electronic payments. The Range Manager and the team at the **New Member Orientation** classes can accept credit and debit cards. For links to pay for membership renewals and more: <https://www.smsclub.org/join/>.

Lifetime memberships cost \$2,000. You may purchase one at any time.

Your thoughts and ideas to make the club more useful or user-friendly are appreciated. PLEASE SHARE THEM WITH US at the monthly Board of Directors meetings, or by emailing them to clubmail@smsclub.org.

You are responsible to keep your email address current. The club uses email (smscmembership@gmail.com) and the club website (www.smsclub.org) EXCLUSIVELY to communicate with members.

You must have a valid email address on file with the club to be notified of your renewal date. Please add the club's email address to your list of approved email addresses, so that club emails do not go into your junk mail folder. If your email address changes, notify us at clubmail@smsclub.org.

This newsletter is emailed and published on the club's web site. It contains information you need to know. If you do not provide the club with an email address, you must go to the club's website -> [click here](#) <- to stay current on important club business, rules, etc.

If you bring a guest/guests, you are responsible for them and their actions while on the range. Badge holders must supervise and take responsibility for their guests at all times. Badge holders are legally responsible for any damage caused by themselves or their guests, including the consequences of any bullet fired.

Each guest (including children) must provide SMSC with a signed and dated waiver form before entering the range. A parent or guardian must sign the waiver for each minor. Download and print the waiver form before coming to the range at: <https://www.smsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/waiver.pdf>, or get a copy of the waiver from the box at the gate, and complete it before entering the fenced area of the range.

Provide the Range Manager with the waiver before entering the range, or deposit it in the box at the Range Manager's home.

Guests: Badge holders may bring family members as guests to the range. Up to three non-family guests are also permitted. All guests must be known to the badge holder.

The badge holder and guests must limit their range use to a maximum of three adjacent firing points (lanes). The badge holder and guests must stay together at all times.

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

Non-Club Events: Have an event related to shooting sports or archery that you'd like to have included in an upcoming newsletter? Send 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. You should regularly review our Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). You can download SOPs [here](#).

To keep everyone safe, members who violate a posted range rule will receive a warning on their first offense. Another offense may result in range access suspension until review with the Board of Directors to determine if/when to allow range access again.

Every member must badge in and out.

- **Do not allow anyone to tailgate (i.e., come through the gate with you)**, either entering or leaving the range. Only your own family and your personal guests should enter/leave the range with you. **You must badge out of the range!**
- Your SMSC ID badge must be visibly displayed at all times inside the fenced-in (range) areas. This is to help ensure we know who is using the range. Do this for your own protection.
- **Eye and ear protection is required** at all times for everyone inside the fenced-in area.

Before driving to the range, check the on-line calendar to ensure the range is open and that no special event is scheduled for the time you plan to come and shoot.

<https://www.smsclub.org/calendar>

If you require handicapped access to the range, contact our range manager. The range is now locked, and is normally accessible only through the badge-reader-controlled gate just east of the clubhouse. You can check out a key for the west-side gate should you require it.

2020 Board of Directors and Officers: (Terms expire 12-31 of the stated year)

Dean Black (2022), President	Brian Rognholt (2021), Vice-President
Ron Ruehmann (2020), Treasurer	Michael Swenson (2022), Secretary
Butch Barton (2021)	Ron Carlson (2021)
Anthony Deveau (2020)	Dale Meyer (2020)
Marta Toth (2020)	Eric Welhaven (2021)

- **Board of Directors responsibility** assignments:
 - Safety orientation coordinator: B Rognholt, M Swenson, E Welhaven, D Black
 - Membership retention: D Black
 - Trap club liaison: R Carlson
 - Cleanup day and All Members meeting organizer: E Welhaven
 - Public Relations: D Meyer
 - Volunteer coordinator: B Barton
 - Fundraising: M Toth and E Welhaven
 - Range maintenance: A Deveau