



Southern Minnesota Sportsman's Club



Newsletter For June, 2020

****SMSC is fully operational, and welcoming new members.****

NOTE: Throughout this document, BLUE UNDERSCORED text indicates a link to additional relevant information on the SMSC web site.

New Stuff!

There are several new features on our website for members.

There is a tool which will let you **look up your club renewal date** using your badge information. On the back of your badge is a badge number, use that to look up your renewal date here:

<https://www.smsclub.org/renewallookup/> The data is not "live" but it is updated on or about the first of every month.



We have a [forum on our website](#) now. You can [register on the site](#) to join or start a discussion, leave a comment, etc.

You can now select a **membership subscription** here:

<https://www.smsclub.org/join/renewing-member/> This feature lets you opt into an annual subscription. PayPal will send you a reminder every year that it is about to bill you for your renewal and it will give you the chance to stop the subscription if you no longer want to renew. But if you don't opt out, it will automatically renew you for another year. This is super-convenient and something that several people had asked for. One less thing on your to-do list.



The new member process has been moved online!

While this was certainly spurred on by the regulations against large group meetings, there were several other reasons for doing this. It is much more convenient for

people, they can view the orientation video whenever and wherever they like instead of making time to come out to one of our monthly meetings. There is a test after the video to ensure that the important details were retained and the forms and waivers can all be submitted electronically too. That data is all encrypted and transmitted securely to protect your privacy. If you know someone that is interested in the club, have them check it out, there is no cost or obligation to join until you decide that the club is for you. Start here: <https://www.smsclub.org/join-as-a-new-member/>

We have added a **privacy policy** to our website too. You can review it here: [Our Privacy Policy](#)



New Classes



Sterling and Time Defense L.L.C. is offering SMSC members a great deal on a level 1 defensive handgun course.

This class is for concealed carry permit holders to learn safe and effective use of their handgun. At the low price this is being offered at, they are sure to fill up fast. [Click here](#) to learn more and reserve your spot in this exciting new class!

COVERED AT THIS MONTH'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

July Board of Directors meeting will be:

- [7 PM, Thursday, July 9, at SMSC Clubhouse](#)
- Non-members welcome through the Non-Member Business portion of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- Financial information was posted in the clubhouse.
- Income was good in May.
- Board agreed to pay \$2500 to Gamehaven for facilities used by Mark and Shelly for 7.5 weeks while the old trailer home was being removed, and the new one installed.

General Operations Info / Caretaker Report

- **New Trailer Home:**
 - Mark has moved into the new trailer home. Almost everything is done. He will add lattice to the landings, and river rock for landscaping to prevent erosion from roof runoff.
 - The manufacturer must fix the doors, and the hump in the floor.

- Mark was given permission to plant a garden.
- We will remove the notice to not handle brass. Transmission of Covid-19 by touching objects is minimal. Also, brass that's been fired has been "cooked clean."
- **Indoor Range Air Quality:** The Board decided to continue without providing heated makeup air. If incoming air is directed correctly, we may not need to add heat to keep it comfortable.
- **Wireless Doorbell:** The board approved up to \$250 for a wireless doorbell system.
- **Camera Monitor in Mark's Office:** M Swenson will donate a television for Mark's office. A Deveaux will donate a wall mount.
- **M Swenson added surge protectors to the routers in the office.**
- **Clean up day summary:**
 - Work completed:
 - Limbs on dead trees were cut up
 - Target holder holes on the west 25/50 range were edged and drilled clean
 - Septic tank cover was completed
 - Landings and deck on trailer were completed
 - Grounds were cleaned along the fences
 - Leaves and debris were cleared from the handgun & plate ranges
 - Pistol backers were made (175 are ready)
 - Indoor range vacuumed
 - Classroom tables and chairs were cleaned
 - Grading around the trailer was completed
 - Skirting around the trailer was installed
 - Pistol shed was cleaned out and re-organized
 - SPECIAL thanks to Douglas and Donna Seavey for donating hostas and helping with landscaping, as well as a financial donation!
 - Yet to be done
 - Reshape the berm on the handgun range (cut the base back and ulch the front base of the berm)
 - Handgun range baffles need to be repaired or replaced soon
 - New backers for the 25/50 yard ranges
 - Edge and drill out the 25 yard target backer channel on the east range
 - Set gopher traps
- **Online Activities and Updates (M Swenson):**
 - Added a **moderated forum** to the website. Details were provided in "[New "Forum" Feature on the SMSC Web Page](#)" topic in SMSC's May Newsletter.
 - Added a feature to **allow members to check their renewal date** by entering their badge number. No personal data is shared or stored, just badge numbers and renewal dates.
 - **Completely revamped the membership and orientation processes**, based on the success of the live online classes.
 - Processes can now be completed completely online.
 - HD video presentation was recorded. It is served from a private youtube channel.
 - After viewing the video (multiple viewings allowed), candidates can register for an exam (administered using ClassMarker.com's free service). Candidates must score 80% or more (no more than 2 incorrect answers)

in order to proceed.

- Successful candidates have two options:
 1. Complete the new member forms, print them, and bring them in,
OR
 2. Complete the forms online and continue online.
- **Processing of new member information has been streamlined to reduce the amount of manual data entry.**

Reviewing our new member rates from April 2019 to April 2020 (when online classes began), we were averaging 16 new (or returning lapsed) members per month. In the last two months, we have averaged 30 per month.

The questions missed in the exam have also provided feedback regarding what needs to be stressed more in the orientation video.

Another webcam was purchased for taking member pictures, so that we can have one set up in the clubhouse office and one in Mark's office. Upgraded Mark's PC with a better video card and found a hack that allows the old DTC1000 badge printer to work, so we should be able to print badges in either location. This provides a redundant system, in the event of failures or a glut of new members, to reduce time waiting for badges.

Club Activities

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

SMSC & SMTC have begun talks to consider merging into a single club.

- C Willihnganz asked if SMTC members would share in SMSC expenses.
- There is concern regarding whether the trap clubhouse is insured; but it should be.
- The committees will continue meetings.
- We need to ensure that all of the buildings on the property are insured.
- We should insure the new home for at least \$100,000.

HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM PAST NEWSLETTERS

New "Forum" Feature on the SMSC Web Page

- There is a new tab on the green bar across the top of the page: **Forum**
- Hover over it, and the "Register" and "Lost Password" options will drop down.
- Click on the "[Register](#)" option, and you'll see the word "Register" on the left side of the page.
- Scroll down, read the two lines of instructions, and then scroll farther to enter your desired username (UID), and your email address.
- Scroll further, and click the blue "Register" button on the lower right.

- You will receive an email with your password. Please note that this is not “instantaneous,” even though a message pops up that says, “Registration complete. Please check your email.” Be patient. The email will eventually come.
- Once the email arrives, click on the longer URL provided. You will be taken to a screen that has a password.
- **If you choose to use that password**, then you only need to click the “Reset Password” button.
- **If you choose to change the password**, then enter your desired password in place of the suggested password (follow the password rules on the page), and click the “Reset Password” button.

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 [email us](#).

Free Firewood - If you are interested in free firewood (or lumber, if you have a sawmill), please contact the Range Manager or [email us](#).

Lifetime memberships cost \$2,000. Additional details [here](#).

Your thoughts and ideas to make the club more useful or user-friendly are appreciated. PLEASE SHARE THEM at the monthly Board of Directors meetings, [on our forum](#), or [email us](#).

You are responsible to keep your email address current. The club uses [email](#) and the club [website](#) 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, please [notify us](#).

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 Newsletters](#) to stay current on important club business, rules, etc.

Guest Policy:

You are responsible for the safety and actions of each guest you bring to SMSC. Badge holders are responsible for their guests, and must supervise them 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, or complete a copy of the waiver form from the box at the gate before entering the fenced area of the range.

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

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 us an [email](#).

RANGE INFORMATION

Range Hours:

0800-SUNSET MON-SAT

0900-SUNSET SUN & HOLIDAYS

For sunset time each day, go to: <https://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 view or 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.

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
Ron Ruehmann (2020), Treasurer
Hilary Mellville (2022), Treasurer
Butch Barton (2021)
Anthony Deveau (2020)
Marta Toth (2020)

Brian Rognholt (2021), Vice-President
Michael Swenson (2022), Secretary
Chuck Willihnganz (2022)
Ron Carlson (2021)
Dale Meyer (2020)
Eric Welhaven (2021)