



Spring 2025 Newsletter

Hello constant readers. It's been a year of putting off writing a newsletter...never put off until tomorrow what you can put off until the day after tomorrow.

2024 Highlights

2-Gun

2024 saw the introduction of a new league at SMSC, the 2-Gun league. This is a dynamic shooting event where shooters can practice safely moving with a firearm, drawing from a holster and re-holstering while moving through a course of fire. Every event brought a new course of fire and a different set of instructions. For example, one week you might start off by the firing line then move quickly to the first firing position, have required magazine reloads, transition from handgun to rifle and back. The next week, something different. The events were well attended and I think it is safe to say, left us all wanting more. We held the 2024 events on a weeknight in the second half of the summer. So, we were always racing against the sunset.





For 2025 we will hold the events on Sunday starting early in the afternoon. We will have plenty of time for everyone to compete as often as they would like to. The league is open to all SMSC members, spouses and family; however, you must attend one of the two mandatory orientation sessions. These sessions will be held in the SMSC clubhouse on Saturday, April 26th at 1:00 PM and Wednesday April 30th at 7:30 PM.

Project Appleseed

SMSC hosted several events with Project Appleseed. Including the first-ever pistol clinic at SMSC. This February we hosted a 'Winterseed' event, a 25M rifle clinic. There were a few of us brave, or was is foolish, souls that attended the 2-day event and earned our "Winterseed" patch.

These are the patches you could for qualifying at earn at this year's events:



High School Trap

Many of the area schools have formed trap teams. SMSC is the 'home court' for several of these teams. Be sure to check the club calendar if you plan to shoot trap in the evenings, they hold

regular practice sessions on our trap field. If you forget and they are practicing and show up anyway, you can still watch these young people shoot way better than I ever will.

SMTC Trap

The trap club is in full swing all year long. Check the club calendar for open shooting times. It isn't a requirement to join SMTC to shoot with them, but it does give you a significant discount on rounds of trap. The open shoot times allow you to use the automated trap throwing equipment and to hang out with a bunch of trap enthusiasts.

SMSC Bullseye League

The SMSC Bullseye league had another successful year with 25 shooters in the fall season and 34 in the winter season. The winter season has one more week before it wraps up. Bullseye league utilizes the SMSC indoor range and lets us have a warm and dry place to shoot when it isn't road construction season in Minnesota.

Board Meetings

The meetings of the SMSC board of directors have changed from a monthly meeting to a bimonthly cadence. The board meets on the second Thursday of odd numbered months at 7:00 PM in the SMSC clubhouse. Hopefully this will entice some new people to join the board and bring us some fresh ideas and perspectives.

What's Coming In 2025

Spring Clean Up

The annual spring clean-up day is scheduled for May 17th. We will have a note coming out before then detailing what we have planned but there are always grounds work and making backers. People usually start turning up around 8 AM and stick around as long as they can. Look for an email in the next few weeks with more details.

Annual All-members Meeting

The annual all member's meeting will also be held on May 17th starting at 12:30 in the SMSC clubhouse. We will have some brief reports on the health of the club, planning, recent events and the election of at least 4 board members. The board has decided to forgo the formal nomination at a board meeting process that was used for the last several years. You certainly can be nominated or self-nominate at the all-members meeting. The board will be in attendance to answer any questions or concerns as well.

Events

There are several events posted on the club calendar including concealed carry classes, Project Appleseed shooting clinics, and 2-Gun League. Bullseye League will be starting in the fall just after Labor Day

New Equipment

Mark came up with a very good design for hanging targets at the 25-yard rifle range. This makes use of the same type of backers that are used on the 50-yard range so that we only need to make one type of backer.

We have purchased a new plate rack for the plate range. The heavy rains that we had last spring gave us a California style mudslide that pancaked one of the racks last year. Mark did a great job of straightening it out again but it was already due for replacement. The new rack will be a regulation size rack to replace the old rack.

