



# September 2019 Monthly Minutes

## North Star Shooting Sports Club Board of Directors Meeting September 16, 2019

Present: Brian Griffith, Chairperson, Mark Bovee, Bill O'Neill, Alan Colliander, Pat Idstrom

Absent: Nik Opsal, Carl Berg

Club Manager: Richard Boston

Members present: Ron Cuperus, Rita Bovee, recording secretary, Ron Rude

The meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:37 pm.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report was distributed to each board member after the last meeting. Motion to approve the minutes made by Mark, seconded by Bill. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** There is no treasurers report this month.

### Range Report:

1. In August Richard collected \$4967 in cash, plus \$1313 in credit card purchases, he estimates the credit card purchases are 80% made by visitors to the area. He continues to send the daily reports/receipts to Carl.
2. Staffing for next year remains a concern. Bill O'Neill has agreed to assist with rifle sight in this November.
3. Range Safety Officer (RSO) and CPR/AED training is due again next year for new and existing employees. Richard suggested that this training should be mandatory for the staff.
4. There has been some interest expressed for a sporting clays league for next year. The person willing to head it up is Don Bornin.
5. The entrance gate needs some painting. Thanks to Ron Cuperus for straightening it out.
6. The cracks in the trap houses have been repaired and painted. Also reported that the bolts on the gong in the pistol range have been loosened, and the entrance gate chain has been removed twice. There was a brief discussion about how to prevent this from happening again.
7. Signage on the ranges need to be updated with definitive items such as: what you can and cannot do, rules for the rifle range, paper targets only always.
8. The brown shed has been moved to the rifle range. Reported that the shooters have been mostly pleased with this. Thanks to Carl for moving it.
9. Work day projects could include removing wood and brush from the rifle range and sporting clays range.
10. There are many old records in the file cabinets in the club house. There was a short discussion about how long the paper reports need to be kept.
11. Discussion about the signage on highway 371. There is no sign indicating the range when you travel south from Cass Lake. In addition, Dennis Dicks was wondering about the sign that is on his property just on the edge of the woods as you travel north.
12. A new lifetime membership card has been created and one sent to the newest lifetime member in Colorado.
13. The next event on the calendar is the Wounded Warriors will be out at the club on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.



14. Discussion about ordering more patches with the NSSC logo for shooting vests, especially with more new shooters on the high school team next year. Brian will follow up with the vendor for the patches. Motion to accept the range report made by Mark, seconded by Alan. Motion passed.

### **Old Business:**

1. Easement: Mark gave an update on what has happened in the past month. The survey was completed. A copy of the survey was discussed, showing the N/S-West line. The berms are fully on the club property. Currently Mark is waiting for Carl to return before responding to our attorney about our response to Steve Baker, Hal Solem's attorney.
2. Clean up of wads on the trap/skeet range: Pat is talking to City Sanitary about getting an 8 yard dumpster to go along with our existing 16 yard dumpster. Discussion about the best place to put these dumpsters for ease of access and to create the least amount of damage to the property. The date has been set for Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.
3. Business use of facilities: Mark read the proposal that was presented to the board at the July 15, 2019 meeting. Discussion included the charge of \$100.00 per hour per venue if a portion of the range is reserved. If the entire range is reserved the charge would be \$500.00 per hour. Per board discussion, all shotgun shooting venues would be billed the full non-member prices per round. Mark will revise the proposal and circulate it to all of the board members before the October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting for a vote to take place at that meeting.
4. Scholarship fund: Brian and Carl have opened a dedicated scholarship account at the bank. \$2000.00 was deposited for the current scholarship recipients, plus an additional \$100.00 to maintain the account open if all recipients take their scholarship at the same time. In the spring an additional \$1000.00 will be deposited after the annual banquet in preparation for the next scholarship applicants.

### **New Business:**

1. Elections and Annual Meeting: Discussion about potential candidates for the board for the election. Brian will write the annual newsletter, plus accept contributions to it from Mark and Alan.
2. Work Day: the work day has been scheduled for Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. The primary task for this day will be the removed of the wads from the trap and skeet ranges to assist in spring runoff next spring. Trap and skeet will be closed during those work hours. Alan will put a notice on the website regarding both the work day and the ranges being closed.
3. Historically, as shared by Ron Rude, a previous board member, the brown building had been intended to be moved to the rifle range for winter shooting. Thanks to Carl for moving the building to the rifle range. Discussion about the placement of the building took place. Some would prefer it be moved to abut the existing shooting benches. Background and historical perspective of the rifle range were shared by Ron Rude.
4. Clay Targets: Brian has discussed with Paul Blegen the need for more clay targets this year. Paul does not feel we need more at this time, that we have enough to get through the spring shooting of the high school team. Again discussed was the need for a current board member or officer to be able to get current pricing for the clay targets. No resolution. Discuss at the October 21 board meeting.
5. Signage: the large sign at the front gate is now not correct, with the new name of the club. Ron will check with MN DOT about the cost of signs on the highway. Mark will check with Mineer Signs about the cost of the property signs.



6. Property Lines: in late October when the leaves are down, Ron Cuperus will run his brush hog down the Northerly property line so we can accurately see where to place the “no trespassing” signs .

7. Deposits: Discussion about non-refundable deposits for reservations for shooting. Pat will write up a policy and send it out to everyone before the next board meeting (October 21). Included in this policy will be: standing reservations // late/no shows // first come, first served // thunder being the only absolute reason to cancel a shoot.

8. Discussion of sporting clays – winterizing. Rodents are always an issue over the winter. Discussion about good use of poisons within the covers of the equipment to reduce rodents from chewing on wires and trap machines. Discussion of the number of machines that are routinely down. Which ones are consistently the ones failing, and should they be prioritized to be taken in for repair/evaluation first? Paul and Carl are to follow up with the repair shop in Marshall. Richard will be the information on the bad machines to Carl and Paul.

9. Pat will be meeting with the new high school kids who are interested in the trap team on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are between 3-10 kids interested. Pat would also welcome anyone interested from the Laporte schools too.

10. AED for the clubhouse: Mark shared the story of a recent cardiac arrest that happened at United Northern Sportsmans in Duluth MN. Because of the presence of an AED the person survived. Discussion about the need for an AED here and also a way to communicate from places like rifle range or sporting clays if an AED is needed out there. Discussed the need for radios. Alan will follow up with his contacts at Sanford about where we might be on getting an AED donated to us.

11. Ron shared that he had an earth moving contractor come and look over the drainage around the traps. Joe and Ron will take of the recontouring, and will donate their time and talents. They will also move some dirt around and add class 5 to the road and parking lot. The time will be donated, we need to purchase about 800 yards (+/-) of the class 5. Mark will also get the proposal from Aspen construction to Ron.

12. Ron and Alan requested approval to work on a sporting clays assessment project. To look at the sporting class course and get a better idea on what needs to be done to make it work consistently. They have ideas about grants and some fund raising that could be done, as well as looking at how to make the range suitable for two groups shooting at the same time? Do we need more throwers? Do we continue to use shared traps? Is there room for more traps? Mark made the motion to approve them to work on this proposal, Pat seconded. Motion passed.

Pat made the motion to adjourn, Bill seconded. Adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Bovee, recording secretary