



THE SPORTSMAN

“Conservation is Our Aim”



SYDENHAM SPORTSMEN’S ASSOCIATION,
P.O. BOX 264 OWEN SOUND, ONTARIO,
N4K5P3
www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/
Affiliated with the OFAH, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters



SSA On Line

Web Site

Volume 40 No. 4 June, 2020



THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING.

First Thursday of each month, October to June,
September exception -> second Thursday

**There will be NO
June general meeting.
Next meeting, September 3...**

THE CLUB HOUSE is: on the
Lincoln Park Road,
in the township of Georgian Bluffs, or
{082535 Side Road 6}, or
{217567 Concession 3 Side road,
behind Gord Maher Centre}

President’s Message (June 2020)

It has been a challenging spring and start to summer for all of us and I certainly appreciate all the understanding and continued support by our members through these times. The range committee has done a fabulous job to get the ranges back opened and please be aware of the new changes we must endure to keep all our members and families safe. It appears we will not be having a general meeting now until September and the date will be the 3rd as there is no Fall Fair planned this year we will be back to meeting on the first Thursday. Of course if the current situation doesn’t improve we will not be gathering in groups, the Executive will keep you posted of any cancellations or date changes. Try to maintain your positive attitude through this and please stay safe and well, I look forward to getting back to normalcy and being able to get back together and socializing again.

Scott

Volunteers - Thank you -

The Sydenham Sportsmen's Association would not function, if it were not for its many volunteers. Thank you to everyone that helps with our fund raising ticket sales, shooting range improvements, fish hatchery maintenance, wildlife projects, the Salmon Derby and the many other things that keeps our club going.

The SSA Executive

Phragmites control in water - link

Copy and paste

https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/WHAT-WE-DO/The-Spread-Newsletter/Newsletter-Summer-2019/Phrag-Control-for-Landowners?utm_source=Summer%20Newsletter&utm_medium=Eblast&utm_campaign=Summer%20Newsletter&utm_content=Link%20to%20ISC%20Website

Jim Hastie

Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

President: Scott Grimoldby
1st Vice President: Fred Geberdt
2nd Vice President: Bill Douglas
Recording Secretary: John Thomson

Past President: Mike Prevost
Treasurer: Dennis Wiseman
Correspondence Secretary: John Ford

Directors:

Jeff Caldwell, John Ford, Robert Lovelace, Matt Turner, Chris Geberdt, Jim Hastie, Al Hillis, Dave McKinnon, Ron Robb, Al Smith, Ken Miersch

Please inform John Ford if your address, phone number, or, email has any changes!



Newsletter: Dave Skelton
Webmaster: Bruce Farrell
Membership: John Ford
Key Keeper: John Ford

Clubhouse Bookings:

Contact-

Ron McCartney (Club Custodian)
Home 519-794-3456
Cell 226- 668-6031
ultrasoundkennel@gmail.com



Last Meeting Draw Prize Winners



- \$20 Watson's Gift Certificate - Brian Gamble
\$20 Gian Tiger Gift Card - David Clark
\$20 LCBO Gift Card - Frank Drescher
\$20 Wal-Mart Gift Card - Robert Ginzel
\$20 No Frills/Zehrs Gift Card - Ken Miersch
\$50 Canadian Tire Gift Card - Matt Turner



Newsletter Submission for June 2020---J Ford

I would like to report on a number of items that would normally be available through our monthly newsletters. Due to Covid 19 restrictions meetings were not possible, nor are they now, as I write this. I suspect it will be some time before we are able to resume monthly meetings. Hopefully, this newsletter will bring you up to date on what is happening.



Pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, moths and flies, play critical roles in ecosystems and in the production of our food. If you've eaten an apple or worn a comfy cotton t-shirt, you can thank a pollinator for transporting pollen between those plants' blossoms. Despite the important services they provide, the populations of many wild pollinators are declining, largely due to changes in their habitat, intensive agricultural practices and pesticide use, invasive species, disease and climate change.



SSA Membership Information Totals as of June 2

Table with 2 columns: Category and Total. Rows include Adults (261), Seniors (224), Spousal (110), Juniors (25), and Students (50).

TOTAL 670

This is about 40 less than at this time last year.



Once again Dean Herzberg is running two skeet clinics at our club. Friday June 19th and Saturday June 20. Book directly with him. Come out and improve your game. Mike Thompson 519-385-4280. Check if still on!!!

For a coloured version of this document, go to the SSA website at http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/ select from SSA Newsletters - right side.

New/Revised rules - May 2020

The Sydenham Sportsmen's Association Ranges will be open to members only starting on Friday, May 22nd at 8am.

The following rules /•requirements• are in addition to those outlined in the SSA Range Manual. Those who violate the rules will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including• revocation• of membership.

The Sydenham Sportsmen's Association must follow all provincial rules and health•requirements• related to the Covid-19 Pandemic and• physical• distancing rules. That means all members when on the ranges must abide by these rules and requirements. As restrictions change we will also make the required changes to stay compliant.

We have opted to provide shooting opportunities for the membership and open now under these restrictions.

If there is a complete disregard for the• physical• distancing• requirements• the SSA will have no choice but to close all of the ranges once again. Remember there are cameras in all ranges and parking areas which will be checked to ensure we are compliant.

This means no more than 5 people• can gather in a group and must observe the• physical• distancing• requirements of staying 2 Meters (6ft) away from each other. While we understand that most people enjoy shooting AND the socializing we are asking members to come and shoot, pack up and leave the property right after. • If you must have a brief conversation with another member please do so in the parking lot away from anyone else and not inside any of the ranges. Respect other people's spaces, just because you may think• physical• distancing rules are stupid does not mean that others feel the same way !

IF YOU ARE SICK, HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS, TRAVELED• IN THE LAST 14 DAYS OR HAVE COME INTO CONTACT WITH ANYONE HAVING COVID19 PLEASE STAY AT HOME!!!”

There is hand sanitizer in every range, as well there will be a spray bottle of disinfectant and paper towel that can be used to sanitize the shooting positions / surfaces etc.. Please use these, just remember some of the products can be hard on your firearms finishes !

Below are the range specific Covid -19 rules, this is the "new normal" for the foreseeable future. Members will soon realize that it will not be like it was before, particularly for the ranges / activities where you will need to book a time spot to participate.

Handgun and .22 Rimfire Ranges

Maximum• number of members who can shoot at the same time is 3 per range.

The handgun range has 3 ports that have not been taped off, those are the only ones that can be used.

In the rimfire rifle range one bench has been removed so only 3 benches are available.

Maximum time a member can occupy a shooting position / bench is 1hr.

If no other members are waiting to shoot you can continue shooting until someone else arrives at which time you need to pack up and let that member shoot.

We would like to remind everyone that we are in this together and that everyone needs to be courteous to one another.

These ranges are self policed and we expect the membership to get along and follow these rules.

As well, handguns are to only be shot on the handgun range, just because you have to wait for a spot does not mean you can go and shoot handguns on the rimfire rifle range.

Please sanitize your shooting positions and anything you have touched before exiting.

continued next two pages

100 Yard Range

The 100 yard high powered range will be available for club approved RSO's to use while we establish a scheduling system for the general membership.

A separate email will be sent out to those RSO's ONLY by the 100 yard coordinator with details on how this will work.

We ask the membership to remain patient while a system is worked out. Maximum number of shooters on this range will be 3 at a time so this is a big challenge and time consuming to coordinate.

Once a system is established a separate email will be sent out to the membership on how to sign up for a 1 hour shooting time slot.

Trap and Skeet

Protocol• for trap and skeet range. • Please respect the *physical distancing requirements of 2 meters or 6 feet*• of separation

Open to members in good standing ONLY. NO GUESTS.

Understand we are following Health Canada *Requirements for the safety of our members and volunteers.*

IF YOU ARE SICK OR THINK YOU MIGHT HAVE THIS VIRUS PLEASE STAY HOME.

The• Trap shelter is CLOSED TO ALL but designated personnel!

All cards and ammo sales will be conducted thru the window on the north side of the building
Tap debit *or Tap Credit*• only. • Please NO CASH. • No pop or water or food will be available.

Dates and times we will open will be sent out• by Wednesday Night.

DO NOT JUST SHOW UP AT THE RANGE AND EXPECT TO GET SIGNED UP• ON A SQUAD.

We will be booking shooting times by email, messenger or phone in hourly blocks of 5.

To book• Trap Skeet,• contact Mike Thompson 519-385-4280 to set up a time slot to shoot.

PLEASE TOUCH AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE while on the range. • We will be sterilizing EVERYTHING you touch• prior to the next squad being allowed to shoot. •• IF THE SPEAKER DOESN'T• SUIT YOU• MOVE YOUR BODY INSTEAD• of touching the speaker.

Picnic tables are for gun bags only. If you have to sit please respect the 2 meter, 6 feet physical distancing requirements.

Hand sanitizer and a hand wash station is available, but if possible please bring your own hand sanitizer.

Inland fishing in Thailand

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OXCZ05EXC4>

Catfish. YUCK!!!!

There seems to be a whole industry going on called Catfish Noodling.

You can also use Coke and Mentos

Archery

The archery ranges are available to members only, no guests at this time.

- If you feel sick or have symptoms of illness, stay at home.
- You are required to maintain the social distance of 6 feet everywhere on PLEASE TOUCH AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE while on the range.
- The archery practice facility is limited to 4 people only at any given time. Stay well back or in your vehicle if you are waiting.
- The archery walk-through facility is limited to 2 groups of 3 archers, and they must stay at least 3 stations apart. Social distancing still required. Same waiting rules apply.
- You must only remove/retrieve your own arrows and not the other archers in your group.
- Hand sanitizer will be supplied at the ranges, it's advisable to use it before and after your practice/round.

Sporting Clays

Sporting clays is unfortunately one of those shooting sports that involves interaction with a group of shooters. Considering the current restrictions there are many things to sort out to remain compliant. We hope to have this activity up and running by June.

A separate email will be sent out once details have been finalized.

- the property

CAS / Defensive Pistol

There are several things to work out before these activities can get started due to the current social distancing rules. Look for future emails once these activities can get up and running.

- We ask for all members to be patient while waiting for a shooting bench, or for your favorite shooting activity to start up. The volunteers who organize these events have a tough job this year which requires a great deal of thought. For some shooting activities it may mean that they do not happen for a while or at all in 2020.

If you run across one of the hardworking volunteers I am sure they would appreciate a kind word of thanks. (from 6 feet away !)

The SSA is making all members and volunteers health a priority and will err on the side of caution every time.

If you have any questions or comments please contact the following SSA range directors.

Al Hillis •• al.hillis@gmail.com

Jeff Caldwell •jrc870@gmail.com

An **Application Form** may be obtained by using the link below.

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/> Top menu Bar -> **Membership**

Just fill in the form, and mail to the address on the front page of this newsletter, c/o **John Ford.**

Wildlife Advisory Committee

As some of you might know, the WAC in conjunction with the Sydenham Conservation Foundation and Ducks Unlimited completed a Paired Mallards pond project on the Doug Reid Memorial Conservation property in the former Derby Township in 2019. This pond is triangular in shape, and is 195 ft long and 85 ft at the widest. Our plan for 2020 was to create a multiyear Butterfly Habitat on the Doug Reid Memorial but Covid 19 caused a major delay. However, now that some restrictions are lifted, we are planning to start work on this ambitious project. We estimate the dimensions to be about 55 m long and 40 m wide. Just this week, we visited the site and marked off the Butterfly Habitat area. Wayne Gallagher cut the grass with our bush hog. We hope to have the area worked up next week and possibly some planting can happen.

As well, we planned to create another larger pond structure. Again, we want to use a SCF property. Very soon, we will examine the Walker Wetlands Conservation property in the former Derby Township. If this property is not suitable, we will look farther.

The Wildlife Committee maintains the Demonstration Wildlife Management Area, owned by the SCF and adjacent to the SSA property. Over the past 8 years, we have sprayed Wild Chervil to control the spread of this invasive species. At present we have it in reasonable control but did find some plants on the SSA property below the hill near the road. This will have to be watched carefully.

I want to thank the members of this committee for their commitment to conservation and our projects.

John Ford.



Shout out to the Sporting Clays Advisory Committee

When our Ranges and Activities were shut down, a number of executive and committee members were faced with unprecedented problems. I know that some members were unhappy, as were we, about not being able to shoot on SSA Ranges. However, I think that most members understood that the restrictions were due to Government edicts.

When the rules were relaxed, the Shooting Sports committee was ready to bring in realistic rules that met government requirements. They spent many hours looking at our ranges and working on social distancing along with hand sanitizers and sprays to make our property safe for all.

Thanks also to the committee members who upgraded the ranges!

In my opinion, they deserve much credit!!

John Ford



Chervil Spraying

photo by mike Prevost

Thanks to those submitting material for this newsletter.

Anyone with articles for this Newsletter should get them to me by the 20th (or sooner) of the preceding month.

*Dave Skelton 519-376-9554
dskel@golden.net*

Use this link below to renew you membership! **Pay Pal or a Credit Card can be used**

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/>

2019 SSA Club Awards

In most years, we present our Awards at the May general meeting. Of course, that couldn't happen this year. Since it is unlikely that a club meeting will be held in the near future, I am providing a list of all award winners. Jim Hastie and I will contact the winners and provide them with their keeper plaques.

2019 SSA Awards Winners

Adult Sportsman of the Year----Wayne Gallagher

Adult Conservationist of the Year---John Ford

Junior Conservationist of the Year---Wyatt Farquharson

Best Turkey---Cas Burns---73.64

Jim Weir Memorial Youth Educators Award---Sebastien St-Amant

Adult Lake Trout---Bill Colborne---11.19 lb

Adult Chinook Salmon---Bill Colborne---16.0 lb

SSA High Average Sporting Clays Award---2018 Mike Thompson, 2019 Dave MacKinnon

SSA Hard Luck Award 2nd Place---Wayne Gallagher

SSA Hard Luck Award 1st Place---Mike Prevost



We now have a club supplier for coats, hats, touques, T Shirts, hoodies and sweaters etc.

Ram Promotional (1580 20 th St E Owen Sound) will have a display at the clubhouse with some selected items and a price on those items, tax in.

As a member you can go to their shop and pick out items of your choice and they will give you a price for the item club crest or club name plus your name embroidered on the item, tax in .

This is for all members, as there are designs for Skeet, Trap, Conservation etc. to choose from.

If anyone has a question regarding this, please call me, **Ron Robb** at **519-371-7385** for more info.

Thanks

From Ron Robb, rjrobb52@gmail.com



. This has been a trying time with having Covid -19 enter our world . All of our daily chores have been turned upside down and we have entered into a new area of the way we do things .As Co-Hatchery Manager with Don Fosbury we have had to reduce our crews to 2 members each day to feed and clean out the fish tanks and before doing that we talked to each worker explaining they had to stay 2 meters away from each other and visitors were not allowed in the hatchery . Each one of our workers agreed to stay working through this ordeal and we Thank them **Very Very Much**. It is having Members with this kind of Dedication to our Club that makes The Sydenham Sportsman's Club So Strong .

These Members are Steve Cornett , John Snook, John Greb, Doug Fearnall, Doug Heighes, Kevin Hawthorne , Don Lobban , Ernie Lang, Walley Cunningham and John Ford . Our club didn't get Rainbow Trout eggs this year do to Covid 19 so after discussions with our Hatchery workers we have decided to holdover our Year Plus Rainbows until next year so they should be a good size by then.

We have Approximately 33500 in the Hatchery with 10000 in the supertank and hopefully we will be able to get Salmon Eggs this Fall . In the meantime stay home as much as possible and stay safe and I will see you all at whenever our next Club Meeting Takes Place.

Thanks: **Ron Robb and Don Fosbury**; Hatchery Managers

Thanks to a bunch of hard working SSA members the **Sporting Clays** course is ready to open for 2020.

Unfortunately for all of our non members, we will initially be open to Sydenham Sportsmen's Association Members ONLY

This is due to the many physical distancing rules still in place by the government. How long will it be before we can open to everyone ?? Honestly we have no idea at this time. As soon as we can we will let everyone know and put out a schedule.

Sunday, May 31st Sunday June 7th Sunday June 21st

We are scheduling a month at a time right now, Sundays ONLY, registration is 12:30-1pm, debit / credit card payment only, no cash. Payment can be made at the trap building window.

Cost = \$30, Youth \$20

IF YOU ARE SICK, HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS, TRAVELED IN THE LAST 14 DAYS OR HAVE COME INTO CONTACT WITH ANYONE HAVING COVID19 PLEASE STAY AT HOME!!!

The following rules must be followed for those SSA members coming to shoot.

Maximum Group size is 5 Groups must stay 1 station apart

Groups will be assigned a starting station and will move in an increasing numerical direction for example start at Stn 5 must move to 6, then 7 etc...

There will be no score cards, clip boards or pencils provided, if you insist on keeping score you need to do it yourself with your supplies. We suggest come out and have fun, forget about the scorecard.

The SSA will be providing sanitizing wipes to each group, the controllers MUST be wiped down before Moving on to the next station.

Group members must observe the 2 m physical distancing requirements, yep that's going to be a challenge We know socializing is most of the fun, however groups cannot assemble together into a number larger than 5, so no stopping and gabbing.

Essentially, arrive shoot in your group and leave.

While we realize the above rules take some of the fun out of it, please remember we are lucky to be shooting at all. It took some work to get the shooting going again with everything going on. The club has chosen to open under the restrictions so people can get some trigger time.

It should also be noted if the above rules are not being followed the sporting clays will be shut down again for everyone.

Lets hope the restrictions ease more in the coming weeks.

Thanks; SSA



Travelling ????

*Life is like a mirror.
If you frown, it frowns back.
If you smile, it returns the compliment!*

Disclaimer:



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