



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 41 No. 3 March, 2021



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}

NOTE:

Please be reminded that the SSA created a late membership fee for 2021.

Those who renew after April 1 will have to pay an extra \$25.00 fee.

This for renewing members only. It does not apply to new members.

President’s Message (March 2021)

Welcome to the home stretch of winter 2021. By the time you read this, the ranges will be back open and the Range Committee has put together a well thought out Covid Plan that will help to ensure our facilities are safe and abide by the guidelines. For those winter anglers we have had some cold weather over the past month and most of the inland lakes in our area are in good shape for ice fishing, always pay attention to changing conditions and be safe out there for those taking part. The Derby Committee is in the works for this year’s Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular return and will be asking members for help in setting up, taking down and tending to what areas we are able to operate this year (dependent on Pandemic Guidelines). If able this year we will try to organize our annual Earth Day cleanup and I would appreciate anyone who wishes to help in or participate in notify me as we are always looking for more assistance. Enjoy the rest of winter, drive safe and maybe soon we can get together for a General Meeting.

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

At present, we are organizing the 33rd Annual Salmon Spectacular starting on August 27 until September 5, 2021.

Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

President: Scott Grimoldby

First Vice President:

Chris Geberdt

Second Vice President::

Bill Douglas

Past President:: Mike Prevost

Recording Secretary: Allen Smith

Treasurer: Dennis Wiseman

Directors:

Jeff Caldwell, John Ford

Robert Lovelace, Jay Murdoch

Jim Hastie, Al Hillis

Dave McKinnon, Joe Gray

Wayne Gallagher, Ken Miersch

Mike Thompson, Gord Fraser

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

Experienced Coroplast Wanted

If you know where we might get used coroplast (the plastic signs and banners), please contact me. We use this material for target backers, range signs, and lane markers etc.

Our supply is running low. No piece is too large and we are looking for "still white on one side" or "used on both sides". If you know someone or some business that might have this used material, please contact me or deliver it. We can use it and divert it from the dump.

Thank you, Please contact Dave Fritz daveanpat.fritz@gmail.com



Membership

First, I want to remind those who have not renewed for 2021 that this is the last newsletter that you will receive. Please renew asap. You can create an account on the website and then log in to the SSA Store and renew your membership.

If you have difficulty, you can call me, John Ford at 226 664 0960 and renew with your credit card.

Some people paid for gate keys with their membership. I have tried to mail out keys to those people. However, the key with the yellow spotter on them will not work until April 1, 2021.

We think that Watsons Tackle House will be open for business, and we plan to have keys with Drew.

I want to thank all of you who have renewed for 2021.

A renewal form is included elsewhere in this newsletter for those of you who have not renewed.

SSA Fish Hatchery

We have some 80,000 salmon fry doing well in our hatchery and despite varying weather conditions our volunteers are keeping up regular and necessary maintenance.

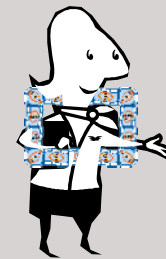
Thanks to Jim Cunningham for volunteering his electrical expertise to install a new timer for us in the hatchery and also generously purchasing that timer for the club.

Mike Prevost



*Why did the chicken cross the road?
To show the deer how to do it!*

Disclaimer:



The editorial comments in this Newsletter do not always reflect the policies or opinions of the SSA.

Reproduction of any SSA material in this document is encouraged by any paid up member

*On which side do chickens have the most feathers?
The outside!!*

For a coloured version of this document, go to the SSA website at <http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/members/newsletter/archives>

SSA TREASURER

With two months already behind us in 2021, we still haven't seen any interest, so far, in the position of SSA Treasurer for 2022 and beyond. I hate to think about what will happen should this situation remain unchanged at the end of the year, with still no volunteer to fill the SSA position of Treasurer.

The SSA can't afford to hire an accountant to do this kind of work, without adding a significant monetary strain on our finances. Our operating costs are the bases for the work that is done to determine our annual membership fees, and if we are compelled to hire a treasurer, those fees would see a relatively large increase.

Membership fees are always a concern, and we would prefer not to find ourselves in a position where we are compelled to consider this. It goes without saying that **EVERYTHING THE SSA IS ABLE TO DO, IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS.**

We need a VOLUNTEER that lives in the immediate area, having suitable accounting knowledge and computer skills; a volunteer that is willing to join the Board of Directors in 2022. If you feel you have the necessary skills, and are looking for a worthwhile project to be involve in, let us know. Time flies past so quickly, and before we know it, the end of 2021 will be here. Hopefully we will have a person in place before then; a person that is in a good position to take on the tasks of an SSA Treasurer.

Thanks

Dennis Wiseman, SSA Treasurer



New Website

Last month, we sent out an email blast with information about registering and creating a new account. A number of people have done that since the email was sent. If you created an account with the previous website, just ignore it as it won't work. If you haven't already, a new account will allow you to use the online store and to book a shooting time. In other words, it allows you to use the full capability of the new website.

For those who don't have an account: If you go on the website, you will see the Registration Button on the main page at the top. Click it and create your new account. Use that information to log in. Please record your user name and password for future reference. Now that you have an account, you can simply log in.

If you need additional help, you are welcome to call me: John Ford at 226 664 0960.

Boat Draw tickets are now available in the SSA Shop for purchase. We are currently working on the online Derby tickets which are not available at this time. However, anyone can purchase Derby tickets from Chris Geberdt (cgeberdt@hay.net) with your credit card.

Recently we posted information on purchasing Boat Draw tickets on Facebook.

You can help us get that information to the public by sharing it from the Sydenham Sportsmen page.



Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular

At present, we are organizing the 33rd Annual Salmon Spectacular starting on August 27 until September 5, 2021.

Last year, we had the computer operators schedule full and the weigh in station almost full by March, 2020 when Covid erupted.

Over the next several months, we will see how events unfold. If circumstances are positive, I will communicate with those who offered to volunteer in 2020 and hopefully convince you to participate again in 2021.

SSA RENEWAL FORM FOR 2021 (TO BE COMPLETED BY 2019 and 2020 MEMBERS ONLY)

(For your convenience SSA Renewal Memberships can be purchased directly on our website after Nov 1/20)

We need you to take a few minutes to help us update our records. *PLEASE NOTE THAT WE REQUIRE YOUR FIREARMS LICENCE # AND EXPIRY DATE*****

If you have a rural address, Canada Post requires your fire number and road as well as your rural route.

Membership Fees for 2021:		Memberships are based on the Calendar Year (January until December).	
	Family	Adult, Spouse, Children, includes full time students up to age 25	\$205.00
	Adult	Individual	\$150.00
	Senior Citizen	Age 60 & over	\$135.00
	Student	Age up to 25 in full time student (no magazine)	\$70.00
	Add a Spouse	Additional fee	\$55.00
	Junior	12 and under (no magazine)	\$65.00
	Property Gate Key		\$5.00
	OFAH Paper Magazine		\$18.00
Check off your selections above			Total

Note: Late Renewal Fee: Those who renew after April 2021 must pay a late fee of \$25.00. This is added to your renewal fee!

Please use reverse side for additional names, ages etc. for family memberships

NAME: _____ **TELEPHONE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ (Please Update your Email Address)

FIREARMS LICENCE NUMBER AND EXPIRY _____

Wildlife Advisory Committee	Derby Committee	Fishery Advisory Committee
Public Relations Booth	Shotgun Shooting	Hatchery
Tree Planting	Social Activities	Derby Weigh In
Board of Directors	Fishing	I D P A shooting
Derby Fish Fries	Trap Shooting	Skeet Shooting
Sporting Clays Shooting	Cowboy Action Shooting	Handguns
Black Powder	Boat Draw Ticket Sales	Archery
Property Care	Wildlife Enhancement	Stream Work
Fish stocking	Hunting	Junior Activities
High Power Shooting	Earth Day	Fall Fair Gates
Computer	Other Interests (List Below)	
Retired	Have ATT	

If you would like to purchase your renewal by credit card, please enter the number and expiry date below.

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ **Expiry Date:** _____

Security Code as it appears on the back of the Credit Card: _____

We are providing you with an OFAH paperless membership this year. In this difficult financial period, a paperless membership provides a significant savings to the SSA. This feature is not available to Family Members with more than 2 in your family. You will get a membership card emailed to you and can read the OFAH magazine digitally. However, you won't get a paper magazine. If you do not have an email address, you will receive a paper OFAH membership. If you choose to get a paper copy even though you have an email address, the additional cost is \$18.00.

Ranges are open Once Again

We are currently in a yellow coloured zone for the Grey - Bruce area which means outdoor maximum group size 0-25 and indoor maximum of 10 are allowed with social distancing and mask requirements

The SSA has been busy getting an approved Covid Safety Plan completed, this is a requirement for the organization to have in place for the ranges to be open. The Covid Safety Plan is included in this newsletter, it can also be found at the front of all of the range log books and posted to the SSA website. We ask all members to read and become familiar with the requirements within this document.

Some of the highlights are:

You will find new sign in sheets in all ranges. This includes a covid-screening signoff, as well as a printed (legible) name and phone number for contact tracing. This is required for all members and guests who use our ranges. This now applies to the archery ranges where log book boxes will be installed and the patterning board will have its own log book installed on the skeet high house.

There are Covid screening checklists posted in all ranges near the log book boxes, it is also in the log book. All members and guests will be required to go through the checklist and check off that they have done so on the **sign-in** sheet.

If you answer any of the questions with a yes, please do not use the facilities and follow the recommended course of action provided. For the ranges where you may shoot on your own it is up to the individuals to do a self check. On the supervised ranges such as 100 yard range, trap and skeet, the RSO will go through the checklist with members and guests before they can shoot.

Like everywhere else you go please bring a mask with you to the ranges. Masks are required inside the warm-up building, and in many situations outside as well. Any time you could possibly get within 6 feet / 2M of another individual you need to have a mask on outdoors. The document has made it possible for anyone who is shooting to remove the mask while at a bench, in a shooting port or shooting position as long as no one else is within the 6ft/2M distance.

The above are only part of it, please read the entire document. Again this is a requirement for the ranges to be open, and all members and guests are required to follow it.

While there will be some initial monitoring of the ranges and an educational component to these new rules. Our new COVID safety rules are the reason we can open the ranges at this time, yes - masks and distancing are part of our sport for now. Please respect - and protect- the RSO's, volunteers, and fellow shooters by following them.

100 Yard Range

RSOs will schedule shifts for the 100-Yard Range on the web calendar. Members must book into a shift using the calendar. If the RSO has specified a cutoff date/time for booking into a shift and no one has booked by that time, then the RSO is not obligated to attend at the Range.

Trap / Skeet

Trap range opening times: Wednesdays 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm AND Sundays 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Skeet Range opening times: Thursday 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm AND Saturdays 10:00 until 3:00 pm.

Trap and Skeet times will be posted on the website with contact info for the Range Officer.

Bookings are not required at this time under the yellow zone.

Handgun / Rimfire Ranges

These ranges are still limited to 3 shooters at a time. If others are waiting please make room for the next shooters after your one hour.

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2Co-Chairs

Jeff Caldwell =26-668-4720 jrc870@gmail.com

Jay Murdoch =19-270-5296 jayrcmurdoch@hotmail.com

Members

Bill Douglas 519-372-0804 wcdouglas76@gmail.com

Dave Fritz 226-909-2516 daveandpat.fritz@gmail.com

Mike Hunter 226-6=8-7587 mshblues@rogers.com

Tim Lahey 519-270-6672 Timlahey@hotmail.com

Dave MacKinnon 519-374-1025 davemack@bmts.com

John Thomson 519-376-8442 jthoms1639@rogers.com

Tim Westover 519-370-2090 toastgod@hotmail.com

Range & Activity Co-ordinators

1. Handgun Range —Dave Fritz C2

2. 25/50/100 Yard Rifle Range- Tim Lahey

3. 25 Yard Rim-fire Range – Tim Lahey

4. Archery Practice & Walk Through Ranges - Doug Heighes nuggetlake@gmail.com 226-568-4000

5. Trap Shooting – Jay Murdoch & John Thomson

6. Skeet Ranges – Dave Mackinnon & Mike Thompson

7. Sporting Clays - Mike Hunter & Jeff Caldwell

Cowboy Action Shooting – Kat McCulloch & Bill Wattie 519-373-9330,

519-935-3456 rkmcc@gbtel.ca flycast@xplornet.com

Defensive Pistol (IDPA) – Tim Westover & Jeff Caldwell C2

**A message from OFAH Executive Director, Angelo Lombardo**

As you may know by now, Chesher's Outdoor Store in Belleville has been the subject of unwarranted social media attacks, vandalism, and threats because of a coyote hunting contest they are hosting.

This represents just the latest round of attacks that the hunting community has endured. After years of hearing these anti-hunting, anti-fur, anti-fishing, and anti-use sentiments devolve into hate-filled rhetoric, personal attacks, and threats of violence, we are no longer surprised by them anymore.

What we are surprised by, however, is that these threats and actions continue to receive little in the way of public criticism. It doesn't matter if you're a patron of Chesher's. It doesn't matter whether you participate in hunting contests or whether you're even a coyote hunter. Or a hunter in general. None of those things matter.

What does matter is that we must stand strongly together as a community of respectful anglers and hunters.

These threats and acts are not acceptable under any circumstances.

The OFAH won't stand for it. This is why we pushed for laws that now protect anglers and hunters from harassment and interruptions by people who simply just don't like what we do. This is why we pushed for the Province to create a Heritage Hunting and Fishing Act that now offers protection in legislation to hunting and fishing. And this is why the OFAH continues to promote National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day, while investing heavily in educational programs to help people understand the environmental role of our outdoor pastimes. Coyote hunting is a legal activity in Ontario. If there was a program or contest that in any way compromised fish and wildlife conservation laws, anglers and hunters would have been the first to address it.

The OFAH will always wholeheartedly denounce actions like these from opponents of fishing, hunting, and trapping, and we will continue to fully and respectfully defend our fishing and hunting heritage against them. We will draw public attention to this growing and harmful trend in the social media world and we will continue to do everything we can to keep our community strong. I have personally reached out to Chesher's to offer our support, and we are working to provide a reward through Crime Stoppers to help bring some justice to this unfortunate act of vandalism.

For more on this, please take a moment to read an article by [OFAH Resources Management Specialist, Lauren Tonelli on The Truth About Coyote Hunting In Ontario.](#)

Thank you for reading and for standing with us. Yours in conservation, Angelo Lombardo OFAH Executive Director

COVID PLAN - General 1.0

1.1 Scope:

The SSA COVID Safety Plan was developed to permit opening of the SSA Ranges within the Health Department's guidelines and recommendations. Anyone who wishes to use a range on the SSA property MUST follow this plan in addition to the Range Operations Manual. There are no exceptions.

If you are using a range that requires booking a time - arrive just prior to your start time and leave promptly after to minimize inter-person contact. Avoid touching surfaces unnecessarily to limit your contact exposure and be aware of the number of other participants on your range so not to exceed group size limits.

This Plan will be updated as needed to comply with public health guidelines. The latest revision will be available on the SSA website under the "Ranges" tab, AND at each range binder where the sign in logbook sheets are located.

1.2 Adherence:

It is the responsibility of ALL PERSONS on the property and ranges to follow this Plan. It is expected that RSO's at active ranges act as leaders and take responsibility for monitoring compliance with this plan. It is also expected that all shooters on unmonitored ranges protect each other and our sport by following this plan.

There are cameras in all ranges and parking areas which will be checked to ensure compliance. Those who violate the rules will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including revocation of membership. If you cannot comply with the conditions of the plan -do not use the facilities. All participants on all ranges need to do their part to protect the health of each other.

1.3 Upon arrival:

A Health Self-Checklist consisting of 18 health related questions MUST be reviewed. The answer to all questions must be NO for signing in to any range. The Health Self-Checklist Placards will be visible on every range in the vicinity of the sign in logbook. Signing in is now required at ALL ranges and includes your name and phone number, a requirement for contact tracing by the Health unit, AND acknowledgement that you have completed the Health Self-Checklist. On ranges where there is an RSO on duty, the RSO will observe the checklist being used for Self-Check.

*Note - The logbook entry MUST be legible - the name/contact information collected is a new requirement in COVID times.

Use the hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray and towels provided to sanitize the pen, shooting positions and any other common touch surfaces that you are about to use. Assume that another person has just left the area - sanitize it before you use it!

1.4 Physical Distancing And Mask Use:

It is a requirement on our outdoor ranges that everyone must maintain physical distancing of at least 2 meters (6 feet). If 2 meters of spacing cannot be maintained between all persons on the range - MASKS MUST BE WORN - and worn properly so they cover the nose, mouth, and chin.

In the interest of safety and courtesy - masks are recommended to be worn at all times on a range except when a shooter is in the act of shooting. This protects us all.

For Clarity - A shooter in the act of shooting (loading their firearm through shooting and unloading) may lower or remove their mask when they are in their shooting position, at their shooting bench, in a Sporting Clays stand as the case may be IF AND ONLY IF no other participants are within 2 meters of the shooter.

1.5 Sanitization of Contact Surfaces:

Hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray and towels are now provided at every range and located near the range logbook.

All high touch or common touch surfaces must be maintained in a sanitary manner. Use the disinfectant and towels to sanitize tables or pieces of range equipment before using them, and sanitize them again when finished. Simply - Sanitize it before and after you use it.

1.6 Leaving a range:

Use the Disinfectant spray and Sanitize everything you have touched and your shooting station. The RSO on duty and those acting as their own RSO on a range will perform this task before leaving.

2.0 Range Specific Plans

In addition to following all guidelines in the General Section above:

2.1 Archery Ranges (Static and 3D walk through):

The archery practice (Static) facility is limited to the number who can maintain physical distance of 2 meters when shooting.

Retrieve only your own arrows There are sign-in logbooks and sanitizing supplies located on the Static Range and the entry to the 3D walk through range.

2.2 .22 Rim Fire Range and Handgun Range:

The Maximum number who can shoot at the same time is limited to the number who can maintain physical distance of 2 meters when shooting.

2.3 100 Yard Range:

There are scheduled times when this range is open with a SSA approved Range Safety Officer (RSO) on duty. Shooting stations will be limited as required so that shooters can maintain physical distance of 2 meters when shooting. It is expected that RSO's take a leadership role in managing use of the range and adhering to the SSA COVID Safety Plan.

2.4 Shotgun Patterning Boards:

This facility can be used when the trap and skeet ranges are not active.

There is a sign-in logbook including sanitizing supplies located on the West side of the Trap High House.

2.5 Warm Up Building:

Access into this building is restricted to the RSO on duty at the 100 Yard Range, Trap, Skeet or Sporting Clays Range Officer (RO) - or in an emergency to retrieve the AED. At this time, it is NOT to be used as a warm up area.

This building is considered "indoors" masks MUST be worn at all times by the individuals permitted to access the building.

2.6 Trap Range and Skeet Range:

Enter by using the driveway on the East of the Warm Up Building – NOT through the building. Any purchases or payments must be made through the window or open doorway of the Warm Up Building – shooters may not access the Warm Up Building at any time. No drinks or food will be available. High touch surfaces such as the scoring clipboard or the trap machine remote must be sanitized prior to another RO taking over.

2.7 Sporting Clays:

Registration is to be done in an outdoor setting – NOT in the warm up building. High touch surfaces such as the trap machine remotes must be sanitized prior to another squad member taking over or proceeding to the next station. Travelling between stations is considered as on the range.

3.0 Shooting Sport Specific Plans**3.1 Cowboy Action Shooting (CAS) and Defence Pistol:**

High contact surfaces such as a timer, spotter tags, and the loading and unloading tables must be sanitized prior to another person using them.

4.0 Training and Other Aspects of Range Use:**4.1 Orientation Tours:**

Meet in parking area by 100 yard range, stay physically distant throughout the tour, a walk through of the Warm Up Building is permitted if masks are worn and participants avoid touching surfaces.

The Tour Lead is responsible for keeping participant contact information for a period of at least 30 days.

4.2 Club Level Safety Course, Cowboy Camp, and Holster Training Course:**Classroom Portion:**

The Course Instructor / Lead is responsible for producing and following a specific Health Check Sheet and Guidelines for the classroom portion of the training which must be reviewed by the Health Department prior to course scheduling.

Range Portion:

Follow all guidelines in the General Section and the Range Specific Plan components..

5.0 Appendix 1**SSA Health Self-Check List**

If you are experiencing ANY of the following symptoms please delay your visit AND contact either your health care provider, Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000), or visit an Assessment Centre for testing.

- 1 Fever?
- 2 Chills?
- 3 New or worsening cough?
- 4 Shortness of breath?
- 5 Sore throat?
- 6 Difficulty Swallowing?
- 7 Runny Nose, sneezing or nasal congestion (excluding underlying seasonal allergies and post nasal drip)?
- 8 New smell or taste disorder(s) or recent loss of?
- 9 Pink Eye?
- 10 Headache (that is long lasting or unusual)?
- 11 Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain (not related to known cause or condition)?
- 12 Muscle aches that are unusual or long lasting?
- 13 Unexplained fatigue/malaise?
- 14 Falling down often? Recent balance issues?
- 15 Have you travelled outside of Canada or had close contact with anyone that has travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?
- 16 Have you had close contact with anyone with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
- 17 Have you had a positive COVID-19 diagnosis and are self monitoring?
- 18 Are you waiting for results of a COVID test?

If you answer NO to ALL questions, acknowledge the results with a checkmark when signing in.

Thank You in keeping all of us safe