



# THE SPORTSMAN

"Conservation is Our Aim"

Affiliated with the Ontario Federation  
for Anglers and Hunters.



## April 2025

### The Clubhouse

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

### Clubhouse Bookings

#### Contact

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

### Get In Touch

P.O. BOX 264 Owen  
Sound, Ontario N4K 5P3

Find us at [sydenhamsportsmen.com](http://sydenhamsportsmen.com)  
and the following social platforms



**The April General Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 3 at 7:30 pm  
at our clubhouse.**

### In Memorium

Recently, long time SSA Member Dave Shipley passed. Dave was a regular at monthly meetings and attended the McDonalds Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular faithfully. He was also a regular at Owen Sound Attack games. RIP Dave.

### Guest Speakers

Chris Geberdt and John Ford will talk about the planning and different aspects of the McDonalds Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular.

## President's Report Scott Grimoldby

Here's to sunnier days ahead. What seems like a never ending winter that certainly took its toll on many including us. I would like to say a big thanks to those who volunteered their time and bodies to contain the snow damage at our large hatchery building, without dedicated conservationists like Craig and Chris Geberdt, Wyatt Farquharson, Geoff Ford and many others, all of the fish were saved and the damage was minimized. At present the rebuild project is under development and will begin as soon as possible. I would also like to thank those who donated to the Go Fund Me account that was set up. This really shows how much of a Community those who believe in the SSA and its programs support us from far and wide. The SSA club will be hosting

the Annual Youth Expo on Saturday, June, 14th and will be off limits for all shooting that day to accommodate upwards of 60 youth that take part in this long running event that teaches them of many facets of the outdoors and conservation. Our May General meeting will be our Annual awards evening as well as our Chili, Soup, Stew night for members who wish to brag on their culinary prowess bring a dish to share with those in attendance. I look forward to seeing many of you that evening and if you wish to help out on Youth Expo please contact myself or anyone else on the Executive as we look for many volunteers to run a great event that day.

Stay safe; get out and enjoy the great outdoors

## Over 75 Years Promoting Conservation



## Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

**President:** Scott Grimoldby

**First Vice President:**  
Chris Geberdt

**Second Vice President:**  
Mike Thompson

**Past President:** Mike Prevost

**Recording Secretary:**  
Peggy Millar

**Treasurer:**  
Dimitrious Geberdt

**Directors:**  
John Ford, Jay Murdoch,  
Dave McKinnon, Peggy Millar,  
Joe Gray, Trevor Dollmaier,  
Craig Geberdt, and Scott  
Millar, Ken Miersch, Mike  
Thompson, Fely Clarke, Scott  
Stewart, Marc Lefebvre

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



Got Questions? Contact  
[John@sydenhamsportsmen.com](mailto:John@sydenhamsportsmen.com)

## Membership

Thanks to all of you who have renewed your 2025 membership. For new members, we expect that the Family membership will change and increase after May 1. This doesn't apply to you if you have already renewed your membership for 2025 but will apply in 2026. Until then, the rates are unchanged. One issue that was recently discovered is that we don't expect you to provide a firearms licence if you don't have one. New members who don't use firearms are not expected to obtain this licence.

## Gate Keys

Presently, gate keys are available at Watsons Tackle and Guns in Owen Sound or at club meetings. The cost is \$5 if you return your previous key or \$6 if you don't. It would be helpful if you could print your name on the tracking sheet. The new keys have a blue key spotter on them. Remember the new locks go on at the club on April 1, 2025.

## Toronto Sportsmen's Show

The Sydenham Sportsmen's Association McDonald's Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular Team was at the Toronto Sportsmen Show Thursday March 13 to Sunday March 16, 2025.

Thank You to all of our volunteers and everyone for your support of our organization during this show. The support our McDonald's Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular received was amazing with 1200 Boat and Recreational Draw Tickets sold.

Thanks from the Derby Committee





## Fish Hatchery Update

I am sure that by now all of you would have heard by the newspaper, social media or word of mouth that the south end of our large hatchery suffered some major damage on February 24th when part of the roof collapsed from the weight of the snow. I am also sure that you are aware that there were many roofs on parts of homes, barns and sheds throughout our area that had the same problem.

This was not a sudden collapse. Planning on moving some fish into this area we noticed that the ceiling was starting to bow in the middle. Seeing this we immediately closed off this area and also the same day tried to make arrangements to have a roofing company come in to start removing the snow. With the consequential demands from so many other similar requests they were not able to get to the job before the roof collapsed completely.

We did have fish rearing tanks with rainbow trout in them at the time. Fortunately we did not lose any fish and thanks to some hard working volunteers we were able to remove these fish to other areas of the Hatchery.

Insurance appraisers have been at the site for their inspection to start what will probably be a long process.

The landowner Ben Miller and his family have been very supportive and we have assured them that we will be consulting with them throughout the rebuilding stages.

In fact, everyone has been very supportive, even up to the point of donations. The community, OFAH, MNRF, Business Sponsors and other Conservation/ Sporting clubs so thank you very much.

We are certainly in need of more volunteer helpers for the Hatchery. If you need more information please contact me at [mbprevost@hotmail.com](mailto:mbprevost@hotmail.com).

Mike Prevost Hatchery Manager.







## SSA Club Crest and Pins for Sale

SSA Executive Member, Scott Stewart will have our Club Crests and Pins available for purchase at our April meeting. The cost will be \$10 each or both for \$15.00

## SSA Youth Programme for 2025

Currently we have Joe Gray, John Ford, Trevor Dollmaier, Richard Austin and Scott Stewart on our ad hoc committee but are looking for more. We hope to have an organizing meeting soon but would like your ideas and help.

If you are interested, please contact either Joe Gray or John Ford.

## McDonalds Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular

As you may know, we have increased the weigh in station to have an Express Line each morning and evening in August this year. What that means is that we need more computer operators and fish handlers for the Express Line. We currently have 4 spaces available in the evening for computer operators. As well, we have many spaces available for people to work with the computer operator checking the fish. If you can help us with some of these tasks, please email me.

Thanks John johnrichardford5@gmail.com

## SSA Shooting Sports Report---Trevor Dollmaier

Recently with the all snow and warm weather that we had, Sydenham Sportsmen's Association suffered a couple of structural failures. One at the fish hatchery and the other at the .22 Calibre Rimfire Range. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who without hesitation came out to make the both areas safe, transfer the fish to the other hatchery building and facilitate returning the 22 Calibre Rimfire Range to service in a timely manner.

You often hear it said "That it never happens to us, it's always the other people" and we forget that to other people we are exactly that other people. But when it does happen it is great to see the volunteers that we have pull together. Again, Thank You for your help without it we would be worse off.



## Range News

.22 Calibre Rimfire is back in service after a brief removal due to damage caused by snow loading. I would like to thank the members who donated their time to jack up and reinforced the structure so it could be returned to service.

SSA will be hosting this year's Youth Expo on June 14th. All SSA ranges will be closed to members and their guests during the event. As in the past we are looking for volunteers to assist with the shooting and archery events. Please check your calendar and if you are available to assist, let Trevor Dollmaier or Lee Craig know.



SSA now has a new Shotgun Range Safety Officer Course available and it is expected that the next course will be in April. This course will be posted on the "All Events Calendar" for registration. In the near future SSA will be implementing Range Status flags on both the Handgun and .22 Cal Rimfire Ranges similar to the 100-yard Range status flags.

The May newsletter will have more details and the effective date of implementation.



April is now upon us and SSA is running another Turkey Shoot with activities on both the 100-yard Range and the Lower Trap/Skeet field.

A total of 20 + Turkeys are up for grabs! Firearms will be 22 cal. open sight event as well as a shotgun event. You can bring production made rifle with open sights under \$1,000. You can always bring other 22 cal. firearms if you wish to shoot after the event. As like last year, SSA will supply the ammo.

More details are available on the SSA Website "All Events Calendar".

Trap and Skeet events are still on going and all members and their guests are welcome to participate. Please check the "All Events Calendar" for date and time of the events.

We hope all members get out and enjoy the shooting facilities.