



Affiliated with the Ontario Federation for Anglers and Hunters.

OFAH

January 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}

The January 2025 meeting of the Sydenham Sportsmens Association will be held on Thursday, January 9 at the clubhouse at 7:30 pm

President's Report Scott Grimoldby

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 and the following social platforms



Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year to all. By the time you read this, the Christmas season will be over and the New Year will be upon us. I would like to thank the 2024 Executive for all of their hard work and commitment to conservation throughout the past year. Also a big thanks goes out to the range committee and a special thanks to Trevor Dollmaier for all of the work put forth this past year in improving the ranges, working with Chris Geberdt to finalize a new 20 year lease for the Dump land, this allows the shooting sports to continue and be compliant with the CFO's regulations. I took the lead to reinvigorate the School Hatchery Program this year as a keen Biology/Science teacher at St. Mary's by the name of Jason Kim showed deep interest in putting a couple of Hatchery Systems in his class and another. This lead to another teacher Dan Farwell at Notre Dame also stepping up to install a Hatchery System in his grade 5/6 Science class. I brought home the tanks, cooling units, pumps, filters and associated gear required. I filled the aquariums, tested and ran all equipment to ensure they were in good working order once installed in the classes. These were installed in the middle of November and allowed to run for a couple of weeks to get the temperature and operation dialed in. I was assisted by Past President & Hatchery Manager Mike Prevost to gather the eggs from the hatchery on Friday, December, 6th and transport to the schools for release. Each tank gets approximately 100 eggs/fry and the students/teacher monitor and collect data on how these little salmon grow. It was greeted with great excitement by the students & teachers when we delivered and so far there has only been one mortality at each of the St. Mary's hatcheries. The other teacher at St. Mary's is Miss Otterbein and I would like to thank each of these teachers for their commitment and interest in this program, as well a big thanks to Mike for assisting me in this. I would also like to give a big thanks to Richard Elliot from the Lake Huron Fishing Club, he has been a huge help and I have peppered him with many questions on how the program works, I couldn't have got this rolling without his knowledge & guidance. We do hope this is successful and can grow the number of school hatcheries next fall.

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:
Allan Smith

Treasurer:
Dimitrious Geberdt

Directors:
John Ford, Jay Murdoch, Dave McKinnon, Chuck Cannon, Peggy Millar, Joe Gray, Trevor Dollmaier, Craig Geberdt, and Scott Millar, Ken Miersch, Mike Thompson, Gord Fraser

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



Got Questions? Contact
John@sydenhamsportsmen.com

Classroom Hatchery Program Revived---S Grimoldby

Jason Kim a Saint Mary's High School teacher with a S.S.A. aquarium containing Chinook Salmon fry that his science class are going to grow into fingerlings to be released into the Sydenham River in June 2025.





Guest Speaker on Muskie Fishing for Thursday January 9, 2025

The guest speaker for Thursday January 9, 2025 will be infamous Muskie Fisherman Kory Maxfield. He is without a doubt one of the finest Muskie Fisherman with his own U-Tube Channel and is an advocate for catch and release of these monsters that swim below the depths within our waters.

Visit: [korymax_fishing](#) [slumpbustoutdoors](#)

Come out and enjoy a fine talk on Muskie Fishing!

Early Bird Membership Draw---J Ford

We will have a draw for 4 prizes at this meeting. All who have renewed their membership by this meeting will have a chance to win one of four prizes, one of which is a free year's membership. Please remember that only 2025 paid up members can use club facilities and 2024 members need to renew asap. A number of members have renewed online.

Unfortunately, the mail strike has not permitted us to mail out your stickers and windshield decals. If you are at the January meeting, we can give you those items.

Due to the backlog of letters from the postal service, we will not be mailing any renewal information until after January 10.

Next year's keys will be available in March 2025.

Again the membership renewal form is included below.

You can use this form to renew, or renew on line or renew by calling me at 226-664-0960 and using your credit card.

SSA RENEWAL FORM FOR 2025 (TO BE COMPLETED BY 2024 MEMBERS ONLY)

(For your convenience SSA Renewal Memberships can be purchased directly on our website after Oct 1/24)

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***** unless we already have it. **NOTE: There are no refunds!!**
If you have a rural address, Canada Post requires your fire number and road as well as your rural route.

| Membership Fees for 2025: | | Memberships are based on the Calendar Year (January until December). | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| | Family | Adult, Spouse, Children, includes full time students up to age 25 | \$225.00 |
| | Adult | Individual | \$170.00 |
| | Senior Citizen | Age 60 & over | \$155.00 |
| | Student | Age up to 25 in full time attendance as a student (no magazine) | \$90.00 |
| | Add a Spouse | Additional fee | \$60.00 |
| | Junior | 12 and under (no magazine) | \$85.00 |
| | Property Gate Key | The key cost is \$5.00 if you return last year's key. Otherwise it is \$6.00 | \$5.00 or \$6.00 |
| | OFAH Paper Magazine | | \$20.00 |
| | Late Fee | After April 1, you must pay a \$25.00 late fee to be added to your Renewal | \$25.00 |
| Check off your selections above | | | Total |

Note to All Members: If you want a Paper copy of the Ontario Out of Doors Magazine, you must pay the additional fee.

Note: Late Renewal Fee: Those who renew after April 1, 2025 must pay a late fee of \$25.00. This is added on to your renewal fee.
Please use reverse side for additional names, ages etc. for family memberships

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS (Include City/Town): _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ (Please Update your Email Address)

FIREARMS LICENCE NUMBER AND EXPIRY _____

To keep membership fees reasonable, please help with the General Maintenance of your Club Facilities. Contact any Chair or Executive Member

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 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) | Shooting Sports Committee |
| Retired | | |

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: _____



Owen Sound Santa Claus Parade

Once again the Sydenham Sportsman’s Association put a float in the Owen Sound Christmas parade.

We gave out 2000 Candy Canes and 800 fish Crackers to all the kids that lined the streets. Another great promotion for our organization.

Thank you to everyone who helped!

Thanks,
Chris





Wildlife Advisory Committee---J Ford

At our recent committee meeting, a number of projects were discussed. Since Bob Hunt moved to Kitchener, we have been trying to keep the Bluebird Nesting Box program afloat. For those of you who knew Bob, we are trying to fill very big shoes!

Steve Klerks has agreed to make boxes and box parts for us at the Gord Maher Centre. But Steve also has a job so can only work on this in his spare time.

Al Smith and I have tried to administrate the programme with some success. However, Al is moving to Nova Scotia next May so we need some help to do his job. Also some of the new helpers are not responding to Al's emails asking for reports. We assume that they are not involved.

We need help with the following runs and are quite happy to provide training if you are inexperienced:

Run # 1. Ledgerock road to Hwy 21 west of Jackson

Run # 2. Red Bay Road

Run # 3. Balaclava, Chatsworth, Massie Rd

Run # 4. Camp McGovern

Run # 5. Coffin Hill

Fish Hatchery Help

As usual we are always looking for more help at the fish Hatchery. This does not mean a firm commitment to help on a specific day, all the time. It can be on your time on days that you are available. If you have any interest and want to try it out please give me a call.

Mike Prevost Hatchery Manager mbprevost@hotmail.com

Wood Duck Nesting Boxes

Some years ago we had a wood duck nesting box program. We built boxes, placed them out in various locations and cleaned out established boxes. A lot of these boxes were put up in marsh and lake areas so most of the work is done in the winter freeze up so we can get out on the ice. We need some people to revive this program. It can be done on weekends on your schedule.

If you have any interest I can give you a lot more information.

Contact Mike Prevost mbprevost@hotmail.com



Shooting Sports Report---Trevor Dollmaier Sydenham Sportsmen's Association Range News.

It has been a busy 2024 at the SSA Ranges with lots of activities. All of the regular shooting events continued and some additional events were conducted, for example:

- SSA Youth Program was reintroduced,
- The Grey Sauble Youth Day was a success once again,
- Owen Sound Scout Canada Troup had an Archery and Shooting Day,
- We hosted Nation Skeet Shooting Events,
- New skeet machines were obtained and super clays was introduced as a shotgun option on the Lower Trap and Skeet Field,
- Turkey shoot was done on the 100-yard Range,
- Shielding for steel targets was completed to meet the new requirements of the Chief Firearms Office.

The maintenance of all of the ranges and shooting events was the result of the hard work of numerous volunteers.

I would like to Thank all of those members for their hard work and dedication to running events and maintaining the facilities. We are always looking for volunteers to help and if you can, please let the coordinators know.

Recently the **Shooting Ranges Operations Manual** was revised and approved by the Range Committee.

The new manual has been posted on the SSA Website and copies have been placed in all of the Range Sign-In Binders.

Current changes consist of:

- Major Format Change to the entire manual
- Acronyms list has been added.
- Range Safety Officer definition has been added and is as per the wording of the Firearms Program Document
- Booking and Range Rentals has been described in more detail
- Sanctioned Events has been clearly defined and how to book
- Magazines and allowable cartridges/Calibers
- have been cleaned up to remove the legal definition and clearly state SSA's requirements.
- .17 HMR is not allowed on the 22 Rimfire Range
- All Ranges are now in alignment with the Shooting Range Approval requirements.
- General Range Safety Standards that apply to all ranges has been added



Changes to the range rules:

- The use of staples to hold targets on the target backers is no longer allowed.
- Handgun Range is identified for Handguns Only. Rifles are only allowed during Sanctioned Events.
- 100 Yard Bench 1 conversion has been added
- The use of the Skeet Shot Fall demarcation rope has been added if skeet and sporting clay events are running at the same time.
- Contact List has been removed from this document. Range Contact Information is available on the SSA Website under the Ranges/Shooting Ranges and a copy is available in the Range Sign in books.

Remember that all members need to sign off that they are aware of the current SSA Shooting Ranges Operations Manual when you renew or join SSA as a new member.

As we get ready for 2025 we always look back on Range Usage. What we have found is that there are some entries in the sign-in books that are illegible and very hard to decipher.

The sign-in sheets are a valuable record of who uses the ranges and their contact information. Recently we had an individual leave a firearm on one of the ranges and thanks to a couple other members that were there and their commitment to the shooting sports, they were able to contact the individual after spending a significant amount of time figuring out contact information for the day. If they could not find the owner the firearm, their next course of action would be to have the local authorities come and take possession of the firearm and let them track down the owner. I would like to thank both of those members for looking after the issue.

Please enter your information has legible as possible.

In addition, we have found Guest Waiver Forms are not always being completed properly. For example; missing dates, SSA member information, PAL/RPAL information and member sign offs. These waivers are a legal requirement so the SSA can track who uses our ranges and their licence numbers. If they do not have a licence number then SSA needs to be able to determine what member provided the direct and immediate supervision of the shooter.

Please be more diligent when filling in these forms.

On behalf of myself and the SSA Range Committee Members we look forward to seeing you in 2025.

Trevor Dollmaier – SSA Range Co-Chair