



Shongum Sportsmen's Association

P.O. BOX 431
 Hackettstown, NJ 07840
 www.shongum.org
 Monthly Newsletter
 2024.Vol.:XLI.Issue:IX

Member:
 NRA: #CO-469
 CMP: 015111
 ANJRPC
 ATA
 USPSA/IPSC
 NJSTA

18 September 2024
 7:30 PM

Officers

President:
 Rich Gajda 908-892-5422
Vice President:
 John Gumann 973-933-2764
Treasurer:
 Mike Fortunato 973-927-3088
Secretary:
 George Wagner 973-927-7616
Shotgun:
 Don Mercovich 908-319-4478
Rifle:
 Bill Murphy
Pistol:
 Jim Owings 973-383-3208
Membership:
 Greg Forte 201-376-0182
Range Safety:
 Gregory Lynch 908-619-9601
Events, Good and Welfare:
 Robert Miranda 908-798-0315
Operations:
 Wayne Jarvis 908-256-1588
Hunting & Archery:
 Tom Hill 908-637-4665
NRA Training:
 Anthony Ansaldi

Immediate Past-President:

John Gumann 973-933-2764

Committee Chairpersons

Cowboy Action:
 John Seal 973-601-0397
USPSA/IPSC:
 Ron Gumann 973-478-7018
Pistol League:
 Jim Owings 973-383-3208
Woman's League:
 Elizabeth Mackee 973-303-3207
By Laws:
 Pete Hefferan 973-702-0904
Newsletter Editor:
 George Wagner 973-927-7616
Juniors:
 Bill Murphy
Black Powder:
 Steve Serna 973-601-3779

Phone Numbers

Message Center: 908-637-4991

President Rich Gajda started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Rich** asked to pause and remember / pray for all our deceased members.

Rich Gajda reminded all in attendance about the Robert's Rules for how Shongum Sportsman Association conducts meetings for the membership.

The minutes for the August meeting were deemed to be correct by the attending membership.

Officers & Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Mike Fortunato read the Treasurer's Report aloud:

Bank Balance (as of August 21, 2024): \$24,056.77
 Receipts: \$41,390.77
 Disbursements: \$20,199.70
 Excess Receipts Over Disbursements: \$21,191.07
 Bank Balance (as of September 18, 2024) : \$45,711.47

Money Market Fund:
 Available for use: \$28,444.02
 Restricted for Contingencies: \$105,705.00
 Balance (as of August 31, 2024) : \$134,149.02

George Rutkowski/Jack Bowden Fund Balance (as of August 31, 2024) : \$7,088.51

President – Membership — Continued progress on catching up on membership backlog and transition to new cloud-based system. **Greg** and **Daisy Forte** have taken over Membership responsibilities. They have already made a significant impact on the backlog and day to day activities. The Wait List needs corrective work. For now, applications must be submitted on paper form. We are working to re-automate the application process.

President – Secretary — **George Wagner** will not be able to continue his roles next year. We welcome candidates to run for the Secretary/Tech position along with any other positions that are currently occupied.

President – Rental — We will soon have an opening for a new tenant. The EC has discussed all the points in the rental agreement and the only change will be to the rent, now asking for \$1,200.00/month.

President – Elections — October is the Annual meeting. There is one vacancy on the ticket, **Vince Martino** retired from Membership due to ongoing health issues. **Greg Forte** has placed his name on the ballot to assume Vince's duties.

Vice President – No Report. **Secretary** – No Report. **Shotgun** – No Report..

Rifle – Bill Murphy reported – We follow the CMP Cup Match rules. These High Power matches you'll need 50 rounds for the event plus any sighting rounds you use prior to the event. We suggest you bring a shooting mat for the prone segment. The concrete can really abrasive. The cost is \$7.00 for members, \$10.00 for non-members. The next event is September 22nd, and starts at 10:00 AM, finishing about Noon. Please come a little early to help setup before the match can run.

Pistol – Jim Owings reported – Not a Pistol League topic, we use to have a 50/50 raffle at these club meetings. We would like a member to step forward and volunteer to run this.

The Indoor Range maintains a ‘Brass’ barrel and a ‘Steel & Aluminum ‘ barrel, We would like a member to come forward and periodically sort the material so it can be recycled properly and earn some cash back to the club.

Jim displayed the Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) that every pistol should have when placed at rest on the shooting bench. These are available in the Clubhouse vending machine or directly from **Jim** for a dollar each.

Events – No Report. We recommend that members should check the website calendar to make sure the range is open before heading out.

Safety – No Report. **Juniors** – No Report.
NRA Training – No Report. **Hunting** – No Report.

Pistol League — Nick Dewar & Thomas Stapleton reporting —

The Pistol League Shooting Programs are now shown on the Website under Activities, Pistol League, icon Upcoming Events.

We are currently shooting our Police “L” Practice for Harrisburg. This League will last until October 1st and is preparation for our annual trip the Harrisburg Hunters and Anglers to participate in the Walt Wise Memorial Pistol Match.

The second phase of our Waiting List Recruitment Program for the Pistol League is underway. We have contacted 13 Waiting List folks and have invited them to join us through our Prospective SSA Member process. We will report our results at the September Meeting.

Safety Item: Empty Chamber Indicators (ECIs) are required on all uncased firearms on the shooting benches and they must be pointed down range..

We continue to extend an open invitation to club members to join us on Tuesday nights. Please call **Tom Stapleton at 908-852-3901** for information on how to become a League Member.

Cowboy Action – John Seals reported on the SASS shooting events, the October Shongum Match will not be held, as everyone will be at the [SASS New Jersey State Championship - Purgatory in the Pines](#). The Cowboy Action shoot involves dressing appropriately to become part of past reenactment, shooting lead only, pistol calibers for rifle & pistols. Our group is named ‘Wiley Coyotes’, we have a Facebook page and a Website for more information.

USPSA – The August event went very well, with 47 shooters. Remember, USPSA shoots the 1st Saturday of the month, the next match October 5th.

Ladies Taking Aim (Woman’s League) – Elizabeth M. reporting: Anyone interested is encouraged to attend, the event is the last Wednesday of the month, the phone number is listed in the minutes, and the E Mail address is womensleague@shongum.org. The October event will be the last for 2024, as we break for the holidays.

Black Powder – Rich G. reporting for Stephen — Black Powder meets the second Sunday of the month from 10 am until 12 pm. All are welcome with or without a Black Powder firearm.

Membership – No Report.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Rich G. outlined the Election Process, as written in the club’s By-Laws.

A member suggested this organization should add to the rules, a mandatory meeting attendance of at least 3 to 4 sessions per year. There was a period of open discussion about the pluses and minuses of this suggestion, plus logistics on how to maintain / keep track of attendance. This will be addressed by the By-Laws committee.

Pete Hefferan asked the attending membership for pictures and documents dealing with this organization. Pete wants to develop an electronic archive of the Shongum organization’s history.

Good & Welfare:

The attending membership was made aware of NJ Voter Registration forms available. This organization’s By-Laws indicate that a member must be engaged in the election process.

A member mentioned that there are ‘a lot of’ cracks in the parking lot surface at the clubhouse. Stressing that preemptive maintenance can head off more expensive repairs later on.

Will Jones offered to assist anyone who has a firearm with ‘rare’ ammunition loadings. Will has reloaded cartridges for just about anything and everything. He has admitted to having a lead mold for just about every projectile. Please ask for assistance.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:15 PM

Calendar of Regular Events

Club Meeting - Third Wednesday of each month, begins at 7:30 PM.

CMP Rifle Match - Fourth Sunday of each month, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, First shot @ 10:00 AM.

Cowboy Action Shoot (CAS) - Third Sunday of each month, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. (except Nov & Dec, 2nd Sunday)

Executive Committee Meeting - First Monday of each month, begins at 7:00 PM.

USPSA - First Saturday of each month, January through December, 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

Junior League - Friday evenings (indoor range), refer to Web Site calendar, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Pistol League - Every Tuesday evening, 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Trap Program - Every Sunday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
(Unless noted on the Web Site)
Every Tuesday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Women’s League - Final Wednesday of each month, 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM.

Black Powder - Second Sunday of each month, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. In the colder months, start time moves forward to 11:00 AM.