



Shongum Sportsmen's Association

P.O. BOX 431
 Hackettstown, NJ 07840
 www.shongum.org
 Monthly Newsletter
 2026.Vol.:XLIII.Issue:I

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

**21 January 2026
 7:30 PM**

Officers

President:
 Rich Gajda 908-892-5422
Vice President:
 John Gumann 973-933-2764
Treasurer:
 Mike Fortunato 973-927-3088
Secretary:
 Phil Engert 908-309-6676
Shotgun:
 Don Mercovich 908-319-4478
Rifle:
 Bill Murphy 973-713-1600
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:
 (Open)
NRA Training:
 Adam Mauer 973-255-0018

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:
 Phil Engert 908-309-6676
Juniors:
 Bill Murphy 973-713-1600
Black Powder:
 Steve Serna 973-601-3779

Phone Numbers

Clubhouse: 908-637-9813

Vice President John Gumann started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He then led our club in a moment of silence for all of our departed members.

John reminded those in attendance, that our meetings are governed by Roberts Rules of Order; and that only regular members may vote or present motions

The minutes for the December 2025 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 Dec 17, 2025): \$33,248.92

Receipts: \$10,076.52

Disbursements: \$24,265.33

Excess Receipts Over Disbursements : (\$14,188.81)

Bank Balance (as of Jan 21, 2026) : \$19,060.11

Money Market Fund:

Available for use: \$46,715.01.70

Restricted for Contingencies: \$105,705.00

Balance (as of Dec 31, 2025) : \$152,420.01

George Rutkowski/Jack Bowden Fund Balance (as of Dec 31, 2025) : \$7,089.55

President— Rich Gajda No report.

Vice President— John Gumann No report.

Secretary – Phil Engert No report.

Shotgun - Don Mercovich No report.

Rifle—Bill Murphy Indoor match restricted to 22LR caliber rifles scheduled for 1/25/26 @ 10AM. This is restricted to members only. Will be shooting at printed critter targets from the 50 ft line. Arrive by 9AM to help setup, 930AM prep for match. Please check the online calendar, as this event may be cancelled due to winter weather.

Pistol – Jim Owings No Report

Pistol League – Nick Dewar No Report

Events—Bob Miranda John Gumann reminded the membership to PLEASE check the SSA calendar for current updates regarding range closures and special events. John indicated that most of the regular, recurring events for the year have been approved, including the quarterly range usage by the Mansfield PD. Please check the calendar before you come.

Safety—Greg Lynch No report.

Operations—Wayne Jarvis No Report

Hunting—(Open). The previous Hunting Director, Tom Hill, has resigned and recommended a replacement who will be interviewed by at the February Executive Committee mtg. The Hunting program is expected to continue smoothly.

Cowboy Action—John Seal reported the season is winding down, but matches will continue in January and February, weather permitting. The range is reserved, and shooting will take place as long as temperatures reach above 40°F at some point in the morning and the ground is not frozen or icy.

NRA Training – Adam Maurer No report. John Gumann reported that there are multiple training programs planned for the year, and will be added to the calendar shortly.

USPSA—Ron Gumann reported that January match was cancelled due to weather, and that the February match is likely to be cancelled as well if the snow pack remains. An Introduction to USPSA training class is scheduled for Saturday May 30th, 2026

Women’s League—Elizabeth Mackee Elizabeth noted that the Womens League has stopped for the Winter and will resume in March.

Black Powder—Steve Serna Black Powder meets the Second Sunday of Every Month at the SSA 100 yard line. The BS starts at 09:30 AM, the BP starts at 10:00 AM. Festivities usually last until 01:00 PM. Please check SSA Web site for weather cancelations

All are welcome to participate and or observe. Parents are encouraged to bring your children. Every effort to accommodate whatever you brought to shoot will be made. Course of fire is usually at your own pace, so a couple of shots in a couple of hours is usually a great day! Targets are usually Paper with novelty targets (i.e. metal plates, etc.) available. Should you forget or not have an accessory needed, someone will probably have one to spare or share. Newby Note: period accurate accoutrements will usually improve your score, just like chrome increases horse power.

Solicited or un-solicited advice abounds freely, and in fact, there is such a collective of BP Mo-Jo, you are guaranteed to hit a Bullseye on a target you weren’t even aiming at!
As always, Smoke ‘em if you got ‘em.

Membership —Greg Forte
First Readings (For New Applicants)

- Sean O’Rourke
- D. Newton
- Bob Pregno (spelling?)
- Vince Giordano
- Dave Pizano

Second Readings (For Approval as Probationary Members)

- Tom Lawrenceton
- Mike Sullivan
- Chris Dorian
- Sam Greendike
- Neil Briner
- Tyler Mercurio
- Chris Wagner
- Chris Virgo
- Rich Stewart

Approved by membership vote without objection.

Orientation Reminder

Orientation held Saturdays at 8:00 AM at the clubhouse.
Attendees must arrive on time.

Membership Anniversaries Recognized

5 Years

Walter Everend

10 Years

John Lovell

20 Years

Martin Theresa
Robert Worshire
Matt Gumman
James Milan
Steven Smith

25-Year Life Members

Agostino Estevez
Edward Mayer Jr.

Greg also reminded the membership that the club picnic is now scheduled for the last Saturday in September on 9/26/2026, and to block your calendars now

COMMITTEE REPORTS: No reports from either the By-Laws or Range Rules Committees.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

GOOD & WELFARE:

Will Jones mentioned that he had free 2026 calendars if anyone was interested, and offered his services for antique firearm safety checks. He also offered his advice with regards to reloading.

Another member asked if anyone knew what happened to the POW/MIA flag that now seems to be missing. Leadership to investigate.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:58 PM
Next Members Mtg on 2/18/25 a@ 7:30 PM