



Shongum Sportsmen's Association

P.O. BOX 431
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
www.shongum.org
Monthly Newsletter
2025.Vol.:XLII.Issue:IV

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

**16 April 2025
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:

Tom Hill 908-637-4665

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

President Rich Gajda started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He then led our club in a moment of silence in memory of all our departed members. Rich also reminded those in attendance, that our meetings are governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

The minutes for the March 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 April 16, 2025): \$28,147.02

Receipts: \$27,698.05

Disbursements: \$8,899.58

Excess Receipts Over Disbursements : \$18,798.47

Bank Balance (as of Feb 19, 2025) : \$46,945.49

Money Market Fund:

Available for use: \$32,017.66

Restricted for Contingencies: \$105,705.00

Balance (as of March 31, 2025) : \$137,722.66

George Rutkowski/Jack Bowden Fund Balance (as of March 31, 2025) : \$7,089.01

President—Rich Gajda No report.

Vice President—John Gumann No report.

Secretary – Phil Engert reported that the club email mailboxes were being migrated to vendor to improve delivery, and that upgrades were planned for the Internet service at the clubhouse. He also reported the migration to the WildApricot membership system was underway, with a goal of self-service renewals and alerts within 2-3 months.

Shotgun - Don Mercovich No report.

Rifle—Bill Murphy reported First match of the season will be April 27, 10 AM

High power is the 4th Sunday of the month. Please arrive by 9:30 for sign in. The match starts at 10:00. Ends 11:30 – 11:45. Bring something to lay on concrete is rough. Even a light recoiling rifle will cut you up. Remember to bring Eye protection, Ear protection, Chamber flag/Open bolt indicator, 50 rounds for match, plus sighters. Spotting scope is helpful. (Very Helpful). Sling is very helpful. \$7 members \$10 non-members.

Pistol – Jim Owings reminded the membership the Empty Chamber Indicators are required for every gun that is exposed on the firing line. He sells them for \$1 each at this meeting, and you can also buy them from the vending machine in the clubhouse.

Jim reminded everyone that if you are shooting aluminum or steel cased cartridges on the Indoor Range, that it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to sort and dispose of them SEPARATELY. There are 2 different cans to receive BRASS –or- STEEL/ALUMINUM cases; and it is very difficult to separate

the cases once mixed!

Pistol League – Nick Dewar

The Pistol League Shooting Programs are now shown on the Web-site under Activities, Pistol League, icon Upcoming. Check it for upcoming activities.

The Pistol League has completed it's NRA Sanctioned League. Twenty one Pistol League Members participated in this Event As of this writing we have 15 members who have met the 360 shot requirement for Classification.

We are now conducting a Police "L" League for an 8 week period. It is a 22 and Centerfire League although members may use a 22 for all stages if they so desire. The 30 shot Course of Fire is as follows: Slow Fire is 10 shots in four minutes; Timed Fire is 2 strings of five shots fired in 15 seconds per string and Rapid Fire is 2 strings of 5 shots fired in 11 seconds per string

We have identified two Club Members who are interested in joining the Pistol League and are working with them on League Procedures.

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.
Submitted 03/18/25 by Tom Stapleton
Reported 03/19/25 by Nick Dewar

Events—Bob Miranda Rich reported for Bob reminding everyone to check the calendar before coming to the range. For example yesterday and today the indoor range was closed due to a power failure at the clubhouse (utility pole fell). In addition, the outdoor rifle and pistol pit will be closed tomorrow due to the Mansfield PD training (Day 3 of 3).

Safety—Greg Lynch Nick Mohr reported for Greg reminding of the CPR & First Aid class on April 26 and the Fundamentals of Pistol on May 10th. Contact the Events Team to sign up

Operations—Wayne Jarvis No report.

Hunting—Tom Hill. No report.

Cowboy Action—John Seal No Report.

Cowboy Action holds a regular event every third Sunday of the month as long as weather permits. They shoot pistols and rifles from the 1800's, use leather holsters, shotgun shell belts, and cowboy hats and boots. Everyone is welcome to come and just watch if you'd like.

NRA Training – Adam Maurer reported that he has begun planning an upcoming training schedule, and that suggestions are welcome. He indicated he has heard considerable demand for Concealed Carry (CCW) training – and a class is being planned!

USPSA—John Gumman reported for Ron Gumann. Next match will be May 3rd, depending on weather. There is also an Intro to USPSA class planned for May 31st this year, limited spots available.

Women's League—Elizabeth Mackee Elizabeth reported the league runs March–October, last Wednesday of each month. The league is open to all women (family, friends, and non-members are welcome) and costs \$10 each with 22LR ammunition supplied. Elizabeth is always looking for instructor volunteers (Males are OK, especially with 22LR pistols that can be utilized for the event.

Please contact Elizabeth to RSVP at 973-303-3207.

Black Powder—Steve Serna No report.

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 —Greg Forte welcomed a great group of new pledges who will be voted on for probationary membership at next months meeting.

He called the following new Probationary members: Frank Spizari, Ruth & John McAndrew, Jesse Ippolito, Bettina Cece, Mark Derivolkov, Michael O'Grady, Robert Cartagena, and Greg Mattes. The membership voted them in.
Congratulations and welcome !

No New Regular Members.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

50/50 Raffle will start at the next General Members meeting in May. Bring your spare change!

Club BBQ is being rescheduled this year to that last Saturday in September (9/27). It is being organized by Daisy Forte this year.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Will Jones reported a big show on May 10 in Allentown, PA with free entry for Ladies on Mother's day (Sunday). Also, the Palmer show the next town over in Easton is also a great venue with free tables for sellers, bring a blanket..

Meeting adjourned @ 8:00 PM

Next Members Mtg on 5/21/25 a@ 7:30 PM