



Shongum Sportsmen's Association

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

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

18 June 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 for all of our departed members. Rich also 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 May 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 May 21, 2025): \$35,948.05
Receipts: \$28,010.14
Disbursements: \$14,053.05
Excess Receipts Over Disbursements : \$12,957.09
Bank Balance (as of June 18, 2025) : \$48,905.14

Money Market Fund:
Available for use: \$32,990.62
Restricted for Contingencies: \$105,705.00
Balance (as of May 31, 2025) : \$138,695.52

George Rutkowski/Jack Bowden Fund Balance (as of May 31, 2025) : \$7,089.13

President—Rich Gajda Recognized Steve Zaikowski's contributions to property maintenance.

Vice President—John Gumann No report.

Secretary – Phil Engert No report.

Shotgun - Don Mercovich No report.

Rifle—Bill Murphy reported next match will be this Sunday, June 22nd.

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

We have 14 SSA Pistol Team members who plan on attending this September's Walt Wise Memorial Pistol Match in Harrisburg PA including an experienced shooter who is making his first trip to Harrisburg

We recently hosted two Recreational Shoots for League Members. A Rifle and Pistol Silhouette Shoot was held on 5/27/25 and 6/3/25 and a Barney Fife Shoot was held on 6/10/25. Jim Owings won both the Rifle and Pistol Phases of the Silhouette Matches on both nights. Rob Litkenhaus, Joe Argenziano and Steve Smith (W) posted winning scores in the Barney Fife Match. Congratulations to all the Winners and thanks for your participation in these Recreational Shoots!

We will be back to Bullseye Shooting on 6/24/25

We have identified a 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 06/25/25 by Tom Stapleton
Reported 6/18/25 by Jim Owings

Events—Bob Miranda Mansfield PD Training: Scheduled for July 15 & 17. Annual Picnic: Scheduled for September 27. Check SSA calendar for range status.

Safety—Greg Lynch No report.

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. Participants are \$10/member, \$15/non-member. Everyone is welcome to come and just watch if you'd like.

NRA Training – Adam Maurer No report.

USPSA—Ron Gumann. The June 7th USPSA match was cancelled due to weather. We continue to hold USPSA matches on the first Sunday of every month. Next match will be July 5th, depending on weather. Please contact Ron if you have any questions.

We had a very successfully Intro to USPSA class on May 31st with 17 students (2 Shongum members and 15 non-members). It was taught by Dan Marchiarullo and Scott Singerline, along with volunteers George Kromida, Jason Bediones, Peter Zelins, Robert Cartagena, Angelo Panetta, and Ken Worley. Many thanks to these Instructors and Volunteers!

Women's League—Elizabeth Mackee Elizabeth reported the league runs March–October, last Wednesday of each month from ~630-930pm. The league is open to all women (family, friends, and non-members are welcome) and costs \$10 each with 50 rounds of 22LR ammunition supplied along with personal instruction. Elizabeth is always looking for instructor volunteers (Males are OK, especially those 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. There are usually

Membership —Greg Forte welcomed Brent Issa to regular membership. Greg also presented a bunch of new probationary members who were voted in by the membership. Congratulations and welcome!

Greg also reported that the wait list to join the club is quite short at the moment, and encouraged the membership to make it known to friends and acquaintances who may have be interested.

Lastly, he reported that he expects to have the Anniversary pins shortly; and a reminder that his wife Daisy is organizing the Club Picnic on September 27th and to **HOLD THE DATE!**

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

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Will Jones presented some historical firearms and reminded the membership of upcoming shows and events.

Phil Engert advised the membership to consider joining the Association of NJ Rifle & Pistol clubs or at least get on their mailing list; as they are an excellent source of information for legislation pertaining to gun rights.

Rich Gadjia reminded those who may have their CCW permits expiring in the near future to plan carefully. If you register too early, the new permit starts immediately and NOT as would be expected at expiration date of the previous permit.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:58 PM

Next Members Mtg on 7/16/25 a@ 7:30 PM

