



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



June 5, 2025, Minutes
Meeting Location – Beaver Falls hosted by WPAYO

MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa (Alt)	Rick Caton Guy Cable	A	FOAC (Alt)	Craig Holdren Frank Kelly	P	Northside (Alt)	Al Straub Jason Hominsky
P	Ambridge (Alt)	Tim Watson Tim Reichl	A	Forest Grove (Alt)	Mike Karkalla Tim Hartzell	A	NWTF 2 nd Chance Toms (Alt)	Jeff Ruckert
P	Beaver Falls (Alt)	Larry White Frank Eder	P	Green Valley (Alt)	Mike Sabat Joe McMullen	P	Pine Run (Alt)	Rob Smith Jeff Ruckert
P	B.V. Archers (Alt)	George Klinger	A	Hopewell VFW (Alt)	Gary Grey Sue Tranter	P	Rochester (Alt)	Jerry Hooks Amy Swartzlander
P	B.V Rifle & Pistol (Alt)	Rick Wall Lee Gower	P	Koppel / Big Beaver (Alt)	Lee Gower Jerry Tillia	P	Sewickley (Alt)	Mark Crevar Laurie Bush
P	Conway (Alt)	Ray Eppinger	A	Marion Hill (Alt)	Daniel Freed Larry Radcliff	P	Western PA Youth Outdoorsmen (Alt)	Lee Heeter Ron Neff
P	Ellwood - Wampum (Alt)	Tim Kelly Dick Bayer	P	Midland (Alt)	Jerry Wamsley Mark Benzio	A	PFBC	Jeremy Allen
P	Five Points (Alt)	Jim Farland Dan Losco	P	North Boroughs (Alt)	Robert Zeman Tim Reichle	P	PGC	Mike Yeck

OFFICERS

P = Present, A = Absent

P	President	A	Vice President	P	Treasurer	P	Secretary
	Rich Kerlin		Dan Householder		Mark Benzio		Tonya Cable

Call to Order – 7:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance & Sportsmen's Pledge & Moment of Silence

Host Club Welcome – Ron Neff, President of Beaver Falls Sportsmen's & WPAYO

Guests

- Clint Nahod, Midland Sportsmen's Club

Last month's minutes

Motion to accept for audit. Pine Run / Ambridge. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Mark Benzio (see Mark for details)

- Checks written for BVA (George Klinger – meeting meal), trailer registration & Camp fees from sponsors.
- Deposits made for camper fees & booklet sponsor.
- For 2025 dues[2025 Credential Sheet](#)

Motion to accept for audit. Aliquippa / 5 Points. Passed.

Elections

- Will appoint nominating committee in July for October elections (vice-president & secretary).

Communications

ALL League correspondence to the Post Office Box address listed below.

- BCSCCL – PO Box 276, Beaver, PA 15009

State Agencies

PA Game Commission (PGC) – Mike Yeck

SPRINGTIME ALERT: LEAVE YOUNG WILDLIFE ALONE

- Adult animals often leave their young while they forage for food, but they do not go far, and they do return. Wildlife also often relies on a natural defensive tactic called the “hider strategy,” where young animals will remain motionless and “hide” in surrounding cover while adults draw the attention of potential predators or other intruders away from their young.
- Contact can be harmful to both people and wildlife. Wild animals can lose their natural fear of humans, making it difficult, even impossible, for them to ever again live normally in the wild. And anytime wildlife is handled, there is always a risk people could contract diseases or parasites such as fleas, ticks, and lice.
- It is illegal to take or possess wildlife from the wild. The penalty for such a violation is a fine of up to \$1,500 per animal. Under no circumstances will anyone who illegally takes wildlife into captivity be allowed to keep that animal, and under a working agreement with state health officials, any “high risk” rabies vector species confiscated after human contact must be euthanized and tested; none can be returned to the wild because the risk of spreading disease is too high.

JUNIOR GAME WARDEN CAMPS PROVIDE HANDS-ON LEARNING

- The Pennsylvania Game Commission is holding one-day Junior Game Warden Camps across the Commonwealth, providing those who attend a structured, fun-filled day learning about the career of a Pennsylvania State Game Warden.
- Ages 12 to 15.
- Camps begin at 8 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. [Registration](#) can be completed online. Registration is limited to those who have not attended a camp held previously.
 - Southwest Region - Wednesday, July 30, at the Game Commission Southwest Region Office, 4820 Route 711, Bolivar, PA 15923. Registration limited to 40 participants.
 - Northwest Region - Saturday, Aug. 9, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Rimersburg Rod & Gun Club, 442 E. Rod & Gun Club Road, Rimersburg, PA 16248. Registration is limited to 30 participants.

NEW PYMATUNING WILDLIFE LEARNING CENTER UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- Broke ground last week on a new Pymatuning Wildlife Learning Center. Construction is to complete next spring, with a grand opening planned for spring of 2027.

- The new center will encompass 9,000 square feet of floor space. That will make it 450% bigger than the old wildlife visitor center. The exhibit area, meanwhile, will be about 400% larger.
- Outside the center will be an interpretive walking trail, a wildlife viewing platform, a pollinator garden, and more.

CABLE RESTRAINT CERTIFICATION

- August 2, 9am-2pm Ambridge Sportsmen's (\$15.00 fee)

SUCCESSFUL BOWHUNTING

- August 16, 8am-4pm Five Points Hunt Club (\$20.00 fee)

Pennsylvania Game Commission
 County League Report
 June 2025
 SGW Michael D. Yeck – District 2-04-1

www.pgc.pa.gov

PA Hunting and Trapping Digest

HUNTER TRAPPER EDUCATION CLASSES

- June 7, 9am-4pm Pine Run Sportsmen's Club
- August 9, 9am-4pm Midland Sportsmen's Club
- September 6, 9am-4pm Aliquippa Bucktails
- September 6, 9am-4pm Marion Hill
- September 13, 9am-4pm Baden Legion

REGISTRATION for classes are on-line [PGC](#)

Contact Mike 724-683-5880 (call or text) to host a hunter-trapper education class.

PA Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) – Jeremy Allen – *absent*

Jeremiah Allen | Waterways Conservation Officer
 Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
 Beaver County
 236 Lake Road | Somerset, PA 15501-1644
 Phone: 814.233.9115 | Fax: 814.445.8974
 E-mail: jereallen@pa.gov

PA Fish and Boat Commission

Affiliated Organizations

Conservation District - Lindsey Shepler, Watershed Specialist / Environmental Educator – *absent*

June Conservation District Report provided via email.

- April and May have been busy months for the Conservation District. We have done education and outreach at 13 different public events and field trips over the last 2 months.

- BCCD is the coordinating partner for this year's PA Master Naturalist program. The course has been hosted at our facility. There are a total of 12 classes and 4 field trips for participants to complete. We are 9 weeks into the class, with 3 more sessions and 1 field trip left to go.
- We held our annual tire collection day through our West Nile Virus program to reduce mosquito habitat in Pennsylvania on Saturday May 3rd. We had a great event with 1,000 tires collected!
- Our annual tree sale at the end of April was a success, we sold all of our trees this year.
- We are in the midst of preparing for Conservation Camp! I have some exciting things planned for the week including skull identification, macro invertebrate studies, native plant identification, and leather working.
- I am currently working on applying for this year's round of growing greener applications. I had 7 applicants for this year and have narrowed it down to 4 of the most significant impact projects that I will be submitting this month. We are applying for one agricultural BMP grant, one streambank stabilization grant on a farm, one streambank stabilization project on Raccoon Creek, and one streambank stabilization project on Brush Creek at Brush Creek Park.

BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert

- Youth Foundation website www.bcsclfyf.com
- BCSCL Youth Foundation Sponsorship Applications available. [Click here](#).
- Need more water jugs to make ice for camp.
- Looking for cookies for camp.
- Requesting donations for the sportsmen's auction table for Field Day.
- Looking for volunteers for camp and for field day.
- Running face book ads for the youth foundation events as a trial to see if it increases participation in the events.

We The People of America – Amy Swartzlander

- Next meeting will be June 26, 2025 @ 7 pm at Rochester Hotel Restaurant.
 - 218 W Washington St, Rochester, PA 15074
- Membership Application. [Click here](#).

Committee Reports

Audit Committee – Mark Benzio

- Appoint committee in September for 2025 auditing.

Booklet – Frank Kelly – *absent*

- New 2025 Booklets available to hand out. Take some back to your clubs.

Game – Lindsey Shepler – *absent*.

- No report

Pollution – (vacant)

- No report
 - If interested, please reach out to Rich Kerlin with questions regarding the expectations of this committee. Rich Kerlin at kerlinkanine@aol.com or 724-601-6974

- This committee will only need to report quarterly or as needed.

Fishing Derby – Mark Crevar

- May 3, 2025.
- Budget of \$2,000
 - Expenses \$1,804.56 (fish, prizes, posters, gift cards for tagged fish)
 - Donations received (Aliquippa \$250, Beaver Falls \$100, 50/50 raffle \$245)
 - Total Expense after donations received was \$1,209.56.
- 2024 attendance 107 (78% boys, 22% girls)
- 2025 attendance 93 (70% boys, 30% girls)
- Gift cards (\$125) for tagged fish not used.
 - Plan to use the gift cards to purchase a musky rod and reel to go along with the fishing lures that were donated by 3 Rivers Muskies, Inc to use as a raffle at the Big Knob Fair.

Motion for the League to purchase the \$125 in gift cards from the youth foundation to use for the purchase of items for the fishing raffle for Big Knob Fair. Koppel / Green Valley. Passed.

- Reddi Bait made donations to camp for the fishing day and for field day.
 - **Shop there to show your appreciation for his generosity.**

Fish Committee – Mark Crevar

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop – Stream Conditions.

Trout Season is active across the state; water temperatures and water levels can be a challenge at times. Spring bug hatch for the fly fisherman have been good and change in regions on certain hatches. Enjoy some time in the water, refer to the trout stockings and season comes to end, and reference link below for local stream conditions.

<https://ncflyshop.com/pages/stream-reports>

Lake Erie Fishing

Anglers are now targeting bass, walleye, and panfish in the lake region. The walleyes are moving across the region heading east as water temperatures rise. Reference link below for current fishing reports.

<https://www.fisherie.com/fishing-reports>

Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable

- Raccoon Creek State Park Group Camp #2 June 15 – June 21, 2025.
- Posters – [click here](#).
- Camper application – click [here](#).
- Counselor application – click [here](#).
- Staff check-in on Friday, June 13th after dinner.
- Counselors check in on Saturday, June 14th by noon.
- Camper arrival Sunday, June 15th beginning at noon.
- Camp account report provided.
- Camp schedule distributed.

- Collecting cookies.
- Need background checks for all staff who are spending the nights.
- Review of those who need CPR recertification.
- Encourage attendance for parent / family night.
- 42 campers (31 boys & 11 girls) expecting 1 more.
- 42 sponsors, 1 private pay
 - Other sponsors are currently in the works if needed.
- 13 counselors (5 boys and 8 girls)
- At least 20 staff are committed to remaining at camp most of the time during the week.
- Amy S is working hard advertising and communicating through face book.
- We can always use extra help on check in day, fishing day & five points shooting day. Always welcome to come out for family day. Bring a chair.

Archery – George Klinger

- 3D archery schedule. [Click here](#).

Events Coordinator – Craig Holdren – *absent*

- Questions raised about when the website will be complete.
 - www.bcscsl.org under construction.
 - www.bcscsl.net
 - www.bcscsl.com
- Email club information that you want to share on the website to Frank.
 - Frank - contact at frankkelly51@outlook.com
 - Craig - contact at Ch316@comcast.net

Legislative – Craig Holdren – *absent*

- No report.

Fundraising – Guy Cable

- Milk House Meats raffle tickets for the youth foundation.
 - 250 tickets, 4 #'s to a ticket. The winner will be based on the 7 pm PA evening 3-digit lottery on 8/24/25. The winner will get a \$1,000 Milk House Meats gift card. The number drawn in reverse winner will get a \$500 gift card.
 - Milk house is willing to take \$200 off the \$1500 in gift cards that we are purchasing for the raffle.
- Annual Youth Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot to be held at Rochester on 8/9/25. [poster](#)
- NWTF banquet table gun raffle tickets will be ready for the next meeting.

Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- I received the application that is due by August 1st.

Goose

- No report

Youth Field Day – Amy Swartzlander

- July 19, 2025, at Midland Sportsmen's Club.
- Poster. [Click here for poster.](#)
- Need donated items for the sportsmen auction table. [Donation request letter.](#)
- Registration online. 100 youth registered to date. Increased QR code available on the poster. [Click here to register.](#)
- Guns donated by Tim W (kids' gun) & Jim S (raffled gun)
- Prizes left over from the fishing derby will come to the field day.
- Herrs donated some chips, and we purchased some at a discounted price.
- Amy will be contacting station leaders to confirm.
- Port-o johns ordered from Ohio Valle Septic (1 rented & 1 donated)

Banquet – (President's Meeting)

- No report

Big Knob Fair – Dick Bayer

- Gun purchased. Hard case purchased.
- Paper clips being counted for a 50/50 raffle.
- Sign-up sheets will be available at next month's meeting.

Lead Abatement / Range Management Best Practices – Dan Losco

To contact Dan: email dlosco@creswellwater.net

- Best Management Practice website at <https://www.epa.gov/lead/best-management-practices-lead-outdoor-shooting-ranges>
- **KEEP your Records!**
- Discussion on a lawsuit regarding lead abatement. [Click here.](#)

Firearms Training – Rich Kerlin

- BVRP hosting classes. [Click here for details.](#)
- Pine Run
 - Basic Pistol class on June 22 & June 29
- First Shots
 - Friday, June 13th, 2025 (5 PM - 8 PM)
 - Friday, July 11th, 2025 (5 PM - 8 PM)
 - Friday, August 8th, 2025 (5 PM - 8 PM)
- First Steps
 - Saturday October 25th, 2025 (8:30 AM to roughly 2:30 PM)
- Women on Target
 - Saturday September 20th, 2025 (8:30 AM to roughly 2:30 PM)
- Appleseed
 - June 21-22, 2025 (Event starts at 8:30. Please arrive early to allow time for setup and sign in.)
- Aliquippa Bucktails
 - NRA Basic Shotgun class on August 30 & 31 (2-day course)
 - Basic Pistol class on September 27
 - Personal Protection in the home on October 10
 - Personal Protection outside the home on November 1 & 2 (2-day course)

For interest in a Basic Pistol instructor class, contact Rich Kerlin.

Contact Rich Kerlin with additional details for any firearms training. kerlinkanine@aol.com

Unfinished Business

- 2025 Tony Rich Scholarship awarded to 2 seniors. One from Ambridge & one from Freedom. Will be presented at a future league meeting.
- Discussion on restructuring of the League dues. [2025 Credential Sheet](#)
 - Recently the amount of money given to the clubs for the meeting dinners was increased from \$50 to \$100.
 - Discussion on the need to raise the bottom level of dues to cover the cost of raising the money given to the clubs for the meeting dinner.
 - Discuss with your club if you have not already done so.
- PFSC follow up – some clubs are not interested in joining.

New Business

- June 28, 2025, Benefit for Leah. [Click here for details.](#)

Motion to donate \$250 to the Benefit by Northside / Ellwood-Wampum. Passed.

Good of the Order

- Five Points 11th Annual Hunt of a Lifetime to be held on August 9th & 10th.
 - [Poster](#)
- Youth Invitational will be held on August 16th & 17th. Expecting 400 youth.
- Austin Miller Memorial Shoot September 20, 2025.
- WPAYO Gun Bash will be held on October 11, 2025. Sellers have the opportunity to win a gun.
- Replace your safe batteries when you replace your smoke detector batteries.
- PA Game Commission Grant application opens January 1. Deadline to apply June 1st.
- Blackhawk tied for state champion; took 50 shooters. Worst shooting conditions ever (wind gusts). [Picture](#).

50/50 Drawing

- Winner.

Motion to Adjourn

- BVRP / Kopple Big Beaver Passed. 9:16 pm

2025 Meeting Schedule

Date of Meeting, Club Name & Address

January 2	Aliquippa Bucktails – Confirmed	2564 Brodhead Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001
February 6	Rochester- Confirmed	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
March 6	Rochester – North Boroughs Hosting- Confirmed	181 Sportsman Ln, Rochester, PA 15074
April 3	B.V. Archers- Confirmed	277 Rothhart Drive, New Brighton, PA 15066
May 1	Green Valley- Confirmed	101 Fishpot Road, Monaca, PA 15061
June 5	Beaver Falls – Hosted by Western PA Youth Outdoorsmen – Confirmed	247 Sportsman Road, Darlington, PA 16115
July 3	Hopewell VFW- Confirmed	138 Stone Quarry Rd, Aliquippa, PA 15001
August 7	Midland- Confirmed	142 Eastwood Road, Industry, PA 15052
September 11	Ambridge- Confirmed	2900 Ridge Road, Ext., Baden, PA 15005
October 2	Conway- Confirmed	100 Magill Rd, Zelienople, PA 16063
November 6	Beaver Falls- Confirmed	247 Sportsman Road, Darlington, PA 16115
December 11	Five Points- Confirmed	285 Bocktown-Cork Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001

2025 BCSCCL President’s Meeting

Date of Meeting, Club Name & Address

March 25	Hopewell VFW- Confirmed	138 Stone Quarry Rd, Aliquippa, PA 15001
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Tonya Cable, Secretary BCSCCL

gtcttc@yahoo.com

724-494-6465