



BEAVER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION LEAGUE



August 7, 2025, Minutes
Meeting Location – Midland Sportsmen's Club

MEMBER CLUBS & AGENCIES

P = Present, A = Absent

P	Aliquippa (Alt)	Rick Caton Guy Cable	P	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	A	Pine Run (Alt)	Rob Smith Jeff Ruckert
P	B.V. Archers (Alt)	George Klinger	P	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 Tilia	P	Sewickley (Alt)	Mark Crevar Laurie Bush
A	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			
P	Five Points (Alt)	Jim Farland Dan Losco	A	North Boroughs (Alt)	Robert Zeman Tim Reichle	A	PFBC PGC	Jeremy Allen Madison Pugh

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 – Mark Benzio, Midland Sportsmen's Club President

Guests

- Tony Rich Scholarship recipients & family members. (Erica Young & Macy Smith) - [picture](#)

Last month's minutes

Motion to accept for audit. Green Valley / Five Points. Passed.

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

- Checks / deductions – #5391 to Conservation Camp (camp fees), Hopewell VFW Mtg Meal, Liability Insurance & bank service fee.
- Deposits – Dues (2/25) already deposited and camp fees.
- Revised 2026 Credential Sheet.
- Conservation Camp account (See Tonya for details)
 - Check written to reimburse for Kerosene can (tiki supplies) for family night.

Motion to accept for audit. Ambridge / Rochester. Passed.

Elections

- Nominating committee for October elections (vice-president & secretary).
 - Craig Holdren
 - Jim Farland

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) – Madison Pugh – *absent*

Sonia (Jr Hunter Trapper Education Instructor) spoke on the day she spent at the Southwest Division with the PA Game Wardens on Wednesday, July 30, 2025.

Hunter Ed

Archery & Cable restraint classes cancelled due to lack of participation.

Saturday, August 9, 2025

- Pennsylvania Hunter-Trapper Education
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
at *Midland Sportsmen's Club*

Saturday, August 16, 2025

- Pennsylvania Successful Bowhunting
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
at *Five Points Hunt Club*

Saturday, September 6, 2025

- Pennsylvania Hunter-Trapper Education
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
at *Aliquippa Bucktails*

- Pennsylvania Hunter-Trapper Education
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
at *Marion Hill Sportsmen's Club*

Saturday, September 13, 2025

- Pennsylvania Hunter-Trapper Education
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
at *Baden American Legion*

REGISTRATION for classes are on-line [PGC](#)
Contact Mike 724-683-5880 (call or text) to host a hunter-trapper education class.

www.pgc.pa.gov

[*PA Hunting and Trapping Digest*](#)

Sunday Hunting Dates – [click here.](#)

Certified Hunter Program | Game Commission | Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Link to apply.

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pgc/habitat-management/landowner-assistance/certified-hunter-program.html>

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

- Getting ready for fairs.
- Received the grants for the watershed projects.
- Getting ready to begin education events with schools getting back in session.

Project Completion Open House – [Invitation](#)

BCSCL Youth Foundation – Jeff Ruckert / Rick Caton – *absent*

- CONGRATULATIONS to Jeff & Rachael on welcoming their baby boy!
 - Warren Andrew Ruckert was born on August 5, 2025, at 1:10 am. Weight 8lb 9 oz. 21.5 in
- Thanks to all who came out to help at the field day!
- Youth Foundation website www.bcsclfyf.com
- BCSCL Youth Foundation Sponsorship Applications available. [Click here](#).
- Next meeting will be held at Aliquippa Bucktails on Thursday, August 21, 2025, beginning at 7 pm.
- Sporting Clay Shoot Fundraiser. See the poster for details. [Poster](#).

We The People of America – Jerry Hooks

- No meeting in August due to the fair.
 - Stop by the fair booth for giveaways.
- Working on making better connections with politicians.
- 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

- Seeing a lot of turkeys (poults & hens). They are surviving well.
- Deer populations are looking good. Antlers are coming in velvet.
- Seeing a lot of turtles.
 - Wood turtle was found at Midland Club.

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

- No report

Fish Committee – Mark Crevar

Neshannock Creek Fly Shop – Stream Conditions.

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

Lake Erie Fishing

The walleye season is still running strong. Anglers are reporting catching walleye within 55 to 70 FOW, while some are going into deeper waters for the bigger fish, limits are still being caught. Fishing in the bay and for shore anglers are having success with bass, perch, crappies, and panfish. Reference link below for current fishing reports.

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

The Ohio River and Beaver River are still productive. Anglers are targeting various species like walleye, catfish, pike, and bass. This season with the rainfall feeding the tributaries into the river kept fishing good. Support your local small fishing stores like Reddi Bait in Bridgewater, get current fishing info on his Facebook page. Good luck fishing.

Conservation Camp – Tonya Cable

- Working on distributing the remaining thank you letters and pictures out.
- We had a debriefing meeting with campers, counselors, and staff in July.
- Canoe trailer discussion.

Archery – George Klinger – *absent*

- 3D archery schedule. [Click here](#).
- (JOAD - Junior Olympic Archery Development) - It is a competitive archery program for children aged 10 to 20 years old. (Compound or recurve)
 - They are taught Safety, Form, Etiquette on the shooting line, how to keep score, and other things to prepare them for the tournaments.
 - Practices are currently on Sundays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and usually start around the end of September/early October until the end of March/beginning of April.
 - There are currently 10 JOAD clubs in Western Pennsylvania.
 - Starting in January, each club hosts their JOAD tournament. BVA is usually the first one of the season.
 - We then travel to each of the other clubs for their tournament which is held on the weekends.
 - Fees
 - USA Archery youth membership \$50 a year
 - Current tournament fees are \$12 per tournament.
 - Current fee for BVA's JOAD is \$120 for the season.
 - BVA membership - currently \$65 a year
 - BVA club membership is not required to participate in JOAD.
 - BVA Field day on September 6th & 7th.
- Northside has a JOAD program.
- Five Points Hunt of a Lifetime August on August 9th & 10th. So much to see and do! All proceeds go directly to Hunt of a Lifetime
- Possum Hollow Sportsman's Club is hosting a Veterans Benefit 3D Archery Shoot on August 23 & 24. See the Facebook page for more details.
- Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Association is hosting a Back to School "Bookbags and Bows" Archery Shoot, and all proceeds go directly to Beaver County Backpacks to help provide school supplies to kids in need in Beaver County.
- Midland Sportsmen's Club is having a tree stand shoot on Sundays from 3pm – 7 pm starting August 17th until the weekend before archery season begins. Details on Facebook.

Events Coordinator – Craig Holdren

- Discussion on new club & meeting dates/times info missing on the website.
- Questions raised about when the website will be complete.
 - www.bcscl.org under construction.

- www.bcscl.net
- www.bcscl.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 (Jim Stoker) [FOAC Video](#)

- Discussion highlights
 - Sunday hunting.
 - Farm Bureau & Ag tags. Trespassing regulations.
 - Game commission hunting programs.
 - Semi-auto for big game.
 - Five points joined as an industry partner.
 - Several free classes such as “stand your ground” available through FOAC.
 - See Jim Stoker for more details on all the different classes that are available.
 - jstoker@foac-illea.org or 412-260-4675
 - Meeting with the Attorney General.
 - SCI is becoming more engaged as conservationist.

FOAC membership [click here](#).

*Discussion on a recent meeting on July 23rd with the Farm Bureau regarding concerns such as trespassing, ATVs, etc. Another meeting set to discuss GPS tracking education regarding coon hounds, etc.

Fundraising – Guy Cable

- August 24, 2025, 7 pm 3-digit PA lottery. A \$1,000 gift card to Milk House Meats / \$500 gift card to Milk House Meats for reverse number. All proceeds benefit the youth foundation.
- October 15, 2025, 7 pm 3-digit PA lottery. NWTF banquet gun “Savage Model 334 chambered in 6.5 Creedmoor” raffle. See Guy for tickets.
- Annual Youth Foundation Sporting Clay Shoot to be held at Rochester on 8/9/25. All 15 stations will be filled. Last year for Tony Rich’s Wild game. Argentina Dove hunt for 4 donated. [poster](#) Thank you to Jerry & the Rochester Sportsmen’s Club for hosting.

Youth Mentored Hunts – Rich Kerlin

Pheasant

- October 11, 2025
- Only taking 28 licensed junior hunters. Register on-line [HERE!](#)
- Must have a pheasant stamp.

Goose

- Dates to be determined. Posters will be available for the fair.
- The county is trying to get this registration on-line.
- Must be a Licensed Junior Hunter.
- 15 and older must have a Federal Duck stamp.
- Will set up for 16 kids with 4 blind or 20 kids with 5 blinds. To be determined.

Youth Field Day – Amy Swartzlander

- Field Day was 7/19.
- We had 105 kids come with 9 stations where they spent 30 minutes at each one getting a taste of each activity.

- We want to thank all the volunteers, clubs and individuals who came out to help the day before and/or day of the event.
- Thank you to Midland Sportsmen's Club for continuing to donate their location to us, and their members for helping at the different stations for the kids.
- Thank you to everyone who gave donations for our end of day raffle table as well.
- We brought in \$2,086 at our raffle. And after all the expenses for the event, the Youth Foundation made a profit of \$609.71.
- Comments & Discussion. Wrist bands for next year for participants. Expand BB guns.

Banquet – (President's Meeting)

- No report

Big Knob Fair – Dick Bayer

Aug 26th - Aug 30th

(Tuesday – Friday beginning at 5 pm) & (Saturday beginning @ 12 pm)

- Sign-up sheet available.
- Set up Sunday, August 24th.
- Thank you to all who donated candy to hand out at the fair.
- Pictures of fishing derby, camp & field day ready for display.
- Stop down anytime to help.

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!**
- News in Ligonier regarding the streams.
- Golden Pheasant Sportsman's Club lawsuit. [Click here.](#)

Firearms Training – Rich Kerlin

- 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)
- Aliquippa Bucktails
 - Basic Pistol class on September 27
 - Personal Protection in the home on October 4
 - 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

- PFSC reached out to follow up with clubs.
- Vote on restructuring of the League dues for 2026.
 - 14 votes to Eliminate the \$50 level.
 - 1 vote to Abstain.
 - 1 vote to Leave the \$50 level.

New Business

- 2026 Meeting Schedule Reviewed

- Northside will check with their kitchen committee to see if they can host a meeting in November 2026.
- Looking for a club interested in hosting the President's Meeting for 2026.

Good of the Order

- Blackhawks & CV trap teams both went to Nationals.
 - Blackhawk tied for 1st place with a reverse run and lost by 1 bird. Placed 2nd in states and 1st in conference.
- Blackhawk looking into Archery in the classroom.
- Five Points 11th Annual Hunt of a Lifetime to be held on August 9th & 10th. \$20 / ticket
 - [Poster](#)
- Youth Invitational will be held on August 16th & 17th at Beaver Falls Sportsmen's Club. Expecting 400 youth.
- Beaver Falls Wobble League Every Wednesday August 20 – September 24. See Facebook for more details.
- Austin Miller Memorial Shoot September 20, 2025.
- FOAC Gun Bash September 27, 2025, at Washington County Fair Grounds. Dinner 2pm – 5pm. \$50 ticket. See Craig H. for tickets. Back by popular demand; the Wall of Guns!
 - Get FOAC Gun Bash ticket [HERE!](#)
- 1st Annual Sportsman Bash Endless Horizons Archery Sportsmen's Bash on September 27, 2025. All proceeds benefit WPAYO. See Josh W for tickets. (724) 833-0683
- Hopewell VFW Gun Bash September 28, 2025. Doors open at 1 pm. The 1st drawing is at 2 pm. Contact Bill Brocklebank for tickets (724) 650-1024. \$50 donation
- WPAYO Gun Bash will be held on October 11, 2025, at SNPJ. Gates open at noon. Drawings begin at 1 pm. \$40 tickets.
 - Sellers of the WPAYO tickets will have an opportunity to win a gun.
- NEXT month's meeting is at Ambridge on the 2ND Thursday of September.
- PA grant application opens in January.

50/50 Drawing

- None

Motion to Adjourn

- Green Valley / Hopewell VFW Passed. 9:36 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