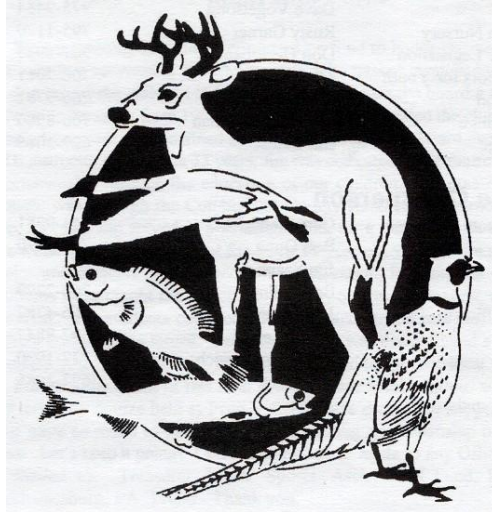


Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association



Club Facilities Ground & Range Rules

WELCOME to the Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association. The Officers and Directors appreciate your membership and encourage you to come out to enjoy the variety of activities scheduled through the year. We hope this handbook will answer your questions about what the club has to offer and how the facility may be utilized. We encourage you to contact any of the Officers or Directors if you require additional information, have a suggestion for improvements or activities, or need to report a problem.

Come out and enjoy the facilities. Your participation in club meetings and functions is what makes this Association successful. Please remember to practice safety and good sportsmanship at all times.

THANK YOU for joining the Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association!

IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF YOU WERE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH FUND-RAISING EVENTS HELD DURING THE YEAR. YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES PROVIDE ONLY PART OF THE FUNDING NEEDED TO MEET THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THIS CLUB.

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Enola, PA 17025

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www.msa-pa.org

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A Little History

The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association was incorporated July 7, 1949. The club is situated on 153 acres purchased October 15, 1956 for \$5,400. \$8000 was borrowed to purchase the land, construct the pond, and build the original club house. The original mortgage was paid off on May 11, 1966. Over the years the club house was enlarged, improvements were made to the rifle and archery ranges. Trees were timbered to raise money and thin out the forest. Improvements were made to the pond. In 1972 we built a trout nursery on Trindle Run on Mechanicsburg Water Company land. In the mid-80's the old cabin was torn down and replaced with a new garage and pavilion. In the mid-80's we began hosting a Children's Fishing Derby. In 1989 many new improvements were started. Outdoor restrooms were constructed and 3 new field archery courses were built. In 1990, the courses were completed and the entrance road paved to support hosting Pennsylvania State archery shoots. Safety baffles were installed on the 25- and 50-yard rifle ranges. In 1994, a new trap field was constructed which included adding a fully automatic trap. The archery practice field was rebuilt with new archery butts. In 1992, we cemented the outdoor pavilion floor and the 25- and 50-yard rifle ranges. We continued improvements in 1997 by paving the lower parking lot. The 10 acre trout nursery tract of land was purchased in 1998. Following this purchase we rebuilt the raceways in 2000. Reconstruction of the 25-, 50-, and 100-yard ranges took place in mid-1990's. The new clubhouse with its indoor center fire pistol range was constructed in 1999. Thanks to a grant from the NRA, the indoor pistol range became a great feature of our club. Two additional traps with lighted fields were also added at this time. A need for a pavilion down near the pond was determined and it was later built in 2000.

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association began to offer NRA-certified firearm classes in mid-1990's. As a club we are members of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs (PFSC), National Rifle Association (NRA), Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), Pennsylvania Rifle and Pistol Association (PRPA), Amateur Trap Association (ATA), Pennsylvania State Archery Association (PSAA), Cumberland Valley Archery League (CVAL), Penn Dutch Archery League, and the National Field Archers Association (NFAA).

THE FUTURE LOOKS GREAT FOR THE BEST SPORTSMEN'S CLUB IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA!

CODE OF ETHICS

I will obey the rules of safe gun handling and will courteously, but firmly, insist that others with me do the same. I will obey all Association Rules, game laws and regulations and will insist that my companions do likewise. I will do my best to acquire marksmanship and hunting skills that demonstrate responsibility and good sportsmanship. I will support efforts to promote firearm safety and responsible firearm ownership, which can assure continued firearm ownership of firearms for future generations of America.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

**** New membership will be capped each month. Only the first 50 New memberships submitted each month will be processed for membership that month. Any excess memberships submitted beyond the 50 will be rolled into the next month's set of 50.****

CLUB GROUND RULES

1. Must Display Club ID while on Club Grounds.
2. All vehicles, including recreation vehicles, are restricted to club roads and established parking areas. Driving on any other area of grounds is prohibited.
3. Speed Limit is 10 MPH on all club roads.
4. No tree cutting without board permission. Permits are available for taking downed timber when available.
5. All PA Game Laws apply when hunting on club grounds. PA hunting license is required. **NO RIFLE OR PISTOL HUNTING ON CLUB GROUNDS. PRIMITIVE BLACK POWDER FLINTLOCK & PERCUSSION RIFLES ARE PERMITTED. INLINES ARE NOT PERMITTED. SHOTGUN AND ARCHERY HUNTING IS PERMITTED.**
****AIRRIFLE** is permitted for small game base on the PA Game Law guidelines.
6. No permanent tree stands. **Portable tree stands must be removed daily.**
7. Adult Members are permitted to bring potential new members to the club to look around our facility and are encouraged to extend them the opportunity to join. **Non-members may NOT use club facilities.**
****Guest Pases may be purchased for a fee determined by the association's board – see website for details.**
8. A reward of **\$500.00** will be paid to anyone furnishing information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person destroying or misusing club property.
9. **No alcoholic beverages** are permitted without prior approval of the Board of Directors.
10. Please do not litter. Trash containers are provided throughout the property.
11. Log sheets for the purpose of signing in and out are provided at each of the ranges. Providing this information is required.
12. Access to the main gate and indoor ranges is changed January 1 each year. Access to the main gate is dependent upon your membership being in good standing for the current year. All members who want access to the indoor ranges must renew annually. Special conditions apply for access to the indoor center fire pistol range. Contact the membership secretary for details. Indoor archery / .22 rim fire range access is not available to members age 17 and younger, unless under the direct supervision by a parent or guardian (who must be an adult family member of Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association).
13. The Board of Directors meet the **Last Wednesday** of each month at 7:30 p.m. Contact the Club President if you have an item for the agenda or would like to attend.
14. The monthly General Membership Meetings are held the **First Wednesday** of each month at 7:30 p.m.
15. Anyone desiring to become a member of this association shall complete a membership application and submit a check or cash to the Membership Secretary. All new memberships are reviewed at the Board of Director's meeting prior to being approved at the General Membership meetings by a vote of the membership in attendance.
16. The pond is for members only.
17. Members age 17 and younger must be under the direct supervision a parent or guardian (who must be an adult family member of MSPA), except as permitted by PA Game Commission. The adult family member is responsible for the minor members to obey all club Rules, Regulations, and By-laws.
18. All outdoor rifle ranges may not be closed down during the months of OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, OR DECEMBER for the benefit of any outside organizations.
19. Failure to comply with club rules, regulations, or safety violations is subject to membership suspension.

ARCHERY

Mechanicsburg Archers is a member of the PSAA, the NFAA, the CVAL Winter League and the Penn Dutch Archery League. Archery club meetings are held the **First Tuesday** of each month at 7:30 p.m. (except during the months of September, October, and November). While outdoor archery shoots are in progress all other club facilities that could interfere or affect the safety of the Archers are not permitted to be utilized and will be posted as closed. During archery work parties, all archery facilities are closed. Work parties and shooting events are posted on the club web site. Tuesday evenings are used by the archers to hold winter and summer leagues for club members and for practice of archery. Club members interested in archery are encouraged to participate in these sessions. Any member requiring help with shooting or equipment can get experienced guidance on these nights.

ARCHERY RANGES AND FACILITIES

1. Five 28-target PSAA and NFAA approved Field Courses.
2. Outdoor practice area. **(No Broadheads)**
3. Shooting area for the physically challenged.
4. Broad head targets with sandpit.
5. Elevated shooting area with targets.
6. 20-yard indoor range (Requires payment of annual access fee). **No broadhead shooting indoors.**

BROAD HEAD SHOOTING PERMITTED IN THE SAND PIT BETWEEN THE ARCHERY PRACTICE FIELD AND TRAP FIELD ONLY

OUTDOOR RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGES

The Club offers five outdoor ranges: 7-, 15- 25-, 50-, and 100-yards, each with covered firing points. Right and left hand shooting benches are provided at the 25-, 50-, and 100-yard ranges.

1. All ranges are open from **9:00 a.m. until one half hour before DUSK** (as defined by the PGC Hunting timetable) daily. These hours are strictly enforced. Please be considerate to our neighbors and adhere to these hours.
2. **All firearms must be loaded only** at the firing line.
3. **NO MIDRANGE SHOOTING.**
4. All targets must be attached to the target boards provided.
5. Attach targets only to the target boards, not to the target frame members.
6. **PAPER TARGETS ONLY.** The use of any other materials as targets is prohibited.
7. **NO CANS or GLASS BOTTLES MAY BE USED AS TARGETS.**
8. **NO SHOOTING AT OR ABOVE TARGET FRAMES.**
9. **FULLY AUTOMATIC FIREARMS ARE PROHIBITED.**
10. **NO SHOTGUN PATTERNING**--a separate patterning range next to the trap field is provided for this purpose.
11. Before anyone moves forward of the firing line, unload firearm, open the action, and insure all other shooters have unloaded their firearms. No one is to handle a firearm while anyone is down range.
12. **When more than one person is using a range, a range officer shall be designated.**
13. Remove used targets when finished shooting. Pick up spent casings and deposit them in the containers provided.
14. Sign in and out of the log books located on the 7-, 15-, 25-, 50-, and 100-yard outdoor ranges.
15. All shooting must be done from the designated areas. Read and obey all posted instructions, rules and safety warnings.
16. Baffles on the ranges are installed for the safety of our neighbors downrange. Conduct **all** firing from behind the firing line.
17. **The 7 yard and 15 yard ranges** are standing only NO BENCHES.
18. No rifle cartridge pistols are permitted on the **7 yard and 15 yard ranges.**

MUZZLE LOADING RULES

1. No smoking on the firing line or loading area.
2. Prime or cap firearms on the firing line only.
3. Flintlock Shooters must warn the person on the touch hole side of the firearm before discharging it.
4. Keep muzzle pointed up when moving to the firing line.
5. Observe all posted rules. Sign in and out in the log book.

TRAP & SHOTGUN PATTERNING RANGES

1. **FOR USE WITH SHOTGUNS USING SHOT PELLETS ONLY; NO SINGLE BALL, SLUGS, BUCKSHOT OR SABOT ROUNDS ARE PERMITTED.**
2. Shotguns must be unloaded and action open at all areas other than on the shooting line.
3. Point shotgun and discharge only down range.
4. Do not advance past firing line until all other shooters are finished.
5. Shotgun patterning is permitted only at the shotgun patterning range, **NOWHERE ELSE.**
6. The electric traps are available for use only during scheduled trap events.

INDOOR .22 FIREARM RANGE

1. **.22 caliber** rimfire rifles and pistols only (no magnums, no .17 caliber firearms). **No other firearms are permitted.**
2. **No shooting through the doorway.**
3. All applicable outdoor range rules also apply to the indoor range. Indoor range is open to all members with clubhouse access privileges 24 hours a day (ANNUAL ACCESS FEE)
4. **Deposit used targets and spent casing in containers provided.**

INDOOR CENTER FIRE PISTOL RANGE

1. A one-time range safety briefing and **competency test** is mandatory for each user (a complete set of rules given at the briefing)
2. **No crossfire shooting is permitted;** you must only shoot the target directly in front of you.
3. An annual access fee must be paid.
4. Shooters must be **21** or older
5. For use only by members who have attended the safety briefing.
6. Maximum caliber: .45; maximum power level: .44 magnum
7. No rifle-caliber handguns
8. No black powder handguns
9. Sign in and out when using the range
10. Range rules are posted at indoor range

CLUB POND

The club pond is for **MEMBERS'** use only. We stock our own trout throughout the year at times determined by water temperature. The pond supports bass, catfish, sunfish, bluegills, frogs, turtles and snakes. The Children's Fishing Derby is held in the spring. Each year we contract an environmental consultant to treat the pond for algae and weeds.

POND REGULATIONS

1. All Pennsylvania fishing laws apply. Fishing license is required.
2. A limit of 3 trout per day per person is imposed. Maximum two (2) rods per person.
3. Trout caught using bait must be kept.
4. Bass are catch and release only.
5. Algae eating carp were purchased to help control weed growth. Carefully release any carp hooked.
6. Fishing with bow & arrow is prohibited.
7. No swimming or boating.
8. **Ice Fishing at your own risk. Leave nothing on the ice.**
9. No littering, use trash containers provided.
10. Use caution. **Keep Off** the overflow grate and inlet wall (dam)
11. Some portions of the pond bank drop off sharply when areas are slippery—use caution!
12. Obey posted pond closings.

CO-OPERATIVE TROUT NURSERY

We operate a trout nursery located off Sinclair Road in Mechanicsburg. Each year, the Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association raises 6,000 to 7,000 trout in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission for stocking in waters open to the public in the Mechanicsburg area. We purchase and raise 1,200 to 1,500 trout each year for stocking in the club pond and for use in our portable pond during the Children's Fishing Derby, and other club functions. Club members volunteer their time to feed and care for these fish. If you would like to assist, please contact any Officer or Director.

THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR YOUR PROTECTION AND SAFETY. THEY MUST BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE RULES IS SUBJECT TO MEMBERSHIP SUSPENSION.

Board of Directors

CLUB FACILITIES

ARCHERY

Archery Club

Five 28 target Field Courses, NFAA and PSAA Approved. Official targets In spring & summer, animal targets in fall
The White field archery course is open for club members use at all times

Raised archery platform with targets

Archery range for the physically challenged

Deluxe outdoor practice range **(No Broadheads permitted)**

Archery tournaments, CVAL and PENNDUTCH leagues

Host site of the Pennsylvania State Archery Tournament beginning in 1993

Host site of the Pennsylvania State Animal Tournament beginning in 1994

Host site of the National Field Archery Association Outdoor Sectional Tournaments

Host site of the National Field Archery Association Outdoor National Tournaments

Indoor 20-yard archery range, 11 positions, lighted and heated, open 24 hours a day **(No Broadheads permitted)**

ANNUAL FEE REQUIRED FOR CLUB HOUSE INDOOR ARCHERY RANGE ACCESS

Broad head sand pit is adjacent to practice range and trap field-no broadhead shooting on the indoor archery range

Assistance available for selecting and adjusting equipment

RIFLE AND PISTOL

7-, 15-, 25-, 50-, and 100-yard ranges with covered firing points and right/left hand benches

50-foot indoor .22 caliber range-six positions, lighted and heated, open 24 hours a day

(OLD CLUB HOUSE ONLY—ANNUAL FEE REQUIRED FOR ACCESS)

50-foot indoor center fire pistol range. A one time SAFETY CLASS IS REQUIRED-annual access fee

Range rules are posted at the ranges. Members are responsible for knowing and following range rules

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Children's Fishing Derby

Fishing Derby for the Physically Challenged

NRA Basic Firearms Courses

NRA Instructor Certification Classes

Hunter-Trapper Education Courses

Organized Youth Activities

Fundraisers

FISHING

Trout stocked fishing pond

Cooperative trout nursery

REGULAR EVENTS

Monthly General Membership Meetings (first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.)

Monthly Archery Club Meetings (first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. – Except Sept, Oct. & Nov.)

Weekly Archery Practice and League Shoots

Weekly Trap Shoots – THURSDAY PM—EXCEPT HOLIDAYS—SUNDAY PM & TUESDAY AM SHOOTS

Winter Trap League -- JANUARY-MARCH

Summer Trap League (April - July) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Fall Trap League – AUGUST - OCTOBER

Weekly Block Shoots, MONDAYS (PM), SEPT – NOV, JAN - APRIL

NRA Sanctioned High Power Rifle Competition

NRA Sanctioned Air Rifle League

NRA Firearm Education Classes

NRA Instructor Certification Seminars

TRAP AND SHOTGUN

All trap shoots are open to the public

Shotgun patterning range; 20-, 27-, 35-, and 40-Yards

Four lighted trap fields (used during club functions), One field is wobble.

ORGANIZED YOUTH ACTIVITIES

4-H

Air Rifle Team

Youth Archery

Hunter Trapper Education Courses

Children's Fishing Derby

.22 Rifle Team