



MEETING MINUTES - Michigan Sporting Clays Association

Meeting

Date Monday, January 13, 2025
Started 6:00 PM
Ended 8:15 PM
Location ZOOM Call
Purpose Regular scheduled meeting
2025 MSCA Officer Elections

Chaired by Matt Little
Recorder Mary Jo Birka

Attendance

Present: Mary Jo Birka, Jovan Blackwell, Amber Brown, Dale Fulkerson, Matthew Houtteman, Brooks Hutton, Jim Kralik, Matt Little, Brian Long, Greg Roxbury, Charles Schneider, Steve Trudeau

Minutes

1. Committee business

1.1. President's Report, Review/Approve Meeting Minutes

1.1. President's Report: Review/Approve Meeting Minutes

*Like Agenda, assumed approval unless edits noted by Directors prior to the scheduled meeting. This is to allow more time each meeting for open items and discussion. Motion to approve last month's meeting minutes as written: Brooks

*Second: Charlie

*Presidents welcome to the new MSCA members. The MSCA welcomes new members Jovan Blackwell, Steve Trudeau, Brian Long, Dale Fulkerson, Amber Brown, and Matt Houtteman.

Presidents Corner:

*2025 MSCA Officers election. Our new officers will be in place for our February meeting so they will have time to prepare. We need to elect a President, Secretary, and Treasurer and an optional Vice President for the board. The State of Michigan does not require us to have a Vice President, but it is up to us. Does the board want to seat a VP? Discuss. Motion to seat a Vice President: Jovan Second: Matt Houtteman. The board unanimously voted to seat a Vice President. Motion passed.

*Our webmaster Dan Williams will handle the election. We are open for nominations for all positions.

*Jovan Blackwell was nominated for President. No other candidates were nominated. Greg abstained. All other members were polled: Aye. Jovan Blackwell will be the 2025 MSCA President.

*Brooks Hutton was nominated for Vice President. No other candidates were nominated. All members were polled: Aye Brooks Hutton will be the 2025 MSCA Vice President.

*Amber Brown and Mary Jo Birka were nominated for Secretary. After voting it was determined that Amber Brown will be the 2025 MSCA Secretary.



*Brian Long was nominated to be the Treasurer. No other candidates were nominated. Brian Long will be the 2025 MSCA Treasurer.

*Motion to seat Jovan Blackwell, Brooks Hutton, Amber Brown and Brian Long as the 2025 MSCA Officers: Charlie Second: Steve Motion passed.

*Thanks to Dan Williams for his assistance.

*Credit card payment elimination for 2025: tabled until the next meeting.

Status: Completed

1.1.1. Subcommittee Reports

Last year's subcommittees are as follows: Liaison to member clubs, Fundraising, Liaison to SCTP, and Scheduling. The president is required by the bylaws to sit on every committee. All Directors must either chair or be a committee member on at least one committee. Do we need any other committees? Discuss.

*The board will add a competition committee. The competition committee would make sure that the clubs holding our State and Great Lakes shoots are following NSCA rules. Particularly in FITASC, shells need to be checked, shirt lines need to be properly measured, and footwear needs to be proper for the event. In sporting clays, master score sheets need to be used.

Status: Completed

1.1.1.1. Liaison to Member Clubs

*These members keep in contact with member clubs to make sure they do not need any assistance from us. These members should attend Michigan shoots, or talk to shooters that attend our shoots. The MSCA is interested in any safety concerns, target quality, facilities, registration and the overall shoot experience at our clubs. Often the clubs do not reach out to ask for help even when they need it. Since we are not a governing body, we can just suggest helpful information, but between us we are a wealth of information. We have a number of shooters that can help with target setting, and Dan Williams is our Scorechaser guru etc. It is also helpful to have committee members from all sides of the state.

*Who would like to be on this committee: Chair: Members: Tabled until next meeting.

Status: Completed

1.1.1.2. Fundraising and giveaways

*These members work on our two main fundraisers of the year and anything new that we might acquire. Much of the work for this will be prior to the state shoot in June. Each year our sponsors provide us with a gun and a set of Pilla glasses to raffle off. Flyers need to be made, publicity, tickets, selling tickets at the shoot, winner selection etc. For 2025 we decided to provide all of our giveaways at the state shoot, instead of spreading them out throughout the year. We also purchase flats of shells to be given to the shooters.

*Who would like to be on this committee? Chair: Members: Tabled until next meeting.

Status: Completed

1.1.1.3. Liaison to SCTP

*These members communicate with Loraine Malloy at SCTP to assist wherever we can. The MSCA donates to their scholarship program each year. We attend and donate items to their fundraising dinner in January. We help them if possible to find trappers for their state shoot at Mason the end of June.

*Would anyone like to be on this committee? Chair: Member: Tabled until next meeting.

Status: Completed



1.1.1.4. Scheduling

*These members handle the shoot scheduling, card and poster design with Value Print in Ann Arbor. After printing, the items need to be shipped to the clubs. Matt and I have been handling this with Jenny at Value Copy for the last 3 years. We would like to continue this committee with the 3 of us again. Chair: Amber
Member: Matt Little and Jenny from Value Copy. For next year a ZOOM meeting will be set up for scheduling.

Status: Completed

1.1.1.5. Sponsorship

*These members would contact our current sponsors during November-December using our prewritten sponsor letter. New platinum sponsors would get new feather flags ordered and sponsor plaques. All of these processes have been done before. Searching for new sponsors would also be required. Also, at the State Shoot and Great Lakes, the committee would be responsible for posting all sponsor flags on the property and removing them as well. Most clubs are really helpful with this process.

Who would like to be on this committee? Chair: Members Tabled until the next meeting.

Status: Completed

1.2. Secretary's Report/NSCA News

*This information is intended to bring everyone up to speed on our MSCA big events this year, and what decisions have already been made.

*Michigan State Championship: June 20-22 at the Grand Blanc Huntsman's Club. The MSCA gives them \$4500 plus \$2500 for trophies for hosting the event. We also give them \$3000 for additional enhancements. They have opted for us to assist them with trappers. I have already been in contact with 2 MISCTP teams in the area that want to use this as a fundraiser for their team. These teams do not pick their members until February. They need to be contacted after they have their team in place. The \$3000 will pay the trappers with either shoot cards or ammo. 20 people are needed for 2 days for the main event only. Brooks said that he will help me train/organize this prior to the shoot. Very little training should be required. Also, Brooks is working with Grand Blanc to bring in Top Gun Make-a-Break as a side game for all 3 days. Jovan felt very strongly that the Top Gun needs to be a part of our state shoot. Details to be determined.

*Great Lakes Tournament: Multi-Lakes Conservation on September 20-21. Not much information is available yet, but it is possible that they may work with Detroit Gun Club again to provide extra events. TBD

*Michigan State team is selected each year. Traditionally the trophies are awarded at the state shoot. Trophies of some kind need to be purchased after the team is announced.

Status: Completed

1.2.1. Treasurer

*Our checking account balance is \$35,593.35 Still waiting for \$1000 from Promatic and Michigan Shooting Centers and \$100 from 2 Hats Ranch.

*Brian wants to be sure that the MSCA has the proper financial documents in place. He will get that updated after Jim sends him the proper documents.

Status: Completed

1.2.1.1. Member Outreach/FACEBOOK

*Jim's final fourth quarter FACEBOOK report. Amber has agreed to take over his position with FACEBOOK.



MSCA Facebook Page Report 1/13/2025 meeting_(6:00 PM call)

Current Admins: Jim

To date: 1,286 followers (up from 1,248 end of Q3 2024). During the last 28 days, 7,226 people have seen something from or attributable to our page. 21,489 over all of Quarter 4! (6,700 for all Q3!) and 2,429 people have visited the page. The past week, content has only reached 577 people. We are definitely into the end of the shoot year - holiday lull in activity. From October 12, 2024 to January 12, 2025 (3 months) 259 people have engaged with the page – a decrease, 385 people during the comparable span in 2023.

End of Year 2024 review:

Since the 2023 EOY Report: 1,286 followers (up from 1,130 end of Q4 2023). 120 followers in December 2019.

Quarter 4 review:

Since previous report (Q3 October 2024): Followers/Page Likes continue to increase. Overall engagement overall slightly higher than with previous Quarter 3 reports. Overall engagement decreased slightly with the end of tournament season (end of quarter), also consistent with previous reports. Overall views greatly increased. No great increase in followers would indicate this is due to more informative posts and followers passing notices on to others outside of the shooting community. We have seen similar trends when junior shooters make the page.

Page Reach (since the previous report): Age (35 – 64) and M/F (86%/14%) demographics remain constant. People reached (content shows up on their individual page) and people engaged (comment on our posts) consistent with previous reports. Most people reached/engaging/following the page are in the SE Michigan area.

Q4 Top Posts.

- 1.) Two Hats Winter League announced (4,289). Top post for the quarter!
- 2.) 2025 Schedule posted (3,566).
- 3.) Notice of new board for 2025 (839).
- 4.) Matt Gay announcement (711).
- 5.) Passing of Russ Hehir (683).
- 6.) Passing of John Demers (675).

Q3 Top Engagement (reach, comments, sharing, etc.)

- 1.) Two Hats Winter League announced (3,140).
- 2.) 2025 Schedule posted (1,668).
- 3.) Notice of new board for 2025 (466).
- 4.) Matt Gay announcement (373).
- 5.) Passing of John Demers (360).
- 6.) Passing of Russ Hehir (342).

People reached (content shows up on their individual page) and people engaged (comment on our posts) consistent with previous reports. Hot spots over the quarter are Ann Arbor, Troy, Warren, Dearborn, and Novi. Most people reached/engaging/following the page are in Southeast Michigan areas (United States and Canada).



'Bot accounts have been removed and blocked and nothing of note has occurred with the page this past quarter.

Jim Kralik

Status: Completed

1.2.2. Member Outreach - Miclays.com

*Nothing new at this time.

Status: Completed

2. OLD BUSINESS

2.1. Spartan Series Update

*Are we hosting the Spartan Series in 2025? The board will not host the Spartan Series event in 2025.

Status: Completed

3. NEW BUSINESS

3.1. Hall of Fame

*Rod Drouse is self-nominating.

- Rod Drouse, NSCA 549105
- I would like to submit to the MSCA board my shooting accomplishments for determination when they consider nominees for the Hall of Fame.
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- I won my first state championship in 5,050 registered targets in 2009 while in AA class against Hall of Fame shooters Pat Lieske, Matt Houtteman, Joe Huff, Deeann Massey and Red Ball.
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- I punched into master class 5,900 targets. I won my second state championship in 2016 and the majority of my titles up to that point in 20,850 targets, in my first 12 years of registered shooting.
-
- Major accomplishments: Michigan State CH 2009, 2016 (60 pts). Runner up state champ 2010, 2013 and 2015 (60 pts). In 2009 US Open AA main event champion (20 pts). Michigan state championship 12ga Fitasc CH 2016 (20pts). Michigan State Championship 5 stand CH 2019 (20pts). Motor state champion 2011 and 2015, runner up 2012.
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- Points to date for the MSCA point system is 390 (20 yrs MSCA 100 points, 11 yrs all state team 110 points, open champ/runner up titles 180 points). In the next 2 years, or possibly this year, I should reach 400 points.
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- 2009 Michigan State Championship CH
- 2009 West Michigan Championship CH
- 2009 US Open AA Main Event CH
- 2010 Michigan State Championship RU
- 2011 Detroit Motor State Championship CH
- 2011 North Michigan Invitational Championship CH
- 2012 North Michigan Championship RU
- 2012 Detroit Motor State Championship RU
- 2013 Michigan State Championship RU
- 2014 Great Lakes Championship Fitasc CH



- 2015 Detroit Motor State Championship CH
- 2015 Great Lakes Championship 5 Stand CH
- 2015 Michigan State Championship RU
- 2016 Michigan State Championship CH
- 2016 Michigan State Championship Fitasc CH
- 2016 Great Lakes Championship 20ga Fitasc CH
- 2018 Great Lakes Championship 12ga Fitasc RU
- 2018 Great Lakes Championship 20ga RU
- 2019 Michigan State Championship 5 Stand CH
- All State Team 2006, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2024
-
- Thank you for your consideration,
- Rod Drouse
- 231-357-0488

*The MSCA is nominating John Herkowitz from Pacific Sporting Arms East.

Status: Completed

3.1.1. Hall of Fame continued

*December 20, 2024

To: Mary Jo Birka, Michigan Sporting Clays Association

From: John Herkowitz

SUBJECT: HALL OF FAME RESUME

Thanks for the nomination to the Michigan Sporting Clays Hall of Fame. It's a great honor and I am very appreciative. Not sure what you are looking for in a resume, my shooting history or owning Pacific Sporting Arms, so I will give you a bit of both.

I started shooting clay targets a little over 40 years ago. I can still remember the first clay target I shot; it was nighttime at the South Bay Gun Club in Orange County California. One of my college professors invited me to shoot trap with his sons. After a 2 ½ hour drive through heavy Los Angeles rush hour traffic, I finally arrived with my trusty Remington 870 pump gun. I remember like it was yesterday the white target flying away from the trap house, illuminated by the bright field lights. I pointed the muzzle at the target and pulled the trigger. The target burst into 30 pieces like a starburst in the lights.....I was hooked for life!!

This was a life-changing event, and nothing would be the same after. Within a week I had a new Browning over under and expanded to skeet and eventually a new game just starting in the United States, Sporting Clays. I fell in love with all the clay target disciplines, from Skeet, Trap, Sporting Clays, Olympic skeet and trap, live pigeons, upland birds. I have shot close to 2 million shot shells in my lifetime with over 300,000 NSSA, NSCA, ATA registered tournament targets. I was proud to attain AAA Skeet class, Master Class Sporting, Long yardage ATA Trap all at one time. I have been on over 20 All American Teams.

In 1998, my love of clay target sports expanded with the opening of Pacific Sporting Arms in Southern California. We specialized in fine clay target and hunting shotguns. Selling only the best in quality and service. We represent over 20 of the finest makers of shotguns made in the World today and carry the largest inventory of these fine guns in the United States. In 2015, we started another store in Commerce Township, MI. I grew up in White Lake, MI and it was a perfect opportunity "come home". Every year I would travel to shoot at the Detroit Gun Club and realized I never wanted to leave and go back to California, so opening a store was a great way to be able to spend time in my original home.... Michigan!

With the two full time stores as well as satellite stores in Texas and Ohio, Pacific Sporting Arms has become the largest dealer of fine shotgun in the World, but from the beginning of Pacific Sporting Arms 27 years ago, I felt it was important to support the shooting sports as best I can. This started out with small shoot sponsorships and



donations for raffles and auctions. After a few years we were sponsoring major shooting events in Southern California and the Southwest United States. We now sponsor major shoots all over the United States. With the move to Michigan, I continued to help and anyway I could by sponsoring shoots and stations at the Detroit Gun Club and at other clubs throughout Michigan. We help sponsor the Michigan State Sporting Clays Championships every year as well as the Michigan Skeet Championships and Michigan Trap.

It has always been important to me to support and give back to the game, I have loved every minute of it from the competition to the hundreds of friends I have made around the World in the clay target World.

Being inducted in the Michigan Sporting Clays Hall of fame, is one of the greatest honors I have had in my shooting career, and I would like to thank everyone who made it possible, and I promise to continue my support of Michigan Sporting Clays in the years to come.

John Herkowitz

Status: Completed

4. Next Meeting Date

4.1. Date Next Meeting

*Our next meeting date will be on:

*The next meeting date will be February 10 at 6pm.

Status: Completed

4.2. Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn:

*Second:

*Motion to adjourn: Charlie

*Second: Steve

Resolution #: Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Matt Little

seconded:

Status: Carried

Vote:
