

# Solon Sportsmen's Association

Monthly Newsletter



Next Trustee Meeting  
February 18th  
6:00 p.m.

Next  
Member's Meeting  
February 18th  
7:15 p.m.  
Solon Recreation Center  
35000 Portz Parkway  
Solon, Ohio  
44139

## Updates

Thanks to all who attended and helped out with the annual Christmas Party! Weather was not the greatest but we still had 56 members come out to enjoy the food, drinks and each others company to close out 2025. There was a total of 861 tickets sold for the gun raffle which will help out with club expenses in 2026.

- Jack Burlingame is undertaking the task of ensuring the tractor and zero turn are in top shape for the upcoming season. His help in making sure this equipment is ready to go is much appreciated.
- 2025 audit is underway and is expected to be completed by the end of February.

# Board and Chairs

Email: [solonsportsmenclub@gmail.com](mailto:solonsportsmenclub@gmail.com)

## Postal Address

Solon Sportsmen's Association  
 P.O. Box 391072  
 Solon, Ohio 44139-8072

## Property Address

5426 Footville-Richmond Road  
 Richmond Township, Ohio 44003

## Club Officers for 2026

President.....Ed Rykalla  
 Vice-President.....Tim Flaherty  
 Treasurer.....Joe Haluska  
 Secretary.....John Valencic

## Board of Trustees

Ed Rykalla (thru 2026)..... 216-544-6440  
 Joe Haluska (thru 2026)..... 216-832-9453  
 Tim Flaherty (thru 2026)..... 216-536-7093  
 Jack Burlingame (thru 2027). 440-813-1524  
 Steve Tolodzieski (thru 2027) 216-375-9885  
 John Valencic (thru 2027)..... 440-668-7179  
 Larry Csumitta (thru 2026)..... 216-645-4270

## 2026 Chairmen

A.C.W.C.L.	Jack Burlingame	440 813-1524	Membership	John Valencic	440 668-7179
Archery	Frank McGroarty	216 650-4516	Newsletter	Steve Tolodzieski	216 375-9885
Audit	Ed Rykalla	216 544-6440	NRA	Steve Tolodzieski	216 375-9885
Christmas Party	Steve Tolodzieski	216 375-9885	Pheasant Hunt	Mike Simons	216 978-2289
Clam Bake	OPEN		Pistol Matches	Joe Haluska Tim Flaherty	216 832-9453 216 536-7093
CMP	Doug Miller	440 804-4569	Ponds/Fishing	Andy Miskuszewski	330 221-1823
Dog Training	Mike Siebert	440 823-7029	Short Range	Ed Rykalla	216 544-6440
Grounds	Jack Burlingame	440 813-1524	Silhouette Shoot	Joe Haluska	216 832-9453
Gun Raffle	Ed Rykalla	216 544-6440	Summer Picnic	Doug Miller	440 804-4569
High Power	Tim McGrattan	440 213-8031	Trap Range	Tim Flaherty	216 536-7093
History	John Valencic	440 668-7179	Website	John Valencic	440 668-7179
Hunting/Habitat	Ray Adkins	440 834-4559	Work Party Mowing Schedule	Larry Csumitta	216 645-4270
			Youth Pheasant Hunt	Mike Simons	216 978-2289

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE DO NOT SHARE THIS LIST WITH ANY NON-MEMBER FOR ANY REASON!**

## Core Details

### Upcoming Club Events

Members Meeting.....Feb 18th  
 Members Meeting.....Mar 18th  
 High Power Range Prep Work Party.....Apr 18th  
 600 Yard Orientation.....Apr 19th

### Open Committee Chairmen Positions

The following positions are open.  
 Please contact a trustee member if  
 you are able to volunteer.

### Treasurer’s Monthly Summary

Going forward, the treasurer’s report  
 and financial summary will only  
 be given at the members monthly  
 meeting.

For additional information, please see  
 the trustees after a members meeting.

### Guest Policy

Guests may visit the club up to three (3)times in their  
 lifetime before they must either:

1. Apply for an SSA membership or:
2. Be prohibited from visiting the SSA  
 club property ever again.

There are no exceptions!

**SIGN IN BOOK** - Please **PRINT LEGIBLY** the entire name of your guest when entering them into the sign-in book located in the pole barn. Do not use “GUEST” in the book. **Members, family members and guest(s) must always sign-in and sign-out when using the club property. Guest must have a Release From Liability completed.** The form is available in the Pole Barn next to the sign-in book.

### Member Spotlight-

Past member Don P has applied to rejoin at the January meeting. He was previously a member in 2002

# Membership

Chairperson: John Valencic, 440 668 7179

## Membership Meeting Attendance



Each member should attend at least three (3) meetings per year.

The January members meeting was held on January 21st. Total attendance was 28 members, which included the 7 trustees. We encourage all members to attend the monthly meetings to be up to date on all elements of the Solon Sportsmen’s Association.

## 2025 Dues and Fees



Annual dues will be: \$240.19 (\$225 plus \$15.19 tax).

The Work Party Assessment is \$200 and is prorated at \$25 per hour. Anyone over the age of 70 is exempt from work party time. There is a one time Initiation Fee of \$100 (no tax).

*The club is instituting a \$25 late fee starting in 2026. If you have a valid reason that you cannot pay by the due date, please contact the Board of Trustees.*

## NRA Membership



Membership in the NRA is required for all members. When you join or renew through the club, you will receive a discount on your membership and the club will receive a \$5.00 rebate from the NRA.

**New Members** - Prospective new members shall introduce themselves at the beginning of the members meeting at 7:15 p.m. New members are required to be a member of the NRA and will be on a one year probation. New members will pay fees and dues and sign-off on safety training after the meeting.



## Membership Communication -



Members need to communicate with each other and especially with the Trustees. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

## Details (alphabetical order)

**A.C.W.C.L.** - SSA is a member of the Ashtabula County Wildlife Conservation League. This gives SSA more political influence, both at the local and state level. Being a member also gives our hunters more land to hunt on in Ashtabula County and our club benefits financially by being a member. Ask for details on hunting land available, Jack Burlingame is our representative.

**Archery Range** - Please use field points ONLY. Broadheads are prohibited!

**Christmas Dinner** - More details to come

**Civilian Marksmanship Program**- Our club's CMP affiliation number is C24221.

**Clam Bake** - Committee Chairperson position is open. Please volunteer!

**Club Access** - The 2026 combination is posted on the back of your membership card. Gate, pole barn and target shed codes have been changed. Be sure to lock the gate behind you when you enter or leave the property. We have a new door and keyless entry doorknob and it uses the same code as used for the front gate. Simply press the "C" button to clear the lock and enter the code and push down on the handle to open the door. The door is "self-locking", but opens easy from the inside without the code. If the new lock on the pole barn doesn't work after the correct code has been entered, press the "C" button to clear the lock, then re-enter the correct code again.

**Dog Training Area** - Contact Mike Siebert with questions. See his letter regarding this on the website under Files Viewer. Rules can also be found in the folder at the club.

## Details

**Fishing and Ponds** - Fishing rules are posted in the pole barn along with the logbook to record your catches. Please use the logbook to report all of your catches in 2026.

**Gun Raffle** - We will be having a gun raffle for 2026 and the drawing will be held at the Christmas Dinner. More details to come

**High Power** - ONLY certified “card holders” may use the 600 yard range. There is a “one time” qualification card required. Results of the High-Power matches are posted on the SSA website under High - Power. The High-Power group also has a page on Facebook! 2026 High-Power schedule has been posted to the website.

**Marking Property Boundaries**- The SSA eastern property lines, heading south from the 600 yard range impact mound as well as the southern boundary from the southeast corner going west to the big swamp, are going to be marked with purple spray paint on trees.

**NEWSLETTER** - Newsletters will be emailed by Steve Tolodzieski to members who have signed up to receive them. All newsletters for the year are posted on the website for download. Please email Steve T. or Johnny V. for any updates or information that needs to be added to upcoming newsletters.

**Pistol/PCC & .22lr Rifle Silhouette Shoots** - Please see the website for the list of requirements, rules and regulations for each event. Dates for 2026 will be listed on the website once finalized. The fee for guests to participate in these events will be \$25 this year. Any updates will be on the website.

**Range Closures** - As a reminder, all ranges except the 600 yard range will be closed during all Pistol/PCC & .22lr Rifle Silhouette Shoots. Any additional closures will be posted on the website..

## Details

**Range Etiquette** - When you finish shooting, please pick up your brass, dispose of trash into the dumpster and put away equipment in an orderly manner. **NO ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED ON THE RANGES AT ANY TIME!**

**Recording of our meetings** - Please note, audio or video recording of our meetings is prohibited.

**Scouting and Range Safety Officers** - Bill Ponikvar is available to act as a RSO for Scout Troops in case the troop does not have a certified RSO. If you are connected to a Scout group, SSA property and ranges can be made available to them.

**Summer Picnic** - Date tentative for August, more details to come. Doug Miller to manage work hours and rsvp's. Prior to the start of the picnic, the August trustees/members meeting will be held.

**Website** - The website is active and up to date with events listed as they come in. Any problems logging in or instruction on creating an account, please contact John Valencic.

**Work Parties** - High Power Range Prep - Apr 18th

**Work Party Time** - Members participating in scheduled work parties at the club will be credited for their work party assessment based upon the actual hours worked. Work time will not be honored unless it is approved by a committee chairman or the person running the work party. Eight hours of time is required. To ensure you receive credit for your work time, make sure the committee chairperson or the person running the work party has you listed on the work party sheet and turned in to John Valencic for recording. This aids in calculating your dues for 2026.

**Youth Pheasant Hunt** - Contact Mike Simons if you are interested in helping out in this year's youth pheasant hunt.

**Zero Tolerance for Gun Fails** - Trustees are reminding SSA members that SSA has a "zero tolerance" policy regarding gun safety issues and incidents!