

United Northern Sportmen's News

Conservation Pledge: I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste, the natural resources of my country - its' air, soil and minerals, its' forests, waters and wildlife.

VOLUME 6

MAY 2022

NUMBER 5

\$12.00

Club Calendar

Ranges Closed on Mondays, for Maintenance, Reserved Activities

- May 4** UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse
- Jun. 1** UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse
- Jul. 6** UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse

All members are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP Eric at gonefishing0101@hotmail.com. If the meeting is via Zoom a connection will be provided when you RSVP.

RANGE USE CALENDAR

may be found on our Website:

www.unitednorthernsportsmen.org

SHOOTING HOURS

Range hours are 8am to 30 minutes before sunset. All ranges are closed on Mondays. Range opening and closing times are posted on the ranges and the bulletin board on the Retreat Bldg. Please obey the rules or you may lose your shooting privileges.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE: Monthly newsletters are sent before the end of the previous month. Articles are due by the 15th of the previous month. If you have an article or pictures you would like to share please send to sue@b-green.us. It may be shared, space permitting.

THREE GUN SAFETY BASICS

- ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- ALWAYS keep the gun unloaded

UNS 2022 CAMPING SEASON OPENS

The 2022 UNS camping season started on May 1st and closes on October 15th. Our Peak Season runs from the Friday before Memorial Day (This year that is May 27th.) through the Monday of Labor Day (This year that is September 5th.). During the Peak Season Individual or Family Memberships are limited to 14 days of camping.

Last year, your board of directors approved a revised version of the UNS Official Club Rules. Also, last year we sent out the updated rules to all members. Copies are also available at the clubhouse or from the Camp Host and may be viewed online. We ask all members take the time to review the document, understand the regulations, and abide by them. It is important that you also review recent clarifications and adjustments added this spring which are located on page 3 of the newsletter.

Here are some rules that pertain to camping:

A member intending to camp at UNS must register immediately upon arriving and before setting up camp. When you fill out the camping pass, please identify the members of your family who will be on the property. Day guests must also register immediately on arrival. Keep in mind UNS is a private club and camping is for Members only. We do not allow any guests to stay overnight. However, as a courtesy to members who may want to have a guest during the day, daily guest passes are available on a one-day basis (8:00am until 11:00pm). The number allowed is limited to one guest per Individual Membership and two guests per Family Membership, no exceptions. And it is your responsibility in the evening to make sure your day guest(s) are off the club property no later than 11:00pm.

We have a total of 37 camp sites available on a first come first serve basis. No campsite may be held or reserved for another party. About 2/3rds of the sites have an electrical hookup and a few have a water hookup. Shower facilities are available on a fee basis. Please only two vehicles (car and/or truck) are allowed per campsite at any time and one wheeled RV. Quiet time is 11:00pm to 8:00am CST. Along the lake- the campsites and picnic areas have been reconfigured and improved.

Please take the opportunity to say hello to our Camp Host, Ron Cretens. Ron is looking forward to helping you make your camping stay a positive experience. We hope you all have a great camping season.

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UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING April 6, 2022

Call to Order (Via Zoom): by President Tom Wasbotten at 6:04 pm.

Conservation Pledge.

Roll Call of Officers: Tom Wasbotten, Lance Parthe, Bob Kuettel, Tina Sund, Gene Shaw, Jeff Jarvela, Vickie Jensen, John Bathke, Eric Hansen, Keith Darsow, John Jones, Ron Cretens, Maggie Cretens. **Excused Officers:** Lance Haavisto.

Members Present: Sue Bathke.

Correspondence: Gnesen Newsletter, Prop Tax form. Tom Wasbotten reports we received package from Mary Leppala containing Ned Smith art glasses. Secretary will send a thank you note..

Agenda Additions & Approval: Motion to approve the agenda (M/S/C).

Reading of Minutes: Eric Hansen read the minutes from the Board of Directors March 2, 2022 meeting. Motion made to accept the minutes as corrected (M/S/C).

Treasurer's Report: Tina Sund as of 3/31/22: We will now be receiving a monthly garbage bill due to the increase in gas price, Property tax bill states that the value of UNS property decreased from \$220,800.00 to \$172,200.00. Tax bill for 2022 is \$1922.00 which Tina will pay in full instead of 2 payments. Motion made to approve the report (M/S/C).

Membership Secretary's Report: Tina Sund as of 3/31/22: Current membership is 1628. Individual Membership renewals: 26 and 2 new, Family Membership renewals: 39 and 5 new. 151 renewals are coming up, 39 expired memberships.

Other Reports:

Web Master – Eric Hansen: Eric made updates to the range reservations, home page and events page on the UNS website and Facebook page.

Facilities Committee: Lance Parthe will meet with John Jones on what repairs are needed to the boat launch. He & Ron met with Continental Conveyor Belt on the Range regarding belt donations for range backstop. Ranges were monitored, Howie Farmer is now out of town & unavailable & Lance is looking for volunteers to fill in time slots. He says the boats and trailers are getting bigger and we may need to extend the ramp further into the water to accommodate larger boats. Keith Darsow and John Bathke volunteered their help.

Range and Grounds Calendar: Lance Parthe states that Steve Holt reserved range for Monday, Sept 5.

Incident Report: Lance Parthe reported that there were no incidences.

Grants Committee: Gene Shaw said there was nothing to report.

Volunteer Awards Committee: Vickie Jensen reports the jackets have arrived for Ron Cretens & Mike Hart and Howie Farmer's jacket is on order.

Communications Committee: John Bathke had nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Website: Lance Parthe is asking for descriptive material from board members to be entered onto the new website.

Campground Committee: Tom Wasbotten says they met one time and will continue to meet.

Volunteer Awards Committee: Vickie Jensen and Tom Wasbotten have not met yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Accounting Systems Review – Tom Wasbotten: Tom spoke with Bob Kuettel regarding his request to review our accounting systems. Bob will form a committee to begin the process. Bob says It's been 5-6 months since we last audited the checkbook and the committee will look at it at the same time.

Long Lake Conservation Camp Applicant – Tom Wasbotten: Tom read a letter from Ana Wollette. Motion by Gene Shaw, 2nd Jeff Jarvela to approve sending her to LLCC, carried. Tom will inform Ana & her father that her request has been approved. Tina suggested setting a limit on how many kids to send this year. Lance Parthe made a motion to have a cut-off date and limit the # of applicants, 2nd by Eric Hansen. Discussion followed with comments by Keith Darsow, Tom Wasbotten, Tina Sund and Lance Parthe. Lance withdrew his motion: it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Tom spoke on donation requests for Trap Shooting Clubs. Tom asked John Jones if Lakeview Christian Academy would be requesting a donation.

Summer Fishing Contest – Tom Wasbotten: Gene Shaw says Island Lake has a lot of fishing contests scheduled this summer. Gene suggested we not hold a walleye contest or, hold it to later in the season.

Members sick or in distress: Don Solom, a life member, passed away.

Next Meeting Date & Adjournment: In Person meeting at the clubhouse Wednesday, May 4th, 6 pm. Motion made to adjourn at 7:11 pm (M/S/C).

Respectfully submitted by Eric Hansen, Secretary.

Camping Rules Clarifications Effective May 5, 2022

Some rules clarifications were recently passed at the May 2022 Board of Directors meeting of which all members should be aware. The full language will be made available in an updated version of the rules. Consult with the Camp Host for details and further information. All clarifications are designed to resolve issues from prior years. The following is a shortened version, but does include the key clarifications.

Membership and Membership Information

Individual Membership – One individual over 18 years of age. You must be 18 to possess a UNS membership.

Family Membership – A Cohabiting couple and, if their children are living in the household, includes those under 18 years of age, but only when accompanied by at least one of their parents while on UNS property. Also, includes a family unit headed by a single parent or legal guardian who wants to include their children living in the household under the age of 18, but only when accompanied by that parent or legal guardian while on UNS property.

Members will be held responsible for their day guests. **Second Sentence Repealed.** (See Guests Section for more information.)

Guest Information

Any guest under age 18 years of age is only allowed on the property when they are the guest of a parent member or a person possessing a family membership and is also accompanied by one of their parents.

Guest parking will be restricted to off site roadside parking during major holiday weekends or events or other times when 28 or more campsites are occupied.

Range Rules

UNS R2 Children under the age of 18 years of age must be with a parent or legal guardian member at all times on all shooting ranges and archery areas.

Waterfront and Boat Launch Rules

UNS W7 Vehicles with trailers must park to the east of the main boat area and is reserved for non-campers.

UNS W8 Vehicles without trailers must park on the north side by the rope fence and is reserved for non-campers.

Campground Information

All Members who wish to camp must register their sleeping unit immediately upon arrival and cannot occupy a campsite prior to the arrival of that sleeping unit. A membership is limited to one camping site per day.

After October 1st, no amenities or electric hookups will be available.

All campsites are on a first come, first served basis. No member shall, in any way, attempt to reserve in advance, a campsite for themselves or anyone else.

UNS C1 Married couples, if both chose to have single memberships, cannot double their number of camping days from 14 to 28 if camping together.

UNS C2 Campers registering to camp on a site must spend the entire night at that campsite for each calendar day they intend to stay. **Previous UNS C2 Repealed.**

UNS C8 Members or nonmembers may not leave personal property, including motor vehicles, overnight on UNS property except if you are overnight camping at the UNS campground. **Previous UNS C8 Repealed.**



THE FIRST STATE OF MINNESOTA FISHING SUMMIT

ROGERS, Minn. – In a place where they undercount 10,000 lakes right on the official license plates, Minnesota should rightfully be known as the State of Fishing. At least that is the opinion of MN-Fish, which started in 2018 to be a “squeaky wheel” at the state Legislature.

With the 2022 walleye fishing opener just days away – despite ice still covering many northern Minnesota lakes – the lobbying and fishing promotion group brought together varied interests from throughout Minnesota on Tuesday for the first State of Minnesota Fishing Summit. What followed was several hours of information and opinion on what is working and what needs work in the world of fishing on Minnesota’s myriad waterways.

“We believe that Minnesota is the State of Fishing, and we want to keep it that way,” said Ron Schara, the longtime outdoors writer and TV host who serves as the MN-Fish president. He stated his perception that there is a lack of adequate investment in things like fish hatcheries and public water access points.

While offering no pledges of funding, DNR commissioner Sarah Strommen noted that Minnesota has a historic budget surplus and called this a “once-in-a-generation opportunity” to invest in fishing needs in the state. She noted the importance of the outdoors and the skyrocketing popularity of socially distanced activities like fishing, hiking and camping during the COVID pandemic, that allowed countless Minnesotans to get out of the house while staying safe from transmission of the virus.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz pledged his support for the two MN-Fish bonding proposals, which seek \$60 million for fish hatcheries and \$37 million for improved public water access. Walz acknowledged the sharp ideological divide currently in Minnesota politics, but said that fishing can and should rise above dug-in positions. “I think in Minnesota, protection of our outdoor activities – especially fishing – transcends partisan politics,” said Walz.

“In many ways, there are the good old days,” said Brad Parsons, who is in charge of statewide fisheries for the DNR, noting things like the growth of bass fishing and the increasing numbers of young people and people of color getting involved in fishing. There is also growth in new types of fishing – exploring smaller, shallower waterways via kayak or bowfishing – and potential new crowds of anglers to reach.

The dark clouds that challenge the industry come from things like climate change, which is moving the fish reproduction timelines and seasons due to warmer waters, runoff from agricultural operations that can pollute lakes and rivers, and the advancement of fishing electronics, which one speaker noted may eventually change the name of the activity from “fishing” to “catching.”

Tuesday’s attendees included resort owners, regional tourism directors, fishing education promoters, DNR conservation officers and officials from several state agencies. It was a free-flowing marketplace of ideas on how to continue to grow fishing in the state, which is part of the Minnesota identity, to be sure. Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Commissioner Steve Grove noted that nearly 50 years later, the lasting iconic image of Minnesota for many around the nation is former Gov. Wendell Anderson, smiling while he held a fresh-caught northern pike aloft on the cover of “TIME” magazine in August 1973.

But, Grove noted, fishing is also a \$4.4 billion industry encompassing everything from the small-town bait shops, where folks pick up shiner minnows and leeches on their way to the lake, to major high-profile employers like Clam Outdoors, which hosted the meeting at their headquarters just off Interstate 94.

One point of emphasis was finding ways to reach the next generation of anglers in the state. A Clam employee asked for a show of hands among the dozens in the room to see how many were 30 or younger. There was one. It underscored the need for a youth-based effort to reach the “YouTube and TikTok crowd,” get them to try fishing, and stick with fishing as a lifelong activity.

Walz noted the growth in high school sports like clay target shooting and fishing show that the next generation is discovering the outdoors on its own.

“This tradition is alive and well with the number of young people getting involved,” Walz said. “We were worried just a few years ago and wondering what we were going to do. Nobody was getting into hunting, nobody was getting into fishing. We were all getting gray...That is no longer an issue. It’s exploding. They get it, and they love it. And now we need to leave them a legacy where they can actually do it.”

Jess Myers, May 3, 2022, Duluth Tribune, Northland Outdoors

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR CAMP AT THE LONG LAKE CONSERVATION CENTER

The United Northern Sportsmen's Club is proud to announce the Long Lake Conservation Center camps are open again this year and we are giving scholarships.

Send some lucky kids to camp! The programs take place from June - August. The camps include Forkhorn Camps, Outdoor Explorer Camp, Astrology Camp and Fishing Camp. More information for this is posted on LongLakeCC.org. If you have any kids or grandkids interested have them email or write a note to Tom Wasbotten, 218-721-4864, twasbotten@outlook.com.

UNS SHOOTING RANGE RULES

Some important rules to remember when planning to use the UNS shooting ranges include:

All ranges are operated on a first come first served basis, unless otherwise posted for closures. Please exercise common courtesy, common sense, and good sportsmanship for a safe and enjoyable experience.

Ranges are open 8:00 am to 1/2 hour before sunset. All ranges are closed on Mondays.

Children under 18 years of age must be with a parent or legal guardian Member at all times on all shooting and archery areas.

Shotgun patterning is to be done on the rifle range only.

Only clay pigeons can be used on the trap range.

Only UNS authorized metal gongs can be used on the 200- and 300-yard ranges.

Centerfire rifles, black-powder arms, shotguns, or handguns larger than 45 caliber are prohibited on the pistol range.

Automatic firearms, and trigger activators, bump stocks, or machine gun conversion kits are prohibited as per State of Minnesota Fully Law MS609.67.

NO ALCOHOL OR FDA CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES shall be used prior to or during range use.

EMAILS WANTED: Remember, the next time you renew your membership, or even tomorrow, let us know your email address so you may receive our enhanced newsletter electronically. Emails may be sent to Tina Sund.

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS

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2022 Board of Directors

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