

# 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

NOVEMBER 2022

NUMBER 11

\$12.00

## Club Calendar

**Ranges Closed on Mondays,  
for Maintenance, Reserved Activities**

**Oct. 29-31 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range**

**Nov. 2 UNS Board Meeting  
6:00pm, Clubhouse**

**Nov. 1-4 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range**

**Nov. 5 Deer Opening - Firearms**

**Dec. 7 UNS Board Meeting  
6:00pm, Clubhouse**

**Dec. 14 UNS Annual Business Meeting  
6:00pm, American Legion Post 71**

**Jan. 29 UNS Ice Fishing Contest**

All members are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP Eric at [gonefishing0101@hotmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.unitednorthernsportsmen.org)

### SHOOTING HOURS

Range hours: 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 Clubhouse Bldg. Please obey the rules or 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 you would like share or photos please send to [sue@b-green.us](mailto:sue@b-green.us). It may be shared space permitting.

### EMAILS WANTED:

Remember, the next time you renew your membership, or even tomorrow, send us your current email address so you may receive our enhanced news letter electronically and sooner. Emails may be sent to [unsclub@gmail.com](mailto:unsclub@gmail.com).

### ICE FISHING CONTEST:

Mark January 29th on your calendars for the UNS 69th Annual Fishing Contest.

## 2022 UNS ANNUAL MEETING

The UNS Annual Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14th, at 6 pm. The order of business will consist of approval of the 2023 annual budget, the elections of three Directors, as well as any other business conducted for the good of the order. The meeting will be In-Person at the American Legion Post 71, 5814 Grand Ave., Duluth.

## 2022 UNS ELECTIONS AT THE DECEMBER ANNUAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee will propose a slate of candidates at the November BOD meeting and elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on December 14th. All members nominated must be in good standing for a minimum of one year by the December Annual Meeting. Contact John Bathke, [john@b-green.us](mailto:john@b-green.us) if you wish to nominate someone for a board position.

## UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN 2022 FALL FUNDRAISER

The Annual Fall Fundraiser and the Fall Sight-In are what gives us the needed funds for kid's events, conservation efforts, and the maintenance of our facility. If every member commits to buying and/or selling these tickets, we will be able to fund our events that so many people have come to enjoy and expect.

Our 2022 Fall Fundraiser will again consist of raffling off \$1,500 of gift certificates from our local businesses. Each ticket will be a \$5.00 donation. If you haven't already received any or need more to sell to family, friends, coworkers or by buying them for yourself please contact Deanna Dodge by phone: (218) 721-3979, or email [pddodge2014@hotmail.com](mailto:pddodge2014@hotmail.com).

Our drawings will be held on Friday, November 4th at the close of the Fall Sight-In. You do not need to be present to win. Thank you for your continued support in our club.

## THE FALL SIGHT-IN IS GOING ON NOW!

The Minnesota firearms deer hunting season begins on Nov. 5th. The UNS Sight-In fundraiser will continue on Nov. 1-4. The range will open at 8am and close 1/2 hour before sunset. The fee will be \$5.00 per gun for everyone. This event is open to the public, you do not have to be a member. Remember to bring eye and ear protection and a case for your gun.

## UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES, October 5, 2022

**Call to Order:** by President Tom Wasbotten at 6:00pm. **Conservation Pledge** was recited.

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

**Excused Officers:** John Jones. **Attending UNS Members:** Sue Bathke, Sara Spindler.

**Correspondence:** Gnesen Township Newsletter.

**Agenda Additions & Approval:** Motion to add new location for the Annual Club Business Meeting. Motion to approve the agenda with new additions (M/S/C).

**Reading of Minutes:** Eric Hansen read the minutes from the September 7th Board of Directors meeting. Motion made to accept the minutes as read (M/S/C).

**Treasurer's Report:** Tina Sund as of 9/30/22: Taxes payment bill is coming up and storm damage claim bill will be here soon. Motion made to approve the Treasurer's report and pay the bills(M/S/C).

**Membership Secretary's Report:** Tina Sund as of 9/30/22: Current membership is 1523. Individual Membership renewals: 43 and 5 new, Family Membership renewals: 22 and 4 new. 58 renewals are coming up, 39 expired notices.

### OTHER REPORTS:

**Web Master:** Eric Hansen: made range reservations & Fall Fund Raiser updates to the UNS website and Facebook page & posted October newsletter.

**Facilities Committee:** Lance Parthe reports storm related damage inspections are in process. Flagpole will be lowered for the winter; Range backstop repair will be put off until Spring. Picnic tables will be left out for the Firearm Safety class on Sunday. Tom Wasbotten has an estimate for the storm damage. We received an estimate for snow plowing from last year's contractor.

**Range and Grounds Calendar:** Bob Kuettel & Lance Parthe reported on sight-in days status, dates for Zmudy's UMD outdoor class are Oct 18, 25, 27, all ranges from 2:30 to 4:30. Bob has a Sat morning class for Range Officers + sign-up sheets for the Outdoor Skills Class and Sight-In Days. Posters have been printed for the Sight-In days.

**Incident Report:** Lance Parthe said there was nothing to report.

**Volunteer Awards:** Vickie reported that Eric Hansen has 1000+ hours.

**Communication Committee:** Maggie Cretens & Lance Haavisto are co-chairs. Lance made a motion to move the hard copy newsletter to a quarterly format starting in January and have a monthly on-line issue, 2nd by Ron Cretens, discussion followed: carried. Committee is working on 'templates' for UNS event communications.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Web Site Committee:** Lance Parthe is asking for members to volunteer to write hard copy for the new UNS web site and get the written copy to Tina. Lance will send a link to the drop box with photos.

**UNS Youth Outdoor Field Day August 2023** – Maggie Cretens, Lance Haavisto reports Cody Privette will send info soon and meet with them.

**Annual Deer Rifle Sight-In:** Bob Kuettel reports it is ready to go. It will still be a \$5 donation.

**Fall Fund Raiser:** Tina Sund reports tickets are out & she has received some sold tickets and bills for tickets.

**MN Health Dept Dump Station Variance:** Lance Parthe will make an appointment to meet with Health Dept. Keith Darsow asked about benefits to having a dump station. Discussion followed re: expense and on-going maintenance required.

**DNR Training Activities on UNS Grounds Sunday Sept 9, 2022:** Lance Parthe reports Kip Duncan is holding a field day for firearm safety in the morning & firearm safety instructors' training in the afternoon.

**UMD College Field Days on UNS Grounds:** Bob Kuettel reports that UNS has held this event for about 10 years, archery, 22's on small bore range, shooting the GONG on big bore range + outdoor skills. Event in conjunction with UMD Recreation Major Program.

**Nominations Committee for 2022 Club Election:** Tom Wasbotten appointed John Bathke & Tina Sund, Eric Hansen Volunteered, Keith Darsow & Bob Kuettel were picked by the committee.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Deer Hunter's Camping Request:** Tom Wasbotten received a request from this group to camp on UNS grounds for 2022 Deer Hunting Season as they have done in past years. A motion was made to allow it (M/S/C).

**UNS 2023 Budget Preparation – Tom Wasbotten & Tina Sund:** Information and spread sheets with past years' expenses was passed out. Budget requests are due before the November meeting.

**End of Camping Season Review of Camp Host Performance:** Tom Wasbotten proposed that Ron Cretens be asked to come back for 2023 season. Tom suggested a bonus stipend of \$500 for his work. Motion made (M/S/C).

**Annual Business Meeting in December:** Bob Kuettel suggested holding the December Annual Business Meeting at a larger space so more members could attend. A motion was made to meet at the American Legion for the December 14th Annual Club Business meeting (M/S/C). Bob will set it up.

**Next Meeting Date & Adjournment:** Next meeting: In Person at the UNS clubhouse Wed., Nov. 2nd at 6pm. Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm (M/S/C).

Respectfully submitted by Eric Hansen, Secretary.



## ICE FISHING CONTEST



The United Northern Sportsmen's 69th Annual Ice Fishing Contest will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2023 at the Sportsmen Retreat on Island Lake. Further information will be sent to all club members in November. For advance information call Tom Wasbotten (763-228-8889).

### **UNS HOSTED THE YOUTH FIREARMS SAFETY FIELD DAY TAUGHT BY DNR**

It was a crisp October Saturday and over 30 youth gathered at UNS to attend the UNS sponsored Youth Firearms Safety Field day put on by the DNR. The training was led by Conservation officer, Kipp Duncan. Anyone over the age of 12 must have a firearms safety certificate in order to purchase a hunting license. Traditionally Northern Minnesotan families like to get out and hunt during the fall. Kids 12 years of age or older with the certificate and license can participate after taking this class. UNS members volunteered to work side by side with the DNR to put on this event. Fires in the fire rings kept the youth and parents warm while they attended the two part class.

The first half of the class utilized the clubhouse where instructors did the three hour classroom requirement. After the classroom portion was finished, everyone enjoyed a lunch break. The second half was the field requirements portion where students utilized many aspects of the property including the campground area, the small bore/pistol range, and UNS wooded trails. They had students practice scenario based exercises. For example, safe gun handling while in a boat, in a tree stand, or passing over a fence, and various safe shooting scenarios.

Youth firearms safety field day programs are in high demand in our Northern Minnesota area. United Northern Sportsman Club will plan on doing two field days a year. One in early spring and one in early fall. Kipp Duncan told us that he thought our property provided the best experience possible for this type of field day due to the diverse landscape and facilities that the UNS grounds have to offer. If you're interested in participating or helping out in these upcoming events, contact Lance Parthe at United Northern Sportsman Club. Dates will be announced once they're finalized.



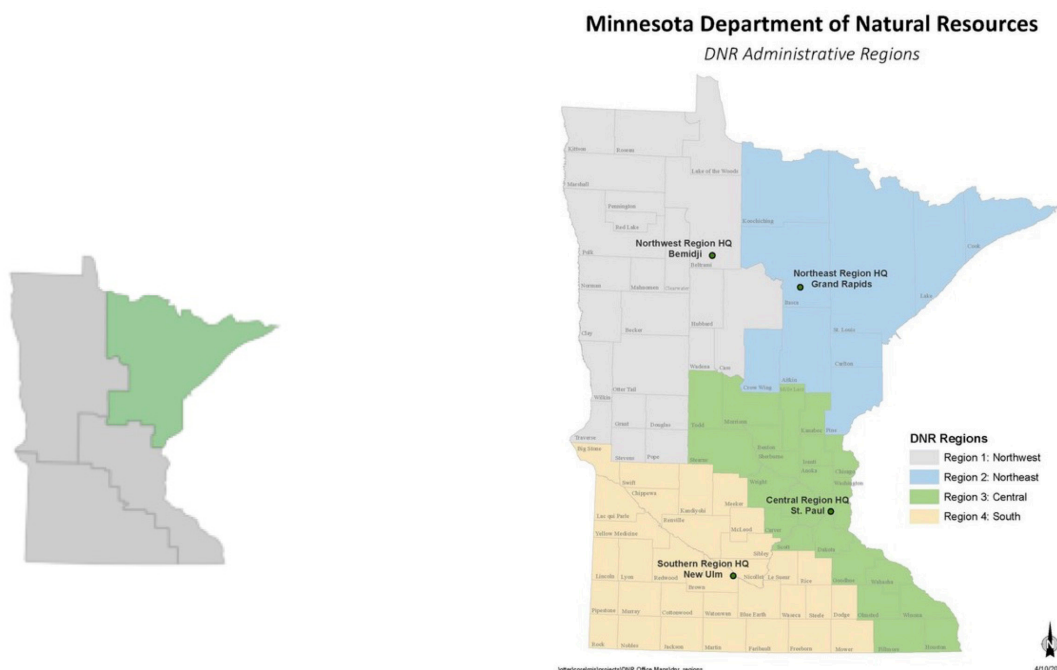
## WHAT MINNESOTA DEER HUNTERS CAN EXPECT THIS SEASON

More than 400,000 deer hunters are preparing for the firearms deer season that opens Saturday, Nov. 5th. The season offers opportunities to spend time outdoors with friends and family, find adventure and put venison in the freezer.

Deer hunting is the primary tool used to manage deer populations, and hunters help keep deer numbers in line with population goals across the state. Managing deer populations contributes to the overall health of Minnesota's landscapes, natural systems and economy.

DNR wildlife managers report good opportunities to harvest deer in most areas. Hunters need to know the boundaries of the deer permit areas and any chronic wasting disease regulations that apply where they hunt. For the northeast region the best harvest opportunities will be in the southern portion of the northeast region, where deer numbers are higher.

Detailed information about each permit area and CWD area can be found on the DNR's [interactive deer map \(mndnr.gov/Hunting/Deer/Map.html\)](http://mndnr.gov/Hunting/Deer/Map.html). Additional information about CWD areas, carcass movement restrictions and voluntary sampling can be found at the DNR's [CWD webpage \(mndnr.gov/CWD\)](http://mndnr.gov/CWD) and hunters are encouraged to use the DNR's [make a plan tool online \(mndnr.gov/DeerHunt\)](http://mndnr.gov/DeerHunt) to find comprehensive hunting and CWD information to consider before going afield.



### FOR THE NORTHEAST REGION:

Winter 2021-22 weather was [moderate or severe \(mndnr.gov/Mammals/Deer/Management/WSI.html\)](http://mndnr.gov/Mammals/Deer/Management/WSI.html) with deep snow over most deer permit areas in the northeast region. During severe winters, thermal cover and forage availability become more important. In deep snow, deer have more difficulty moving around and become more susceptible to predation.

Many northern permit areas are still struggling to recover deer numbers. As a result, many areas will again have lower antlerless permit offerings or will be bucks only. This will give local deer populations the chance to grow in areas where their numbers are below the established, publicly vetted population goals. The DNR will be reviewing [deer population goals \(mndnr.gov/Mammals/Deer/Management/Population.html\)](http://mndnr.gov/Mammals/Deer/Management/Population.html) this winter for DPAs in the East Central Uplands goal block covering the southern portion of the northeast region.

The best harvest opportunities will be in the southern portion of the northeast region, where deer numbers are higher and not affected by winter weather to the same extent as the more northern permit areas. The highest deer numbers are expected in areas of mixed habitat of open fields and forest. Current dry conditions will provide good access for hunters. CWD management zones in the region will provide additional harvest opportunities. Hunters are encouraged to make a plan ([mndnr.gov/DeerHunt](http://mndnr.gov/DeerHunt)) and must follow CWD sampling requirements and carcass movement restrictions in their DPA.

In the northeast region, three interrelated factors have the most impact on the deer population: forest habitat quality, winter severity and predation. Forest cover, food availability and predator numbers, as well as hunting pressure, vary across the landscape and can make a big difference on local deer populations. Differences in seasonal weather and deer survival, especially over winter, greatly affect local deer numbers. Scouting for local pockets of deer will improve hunter success.

[Read more about other regions.](#)

## GOOD NEWS FOR VOLUNTEERS

United Northern Sportsman Club success heavily depends on the efforts of our volunteers, ranging from grounds keeping, facilities maintenance and general upkeep as well as many opportunities to help with our fundraising and youth events. In order to provide the types of events that the club is known for, the volunteers play an integral role. We would like to thank everyone who has taken the time in the past to make UNS one of the favorite recreational areas of the Northland. During the past year we have been revamping the UNS Volunteer Awards Program to make it more convenient to participate.

We are looking forward to bringing back our Youth Outdoor Orientation Day along with adding a Youth Hunter Education/Firearms Safety Certification Course. We are hoping to add more youth oriented programs in the future. In order to make these events happen we rely on volunteers to help out.

In the next month's newsletter we will be including details about the new volunteer awards program which will go into effect 01/01/2023. In the meantime if you have volunteer hours that have not been turned in, they must be turned in by 02/01/2023 or they will be disallowed. These hours can be turned in to Vickie Jensen at [orbit7529@msn.com](mailto:orbit7529@msn.com).

## THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT

Last week was the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act. Across the country, NRCS works with farmers and ranchers to improve water quality through proven conservation practices.

Working in partnership with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), farmers are using proven conservation practices to help improve water quality downstream. Our customers are stewards of our nation's farmland, voluntarily stepping up to the plate to make an impact. They are improving the natural resources in their communities while at the same time boosting the health of their operations for the future.

The practices and systems that NRCS promotes can help farmers improve the health of their soils, keeping expensive nutrients on their lands and feeding crops, and out of nearby streams and waterways. For example, [cover crops](#) keep soil covered and protected throughout the year, and [no-till](#) helps keep the soil structure intact. These practices increase the organic matter in the soil, improving water infiltration and reducing run-off. Through [grassed waterways](#), farmers reshape eroding areas on the farm and plant grasses that can help prevent further eroding.

Healthy soils can also help producers manage extreme weather events, with better water retention for crops during drought and more water and nutrients staying in the soil during floods.

Conservation applied on any acre delivers a benefit, but when conservation efforts [target the most vulnerable watersheds](#) and lands, the results are greater. Over a [10-year period](#), conservation practices implemented by farmers across the nation reduced the amount of sediment lost from cropland fields by 74 million tons and reduced average annual wind and water erosion across the nation's croplands by 94 million tons and 76 million tons, respectively.

Visit the [NRCS website](#) to learn more about improving water quality and voluntary conservation programs.

## GIVE A GIFT: How about a UNS Membership?

### UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS

PO Box 161108, Duluth, MN 55816

[www.uns-duluth.com](http://www.uns-duluth.com)

[unsclub@gmail.com](mailto:unsclub@gmail.com)

#### 2022 Board of Directors

<b>President Tom Wasbotten</b>	<b>218-721-4864</b> <b>763-228-8889</b>
<b>Lance Parthe</b>	<b>218-349-5555</b>
<b>Secretary Eric Hansen</b>	<b>218-831-8646</b>
<b>Treasurer Tina Sund</b>	<b>218-591-3304</b>
<b>Sgt at Arms Bob Kuettel</b>	<b>218-393-2000</b>
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<b>Membership Tina Sund</b>	<b>218-591-3304</b>
<b>Webmaster Eric Hansen</b>	<b>218-831-8646</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor Susanne Bathke</b>	<b>612-991-5364</b>
<b>Camp Host Ron Cretens</b>	<b>218-349-8510</b>

#### Directors

<b>John Bathke</b>	<b>612-991-5363</b>
<b>Maggie Cretens</b>	<b>218-349-6399</b>
<b>Ron Cretens</b>	<b>218-349-8510</b>
<b>Keith Darsow</b>	<b>218-390-4557</b>
<b>Lance Haavisto</b>	<b>906-235-8483</b>
<b>Jeff Jarvela</b>	<b>218-461-6007</b>
<b>Vickie Jensen</b>	<b>218-591-5619</b>
<b>John Jones</b>	<b>218-576-3740</b>
<b>Gene Shaw</b>	<b>218-348-2191</b>