

United Northern Sportsmen'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 81

JANUARY 2026

Volume 1

\$12.00

CALENDAR

Postponed

January 24th, 2026
72nd Annual Ice Fishing
contest

NEW DATE

FEBRUARY 7th at UNS
Island lake
12:30- 3:30

February 4th, 2026
Board and Membership
Meeting 6:00 pm at UNS
Clubhouse. All members
welcome.

February 19th -22nd
Duluth Sports Show at the
DECC. UNS will have a
booth there stop in
Thursday 3-8 Friday 10-8
Saturday 9-8 Sunday 10-4

Firearm Safety Class
Schedule is in this letter
be sure to read and sign
up as classes fill quickly

Range hours are 8 am to 30
minutes before sunset. Also
check Facebook and web
page for closures or
changes.

Postponed

Unfortunately, due to the extreme weather conditions that are going to be this weekend we have decided to postpone the UNS Ice Fishing Contest. It has been a difficult decision, but it is in the best interest for everyone. The future date for the contest will be FEBRUARY 7th, from 12:30- 3:30 PM.

All prize drawings will be held at that time, and all other prizes will be on the day of the contest.

Again, we apologize about this, but our best interests are for all people involved and being safe.

Postponed

ANNUAL ICE FISHING CONTEST
SATURDAY JANUARY 24, 2026
12:30-3:30

Rescheduled to February 7th, 2026

GATE PRIZE DRAWING \$1,000.00 cash need not be present to win

\$2,000 in additional cash prizes

1st Place \$1,000.00 2nd Place \$500.00 3rd Place \$250.00 4th Place 125.00
5th Place \$75.00

Trophy and \$50.00 prize for child (age 15 and under) for largest fish

COME JOIN IN THE FUN AND TAKE A CHANCE TO WIN SOME INCREDIBLE PRIZES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

ERIC HANSEN
218-831-8646

UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 7, 2020

Call to order: President Jim Weiss at 6:00 pm Conservation pledge recited

Roll Call of Elected officers: Jim Weiss, Tina Sund, Mike Hart, Vickie Jensen, Eric Hansen, Jim King, Tim Wahlburg, Nancy Poppenberg, Sam Haddad

Appointed Officers: Eric Hansen

Excused Appointed/Officers: Keith Darsow, Rob Murray, Cord Timo, John Kolar, Tom Kulas, Deanna Dodge

Swearing in of New Officers: Jim Weiss, Lucas Nordby, Nancy Cozzi, Bob Kettle, Chris Matilla

Roll Call of 2026 Elected officers: Jim Weiss, Tina Sund, Mike Hart, Vickie Jensen, Keith Darsow, Jim King, Tim Wahlburg, Nancy Poppenberg, Sam Haddad, Tom Kulas, Bob Kettle, Nancy Cozzi, Lucas Nordby, Chris Matilla

Appointed officers: Eric Hansen

Correspondence: Gnesen Township Newsletter, Second Harvest Newsletter, Wildwoods Newsletter, Community Education Magazine,

Tina Sund: Campground Permit from Health Department has been received. PO Box has been decommissioned, and she is filling out permit #49 for a refund of \$1,500.00, postage due account has about \$59.00 balance. Tina will file for a refund.

Motion made by Nancy Poppenberg to make a donation of \$500.00 to 2nd Willwoods, 2nd by Mike Hart. Carried.

Approval of minutes and Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda and minutes by Nancy Poppenberg and 2nd by Jim King. Carried

Membership Secretary's Report: Memberships/Renewals: As of December 31, 2025 there are 1,342 members.

Individual Memberships 27 (new) Family Memberships 20 (2 new)

Renewals coming 31 2nd expired notices 23

Other Reports:

Facilities Committee: Spike has completed the shelving in the former outhouse for storage, Spike generously donated the time and materials for this project, THANK YOU SPIKE. Jim Weiss plowed the trail to the 100 yard range for people to use. The new POW flag needs to be raised.

Range and Ground Calendar: Incident Report: Nothing to report

Volunteer Awards: Lucas Nordby 250 Hours

Old Business: Ice Fishing Show update and discussion. Lucas Nordby talked to the Jaycees about what they do for their fishing contests. They have at least 12,000 people fishing. Discussed what they do for their contest. Discussed getting a cell phone for the camp host for better communication. The big draw at the show was the mounted Northern fish that caught peoples attention on display at the booth. It was felt we could have sold more ice fishing contest tickets if we had a credit card sales available.

Duluth Sports Show February 19-22 is coming up. We need volunteers to help with 4-hour time slots at the booth.

AED'S and new battery have arrived.

Tickets: Tina Sund said we have sold about 705 tickets for this year's fishing contest

New Business:

Jim Weiss spoke about UNS membership activities, Conservation, member expectations and volunteering. Jon and Jan Polecheck were presented with a Lifetime Membership for all they have done for the club through the years.

Annual Fishing Contest: Saturday January 24. Set-up is January 23 at 10:00 am. We have received 3 of 4 permits for contest. Mike Hart: We could get insurance to cover participants to get rides onto the ice for about \$50.00 annually. Sam Haddad made a motion to get added insurance 2nd by Spike King. Carried. Mike Hart will contact the Insurance Company. We still need plowing for the event.

Firearm Safety Classes:

Mike Hart has set the schedule for the 2026 Firearms Safety Classes. Classroom course for 40 kids. March 19th, 26th, April 2nd, and April 9th. The classes are from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. At the Gnesen Community Center on Howard Gnesen Road. Two field days 20 kids on each day. 1st class is April 18th, the second day is April 19th. All classes must be attended to pass the class.

Also, there are going to be Two Hybrid field days. There will be 20 kids allowed for each day. The first day is May 2nd, and the next day is May 3rd. Sign up early for these classes as they get filled up quickly. Contact Mike Hart to sign up; (763)245-7268.

Secretary: Tina Sund made a motion to pay Eric Hansen while Nancy Cozzi is training for 3 months. 2nd by Sam Haddad, Carried

Members Sick or in Distress: Debbie McAuliffe passed away. Pat Dodge

Adjournment and date of next meeting: In person and zoom meeting on Wednesday February 4th, 2026, at 6:00 pm at UNS Clubhouse. Motion by Sam Hadda 2nd by Spike King at 7:31pm. Carried.

Submitted by Eric Hansen and Nancy Cozzi, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim Weiss	218-464-3377
Vice President	Mike Hart	763-245-7268
Secretary/Website	Nancy Cozzi	218-393-7176
Treasurer	Tina Sund	218-591-3304
Sargent of Arms	Sam Haddad	218-390-3808
Director	Keith Darsow	218-390-4557
Director	Vickie Jensen	218-591-5619
Director	Chris Mattila	
Director	Tom Kulas	218-391-2232
Director	Bob Kettle	218-393-2000
Director/Newsletter	Nancy Poppenberg	218-349-2129
Director	Spike	218-464-7860
Director	Lucas Nordby	218-355-8287
Director	Tim Walburg	218-340-5924
Membership Secretary	Deanna Dodge	218-590-7999

UNS Membership Fees

1 year Single	\$50.00	1-year Family	\$90.00
2 year Single	\$95.00	2-year Family	\$170.00