



THE MANUAL

The newsletter of the Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club



Fenton, Michigan

June 2024

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CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Our Club runs on our volunteer efforts, and the more members who donate their time and effort to running the Club, the easier the effort for everyone, and the merrier time we have doing so!

We have one specific volunteer event in the month of June: the setup for the Cowboy Action Shooting Match on Saturday, June 8th, from 1:30PM-5:00PM, and if there's a good turnout of volunteers, it'll be done before 5:00PM! The setup will be at the outdoor Cowboy Action Shoot range, which is just past the 50-yard range.

There is always, of course, the recurring events, such as the Monday cleanup of the Clubhouse, from 8:00AM-11:00AM, every Monday, and again, many hands make light work. So come on out, get to know some of your fellow members, and have a good time making our Club a great place to enjoy the shooting sports!

Finally, we are always looking for members to volunteer as board members. Attending a business meeting is the best way to get an idea of what that looks like.

So come to the next business meeting, see how we do things, and volunteer your time to help run our Club!

To volunteer for a specific task, you can just show up on the date and time, and we'll put you to work. To volunteer generally, contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator Bill Tocco at Volunteer@fentonlakes.com.

Finally, you can earn a discount on your membership fee by volunteering. So come on out, and lend a hand!

JUNE ACTIVITIES

Sporting Clays Spring League

The FSLC Sporting Clays Spring League continues this month, Monday June 3rd, 10th, 17, and 24th, from 6:00PM-8:00PM, on the outdoor Sporting Clays course. Registration for the League is closed.

Medical Response Training class

The Medical Response Training class being offered again this year through the National Ski Patrol, will continue this month on Wednesday, June 5th, 12th, 19th, and the 26th, at 6:00PM-9:00PM, in the 1st floor hall.

It may not be too late to join the course. Contact Mike Wiggins via call or text at (810)730-8383; or John Wiley at jdwiley@chartermi.net or call at (248)568-5938.

Junior Small Bore Rifle CMP Program

The Program continues this month, on June 6th and 20th at 6:00PM-8:00PM, in the indoor range.

See the [Civilian Marksmanship Program's page](#) for more details.

NRA-Personal Protection in the Home Class

Completion of this class will give you the certification you need to satisfy the training requirement for a Michigan Concealed Pistol License (CPL) application. The Class uses NRA materials.

The class begins at 8:00AM on Saturday, June 8th, and ends at 6:00PM that evening, in the training room in, the Clubhouse lower level.

For more information, and registration, see our [training page](#).

Cowboy Action Shooting Setup and Match

The Single Action Shooting Society is putting on a shooting match on Sunday, June 9th, from 8:30AM-12:30PM, at the 25 and 50 yard outdoor ranges. Setup for the Match will be on Saturday, June 8th, from 1:30PM-5:00PM. See our [SASS page](#), and Jim Twesten's articles below for more information.

FSLC Business Meeting

Our monthly business meeting will be held Tuesday, June 11th at 7:00PM, on the first floor of the Clubhouse. All Club members and the public at large are welcome to see how things get done, and have some input.

Steel Challenge

The Steel Challenge match will be on Saturday, June 22nd, from 9:00AM-1:00PM, at the Steel Challenge outdoor range.

See Jim Twesten's article below for a comparison of Steel Challenge, and Cowboy Action shooting.

See our [Steel Challenge](#) page for more information, and registration.

New Member Orientation

The Orientation will be in the lower level training room on Wednesday, June 26th, from 6:00PM-9:00PM.

Project Appleseed Clinic

This rifle clinic, which seeks to convey the skills, ideals and traditions of the Minuteman at Lexington and Concord of April 19, 1775, will be held Saturday, June 29th, from 9:00AM-5:00PM, at the 50-yard outdoor range.

For more information, and to register please see the [Project Appleseed web page](#).



Line Dance Lessons

Here's something you probably never expected to see at the Club – Line Dance Lessons. FLSC is more than just a place to shoot your firearms or bows. Beginning on July 25, 2024, we will offer line dance lessons.

Line dancing is a lot of fun and is also a great way to get some exercise. Our instructor, Tawna Rankin Martello, has been teaching line dancing since 2019 and has taught at several different locations.

Do you think you have two left feet? Not a problem. Line dance is not a partner dance so you don't have to worry about stepping on someone's feet or being stepped on. As long as you can move forward, backward, left and right you will be fine.

The class will be conducted over a 6-week period on Thursday evenings beginning on July 25 and continuing through August 29. Class will run from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the club's main banquet hall. As the line dance steps build upon themselves it is necessary to pre-register for the entire 6-week session. The cost is \$80.00 per person, and this covers all 6 lessons.

This is a great way to get out and have some fun, make new friends, have a date night and get some exercise.

STEEL CHALLENGE VS. ACTION COWBOY SHOOTING

by Jim Twesten

This is the third in a series of three articles comparing the similarities and differences between Steel Challenge and Cowboy Action Shooting.

Loading Devices

Steel: Magazine carriers are required for centerfire only. carriers or loaders must be worn on a belt with at least:

- 5 – 10 round magazines, or
- 4 – standard capacity magazines with 15 rounds plus, or
- 5 – speed loaders or moon clip holders.

You will shoot a minimum of 25 rounds per stage so make sure you have enough magazines / moonclips / speed loaders so that you do not have to reload between strings of fire. If you do not have enough magazine carriers, you may use pockets.

For rimfire, 3 to 5 – magazines which can be worn on a belt or carried in your pockets. If the shooter is junior and opts for a reduced round count, they will run three strings ONLY. Three magazines are all that will be required.

Please bring enough magazines so that other shooters do not have to wait on you – This will avoid lengthy delays in the match.

Cowboy: Unless specifically directed in the stage description, reloads are not allowed during a course of fire. Typically a shooter will shoot 10 revolver, 10 rifle and 4 shotgun. Once all the ammo required for a particular course of fire is consumed, the shooter is done.

Disqualification

- Breaking the 180 rule (170 in cowboy) while loading, unloading, or shooting
- Any unsafe gun handling at the range
- Failure to follow RO instructions
- Negligent discharge of a firearm
- Dropping a loaded firearm or being in possession of a loaded firearm at any time other than when instructed to “Make Ready” by the RO

- Any shot fired over a berm or backstop
- Bad/abusive language, unsportsmanlike conduct, or appearance of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- Inappropriate attire, as determined by the Match Director. The use of offensive or objectionable garments is not allowed.

Much has been said about having to wear cowboy clothes in order to shoot Cowboy. The minimum dress code for shooting Cowboy for men is a long sleeve shirt, a pair of slacks and boots or shoes that are flat soled—no sneakers. For women, a dress, skirt and blouse or slacks and blouse along with appropriate footwear is required. Part of the mystique of Cowboy is dressing the part, but it isn't necessary to go to extremes.

Matches

Both Steel and Cowboy have competitions called matches. These are the organized competitions for those wanting to compare their skills with those of other shooters.

Steel: A typical match consists of 5 stages with each stage having 5 targets. There are 8 predefined stage descriptions. The stage setups are defined by the Steel Challenge governing body. Target sizes, layout, height from the ground and distance from the firing line are mandatory with no variation. This is advantageous to the shooter who may be going from one match venue to another because everything will be consistent from one location to another.

Cowboy: A typical match consists of 5 stages. In each stage there will be targets that are to be engaged with revolvers, rifle and shotgun. There are no predefined stage descriptions. Instead, the stage description is determined by the match director at the time the stage is "written".

The governing body has suggested target sizes and distances from the firing line, but these are just suggestions. At times, there is no particular order in which the targets must be engaged. In that case, it is up to the shooter to determine what the optimal sequence of firearms to use is for the stage. Each shooter may shoot the targets in the manner he or she sees fit.

The complete rules for Steel Challenge may be found at:

<https://scsa.org/rules>

The complete rules for Cowboy Action Shooting may be found at:

<https://sassnet.com/the-shooting/cowboy-action-shooting/handbooks-rules>

Those interested in observing a match are always welcome. Just be sure to wear eye and hearing protection.

For more information about Cowboy Action Shooting contact Jim Twesten at ClubCowboyActionMgr@fentonlakes.com.

For more information about Steel Challenge contact Frank Oullette at ClubPPCmgr@fentonlakes.com.

Jim Twesten is the Fenton Lakes Sportsman's Club's Membership and Cowboy Action Manager.

RANGE RULE HIGHLIGHT

This month, we would like to highlight General Policies & Procedures Rule number 21, which may be found on page three of the printed range rules. Rules 21 may be found [here](#), on our Club's website.

Rule 21 states: "Brass, trash, and used targets/backers must be cleaned up and disposed of properly by the member and guests using the facility."

This rule is meant to promote and maintain the cleanliness of our Club, especially the indoor range, and there is also an element of safety, as well.

In the indoor range, spent brass may be picked up by hand, or using the various implements that may be found at the rear of the indoor range. If you do not want your brass, there are several buckets on the window sill, at the rear of the range that you may sort the various calibers into.

If you use the large cardboard target backers that are stored outside the indoor range, please remove any targets affixed to the backer, and return it to the pile located just outside the indoor range. There are several trash cans to deposit used targets in.

If you finish shooting, and another person is still shooting, out of courtesy, talk to them about cleaning up, especially if you must do so in front of their firing line. Remember, no one can go in front of the firing line, unless all firearms are cleared: actions open, and magazines out.

When using the outdoor ranges, brass is not so much an issue, except on the benches, and shooting areas. We appreciate that any trash be placed in the trash cans provided.

So please remember the basic firearm safety rules, and if you have any questions regarding the range rules, please contact any member of the Club Board, or staff.

So come on out to our Club with your friends, neighbors, co-workers, anyone that would enjoy some range time, let's all be safe, and have fun!

SPORTING CLAYS 3 BIRD SHOOT COMES TO FLSC!

July will see a new Sporting Clays event: the 3-Bird Shoot! This challenging twist on the normal sporting clays event involves three clays in the air, in quick succession, simultaneously, or a combination of both.

Call (248)842-1356 for more information.

3 BIRD SHOOT

What's a 3 Bird? Shooter loads 3 shells
Calls "Pull!" - 3 clays fly - Bang, bang, bang

**SATURDAY
JULY 27**
**FENTON LAKES
SPORTSMAN'S CLUB**

1140 Butcher Rd
Fenton, MI 48430
For more information
call 248-842-1356

REGISTRATION FEE
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LEGAL NOTES

By Paul C. Taylor

Our Club's reason for being is the support of the outdoor sports of Firearm and bow given that an integral feature of that is the ownership and use of firearms, and we are distinctly an *American* sportsman's club, it follows that the right to keep and bear arms and to self-defense via the use of those arms are vital to that purpose.

So in support of our Club's efforts, this column offers information, news and commentary relevant to the state of the law in Michigan, as it relates to the right to keep and bear arms.

While it would be inappropriate, and even sanctionable, for this author to offer advice as to any particular course of action without the appropriate attorney and client relationship, it is appropriate, and beneficial to share knowledge of the state of the law, pertaining to firearms, in Michigan. As the old saying goes, knowledge is power, and shared knowledge is king. Thus, please consider the foregoing.

This month, pending legislation in the Michigan legislature will be discussed.

The gist of the proposed legislation is to prohibit the carry of firearms, even with a Concealed Pistol License (CPL) in the Michigan Capitol, Senate Office Building, House of Representatives Office Building, and the surrounding grounds, not including any parking lots, unless the person is a Michigan State Senator, or Representative.

[Senate Bill 857](#) was introduced by Sen. Dayna Polehanki on May 2, 2024. The Bill, if signed into law, it would amend [MCL 28.425o](#), which a section of Michigan's CPL statute which states the places in which a holder of a valid CPL may **not** carry a concealed firearm. The statute currently lists those places as:

- A school, or school property,
- Public or private day care,
- Sports arena, or stadium,
- Bar,
- Church, or church owned facility,
- An entertainment facility with seating capacity of 2,500, or greater,
- Hospital,
- The dormitory or classroom of a community college, college, or university.

Violation of this law ranges from a civil citation and fine, misdemeanor, to a 4 year felony, as well as suspension or revocation of the CPL, depending upon the number of previous violations of this law.

Senate Bill 857 would add to the list of prohibited places the Michigan Capitol, Senate office building, and the House office building.

Michigan State Senators and Representatives would be not subject to this prohibition.

[Senate Bill 858](#) was introduced by Senator Rosemary Bayer on May 2, 2024. The bill, if signed into law, it would amend [MCL 750.234d](#), which is the section of the Michigan Penal (Criminal) Code which states where a person may **not** carry a firearm, with one exception being the holder of a valid CPL issued by one of the United States.

The statute currently states that a person may not carry a firearm in a:

- Depository institution (bank),
- Church,
- Court of law,
- Theatre,
- Sports arena,
- Day care center,
- Hospital,
- Bar.

Violation of this law is a 90 day misdemeanor.

Senate Bill 858 would add to the list of prohibited places the Michigan Capitol, Senate office building, and the House office building.

It would also remove the exception for a holder of a valid CPL. The effect of this latter amendment would be that a CPL holder could not carry in a bank, or a theatre, where they are able to with the current statute.

Michigan State Senators and Representatives who hold a valid CPL would be not subject to this prohibition.

See this feature in the July newsletter for commentary, and legal analysis of these two proposed amendments.

There will be more discussion and information in future newsletters, so in the meantime, keep your head on a swivel, [don't talk to the police](#) without an attorney, and have fun at our Club!

Paul C. Taylor is a member in good standing of the State Bar of Michigan.