
September 1,
2026

Blue Water News

The Latest News at B.W.S.A.

Issue #9
of
MMXXVI

1st Vice President's Message

We have completed the 1st phase of redoing the clubhouse as the west side has been completed except for a couple small items that are on back order and reinstalling a few items the club is responsible for. This will not prevent us from using the west side as we have passed all inspections. We will be making plans and talking with the general contractor about the east side for the 2nd phase of remodeling the clubhouse.

As some of you might have heard, there are plans for a company to build warehouses on the vacant property directly adjacent to our east and north sides of our property. Kimball Township has voted in favor of the place to rezone those properties. This will allow the new company to move forward with the project. We do not believe this will have an impact on what we do. We are and need to continue to be mindful about bullets leaving not the property. The more that is built around us, the more of a chance something leaving our ground will hit something. This just makes us be vigilant about target placement and making sure all rounds hit our impact berms. As we find out more, we will keep you informed.

A few reminders of the use of the ranges. From what I have seen, everyone is doing a great job of cleaning up after themselves, please keep doing so. Make sure all guests sign the back of the envelope as that is the release of liability. Please keep steel as close to the impact berms as that helps keep ricochets on the range. And as always, have fun, be safe, as we look forward to seeing you out there.

Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendar

Every Wednesday 6:30 pm Bullseye
Every Thursday 5:00 pm Thursday 3 Gun
Every Thursday Trap and Skeet
Every Sunday (unless an event) Trap and Skeet
September 2-7 SASS Range Wars
September 19 New Member Orientation
September 19 3 Gun Match
September 20 ACWSA Artillery Match
September 26 Precision Rifle Event
September 27 Black Powder Pistol Woods Walk

Office Reminders

Your gate card will only work 9:00 am - 10:00 pm. Shooting hours are 9:30 am - 9:30 pm or dusk whichever is earlier. This time of year, we are starting to follow the dusk hours.

Please keep your online account up to date. We are getting renewal cards sent back to us, because members have moved and did not update their account. Email is very important as this is how we communicate with members the most. Several renewal emails were sent to members until you renew. If you did not update it or mark us "safe", you will not receive these important emails.

High Power League

This year's 100 yard HI-Power League dates are as follows:

September 5-6

October 3-4

The banquet is October 17, 2026 @ 5pm at the club house... so far.

League fee is \$20 which goes toward the banquet then \$10 per each match only.

The matches are 40 rounds each plus sighters. 9:45 am and 12pm start times. one or the other on both weekend days. The course of fire is 10 rounds standing off hand in 10 minutes. 10 rounds sitting in 60 seconds.

10 rounds rapid fire prone in 70 seconds and 10 rounds prone slow fire in 10 minutes.

Matches can be made up if missed or shoot them ahead.

** If desired extra matches can be fired and only the highest 40 round scores will be sent to the NRA for ranking up purposes.

Deer Hunters, etc. are welcome to fire single events for practice. \$10 range fee. NRA range behavior rules to be followed. All shots to be fired at 100 yards.

Questions? contact: Rick Oakes 580-201-9523, text please. I generally do not answer calls.

Precision Rifle

Our next event is September 26th. Registration is 8:30-9:15am Safety Brief is at 9:15am. Shooting starts at 9:30am. Cost is: Members \$10 / Non-members \$20 (Cash only, please only \$20/\$10/\$5 bills). **If you show up late you will not be allowed to shoot!** Register on the 600yd line (east of the clubhouse). You will have to carry all your equipment to the 600yd line.

* All shooters will shoot the qualifier at 99yds(3 rounds within 1.5" at 99yds) at the start of the shoot with any centerfire rifle you will be using that day.*

You may bring more than one rifle to shoot. All rifles must have a scope or magnified optics. No green tip, or armor piercing allowed, as it will damage the steel targets.

Targets are all steel from 99yds out to 615yds. **This event is not the time to zero your rifle!**

There will be two positions setup for Precision .22 (.22lr).

Again, there are no times, score or round count. If you have any questions feel free to call or text, I will get back with you.

This event is growing, which is awesome! With that being said, I am going to start placing people into 6 groups. We will have a mandatory rotation every hour. So it will be up to your group to call hits and misses and give everyone in your group a chance to engage each target.

** Dress for the weather, there is no shelter on the line **

Mark your calendars for this years Precision Rifle Events:

October 24, 2026

See you on the firing line,
Rod Damm
586-321-2211

3 Gun & Thursday 3 Gun

We hope you are enjoying your summer, there was no 3 Gun match in August since it's a busy month for competitions, and it's also a hot month. Our next 3 Gun match will be Saturday, September 19th. This match can be shot with 3 Gun (pistol, rifle, shotgun) or PCC (Pistol Caliber Carbine). Our matches are new shooter friendly, so sign up at [practiscore](https://practiscore.com) today, and join us for some of the most fun and excitement you can have on the range.

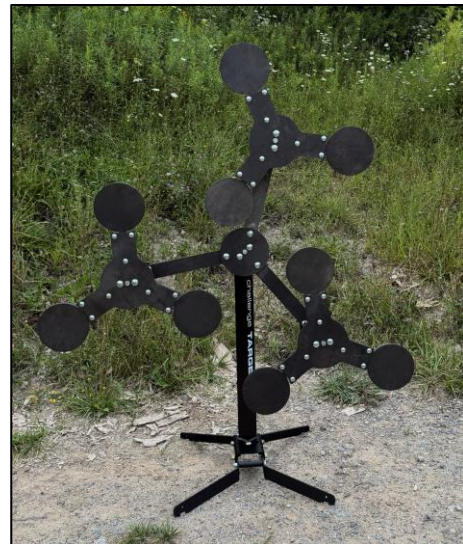
We would like to give a special thanks to the BWSA board, which budgets money for new steel targets each year, and with it, we were able to purchase a new spinning target. This target will likely make a showing at the September 3-Gun match. Practicing your tactical skill sis as much fun as competing in a competition. Join us for our weekly 3-Gun practices held year-round on Thursdays at 5:00pm at Bay 5, the pole barn. We set up a sample stage and you get the opportunity to shoot it a few times. All skill levels are welcome. During summer, with more daylight and a drier ground, we are able to do some more creative practice setups. Shooting with movement and accuracy, utilizing cover or concealment, across a full stage, will really sharpen your competition, tactical and self defense skills.

Even if you don't have all the guns or gear you need, you are still welcome to practice with what you do have, and learn from the experienced shooters what gear works well for them. Bring your favorite firearms and ammunition; since we shoot at steel targets, no steel core ammunition is allowed.

Cost is \$5.00 for BWSA members and \$15 for non-members.

Pre-registration each week is appreciated, as we limit the number so everyone gets a chance to shoot enough practice runs. Contact Jeff Jaje on the Monday prior to practice at (586) 612-0857 to secure an open spot.

For more information on the 3-Gun division and matches, you may reach out to Joel Drummond at (586) 904-2425. Come join the fun, camaraderie and sharpen your skills at the same time. We look forward to seeing you on the range.



Clay Target Championship

There have been three more shotgun events hosted in August that have counted towards the 2026 Clay Target Championship. There were 2 Big 50 Trap shoots in August. Russ Grafton was High gun for the first August Big 50 with a score of 49, earning him 12.5 points. The runner-up for that event was Scott Murray earning 11.5 points. In the 2nd of the August Big 50 Ed Allbaugh took high gun with a perfect 50 earning him 15 points. Runner-up was Russ Grafton and Mark Brinker. Each earning 11.5 points.

With East Vs. West concluding more points were earned. The top three spots in East Vs. West were secured by Dan Panczyk (40 points), Mark Brinker (30 points), and Jim Suwinski (27 points).

There has been a lot of movement on top of the Total leaderboard since the beginning of August. Dan Panczyk still has a firm grasp on Champion with (152.5 points) Joey Fackler (89 points) has moved into 2nd place from 3rd place. He is trailed very closely by Mark Brinker (88.5 points) who was outside of the top 5 going into August. Michael Suwinski (79.5 points) has dropped from 2nd place into 4th place. There is a two-way tie for 5th place Jim Suwinski (78 points) who was also outside of the top 5 to begin the month. Finally Frank Corbat (78 points) dropped one place from 4th at the beginning of August.

Remember even if you are not near the top, there will still be Lewis Class winners. **The more you shoot, the more points you can earn.** There are three events left in the year. Summer Sub-gauge ending September 13th. The Fall Trap just began. Finally, a new 100 bird 5-Stand league will begin late fall-early winter.

Summer Sub-Gauge

The league is on the home stretch with participation up over last year. There are 9 people shooting all gauges and 4 additional shooters shooting individual gauges.

So far scores are also up over last year. This is truly a testament to how great this club and the shotgun program at BWSA is. Increased scores are a direct result of the competitive nature of the veteran shooters, and their willingness to help make other shooters better.

The final day to get your scores in will be Sunday, September 13th. The banquet, awards, and any shoot-offs will be held on Sunday, September 20th.

Shotgun

Another one of our Summer Mini Events ended last month. The annual East vs. West competition concluded with the West Side Skeeters defeating the East Side Trappers by 20 birds, 1072 to 1052. It would have been 21 birds if someone would have remembered to score his first ever 25 straight on the trap fields. Although the trappers “borrowed” some of the best skeet shooters, the skeeters still prevailed. As usual the league ended with a Banquet Night with prizes & awards handed out. The party subs were supplied by Vinkier’s of Wadhams and the pasta salad was supplied by Paul & Penny’s of Marysville. This year’s event was squeezed into the east end of the clubhouse due to the construction on the west end. Both sides managed to get along despite the heated rivalry and no conflicts or injuries were reported. The only thing left to do is mount the trophy plaque. Since this will be the first award to be mounted on the newly remodeled west end walls, I’m looking for someone to drill the first hole. I know I’m not.

There will still be more competitions to follow. Dave Topel is running the Small Gauge League and Ed Allbaugh will run the Fall Trap League after that. So sign up for both leagues and try some different guns that have been languishing in your gun safe.

Larry Sokolowski 810-841-7136 larrysoko1@yahoo.com



Fall Trap League

20 August started our fall trap league. If you would like to participate, show up during open shotgun hours and sign up. This is a 400-target league with the 1st hundred needing to be shot by 13 September. Other than the 1st 100, you can shoot the rest as fits your schedule as long as you have all 400 targets shot by 29 October. All are welcome and you do not need to be a member of the ATA to participate. Skeet will still be open during this time frame for those wanting to sharpen skills in that discipline. Come out and join us in breaking some clay targets.

BWSA High Power Rifle Division

Match Results:

CMP 50 Round EIC Match – August 15th

This was a good match! We had enough non-distinguished shooters to offer up an 8 point and 6 point legs. Non-distinguished shooters are those competitors that have not yet earned the Rifleman's Badge. In total we had 25 shooters, 19 non-distinguished and 6 distinguished. The day was basically a "no wind" day with a light breeze coming directly out of the south back to the 300 yard line. During the first relay at the 600 yard line the mirage was moving from left to right, but in the middle of the string of fire the mirage came to a boil and began to swing back and forth a bit. This made things challenging for the other two relays. During the first relay at 600 Dave Flanagan had an out standing second string scoring 100-6X for a total of 197-10X at 600 yards.

Congratulations go to:

Nathan Abrams for "Legging Out" and obtaining the Distinguished Rifleman's Badge.

Adam Bacon for taking his first leg points with the 8 point leg.



Awards Winners:

Chris Kortas* 480-6X Match
Winner Silver Pin

Adam Bacon 477-17X 8 Leg
Points Bronze Pin

Nathan Abrams 477-16X 6 Leg
Points Bronze Pin

Trevor Gersch 475-12X First
Leather Bronze Pin

Jesus Lopez* 474-14X Bronze
Pin

Clifford Grashel* 473-11X
Bronze Pin

Robert Dotson 473-7X Bronze
Pin

David Flanagan* 472-19X
Bronze Pin

Carl Fausze 471-5X Bronze Pin

Zachary Coffey 470-3X Bronze
Pin

High Offhand

Nathan Abrams 98 - 1X

High Rapid Sitting

Nathan Abrams 100 - 5X

High Rapid Prone

Trevor Gersch 100-2X

High Slow Prone

Dave Flanagan 197 - 10X

Thanks to those club members
that participated and helped with
the events this past year.

Rick Bohn

Jason Quayle

Dave Flanagan

I am working on a schedule for
next year that will be like this
past season as far as the events
offered.

Keep it in the ten ring!

Trevor Gersch

Director of High Power Rifle

Muzzleloader

Our summer league is winding down with the winners of the rifle and pistol leagues decided after the writing of this article. The league was a success with some great scores and even better comradery, with the winners revealed in the next newsletter. With the completion of the summer league, the muzzleloaders will be shifting their focus to targets of the feathered and furred variety for the remainder of the year until we send the year off right with our Last Blast on New Year's Eve.

Junior Smallbore

The junior smallbore program is selling 9mm brass. This brass is graciously donated to the junior program by law enforcement. It is all nickel plated Speer brass that was fired once on our indoor range. It is clean and dry and packed in 500 round bags. Bags are priced at \$20 each. Contact Coach Matt at mwieczorek223@gmail.com or 419-215-5649 to purchase some today!

Secretary Message

Hello membership! In January we will be holding elections for the board of directors. We currently have 2 vacancies and are accepting applications to run for the board. If you have interest in running, please write and submit a letter stating your intent to run and introducing yourself. You may also attach a copy of your resume (shooting resume preferred) detailing your experience and any certifications or awards you have earned. Please turn in any letters of intent by October 1st so they can be reviewed by the executive committee prior to the October board meeting. Thank you for your interest in keeping our club great!

Matt Wieczorek

**Get
Out and Enjoy Our
Club!**
