



Pennsylvania Bowhunting News

Preserving, Promoting & Protecting Bowhunting in Pennsylvania

February 2017

www.ubofpa.org

This newsletter is sent monthly as a supplement to the quarterly magazine

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Wes Waldron,
Chairman, UBP Legislative Committee

PGC MEETING REPORT

JANUARY 29-30-31, 2017

Sunday January 29th

26 Registered Speakers

UBP

PFSC: supports air rifles and semi-auto (SAR), opposes mag restrictions, also supports UBP request for concurrent bear/deer opportunity.

PA Farm Bureau: Supports air rifles for small game & SARs for predators and groundhogs, high deer and bear damage on many PFB member's farms, continue to oppose Sunday Hunting (SH). In answer to BOC question if PFB will ever support SH, PFB Rep suggests that proponents address PFB members meetings.

NWTF: Supports biologist's recommendation to shorten Fall turkey season in several WMU's

Pheasants Forever: Supports \$25 Pheasant Stamp but opposes the proposed \$1 stamp for youth.

PA Gundog Assoc: Request mentored youth rabbit hunt.

Allegheny National Forest Biologist: Support DMAP for private landowners surrounding ANF, want concurrent buck/doe in their hunt areas, and higher antlerless deer allocations for the ANF.

Kinzua Quality Deer Cooperative: Support license increase for PGC, allow concurrent buck/doe on KWDC lands, want to increase bow hunter participation in KQDC hunts.

Palmyra Sportsman's Club: Support license increase, supports Pheasant Stamp, wants return of concurrent buck/doe.

PA Trappers: Support license increase, thanks to PGC for all trapping opportunity.

Forest Coalition: Oppose user fees for SGL's.

WCO Representing all WCO's by requesting that they be listed as "law enforcement officers" in state retirement regulations. All other law enforcement officers are from PSP to PF&BC, but not WCO's.

7- farmers, Tioga, Potter, Bradford & Dauphin counties; High incidents of crop damage by bear, as well as deer. All agreed that there seems to be plenty of deer in their areas.

One individual asked for concurrent buck/doe for youth and mentored hunters.

One individual from York County reporting lots of deer damage, and requesting return to concurrent seasons.

Four individuals supporting SAR's with no mag restrictions, for all seasons.

And of course our old friend Representative Bob Godshall who gave his usual speech about seeing no deer on his 275-acres of land in Tioga County. Tough to follow testimonies about bear and deer damage in his own neighborhood with complaints of no deer.

Staff Reports. Not much I can offer this time as I spent all but the last hour and a half of the Monday Staff Report session in the Capitol. Him say, Good trade.

The two I caught were Grouse Biologist Lisa Willams' report in which she addressed the continual decline of that birds populations across the state and recommends closing the late season after Christmas. The second was the report on the progress of establishing a bobwhite quail recovery program on Letterkenny Army Depot Land.

Business

Big issue for us was the change in archery bear. We have been asking for that week of opportunity be moved to the last week of the season during the second week of November, Wildlife Management and specifically Bear Biologist Mark Ternent agreed that the bear population would not likely be seriously affected by this, but there was great concern that with the additional archers in the woods during that last week, that the harvest of bucks-big bucks – was a real possibility. With this in mind all involved agreed that allowing concurrent bear/deer during the next to the last week – October 30th to November 4th this year, represented less of a concern.* Of course this was preliminary approval and after a 90-day comment period it will be up for final adoption at the March 28th Business Session of the PGC Board of Commissioners. (*We will discuss this at the next UBP Board Meeting)

The next big issues was the air/gas (AG) rifle/semi-auto rifle (SAR) proposal, which included many other regulation changes as well. While AG's were approved for small game (.177 to .22 caliber – pellets only, no BB's) while hunting groundhogs the minimum caliber is .22.

SAR's: For small game - .22 caliber or less with no magazine restrictions, for big game minimum .22 caliber centerfire , 5-round magazine restriction, with one in the chamber for an aggregate of 6-rounds maximum. EXCEPTIONS: For elk the minimum caliber is .27

The whole AG and SAR regulations include a 3-year sunset provision so they go into effect on July 1st of this year and expire on June 30, 2020, unless the Commission authorizes its continued legality prior to June 30, 2020.

These regulation changes also included adding breech-loading black powder firearms for designated species and seasons. Loading must be done with loose powder and projectile, and does not include preloaded cartridges. Aperture sights are now legal for use on permitted firearms used in the Flintlock Season.

The \$25 pheasant stamp was also given preliminary approval but the \$1 youth stamp was removed. There was some discussion on this issue to include a fear of losing pheasant hunters due to the high cost, as well as the projected revenue still falls about \$1.2-million short of what it takes to operate the pheasant program. I look for a reduction to \$15 or \$20 at the March meeting.

It will now cost violators \$2500 for killing an osprey.

Other Business

Executive Director Matt Hough announced he will retire in March of this year. The BOC thanked him for his service and then appointed current Deputy Director Bryan Burhans as the new Executive Director. (More on this at the next UBP Board Meeting)

The BOC then elected officers for 2017. Commissioner's Brain Hoover and Tim Layton retained their positions of BOC President and Vice President, respectively. Commissioner Jim Daley replaced Commissioner Charlie Fox as Secretary.

Tentative meeting dates for the remaining quarterly meetings of 2017 are as follows:

March 27-28

June 26-27

September 25-26

PA YOUTH HUNTER EDUCATION CHALLENGE

Pennsylvania Youth Hunter Education Challenge Council Meeting was held at Miller's Gun Shop in Mill Hall, PA.

Needs, problems, and possible solutions for each Challenge event (wildlife test, archery, shotgun, .22, and muzzleloader) were addressed. In regard to the archery event, there will be several replacement targets purchased for this year's event, and additional ballistic backstop blankets have been located. There may be a need to repair or replace some of the PVC tubing racks made to drape the blankets over behind the targets. The date for the **Eastern Regional Qualifier was set for May 20, 2017**, and the date for the Annual State Qualifier at Scotia Range was set for June 17, 2017, with range set-up scheduled for June 16, 2017. Dates for the Western Regional Qualifier and the National Event in Raton, NM have not been finalized.

We would welcome UBP members to come out again this year to help with the event.

The location and contact information are not quite complete; stay tuned for more details.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2017 MEETING DATES

The UBP Annual Membership Meeting will be held Sunday, February 19, 2017; starting at 10:00 AM.

The meeting will be held at:
Hemlock Field Archers
99 Spring Hill Lane
Lebanon, PA 17042

The Hemlock club is located in the SE corner of the intersection of Routes 72 and 322 in Spring Hill Acres development. From PA Turnpike exit #266 go north on Route 72 about 1 mile and turn right on Spring Hill Lane (well marked). Turn left into first drive and proceed to clubhouse.

Other Upcoming Meetings

April 9

July 16

September 10

STATE HOUSE/SENATE REPS

Having trouble locating your state Senator and Representative? See this link for all the contact information you need.

<http://www.house.state.pa.us/>

When writing or calling your Senator or Representative, be polite and be professional. Let them know the Senate or House Bill number you are contacting them about and clearly let them know why you are for or opposed to the bill or issue. Conclude with your name and contact information.

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE –**SAM NELSON**

My first archery memory came before I was even old enough to hold a bow. It was 1958 and I was on the playground at Hemlock Field Archers where my parents were charter members; and where I am still a member today. In 1960 my mother made the first archery deer kill by anyone in our family. I still have that moldy old 4-pt mount in my garage. Through those memories, my parents planted a seed of archery passion that still grows today.

However, three jobs, three kids and a career in music didn't leave much time for archery until 1997 when my son-in-law (UBP member Terril Fjeldsted) started telling me how much fun he was having shooting this archery sport called 3-D. So I dug my old Bear Kodiak Magnum recurve out of the garage and started shooting. My archery passion was rekindled.

Over the years I've had many interests that would ebb and flow including music, ice hockey, bowling, tennis and golf. But bowhunting is in my DNA. I've since hunted in Africa three times, Alaska four times, Canada four times, and ten other states besides PA. I've taken somewhere in excess of 65 big game animals with a bow in less than twenty years. But my biggest archery thrill came when I was finally able to purchase a 64 acre hunting property in Clinton County. Today

my passion lies in spending time there with Donna, my wife of 44 years, our three daughters, three sons-in-law, four grandchildren and (by the time you read this) a great grandchild.

Hopefully I'm planting seeds of passion in them. Just like my parents did for me.



UBP Archery Golf Shoots

Two Different Shoots. See reservation form for special 2 shoot discount!

Montgomery County
Saturday, February 13, 2016

Linfield National Golf Course, 66 Church Rd., Linfield, PA

Prizes will be awarded in both shoots for low gross score. Tree Top: awards for top 2 men, 1 woman, and 1 youth (under 16). Linfield: awards for top 3 men, 1 traditional archer, 1 woman, and 1 youth (under 16). We'll have drawings for door prizes, 50/50.

Hole Sponsorships are available for \$40 each. Signs will be placed next to the tee boxes for all to see! Deadline for hole sponsorships: Tree top shoot—January 27, 2016 / Linfield Shoot—January 13, 2016.

Directions to TreeTop: From PA Trunk, exit 288, right on Rte 72, left on Cedar Press Rd (5 mi), left on Pinch Rd (1 mi), left on Camp Rd (sign on right) (2 mi) to right on Creek Rd, 1/2 mile on R. From North, South on Rte 72 past Triple entrance, follow directions above. From South, North on Rte 72 past Manheim (4 mi) to left on Pinch Rd (1.5 mi) — see above.

Sponsoring a hole or donating items for the raffle is an excellent way to show your support for not only the UBP, but for bowhunting here in the Keystone State.

Check out www.ubofpa.org for the latest details!

Registration begins at 8 a.m. Shotgun start at 9 a.m.—Rain or Shine. All participants must wear an article of Blaze Orange!

Must use a blunt tip until within 25 yards of target, when field / target points may be used. No range finders allowed

Lancaster County
Saturday, February 27, 2016

Tree Top Golf Course, 1624 Creek Rd., Manheim, PA

Please send payments for the outing, hole sponsorships, or any prizes you wish to donate to:
United Bowhunters of PA,
581 Madison Shop Rd.,
Rimersburg, PA 16248.



Directions to Linfield: From Phila. - Rt. 76 West to Rt. 202 South for .5 miles to 422 West. 422 12.5 miles to Limerick/Linfield Exit. Turn left at bottom of ramp (onto Lewis Rd.) and take an immediate right at the first traffic light (Linfield-Tappes Rd.). Travel for 1.5 miles and when you begin to level off (Shearer Elegance) turn right onto Church Rd. We are 1/3 of a mile on the right. From North Phila. - Take Turnpike West to Exit 24 Valley Forge (follow directions from above). From Reading - Take 422 East to Limerick/Linfield Exit. From Wilmington - Take Rt. 202 North and follow directions above.
 UBP Golf Shoot Refund Policy
 The UBP annual golf shoot is an all weather event. rain, shine, snow, sleet or hail. If for some reason beyond our control the golf shoot is cancelled, a rain date will be announced. If the shoot is cancelled and can not be rescheduled, a refund will be issued to pre-registered shooters. Pre-registered skills are transferable up to 24 hours prior to the scheduled shoot. Otherwise, all deposits will be deemed non-refundable.

UBP Archery Golf Shoots • Registration Form Attend both shoots and receive a discount!

Name of Person Making Reservations (also list name below if participating): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Which shoot(s) are you attending? Either check box or enter amount in block adjacent to your name.

Name of Shooter	Mailing Address	Current UBP Member? (Y/N)	Feb. 4 Shoot Montgomery Co.			Feb. 11 Shoot Lancaster Co.			Both Shoots (Mont. & Lanc. Co.)			I wish to become a UBP Member*	Total \$ Due
			UBP Member	Non Member	Child (16 & under)	UBP Member	Non Member	Child (16 & under)	UBP Member	Non Member	Child (16 & under)		
Example: Johnson Jane	123 Noname St., Noville, PA 00000	Y	\$27	\$37	\$12	\$27	\$37	\$12	\$49	\$69	\$20	\$10	\$69
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