



# DELANO SPORTSMAN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DELANO SPORTSMEN'S CLUB



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## MEETING!

*Next meeting is  
Tuesday,  
April 29,  
7:00 PM at the  
DSC Clubhouse*

**You can get the  
newsletter by email!**

**Contact:  
delanosportsmensclub@  
gmail.com**

**Delano Sportsmen's Club**  
-  
P.O. Box 394  
-  
Delano, MN 55328

## CLUB OFFICER SUCCESSION

The Club is still looking for active members who can participate as active backups for our Club Officers. We're looking for VPs who are willing to become President and backups for Secretary and Treasurer.

## BLUEBIRD/WOOD DUCK HOUSES

Bluebird and wood duck house building took place Saturday, April 19th at the Club house. A great time was had by all! THANK YOU to all the volunteers who assisted.



## NEW TRAP RANGE UPDATE AND FUNDRAISER SHOOT

We're happy to announce that the new trap range is in use and operational! We also ready to proceed to Phase 2 of construction and fund-raising. The club is hosting a fundraising shoot on April 26. Cost is \$40, which includes two rounds of shooting (shells not included), a meal and door prizes. There are only a few spots still open. You can sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A44ADAC29A4F85-56181366-clubhouse> We're in the news! Check out the article from the Delano Herald Journal at the end of the newsletter!

**Club Officers:**

- President Mike Larison 763-645-4884  
larrylarison@hotmail.com
- Secretary Dan Kittok 218-820-1155
- Treasurer Dan Kittok 218-820-1155
- 1st Vice President Ann Finelli dscwomenmn@gmail.com
- 2nd Vice President Cal Brandt 612-597-5112
- 3rd Vice President Gene Hanson 612-518-3134
- Membership Joe & Jan Kittok 763-972-2989  
deaconjoe@frontiernet.net
- Rental/Reservations Brad Spencer 612-616-7548  
b.spencer@lakesarah.com
- Volunteer Coordinator  
Mike Larison 763-645-4884  
larrylarison@hotmail.com
- Executive Board Larry Lindborg 763-567-8347
- Executive Board Jake Kittok 612-282-7975
- Public Relations Tom Delaney 612-408-8944

**Range Information:**

- Trap Shooting Dan Thienes 763-567-8446
- Firearm Training Garret Sarkinen 612-716-4614
- Black Powder Joe Bergeron 763-898-6483
- Archery League Shawn Lynch 763-972-3112
- Portable Targets Tom Delaney 612-408-8944
- Women's Shooters Ann Finelli dscwomenmn@gmail.com

Questions about firearm legislation, federal or state? You can get more information from Dan MacDonald at 952-454-3440 or by email at yellowdogrescue@gmail.com, or Dave Smith at 763-557-6970 or email at ddsnhs@outlook.com.

**CAPS FOR SALE**

*The club has caps with our logo for sale at club meetings. They are \$15.00 each.*

*See Joe Kittok.*

**Standing Committees:**

- Executive Board: This is a closed committee consisting of current officers and directors. It makes decisions on matters related to the club and presents recommendations to the membership. Director: Club President
- Buildings & Grounds: This is a working committee that meets to discuss issues and projects related to Club Buildings and Property. Director: Gene Hanson

**NEW MEMBERS**

Welcome to the club! We hope you enjoy many days, months and years of safe and fun shooting!

Jeff Carnivale, Steven Fischer,  
Jeffrey Kaphingst, Matthew DuRose,  
Scott Dziuk, Kristopher Keller, Steven Rowland

**WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!**

If you're on social media, you can find us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/DelanoSportsmensClub/>  
If you want something posted, contact Tom Delaney at [mmraclubs@msn.com](mailto:mmraclubs@msn.com)

**VOLUNTEER CREDIT - WHAT COUNTS?**

Members who volunteer to support the club receive reduced dues of \$50 or \$150 for the next year. So, what counts?

**Volunteer Hours:** 10 hours of time will give you credit to reduce your dues to \$50, 5 hours will give you credit to reduce to \$150. Volunteer hours can be obtained by volunteering at the 4th of July Celebration or Delano Expo, participating in Club clean-up days or volunteering on Club projects.

**Meeting Lunch:** If you make lunch for the members, your groceries (up to \$150) are reimbursed, and you get full 10 hour credit for volunteer time.

**Raffle Tickets:** If you sell 40 books of raffle tickets, that meets your full 10 hour volunteer time, 20 books will give you 5 hours volunteer time.

If you have questions, please contact a club officer.

# MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 2025 MEETING

41 members present - the meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President Mike Larison

- Secretary's report - Minutes of the February 25, 2025 meeting were approved.
- Treasurers report - debits \$9651.16; credits \$8238.22; checking balance \$37831.63 - Trapshooting Checking: debits \$10,230.92; credits \$1200.49; checking balance \$3245.16. Capital Savings account for new trap clubhouse: debits none; credits none; balance \$31,895.97 All reports were approved.
- New members - Two new members introduced themselves.
- Building and Grounds - New cranks were put on the windows upstairs in the clubhouse. We will be looking for bids to replace the roof on the trap shack. The club already has the materials.
- Membership - There are 501 members paid through 2025, 2 lifetime members and 91 honorary members. One member is paid through 2026.
- 4th of July - The drone show has been cancelled. There will be a smoke show. A motorcycle show will be held in conjunction with the car show.
- 4th of July Bingo stand - Jan has the signup sheet for bingo shifts.
- Trapshooting league - Winter league has been completed. The High School trap league starts on Monday, March 31st.
- Summer raffle - \$860.00 was collected so far. Contact Jan Kittok for extra tickets.
- Legislative updates - The club is looking for a volunteer to provide the legislative updates.
- Reservations - It was approved to hold the members only Turkey shoot on Saturday, September 6th.
- Women's League - The pistol class was held last Saturday. The group has had a few new members join.
- Volunteer opportunities - the club is looking for a volunteer coordinator to head up the volunteer opportunities.
- Project Appleseed - Lyle Dennis talked to the club regarding Project Appleseed. It is an organization that holds training to help people become better marksmen. They also teach our American heritage during the training. They are looking for a host site for a one or two day event. Typically there would be 15-20 people at the event. Lyle asked the club if we would be interested in hosting an event. After some discussion, It was decided to get more information on the event and run it through the Executive Committee first. If approved it would be put to a vote with the club
- Storage Container - A storage container has been purchased for the new range. Cal Brandt has donated the container to the club. Thank you Cal!
- Federal Form 990 - Dan Kittok has found out that the club has not filed a form 990 in quite some time and as a result the club has lost our nonprofit status. The club needs to file again to regain their nonprofit status. A CPA firm has been contacted and the estimated cost to file is around

\$1500-\$2000. A motion was made and passed to move forward with the accounting firm to get our nonprofit status back.

- Clubhouse Furnace - The furnace in the clubhouse needs to be replaced. Mike Larison met an Energy Smart coordinator from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce to see if the club would be eligible for a grant. If the club put in a 96% efficiency furnace, instead of the 80% efficiency furnace originally quoted, the club would be eligible to get \$1500 back. The 80% efficiency furnace is around \$4000.00 the 96% efficiency furnace is around \$6300.00. A motion was made and passed to buy the 96% efficiency furnace.
- Farm Property - Joe has found a place to rent and will be out by June 1st. Once out, the club would like to remove the farmhouse. Mike has talked to the Delano Fire Department to see if they would want to use it for a training exercise. Or, there is an option to use John and his excavating company to tear it down. The house well and septic drain field will be used for the new trap clubhouse.
- Gun Owners Caucus Rally - There will be a gun owners rally at the Capitol on Saturday, March 29th from 11:30 - 1:00 PM. The club has a bus reserved to take members down to the capitol. The club needs at least 12 people to go to make the bus worthwhile. With a show of hands there were 9 people at the meeting that wanted to go, plus Tom had some friends that wanted to go as well. Tom will order the bus. The bus will leave the club at 10:00 am.
- New Trap Clubhouse - Jeff Graunke and Mike Larison went to Wright County to discuss what was needed to get a building permit. Drawings for plumbing, septic and electric are needed before the permit can be applied for. These drawings are being worked on. Once completed, the permit will be applied for. The building shell will be ordered once the permit is approved. If you would like to donate to the new building, talk to Jeff Graunke.
- Trap Range Expansion - The range is up and running. The last three lights will be put up and wired on April 2nd.
- EAW/Mining update - John wants to wait until the farm gets vacated and cleaned up before he proceeds with getting a permit.

***Thank you to Dave and Nancy Smith for providing the March meal. The April meal will be provided by Simon Quigg.***

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dan Kittok, Secretary

# DSC Women's+ Defensive Shooting Group

## Women Encouraged – Men by Invitation\*

### Learn • Practice • Grow

Join our DSC Women's+ Group! We provide opportunities for women (and men by invitation) at all skill levels. Learn & practice in a safe, comfortable environment!

#### This group is for you if you are interested in...


- Making new friends and shooting partners
- Expanding skills & knowledge as a newer shooter
- Feeling confident to begin carrying (permit holders)
- Trying new types of firearms (pistol, rifle, shotgun)
- Developing skills for recreation, self-defense or competition
- Just having fun with like-minded individuals!





Our group was founded by women for women. Our focus is educating & training women at ALL skill levels. DSC men are welcome and can attend by invitation.\*


#### Event Times:

- 3rd Thursday of the month (April-September) 5:45-8:30 pm
- 1st Saturday of the month (January-March) 11:45 am-3:30 pm
- Classroom training or range events, weather dependent. Additional events may be scheduled time and weather permitting.

 Taught and supervised by USCCA and/or NRA Certified Instructors. NRA Certified Range Safety Officers ensure safety at all times.

 Leadership and Instructor Team consists of both women and men.

 Classroom sessions cover a wide range of topics. Includes hands on workshops.

 We LOVE newer shooters and will provide any assistance you need to get you started!



**If your goal is to connect with other shooters, learn proper techniques, advance your skills and have FUN, join us!**

# DSC Women's+ Defensive Shooting Group

## Women Encouraged – Men by Invitation\*

### Learn • Practice • Grow

Joining is easy! All you need to do is get on our e-mail list and show up! E-mail is the primary way we communicate to our members. We will keep you up to date on what's happening. Questions or requests to join should be sent to Ann Finelli at [dscwomenmn@gmail.com](mailto:dscwomenmn@gmail.com)

#### **\*MORE ABOUT US...**

By request we have opened up attendance to DSC men (spouses, significant others, family members of a women's shooting group member) who are 21 or older. We welcome the men as they have greatly contributed to the success and dynamic of our group! Contact Ann at [dscwomenmn@gmail.com](mailto:dscwomenmn@gmail.com) for requests to join.

- Group meets 3rd Thursday or 1st Saturday of the month; other dates seasonal.
- Cost is \$15 for DSC members (men and women) and \$20 for non-DSC members.
- Our instructors and RSOs are all volunteers.
- All fees go directly to our group for range supplies, etc.



#### **UPCOMING SCHEDULE:**

- **Saturday March 22 Intro to Pistol Class, USCCA Instructor Lead** 1-5:00 pm, Registration limited. Contact Ann Finelli [dscwomenmn@gmail.com](mailto:dscwomenmn@gmail.com) for more information.
- **Saturday April 5 Range Event** 11:45-3:00 pm

Remember, bad guys aren't snowbirds... we still need to train in the winter!

Delano Sportsmens Club: 4505 County Road 50 SE, Delano, MN 55328

Brandt Airport: 2561 72<sup>nd</sup> St. SE Delano 55328



**Shooting is a Perishable Skill... Don't Perish- Practice!**

# CLUB RESERVATIONS AND CALENDAR

## April

- 1 – (Tue) Clubhouse Reserved – DSC Firearms Safety Class  
7:00PM – 9:00PM
- 3 – «(Thu) Clubhouse Reserved – DSC Firearms Safety Class  
7:00PM – 9:00PM
- \*4 – (Tue) Range Reserved – West Hennepin Public Safety  
(Raskin) – 8:00am – 4:30pm
- 5 – (Sat) 25 Yard Range Reserved – DSC Women+ Group –  
11:15am-3:30pm
- 8 – (Tue) Clubhouse Reserved – DSC Firearms Safety Class –  
7:00pm – 9:00pm
- 9 – (Wed) Range Reserved – Three Rivers PD (Groskreutz) –  
8:00am – 6:00pm
- 10 – (Thu) Clubhouse Reserved – DSC Firearms Safety Class  
– 7:00pm – 9:00pm
- 12 – (Sat) Range & Clubhouse Reserved – DSC Firearms Safety  
Field Day – 7:00AM – 1:00PM
- 16 – (Wed) Range Reserved – Medina PD (Hall) – noon –  
4:00pm
- 19 – (Sat) Clubhouse Reserved – Build bluebird and wood duck  
houses – 9:00am – 11:00am
- 24 – (Thu) Range Reserved – Trapshooting league (practice  
night) – 5:00pm-10:00pm
- 26 – (Sat) Range Reserved – Rockford Firearms Safety Field Day  
– 8:00am-1:00pm (Czantkowski)
- 27 – (Sun) 25 YD Range and Trap Shack Reserved – Muzzle  
Loader class – noon-2:00pm
- 29 – (Tue) – Monthly Meeting in the Clubhouse, 7:00 PM

## May

- 7– (Wed) Range Reserved – Three Rivers PD (Groskreutz) –  
8:00am – 4:30pm
- 9 – (Fri) Clubhouse Reserved (Althoff) – Delano Boy Scouts –  
5pm-overnight
- 10– (Sat) Clubhouse Reserved – Delano Boy Scouts – All day
- 10 –(Sat) Range Reserved – Delano Boy Scouts 8:00am- 1:00pm
- 11 – (Sun) Clubhouse Reserved – Delano Boy Scouts – AM to  
1pm
- 15 – (Thu) Range Reserved – DSC Women+ Group – 4:00pm-  
9:30pm  
– (Sat) GOCRA/MNGOPAC – Highway 12 cleanup / Adopt a  
highway (East of Baker Park Rd) 7:00am breakfast, roadside  
cleanup 8:00am-noon. contact Dan MacDonald
- 27 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting in the Clubhouse, 7:00 PM

## CLUB RAFFLE

*Members only summer raffle tickets are available. This year's first prize is a Smith and Wesson M&P 15-22 Sport 22 **OR** Smith and Wesson M&P Bodyguard 380 2.0 380 ACP **OR** \$500. Second place is for \$250 and third is \$100. Tickets for the raffle are \$2 each and you can purchase as many as you would like. If you have any questions, please call Jan Kittok at 763-972-2989.*

## June

- 4– (Wed) Range Reserved – West Hennepin Public Safety (Ebe-  
ling) – 8:00am – 4:30pm
- 13 – (Fri) Range Reserved (25 yd range only) – TRPD (Barth)  
Forkhorn 1 camp 9:00am – 3:00pm
- 17 – (Tue) Range Reserved – Deephaven Police Dept – 8:30am –  
2:30pm
- 19 – (Thu) Range Reserved – DSC Women+ Group – 4:00pm-  
9:30pm
- 24 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting in the Clubhouse, 7:00 PM

## July

- 17 – (Thu) Range Reserved – DSC Women+ Group – 4:00pm-  
9:30pm
- 20 – (Sun) Range Reserved (25 yd range only) – TRPD (Barth)  
Family Firearms Safety 11am – 2pm
- 29 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting in the Clubhouse 7:00 PM

## August

- 1 – (Fri) Range Reserved (25 yd range only) – TRPD (Barth) PF  
& NWTF Firearms Safety Camp 9:00am – 3:00pm
- 4 – (Mon) Range Reserved – Medina PD (Hall) – noon-4:00pm  
– (Sat) Range Reserved – Rockford Firearms Safety Field Day  
– 8:00am-1:00pm (Czantkowski)
- 21 – (Thu) Range Reserved – DSC Women+ Group – 4:00pm-  
9:30pm
- 26 – (Tue) Monthly Meeting in the Clubhouse, 7:00 PM

\* indicates reservation request pending approval

No one likes to show up at a closed range! These reservations have been accepted and approved by the club. Please note the time and date to avoid conflict.

### 2025 SPRING DELANO SPORTSMEN'S CLUB FIREARM SAFETY TRAINING CLASS COMPLETED

Delano Sportsmen's Club finished up their Spring Firearm Safety Training class on Saturday, April 12th. Sixty-eight (68) students successfully completed the course. The training involved firearm handling in the field, marksmanship shooting on the range, wilderness survival techniques, wildlife identification, conservation management, water safety, and first aid awareness. Students are now eligible for their Minnesota DNR Firearm Safety certificate. The plan is to hold a Spring class again next year. Late January, check the club's web page for dates and times. If you are interested in becoming a certified MN DNR Firearm Safety Instructor and can help out with the class, contact Garret Sarkinen (garret.sark@hotmail.com).



## RANGE HOURS AND RULES

### *Range Hours:*

#### **Rifle and Pistol:**

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-SUNSET

Saturday: 9:00am-6pm

Sunday: 11:00am-6pm

Rifle and Pistol Ranges are closed during Trap Shooting events, leagues and practices. Watch the range calendar for restrictions/closures due to scheduled events.

#### **Trap Shooting:**

No Hand or portable throwers allowed.

League and Practice Hours:

Wednesday & Thursday: 5:45pm-10:00pm

Trap Shooting is only allowed during scheduled events and practice time.

**Don't forget to wear your ID.**

See someone without an ID? Ask to see it...

***Be kind to our neighbors— follow the rules!***

### *Range Rules:*

1. You must wear your ID card when on the range.
2. Maximum of 2 guests per member are allowed.
3. Use paper targets only (no cans, glass, plinking).
4. No Paintball guns.
5. Do not attach targets to the backstop posts.
6. No trap shooting; except organized events.
7. Be sure bullets are hitting the backstops.
8. Do not dig in the backstops.
9. All firing must be done from the firing lines at 25, 50 & 100 yards.
10. Move the 50-yard target off range when not in use.
11. No intermediate targets between established firing lines.
12. Do not shoot anything on the ground.
13. Pick up your trash, remove targets from backstops, & pick up casings. Leave the area clean & ready for the next member.
14. Check unknown people for membership cards.
15. Do a Safety Check before firing.
16. Fully automatic weapons are forbidden.
17. The gate is to be kept locked at all times.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDS

- *The Delano Business Expo is Saturday May 10th. The club is looking for a few more people to help with the Delano Business Expo. We do have a few signed up but could use a few more to get the bird houses down there and run the booth. Please click the link below to sign up or contact Mike Larison (763)645-4884 <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A44ADAC29A4F85-55603761-delano>.*
- *We need someone that is willing to handle setting up the ice cream for the Taste of Delano. We can also get a sign up sheet for helpers on the day of the event but need a person to take charge of this event. Please contact Joe Kittok at (763)221-6658.*
- *The club is in immediate need for a 4th of July bingo manager. We need to find someone that can work with Joe Kittok this summer to learn the ropes. If we miss out on this year it will be another year before we can teach someone how to do this. If you are interested in taking one or two of the days, please let us know. If you are interested, please contact Joe Kittok at (763)221-6658.*

- *We also need someone that can arrange to have tables moved to the park for 4th of July. This is something that does not need to be done over the 4th. It can be done prior and then after the 4th. This is a great opportunity for someone that is not around that during that holiday weekend. If you are interested, please contact Joe Kittok at (763)221-6658.*
- **CLUB FLOAT:** *We need members to get together and design and decorate our club float. Would be nice to get the award for the best decorated float!! We do have some decorations for the float. We need someone to drive the float on July 4th and be at the parade lineup before 9:00 a.m. We need volunteers to ride on the float or walk beside the float, pass out candy and we also have flyers to pass out.*

**Fourth of July Bingo Volunteers! Shifts available as follows:**

**Thursday July 3rd:**

~~Noon-4pm~~ **FULL!**

~~4pm-8pm~~ **FULL!**

~~8pm-Midnight~~ **FULL!**

**Friday July 4th:**

Noon-4pm

4pm-8pm

8pm-Midnight

**Saturday July 5th:**

~~Noon-4pm~~ **FULL!**

4pm-8pm

8pm-Midnight

**Sunday July 6th:**

Noon-4pm

4pm-8pm

8pm-Midnight

*If you're interested in volunteering, contact Jan Kittok at 763-972-2989 or Joe Kittok at 763-221-6658.*

### **THE DELANO SPORTSMAN**

Published monthly, January– November by  
the Delano Sportsmen's Club.

Businesses or members wishing to advertise may place an ad in the newsletter once per year at no charge. Ad space is limited to 1/4 page. For advertising information contact Editor Aaron Gesell at [delanosportsmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:delanosportsmensclub@gmail.com).

You can submit a story or photos from the range or club activities! Contact editor Aaron Gesell at [delanosportsmensclub@gmail.com](mailto:delanosportsmensclub@gmail.com).

**The deadline for story or advertising submissions is the 8th of each month.**

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

Visit us at

<http://www.delanosportsmensclub.com>

## ARTICLE REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM ROBERT HOPWOOD AND THE DELANO HERALD JOURNAL

# Delano Herald Journal

## New trap range opens for Delano High School shooters

March 27, 2025

By Robert Hopwood



One of three trap fields at the Delano Sportsmen's Club's new trap shooting range. (Photo by Robert Hopwood)

The Delano Sportsmen's Club has built a new range to help support the Delano High School trap shooting team, following nearly a decade of planning, fundraising, and construction.

The new range, which will host its first high school shooters next week on Monday, March 31, is a significant upgrade from the previous facility, a single trap field located in the club's rifle range.

The upgrade includes new trap fields and space for a future clubhouse. The project was spearheaded by club member Mark Bauman, who rejoined the organization years ago to



help push the project.

“The only reason I took this project on was because of the high school,” Bauman said.

“Because it wasn’t a very good shooting facility over there. I mean, it was OK, but if they’re going to compete on a regular basis, they needed a modern facility, and now they have it.”

The new range features three trap fields, each with a trap house and thrower; two are operational, and the third is still under construction.

Bauman said the project’s conditional use permit allows only two trap fields to be used at one time. Having three will allow squads to rotate through the range more efficiently and ease congestion.

“Now, we have three trap houses, so we can expand to have more kids come out ... it’s going to give us a lot more room,” said Jeff Graunke, a club member and coach for the high school trap team.

The club’s previous setup could only accommodate one squad at a time, he said, which made scheduling practices and competitions challenging.

“Every year, we just kept growing and growing and growing, and they obviously saw the need where we only have one trap house,” Graunke said. “So we have fifty, sixty, seventy kids. The coaches, we’d be down there Monday night at 3:30, 4 o’clock ’till 9 at night Monday and Tuesday night.”

Mike Larison, president of the Delano Sportsmen’s Club and a coach for the high school trap team, said he was “super excited” to see the new range ready to go. He said students looked forward to using its new shooting stations next week.

“It’s a process that has taken a long time to complete, and the kids are really looking forward to finally getting in this open area to shoot,” he said.

The trap team kicks off its season on Monday, March 31, with competition running through mid-June.

Graunke said last week that registration remained open, but nearly 80 students in grades 6 to 12 had already signed up to be on the team.

The team competes in Class 9A of the Minnesota State High School Clay Target League, the league’s largest division, which is based on team size rather than school enrollment. Competitions follow a virtual format, with teams shooting at their home ranges and submitting scores electronically.

Graunke said the team started in 2013, the same year the Minnesota State High School

League opened the sport to schools. Delano was one of the first programs in the state, beginning with about 30 students and growing to nearly 80.

“We’re one of the larger schools in the state for trap shooting,” Graunke said.

Bauman said the trap range was reserved for Delano High School and isn’t open to other schools under the terms of the conditional use permit. Outside the school program, the range will be used by the Delano Sportsmen’s Club and its summer and winter trap leagues, which are open to the community.

The club is also planning to host a trap shooting tournament during the Delano 4th of July Celebration this year, marking the first time the event will be part of the festivities.

Bauman said the new range represents the club’s fourth location for trap shooting over the past several decades.

The original range was located along County Road 11 decades ago, before the club was built at its current site north of Delano, near 65th Street Southeast and County Road 50, he said.

The second and third ranges were built on the club’s current property in Hennepin County. Bauman said the new range was built on the club’s property in Wright County, which it acquired in the early aughts.

Bauman said that the Delano Sportsmen’s Club had built the new range because there was no room to expand the previous ones. The initiative to build it began in 2016, and it took years to secure regulatory approval.

Bauman said he submitted a conditional use permit application to Wright County in 2016.

Brad Spencer, the mayor of Independence, helped the Delano Sportsmen’s Club get the conditional use permit as a council member. A former member of the Independence Planning Commission, he said he helped get regulatory approval for the range because he understood the political process.

“I had a little bit of experience working with planning and zoning,” he said.

Spencer said it took longer than usual to get the conditional use permit approved because the county line goes right through the Delano Sportsmen’s Club’s property. Its previous range was in Hennepin County, and the new one was located in Wright County and Franklin Township.

The Delano Sportsmen’s Club had to address noise concerns, conduct a ballistic study, and address drainage issues, among other things, before it got permission to build the new trap range.

Bauman said the club undertook a sound study, which evaluated the range's potential impact on nearby neighborhoods. He said the study found the range would generate minimal noise, thanks to the surrounding trees and berms.

Spencer said the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources required the club to conduct a study to determine the shot fall zones. Bauman said the ballistic study found that the shots would travel approximately 700 feet and that the surrounding berms should contain them.

The conditional use permit was finally granted in 2019.

Bauman said progress on the range was further delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic and wet weather, but excavation work finally began in 2022. The club installed two trap fields in 2023 and added a third in 2024.

"I wanted to start shooting last fall, but they said we'll go through winter and start in the spring," he said.

Spencer said it would be "pretty exciting" when the trap team gets to start shooting next week on a more normal trap range. He said the previous setup consisted of a single trap field located at the bottom of the club's rifle range.

"It had weird little wind currents and things, and visibility, and this will be much more typical with better sight lines and lighting for after school shooting," he said. "It'll be a really nice place for them to shoot."

The new range is still being built. The Delano Sportsmen's Club plans to add more lighting, finish the range's landscaping, and construct a new 24-by-40-foot clubhouse.

Graunke said he is leading a fundraising effort to finance and build the clubhouse, which will include a covered concrete patio and picnic tables for shooters and spectators.

He estimates the project, which is in the permitting process, will cost approximately \$100,000. He said he has already raised about \$40,000 through donations and local business contributions.

"We're just waiting for our building permit now, and then we're going to order our building," Graunke said. "Hopefully, by middle of summer, end of summer, we're going to be able to start building."

He said funding for the new range came primarily from the club and its members. A small grant from the State of Minnesota helped offset some of the costs associated with the concrete work, but most of the labor was done by volunteers.

Bauman said he plans to be at the range next week to watch the high school trap team shoot on its opening day.

“Normally, I don’t come and watch the high school shoot, but I’m going to be here Monday, the 31st, to watch them shoot for a while, at least,” he said.

Bauman said a formal grand opening is planned for later in the spring for those who helped complete the project. The date for that hasn’t been determined yet.

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## **SHOOTING ON THE NEW TRAP RANGE!**

We are very excited to announce that the new range is finally up and running. The Delano high school team started shooting Trap on the new range March 31st. We have two of the three ranges open and working. Things have been working very well so far we have received a lot of positive comments from the kids and the parents. Everyone is enjoying the new range.

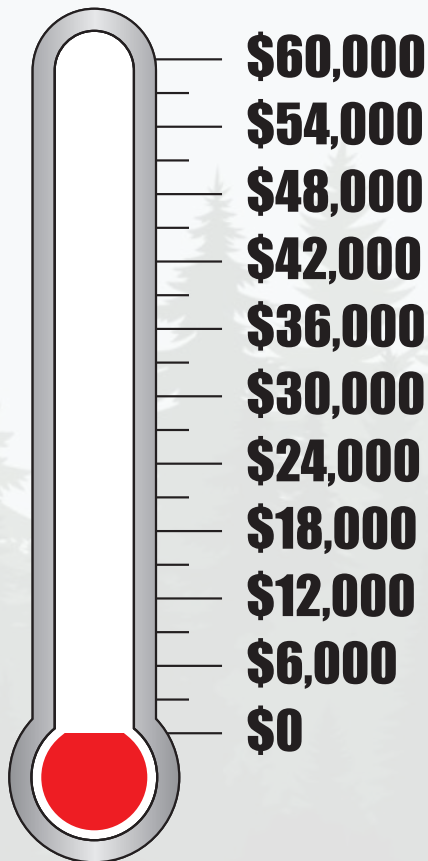


# DELANO SPORTSMEN'S CLUB NEW CLUBHOUSE DONOR SHEET



**BREAKING NEWS-** The new clubhouse building has been ordered and we now enter into Phase 2 of construction! We would like to **THANK EVERYONE** who donated thus far to help us get to this point. Our plan is to have the building kit materials delivered around the 3rd week of July. We now need everything from lumber, windows, doors, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, etc. to complete the project. If you have any of these materials, or if you can donate any money **it will help**. ANY amount would be greatly appreciated towards the \$60,000 needed to finish the building.

## PHASE 2 GOAL



As a thank you to our generous donors, the Club intends to recognize YOU based upon the level at which you are able to help:

### Individual/Business

- **Premier Diamond\* \$20,000** - Name on Sponsor Board, 2-one year memberships, 20 free rounds of trap shooting
- **Diamond\* \$10,000** - Name on Sponsor Board, 1 year membership, 15 free rounds of trap shooting
- **Emerald\* \$5,000** - Name on Sponsor Board, 10 free rounds of trap shooting
- **Platinum\* \$2500** - Name on Sponsor Board, 5 free rounds of trap shooting
- **Gold \$1,000**
- **Silver \$500**
- **Bronze \$100**
- **Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

\* Outdoor signage will be available to platinum sponsors and above

Please see the options below for donating or reach out to us with questions.. Check can be made payable to **Delano Sportsmen's Club- New Clubhouse**. Please mail them to: **Jeff Graunke**

11657 Deegan Ave SE

Watertown MN 55388 or call us and we will gladly pick them up!

Please feel free to contact any of us on the New Clubhouse Fundraising Committee if you have any questions or to join us on this mission.

Jeff Graunke – 763-442-5939 – jeff.graunke@imperialdade.com

Tim Lemmerman – 612-751-7668 – tlemmerman@yahoo.com

Mark Bauman – 612-599-3263