MICHIGAN SKEET ASSOCIATION NEWS

November 2026

President's Message

Greetings All!

It is hard to fathom that another Skeet season in Michigan is coming to an end. As I write this letter, the leaves have mostly fallen off the trees, the first flakes of snow are falling, and many are preparing for the opening of firearm deer season here in Michigan. I have been reflecting on this year's Skeet events across Michigan, and we certainly are full of ups and downs. While we lost a few clubs hosting events this year, continuing shoots saw varying levels of participation. A quick review of YTD target numbers from the NSSA show approximately 50% of clubs in Michigan threw more registered targets than 2025, while the other 50% showed varying levels of decreases. As always, weather can play a big factor in year-over-year attendance, as well as competing events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Clubs and their volunteers, including shoot managers, pullers, trappers, etc. who make each event happen. Without them, we would not have any events to compete in!

On the administrative side of things, the MSA Board of Directors recently held their annual Fall meeting. All Board members who were up for reelection were voted in for another term at this year's State Shoot. The Officers were also reelected for another year. One of the most important topics of the meeting is the review and approval of the 2027 Shoot Schedule. The schedule has been approved, and the 2027 events have been added to the Calendar tab on the MSA website, so start planning your 2027 Shoot Season now! 2027 will see the Buckle Race return with a few small



tweaks to prizes being awarded at each club's event; details coming soon. Additional items discussed include the state of Skeet in Michigan… The 2026 State Shoot was well attended with slightly more targets thrown compared to 2025. On a special note, Detroit Gun Club has been selected as the host of the 2027 NSSA Junior World Championship July 22-25 – congratulations to DGC! Other items to note include NSSA Shoots daily fees increasing next year from $4 per 100 to $6 in 2027, and then to $8 in 2028. See the NSSA website for details on the rationale and need for this increase. The MSA board continues to hold our State daily fees at $3 per 100 targets. As a reminder, these fees for the MSA primarily go toward our MSA State Team Buckles, various other awards for our State Shoot and the Buckle Race.

The last major item discussed was the MSA "Club of the Year" award. As the Board reviewed criteria for the award and looked at the best way to recognize clubs who are hosting registered events, we noted that given the decrease in the number of clubs across the State that are throwing registered targets and limited criteria for which to fairly determine a "Club of the Year", it would not be appropriate to continually recognize only 2-3 clubs who throw significantly more events than clubs who may only hold 1 or 2 events each year. So, the Board has decided to discontinue the "Club of the Year" award and instead will have a special recognition ceremony at the State Shoot each year to acknowledge and thank each club and their shoot managers. This will provide each club the recognition they deserve for the hard work and effort put into every event across the State.

Before I wrap up for the month, if you have not already seen it, the banquet form for the 2027 SCTP Fundraiser has been posted to the MSA website. This event in January is key in raising funds for the Junior shooters in Michigan. New for 2027, the event will be held at the John A. Halter Shooting Sports Center at Hillsdale College. See the flyer and other information on the MSA website for detail. I have attended this event every year since they started, and can guarantee you will have a good time.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or ideas, please reach out to me at ATB22890@aol.com or any Board Member to share. All our contact information can be found on the MSA website on the Board of Directors page.

Until next time, stay warm, good luck to those venturing out into the field for hunting season, and a very Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Take Care and Good Shooting,

- Andrew Bielman