



BGSL in August 2025

In addition to regularly scheduled matches and member use in August, the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League will host the **2025 Kentucky Steel Challenge State Championship** at Pistol, the **Mike Niblett Memorial Match at Rifle**, and a **[5K fundraiser for Justin's Place \(a local charity\)](#)**. Add to that, **[BGSL Hunter Orientations](#)** and **KY State Hunter Education** classes will be running through August in preparation for the Dove Season opening in September as well as deer hunting later in the year. Enjoy the last full month of summer at your club alone or with friends and family, and don't worry if you prefer to enjoy it alone or with a small group of friends rather than in an organized event -- there is plenty of room for all sorts of activities on our 1500 acres..

General Membership Meeting

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 5, at 7PM. Come on down to your club and find out what is going on, ask questions of the officers, voice your opinions or concerns, or simply fellowship with other members over the meal following the meeting.

Other Items of Interest

Nominations Accepted in Writing for BGSL Elections

Starting at the August General Membership Meeting, the floor will be opened to nominations for BGSL Officers and the three Director-at-Large positions in advance of the September elections. Nominations will also be accepted at the September Meeting before the elections. If you prefer, you can submit your nominations by email to: Burton Wright, BGSL Secretary, secretary@bgsllinc.com, or to Brenda Wayne, brenda.wayne@bgsllinc.com, in the office. Finally, nominations can be submitted in writing by bringing them to the office or mailing them to:

The Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

ATTN: Nominations

2500 Handy's Bend Road

Wilmore, KY 40390-8029

Dove Hunting

The 2025-26 dove season(s) for Kentucky start(s) September 1st. The field has suffered a bit due to alternating too much rain and not enough rain at times interfering with spraying, etc. , but we hope it will produce decent dove harvest. Contact Don Smallwood at jdonsmallwood@gmail.com with any questions about dove hunting at BGSL.

BGSL Hunter Orientations in 2025

Below is a list of dates for this year's BGSL hunter orientations. **Everyone will need to attend one of these dates even if you have hunted in the past!** Sessions will be held in the Youth Lodge. Contact Don Smallwood at jdonsmallwood@gmail.com for details.

- Saturday, May 3rd @ 10:00 AM
- Saturday, Aug 2nd @ 10:00 AM
- Thursday, Aug 14th @ 7:00 PM
- Thursday, Sep 18th @ 7:00 PM
- Saturday, Oct 4th @ 10:00 AM
- Thursday, Oct 16th @ 7:00 PM

Note: these orientation are for hunting the BGSL property. Please do not confuse this with the State Hunter Education classes (below).

Future STATE Hunter Education at BGSL: Class, 8/30; Range Day, 8/28

These fill up quickly, so if you have a need for hunter education, sign up soon. Clicking on the link below will take you to the class registration information.

- Complete Class with Bowhunter Add-On --Sat., August 30:
<https://app.fw.ky.gov/edcourse/courseevent.aspx?ceid=3140>
- Range Day -- Sat., August 28:
<https://app.fw.ky.gov/edcourse/courseevent.aspx?ceid=3141> ***Note: Range Day is for those who can prove prior completion of Classroom Portion and just need to complete Range Portion.***

If you find the date you want is full, contact the instructor (via the registration page), as, being a BGSL member himself, he tries his best to fit in all the BGSL members he can.

Gallop and Glow 5K for Justin's Place

This will be a 5K fun run (walk or run as you see fit) to benefit Justin's Place. It will be held on the evening of Friday, August 15 at BGSL. This is the event's second year at BGSL, and this year they are adding a 100 yard dash for the kids, so everyone in the family can have fun and support a good cause.

Justin's Place is a local non-profit that is dedicated to creating moments of peace and joy for children in our community who need it most. They do this through tailored recreational sessions that include therapeutic horseback riding lessons, interaction with farm animals, sensory activities, learning games and more! In 2023, Justin's place served 60+ children each week through their one-of-a-kind farm in Wilmore, Kentucky. Information and sign-up link in the header above.

Hiking Trails

You can get trail maps with descriptions in JPEG format on the website page linked to this header. Contact trailcommittee@bgsllinc.com if you would like to help maintain existing trails, scout out potential new trails, or need more information on the hiking trails at BGSLL.

Camping at BGSLL

There are several options for camping at BGSLL for both members and event attendees. Options range from primitive sites to full RV hookups. [Check out the options here.](#)

Fishing Pond

The ("new") pond is holding water pretty well and was recently stocked. Remember to follow all relevant state fishing regulations and that the BGSLL limit is to keep **two catfish per membership per day; all other species are catch and release.**

Bagged Ice in Freezer (Pavilion of Clubhouse)

Members may now take bags of ice from a freezer in the pavilion (covered outdoor area) of the Clubhouse. The kitchen is locked now due to the amount of new equipment and -- frequently -- food being stored there between uses.

RSO Classes -- Express your Interest

BGSLL always needs RSOs to work GP and Adv. Rifle Range. If you are interested in future RSO classes and are willing to give your time to help BGSLL in one of its primary missions, give the office a call at **859-858-4060** to register your interest and be put on the list for upcoming opportunities.

BGSLL Training Certified Member Instructors

NOTE: *The instructors listed in this section are all BGSLL members and are certified by the BGSLL Training Committee.*

[Brian King/PRS Training Solutions](#) (link to instructor page with contact information, etc.) offers a wide range of opportunities to train in pistol, rifle and shotgun through classes or private lessons. **The start of multi-month Intermediate Series that was scheduled for Saturday, August 2 has been cancelled, but the Intermediate series will pickup on the first Saturday of September.** Meanwhile, you can contact Brian directly if you are interested in any of his offerings.

[Natalie Bohon](#) (link to instructor page with contact information, etc.): Natalie continues to be available for private or small group lessons, and she will be available more on the weekends than she has been in the past.

Mark Sands Instructor Mark Sands teaches four classes a year at BGSLL. He has developed SandsFirearmsTraining.com and the website is currently available for review. **Mark currently has scheduled Performance Handgun for Sunday, September 28 and Advanced Defensive Rifle for Sunday November 16 for his two remaining classes at BGSLL this year.** For more information regarding the classes offered at BGSLL, please contact Mark using the contact page at: <https://sandsfirearmstraining.com/>

[Timothy Johnson](#) (link to instructor page with contact information, etc.) focuses primarily on the basics of pistol shooting in small group classes, but he is also available

for private individual lessons and coaching. Contact him via the button on his instructor profile page.

BGSL Youth Committee

Contact Nelson Bottoms at youth@bgsline.com for information about all Youth Activities at BGSL.

Lexington Chapter of A Girl & A Gun at BGSL

Contact Natalie Bohon for all matters related to A Girl & A Gun.

New Member Orientations

There are meeting times on the calendar for Orientations, but in order to keep the group sizes low, additional orientation meetings may be needed. New members should arrange for a meeting time directly with the office (859-858-4060) rather than simply coming to one of the pre-scheduled meeting times.

Pit Pass Qualifier

One of these at a minimum will be offered every month, typically on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Like the new member orientations, the qualifiers must be organized to limit numbers, so let Ben Riffell know that you are interested by contacting him or leaving a message for him at the office at 859-858-4060, and he can notify you when a space in the qualifier is available.

Guest Passes

For members' reference, here, again, is a link to a copy of the [BLAST email regarding guest passes](#). Most feedback so far has focused on the price increase a year ago but has ignored several mitigating factors: Each membership will receive two passes at no charge at renewal time, and two reduced rate passes are available to members each year (see the linked BLAST for details on your free and reduced rate guest passes). Also, remember that the family membership policy is generally very open to people living in the main member's household and that minors in general (including grandchildren) may be mentored without a guest fee, so call the office if you need specific detail on whether you need to buy a guest pass for someone if you think they may be an excepted case. **In addition, many activities do not require a guest fee at all**, such as hiking, camping, or simply showing someone around the club, not to mention that Shotgun is open to the public during its normal operating hours, so no guest fee is required to take someone there, either. Finally, if anyone wants to conduct a regular, structured program of recruitment, we are potentially willing to waive the guest fee, if required, in such situations, so contact the office or one of the club officers to discuss that possibility.

Front Gate

While we hope that most of the issues with the front gate have been resolved by now, we are also aware that a few remaining cards may have a known problem, but we don't know which cards are affected. If you experience a problem with your gate card, please send a short description of the problem and the date and time at which it occurred, along with your name, member ID number and gatecard number, to gatecardissues@bgsline.com.

No Change in BGSL Dues this August

The **final** of four 5% scheduled annual "cost of living" increases approved by the

membership in July of 2020 took effect on August 7, 2024, **so no scheduled increase will happen this August.**

Divisions/Sports

Note that the division names in the headings below are linked to the divisions' pages where you will find general information about, and contacts for, the divisions.

[Archery](#)

Contact archery@bgsline.com with any questions about using the targets available, for information about upcoming events, or to join the division.

[Casting](#)

As always, if you would like to try some casting practice the division has provided rods near the casting shed with the appropriate casting plugs so that members can use them. For information about the Casting Division or about using the Casting Ponds, contact casting@bgsline.com.

[Gun Dog](#)

Contact gundog@bgsline.com for information on the division and its events or to join the division.

[Muzzleloader](#)

Contact muzzleloader@bgsline.com with any questions you have about about the range, the division or its events.

Monthly Open Club Match (Table): Sunday, August 24 (call to confirm)

PRS Rimfire

PRS Rimfire Match: Sunday, August 17

Note: PRS Rimfire was formerly NRL22. Contact the match director at prsrifire@bgsline.com for more information.

[Pistol](#)

Contact pistol@bgsline.com for information about the Pistol Division.

MONTHLY MATCHES

[USPSA Match](#): Sunday, August 3

Practiscore registration required for this match.

[Steel Challenge Match](#): replaced in August by KY State Steel Match (see below)

[IDPA](#): Saturday, August 16

Practiscore registration required for this match.

3Gun Match: Sunday, August 31 (note date not usual 4th Saturday -- moved as a courtesy to accommodate the Mike Niblett Memorial Match on a Saturday at rifle without using both weekend days at rifle)

Single Action Shooting Society (SASS/Cowboy Action) Match: Sunday, August 24

SPECIAL MATCHES

2025 Kentucky Steel Challenge State Championship: August 8-9

This is a big match, so keep an eye on the calendar for related pit closure in the days surrounding it.

Rifle

C/F Benchrest: Mike Niblett Memorial Match(UBR 100/200 yds Score Match):
Saturday, August 23

ABRA Matches: Sunday, August 3; Wednesday, August 27

Note: UBR and ABRA schedules for 2024 are published on the Rifle page.

Shotgun (Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays)

*For more information on events or sports at Shotgun, call the Shotgun Office/Clubhouse at **859-858-4458** or email bluegrassshotgun100@gmail.com.*

Register Now, Coming in September--Big Blue Cancer Blast: Monday, Sept. 15

Click on the link above for more information on this very worthwhile cause. The brochure linked on that page and the BBCB website also contains a registration form. Put together a team and/or consider one of the several sponsorship options available!

Blue Grass 5-Stand and FITASC League: August 7-September 11

ATA(Amateur Trapshooting Association)

ATA Shoot: None scheduled for August

NSCA

NSCA Shoot: None scheduled for August

Link to all scheduled upcoming NSCA Shoots at BGSL on Score Chaser

High School & 4H Trap Teams

The High School Trap Teams are on summer vacation for a while longer-- they come back in the fall, but the Jessamine County 4H Trap Team practices regularly at BGSL on Thursday nights during the summer months.

Online Resources

Keep Up with BGSL Online

You can see all the resources available for use by members and how to access each by reading the [Guide to BGSL Website and Other Online Resources](#).

See It All at Once & Print It Out. Download this: [Printable PDF copy of this month's schedule](#) . Remember to check with the official [BGSL website calendar](#) for additional

detail, updates and additions. If you are interested in a certain match or have a question, check with one of the division's members or send email to

secretary@bgsline.com.

Help Us Make BGSL Even Better for You. Everyone hates surveys, but if you have been a member for a year or more by completing [this very short \(2 minutes, estimated\), anonymous survey](#) once every year, you will let the leadership of the club know what your priorities and interests are and how to help you and your fellow members get the most out of your memberships. Let us know how you feel about BGSL and what you have been doing at your club.



[Unsubscribe](#)

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