



BGSL in September 2025

The Blue Grass Sportsmen's League will kick off September with the election of club officers and directors at large, jump right into the 4H State Shoot on September 13th, and follow up with the [Big Blue Cancer Blast](#) on September 15th, all before the end of summer. Add in all the ranges and resources and regular matches with the onset of much milder weather than we've had most of this summer and you will have no excuse not to participate in and enjoy your club thoroughly this month.

A Sad Note on Former BGSL President Greg Delabar

We regret to inform members that Greg Delabar, a past President of BGSL, has passed away. Mr. Delabar, 65, passed away August 5th in Cave City Ky. He will truly be missed.

General Membership Meeting -- Elections

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 2, at 7PM. September's Membership Meeting is devoted entirely to the election of Officers and Directors at Large, so you don't want to miss your chance to vote for the leadership for the next year. Just as a reminder, the vice presidents of each divisions traditionally act as tellers at the general elections.

Nominations Accepted in Writing for BGSL Elections

Starting at the August General Membership Meeting, the floor was 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

A Personal Note on the Coming Elections

The secretary (aka yours truly) received a diagnosis of extensive stage small cell lung cancer in February, and the cancer has since further metastasized to the spine and brain, so he will not be running for re-election. I am truly grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the membership for six years as secretary (after seven years as a division director) and thankful to have been lucky enough health-wise to serve the membership for the remainder of this term. I wish I had more reasonably certain time to work with you all (the membership).

On a more serious note, BGSL is 80 years old this year by one appropriate measure, has a large and valuable property with excellent facilities for the use of its membership, and, despite a few eternal malcontents, we have a loyal and happy membership (not that they do not have legitimate grievances from time to time). Even the somewhat remote location (for many of you) will be a huge asset over time given the encroachment of development around Lexington, and a minor road improvement would make the trip go a lot faster, anyway.

This value, sadly, makes your club an attractive "takeover target" for those who feel that these resources are wasted on the membership or perhaps want to indulge in fulfilling previously frustrated visions of heading successful business ventures. Your job, especially for those (most of you) who do not have the benefit of division representation on the board, is to show up at meetings (especially the elections) in numbers sufficient to offset the various established organized coalitions and sort the good from the bad from leadership by challenging and questioning them honestly at every turn. In general, the good ones will welcome the opportunity to explain their thoughts and justify their actions, while the bad ones will either become angry and defensive or attempt to quit the discussion as soon as possible, perhaps both. One technical hint: If an candidacy is unopposed, there is no debate, discussion, or opportunity for questions from the membership. Take that as you will.

In closing, my final request (at least in this regard) to you all is simple: **Treat your club like the fragile treasure it is and do your best to protect and preserve it for yourselves and future generations.**

Other Items of Interest

4H State Shooting Competition at BGSL on September 13th

The 4H State Shooting Competition will be at BGSL on **Saturday, September 13th**. Setup will take place on **Friday, September 12th**. The clubhouse and several ranges will be impacted for both days, and traffic will be heavy on the day of the shoot. It is expected that as usual National Guardsmen and Wilmore Police Officers will direct traffic and keep it moving.

Current Hunting Seasons and Member Safety Precautions

Dove season opens September 1st, and the archery season for deer opens September 6th, so please be aware that these activities are going on, and exercise both caution and consideration when you intend to go into areas that are used for hunting or areas near the dove field when in use. Remember to check the map of hunter check ins in the entry hall of the clubhouse before going any place other than the division main areas, ranges and pits. If a hunter is present in the area you intend to go, select another area. If the area of the map is clear, it is safe for you to proceed, but you should place a marker with your contact information and activity on the board and remove it before

leaving the club.

Dove Hunting

The 2025-26 dove season(s) for Kentucky start(s) September 1st. The field has had some setbacks this year due to unpredictable weather, but we are still hopeful for a decent dove harvest. The price for dove hunting is simply to pay the small game fee (**which is also valid for other small game**) and to attend a BGS� Hunter Orientation(see below). Contact Don Smallwood at jdonsmallwood@gmail.com with any questions about dove hunting at BGS�.

Remaining BGS� Hunter Orientations in 2025

This course must be attended/renewed annually by members who intend to hunt at BGS�. Sessions will be held in the Youth Lodge. Contact Don Smallwood at jdonsmallwood@gmail.com for details.

- **Saturday, October 4th @ 10:00 AM**
- **Thursday, October 16th @ 7:00 PM**

Walking 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 BGS�.

Camping at BGS�

There are several options for camping at BGS� for both members and event attendees. Options range from primitive sites to full RV hookups. [Check out your 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 BGS� 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.

BGS� Training Certified Member Instructors

NOTE: *The instructors listed in this section are all BGS� members and are certified by the BGS� 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. Brian is teaching an Intermediate Carbine class Saturday September 7: [Link to register for the September 7 Intermediate Carbine Class.](#) The October Carbine Class is cancelled due to unforeseen conflicts in the pits on the day of the class. The Signup Link for the November 1st Intermediate Carbine Class is available now at: [November 1st Carbine Intermediate Carbine Signup Link](#)

[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.

Instructor **Mark Sands** teaches four classes a year at BGSL. 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 BGSL this year.** For more information regarding the classes offered at BGSL, 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.](#)

RSO Classes -- Express your Interest

BGSL 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 BGSL in one of our primary missions, give the office a call at **859-858-4060** to register your interest and be put on the list for upcoming opportunities.

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 limited 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 over 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 (a bad batch of secondary codes that would have prevented them from ever working), but we don't know which members cards, if any, 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 . If you have lost your gate card and feel you might need one, you may get a new one from the office for a reasonable replacement fee.

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. Gun Dog's building roof has been recently repaired (with the help of the BOD), and they are making progress on a pheasant tower, which should be a great asset not only to the division but also to the wingshooting membership.

Muzzleloader

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

Bryan Station Open ("Silver") Table Match: None for September
Monthly Open(Local Table)Match: None for September

PRS Rimfire

PRS Rimfire Match: Sunday, September 21

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.

Pistol Division Feature for September -- Cowboy Action Shooting

Cowboy Action Shooting (SASS/CAS) is a way to channel your inner Cowboy/Cowgirl by using firearms from the 1850's thru the early 1900's. Participants adopt an alias and wear attire resembling that of the Old West.

Cowboy Action uses two single action revolvers, a pistol caliber lever action rifle and a shotgun. The shotguns are mostly short barreled side by side guns known as Coach Guns. A typical match consist of 5 stages, with target sequence and firearm sequence different for each stage. Pistols, rifle and shotgun are used in every stage. Scoring is based on speed with time penalties for misses and incorrect target engagement sequence.

Our matches are usually held on the 4th Sunday of each month in Pit 4. Just look for the cowboy hats. We are listed on the BGSL calendar as SASS (Single Action Shooting Society). Visitors are always welcome. Stop by, any of the Cowboy/Cowgirls will be glad to answer your questions and you might even get a chance to try out one of the firearms.

Fox Bend Ron - ronfsummers@gmail.com **859-806-6664**

MONTHLY MATCHES

USPSA Match: Sunday, September 7

Practiscore registration required for this match.

Steel Challenge Match: Saturday, September 13

Practiscore registration required for this match.

IDPA: Saturday, September 20

Practiscore registration required for this match.

3Gun Match: Saturday, September 27

Single Action Shooting Society (SASS/Cowboy Action) Match: Sunday, September 28

UPCOMING SPECIAL MATCHES

Bluegrass Regional Classic GSSF(Glock) Match at BGSL

BGSL will be hosting the annual Bluegrass Regional Classic GSSF match October 11-12. For more information and contacts on the annual Bluegrass Regional GSSF Match at BGSL contact Tom Mansfield at pistol@bgsline.com.

Rifle

C/F Benchrest: UBR 100/200 yds Score Match --Sunday, September 28

ABRA Matches: Wednesday, September 24

Note: UBR and ABRA schedules for 2023 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.*

Big Blue Cancer Blast

Coming Monday, **September 15**, so there is still time for you to get together a team and practice for one of the best charitable shoots around. If you love sporting clays and hate cancer, check it out: <https://www.bigbluecancerblast.com/>

ATA(Amateur Trapshooting Association)

ATA Shoots: Sunday, September 7

NSCA

'BGS� Belt Buckle/Superfecta #3' Shoot: September 12-14

Link to all scheduled upcoming NSCA Shoots at BGS� on Score Chaser.

High School and UK Shotgun Teams at BGS�

The Jessamine County High School and other area schools' Trap teams will soon resume practice at BGS� on Thursday evenings, along with the UK Shotgun Team.

Online Resources

Keep Up with BGS� Online

You can see all the resources available for use by members and how to access each by reading the [Guide to BGS� 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 [BGS� 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 BGS� 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 BGS� and what you have been doing at your club.



[Unsubscribe](#)

2500 Handy's Bend Road
Wilmore, KY 40390-8029
859-858-4060