



Physical address: 19615 E. Sprague Ave.
Mailing address: PO Box 100
Both at: Greenacres, WA 99016

phone 509-926-6505 | fax 509-926-6061

www.spokanegunclub.org email:
information@spokanegunclub.org

All members, both Annual and Life, are encouraged to volunteer a minimum of 10 hours of labor each calendar year. This helps keep shooting alive and well. Please coordinate with the Cashier!

NEW Annual Membership \$65.00

Runs Calendar year Jan-Dec

year.

Annual Renewal \$65.00

Signatures.

Runs Calendar year Jan-Dec

***Life Membership \$650 (Over 62yrs. \$325)**

To be eligible for Life Membership, you must...

*be an annual member in good standing for one

*have two recommending Life Member

1. _____ Life Member Signature

2. _____ Life Member
Signature

Please write legibly!

I hereby make application for membership with the Spokane Gun Club, Inc.:

Date Of Application 2016 : _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Employer: _____

Occupation: _____

Hobbies/Interests: _____

How did you hear about SGC? _____

Areas of interest: Volunteer Activities at the Club _____
 Trap Skeet Competitive Shooting
 Youth and Women's Shooting Hunter Education

Applicant Signature: _____

Membership Committee Meeting Date

- Accepted
- Hold _____
- Rejected

Card Issued? Yes
Information Recorded?
 Yes QB POS
1 year

The Spokane Gun Club History

It was 1892 when the Spokane Rod and Gun Club came into existence and the first charter was drawn up. That, however, was not when trapshooting began in Spokane. Among old records is an 1899 program advertising the 15th Annual shooting tournament of the Northwest Sportsmen Association. This means that competitive shooting was going on in the area in 1885.

Spokane was one of the earliest settlements in the west to have held organized shoots. Many people 122 years ago worked every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's so those three days were the dates of the big shooting competitions. Christmas, being more special, was the day when live birds were shot (costing the club \$2.50 per dozen). For other meets, Peona Blackbirds and White Flyer clays targets were the fare (at a cost of \$13.50 per 1 000). Inventory was taken every week, and before the big 1892 meet, exactly 5,322 targets were on hand.

Melville Moore, the first president, was also "captain" of the club. He did such a fine job of managing the chicken and turkey shoots that the board rewarded him with a note of thanks and a box of cigars. The club established its rules, but several changes had to be made in the first few years of operation. By 1893, "unknown angles" were being thrown. A shooter must hold his gun below the armpit until after he has called "pull". For doubles, he could hold the gun in any position he desired. Class "C" was established for members wishing to shoot "known angles", and a rule was made that one could shoot 10 ga. Guns from the 12 ga. Mark. The price of targets was raised to 3 cents for weekday shoots, and shooters had to pay for their own helpers (pullers, scorers, etc.)

On Thanksgiving Day in 1893, \$25.00 was divided as prizes at the big 50 bird event. (It had cost the club \$3.00 to send out 150 postcards.) Class "A" was lowered for this shoot to include all shooters with "60% or better" average. The shooter who won would pocket a cool six bucks.

The Rod and Gun club was very active in game management and apparently had quite a bit of influence in helping make the State's game laws. The Spokane board of directors set aside \$25.00 as a reward to be offered for the arrest and conviction of any persons violating game laws, and that amount would be \$50.00 if it should be a member of the Spokane Rod and Gun Club.

In 1901 when membership was at its maximum to date, the rifle and shotgun shooters separated. Rifle shooters could, however, belong to both clubs if they wished. Articles of incorporation of 1911 changed the club name to the Spokane Gun Club. By 1916, the club was well known throughout the country as the place to shoot. The Manito Gun Club members asked to join with Spokane, and the club bid \$600.00 to hold the Pacific Coast Handicap. The DuPont Powder Company put on its Annual Beginner's Shoot in Spokane and the first Inland Empire Handicap was held as a three-day meet. The club added \$300.00 to the Rose System for the Inland Empire tournament.

When established, the shooting grounds were on the Moran Prairie, and later the club shot at Grover Stadium. From time to time, events were held at various locations, including some big meets at the Spokane County Fairgrounds. Under a license secured from the War Department in 1921, the Spokane Trapshooting Association received ground at the Ft. Wright Military Base. Members built a clubhouse and had a formal opening on April 10 with a merchandise shoot. Those were the grounds for 28 years. In 1948 nearby home owners complained that it sounded "like a battlefield". Board members began looking for new grounds, and in 1949 they purchased 100 acres of wheat farmland in the eastern part of the Spokane Valley. This has been the home of the Spokane Gun Club since. It was hard for members to close down the Ft. Wright site. The last Inland Empire tournament on those grounds had the highest attendance of any shoot in the nation outside of the Grand American

The clubhouse is the same one built when the club moved to its present location. Over the years Spokane has undergone some changes in its membership. Although women could participate in shoots, none were allowed to join until the late 1940s. Now the club has had its first woman president- Sheree Crilly. A plaque on the clubhouse wall lists winners of the Inland Empire Handicap. During the 1980 shoot, the feature handicap was halted in the middle of the day because it was too dark to see. Mount St. Helens had erupted earlier, and the ash fallout forced officials to cancel the event. The plaque in the clubhouse wall lists the winner of the 1980 Inland Empire Handicap as Mount St. Helens.

Spokane has survived several changes in locations, and as the city of Spokane Valley is expanding toward the club grounds, the acreage becomes more valuable every day. It would be interesting to know what direction the club will take in the future.

For additional information about the Spokane Gun Club, Inc and its history, visit our web site, spokanegunclub.org