

PREFACE

Over the last several years economic pressures have resulted in many ranges having registered NSCA shoots that are "score your own". This clearly has been against NSCA rules in the past and may still be. I do not know the current status but I believe the rules still require a trapper or field judge.

Nevertheless, for economic reasons, I believe these shoots are here to stay and that may be a good thing for the clubs.

However it has introduced into the sport the dangerous specter that on occasions, cheating occurs. Oftentimes, this is downplayed and for obvious reasons, no range owner would want it known that at their shoots, cheaters often win.

Furthermore, bad behavior irrespective of how you define it, is rampant. Whether it is foul language or throwing of cartridges or gun abuse etc, we need to put a stop to it.

How then can we address the issues of proper and ethical behavior at the gun club and during tournaments

I believe it is time for all participants in any registered NSCA shoot to sign, on each occasion a Code of Conduct that they pledge to abide. This code will be a strong reminder of the moral, and ethical obligations to proper behavior and sportsmanship that we all expect of one another.

We will be circulating the code of conduct for further input from the Board of Directors.

The BOD would expect that every range owner would agree to have this code of conduct sign in sheet at every NSCA tournament.

Some may argue that without field judges the code will carry little authority. However, if all participants sign it (range owners must agree that no one is allowed to register without signing it) then the code will give any and all participants pause for thought about bending or breaking the rules as well as reminding them all of their obligations to be good sportsman and behave with proper decorum.

This code of conduct will work. It is but the first step in a strategy to elevate the stature of our sport.

I see a second step in the active development of NSCA certified referee/shooters who would volunteer at shoots to serve as “deputized” range marshals, addressing and assisting in the interpretation of rules. This cadre of marshals will serve as the eyes and ears of the Code of Conduct.

A third step will be to develop a Sportsman of the Year Award given to a shooter in each class who best exemplifies the qualities of honesty, integrity and good sportsmanship. From these 7 winners, one will be selected by a vote of the membership as sportsman of the year with a cash award and plaque to be presented at the State Shoot annually.

Why not have competitions to see who can be the most honest shooter and best sportsman/woman ?

Respectfully submitted

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