



# IKES ON TARGET



PHOTO: JAY CLARK

## August 2019 Is National Shooting Sports Month

The Izaak Walton League is proud to work with the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) to promote target shooting throughout August. This is a great opportunity for League chapters to host an event to introduce the public to shooting sports.

The League is ideally positioned to introduce more Americans to shooting sports. Well over 100 League chapters that have shooting sports facilities, and our members who have the experience and know-how to help beginners learn to shoot safely and responsibly.

And here's a goal for us all to "shoot" for: **At least half of League chapters with shooting range facilities host one public event this August.** With our nationwide chapter network, achieving – and exceeding – this goal is well within reach.

The League wants to highlight your National Shooting Sports Month event on the national website, in *Outdoor America* magazine, and on social media. Send us your event details, including date and time and a simple description of your event via email to [chapters@iwla.org](mailto:chapters@iwla.org).

Chapters have flexibility to host a wide variety of events. The only requirement is that an event be open to the public. An important objective is to encourage participation by people who are not already recreational shooting sports enthusiasts. Otherwise, your options are limitless – from starting people off with air rifles or shooting a .22 rimfire to offering lessons on trap and skeet or field archery.

Generations of Americans have taken their first shot at Izaak Walton League chapters. National Shooting Sports Month is a perfect opportunity for us to introduce new generations to these sports and help you and your chapter stay "on target!"

**For more details about National Shooting Sports Month and available resources for your event, please refer to page 2.**

## Resources For National Shooting Sports Month Events



**N**ational Shooting Sports Month is a great opportunity for chapters to introduce others to fun, safe activities they can enjoy!

**Learn More** — You can learn more about National Shooting Sports Month and access event promotional resources at [www.nssf.org/events/national-shooting-sports-month](http://www.nssf.org/events/national-shooting-sports-month).

**Help Us Promote Events** — The League’s national office requests that you please share event details, including chapter name, type of event, date and time, and a one-sentence description of the event. Email your information to [chapters@iwla.org](mailto:chapters@iwla.org).

We will post this information on a National Shooting Sports Month webpage on our website at [www.iwla.org/outdoor-recreation/shooting-sports](http://www.iwla.org/outdoor-recreation/shooting-sports).

Also, the NSSF has created a nationwide calendar of National Shooting Sports Month events and invites League chapters to post their events on the calendar. To add your chapter event, visit [www.shootingsportsmoonth.org](http://www.shootingsportsmoonth.org). After posting your event, you will receive an official promotional package from NSSF.

**Share Results and Event Highlights** — After your event, we want to hear how it went. Send us a quick email with outcomes, including number of participants, any photos, and interesting comments and feedback from the first-time shooters. Post your results to social media and we will share it on our Facebook page.

**Keep It Simple** — There is no reason to create a brand new event. If your chapter periodically opens its range to beginners for an introduction to shooting sports, consider doing so in August this year. However, if your chapter has never hosted a public shooting sports event, NSSF offers support with its First Shots® program ([www.nssf.org/ranges/first-shots](http://www.nssf.org/ranges/first-shots)).

**Other Promotional Resources** — The League can provide your chapter with promotional event posters, IWLA Fact Sheets and extra copies of

*Outdoor America* magazines as handouts. We offer assistance in preparing media alerts and in helping you leverage the chapter’s social media feeds to market your event in your community.

The IWLA national staff is excited to work with chapters to promote broad-based participation in shooting sports.

If you have questions about National Shooting Sports Month or want to share details of a chapter event planned for August, please contact Earl Hower, Director of Chapter Relations, at [chapters@iwla.org](mailto:chapters@iwla.org) or toll-free at (800) 453-5463, extension 216.

## Explore Bowhunting

**M**any Izaak Walton League members are avid recreational archers and serious bowhunters.

As part of our continuing effort to ensure the future of recreational shooting and hunting, the League partnered with the Archery Trade Association (ATA) to help grow local interest in archery at chapters.

ATA developed an **Explore Bowhunting Instructor Kit** that is ideal for teaching and engaging new bowhunters.

The kit includes:

- Instructor Curriculum Book
- Student Handbook
- Anatomy Flip-Book
- Archery Equipment Booklet
- Crossbow Addendum
- Curriculum Media Pack



This kit has the right tools for any state hunter education instructor, certified archery instructor, or avid archer/bowhunter that is willing to share his or her outdoor experiences with others in a classroom setting.

The Explore Bowhunting Instructor Kit is available to chapters at a discounted rate. Order forms can be found online at [iwla.org/outdoor-recreation/shooting-sports](http://iwla.org/outdoor-recreation/shooting-sports) or obtained by emailing [archery@iwla.org](mailto:archery@iwla.org).

# Ikes Shooting Sports Chapters

Izaak Walton League chapters operate 118 shooting ranges across the country – including archery, airgun/bb gun, rifle and handgun, skeet, sporting clays, and trap ranges.

These chapter facilities are also used for firearms safety training, hunter education courses, and youth shooting sports programs.

Many of our chapter's programs are accredited by the National Rifle Association, the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the Amateur Trapshooting Association, and state fish and wildlife agencies. The following League chapters have shooting sports facilities:

## Colorado

- Pikes Peak (Colorado Springs)

## Idaho

- Caldwell

## Illinois

- Elgin
- Kewanee (Atkinson)

## Indiana

- Cass County (Logansport)
- Dianna (Shelby)
- Evansville (Boonville)
- Fort Wayne (Huntertown)
- Glen Park (Hobart)
- Griffith
- Howard County (Kokomo)
- Huntington County (Huntington)
- Miami (Peru)
- Michigan City #7
- North Manchester
- St. Joseph County (South Bend)
- Wabash (Somerset)

## Iowa

- Ames
- Anamosa
- B. F. Carroll (Bloomfield)
- Boone Valley (Jewell)
- Clinton County (Clinton)
- Davenport
- Des Moines
- Dickinson County (Spirit Lake)
- Dragoon Trail (Elkhart)
- Dubuque (Peosta)
- East Fork (Algona)
- Emerson Hough (Newton)
- Emmet County (Estherville)

- Grundy-Tama (Reinbeck)
- Iowa County (Victor)
- Keokuk County (Sigourney)
- Linn County (Cedar Rapids)
- Mahaska County (New Sharon)
- Maquoketa Valley (Maquoketa)
- Marshall County (Marshalltown)
- Muscantine
- Ottumwa
- Red Cedar (Vinton)
- Sabula
- Three Rivers (Waverly)
- Wapsi Valley (De Witt)
- Warren County (Indianola)
- Waterloo
- West Central (Denison)
- Worth County (Kensett)

## Maryland

- Bethesda-Chevy Chase (Poolesville)
- Frederick #1
- Harford County (Abingdon)
- Lois Green Sligo (Gaithersburg)
- Mid-Shore (Trappe)
- Mt. Airy
- Rockville (Germantown)
- Sportsman's (Pylesville)
- Washington County (Clear Spring)
- Wildlife Achievement (Damascus/Mt. Airy)
- Woodmont (Hancock)

## Minnesota

- New Ulm #79

## Nebraska

- Arapahoe
- Fremont
- Grand Island
- Lincoln (Bennet)
- Seward County (Seward)

## New York

- Cortland (Homer)

## North Carolina

- White Oak River (Cape Carteret)

## Ohio

- Delta
- Dry Fork (Okeana)
- Fairfield

## Ohio (Continued)

- Fremont
- Hamilton
- Hocking County (Logan)
- Lawrence County (Pedro)
- Lorain County Ely (Penfield)
- Martin L. Davey (Paris)
- Medina
- Monroeville-Huron County (Monroeville)
- Mount Healthy (Cincinnati)
- Tallawanda (Oxford)
- Tiffin-Seneca County (Tiffin)
- Wayne County (Salem)

## Oregon

- Eugene

## Pennsylvania

- Lancaster Red Rose (Schaefferstown)
- Oil City (Franklin)
- York #67 (Dallastown)

## South Dakota

- Beadle County (Huron)
- Bon Homme County (Tyndall)
- Day County (Webster)
- Deuel County (Toronto)
- Madison #16 (Madison)
- McCook Lake
- Sioux Falls
- Sunshine (Pierre)
- Yankton Area (Yankton)

## Virginia

- Alexandria (Stafford)
- Arlington-Fairfax (Centreville)
- Arlington-Fairfax Juniors (Centreville)
- Christiansburg-Montgomery (Christiansburg)
- Fredericksburg-Rappahannock (Spotsylvania)
- Loudoun County (Leesburg)
- Lynchburg (Amherst)
- Prince William (Brentsville)
- Roanoke Valley (Roanoke)
- Rockingham-Harrisonburg (Harrisonburg)
- Staunton-Augusta (Churchville)
- Suffolk-Nansemond (Suffolk)
- Warren County (Browntown)
- Winchester

## West Virginia

- Jefferson County (Kearneysville)
- Mountaineer (Elkins)
- Tucker (Parsons)
- Zip Little (Prichard)

## Wisconsin

- A. D. Sutherland (Fond du Lac)
- Beloit
- Bill Cook (Stevens Point)
- Brown County (De Pere)
- Southwestern Wisconsin (Cuba City)
- Watertown

This list of League chapters with shooting facilities may be helpful should you need to seek advice from, to exchange ideas with, or merely wish to communicate with others locally, in your region, or across the country.

Refer to the online National Directory for the most current contact information at [www.iwla.org/officer-tools](http://www.iwla.org/officer-tools).

## Chapter Shooting Sports Coordinator

**D**oes your chapter have an assigned Shooting Sports Coordinator? Why is this important?

Having a member volunteer in this position will help us provide your chapter with timely information about best practices for range management and other issues that affect hunters and recreational shooters at the local, state, and national levels.

This individual will also receive future shooting sports-related updates (and issues of *Ikes On Target* newsletters) from IWLA and NSSF.

If your chapter does not currently have such a position filled, please contact the League's chapter relations staff at [chapters@iwla.org](mailto:chapters@iwla.org).



## On Target: Featured Chapters

In each issue of *Ikes On Target*, we highlight chapters that promote shooting sports.

### **Under 500 Members –**

#### **Linn County Chapter (Iowa)**

Known locally for its work to protect clean water in the Cedar River watershed, the Linn County Ikes are located within the city limits of Cedar Rapids.

This chapter maintains a variety of outdoor recreational facilities, such as two trap houses, an archery course, and much more for recreational and competitive shooting.

The chapter also offers a safe covered rifle range with concrete benches for shooting with any conventional rifle caliber at targets at 25, 50, and 100 yards.



**Covered Rifle Range**

For additional fun shooting, they maintain a separate structure with a BB and airgun range.



**Handgun Range**

Photos courtesy Linn County Chapter IWLA Website

For the committed handgun shooter, they offer a 24-position outdoor range with targets set at multiple distances from 7 to 50 yards, as well as an action pistol range with turning targets. There is access to an indoor, 8-position pistol range house – heated, air conditioned, and ventilated for year-round use.

[www.iwla.org/linncounty](http://www.iwla.org/linncounty)

### **Over 500 Members –**

#### **Lincoln Chapter (Nebraska)**

With an annual member count hovering at about 1,200, this League chapter hosts many conservation programs as well as some of the most active shooting sports programs available in this area. It provides the only full service shooting range within fifty miles of the state capital city, Lincoln.

The chapter operates a wide array of well-kept shooting ranges for members and guests to practice shooting skills, with pistols, rifles, and shotguns. Their members enjoy the privilege of using the rifle and pistol, five stand sporting clays, and trap ranges, and an archery course.

The chapter also welcomes non-members to participate in any number of organized shoots, including 300-yard target events, Civilian Marksmanship Program, Cowboy Lever-Action Silhouette, American Rimfire Association .22 shoots, handgun silhouettes, summer and fall trap leagues, and high school trap team shoots.

Like many other League chapters, prior to the start of the deer rifle season, they invite the public to “Hunter Sight-in Days” to assist local hunters to prepare for a successful big game hunting season.



**Annual Hunter Sight-in Days**

Photo courtesy Lincoln Chapter IWLA Website

The Lincoln Ikes focus on education and the experiences they provide to younger and other first time shooters, such as women, because they believe that properly trained shooters are important to our future.

[www.lincolnikes.com](http://www.lincolnikes.com)

## Quick Shots

### News from Washington, DC

State fish and wildlife agencies depend significantly on revenue from federal excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment – paid by hunters and recreational shooting sports enthusiasts – to conserve and restore wildlife.



However, declining hunting participation threatens this vital funding stream. Recruiting new participants in hunting and

recreational shooting sports is essential to sustaining our outdoor traditions and maintaining funding that supports wildlife conservation and habitat restoration in every state.

On March 26, 2019, the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a preliminary hearing on H.R. 877, **The Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act**. This bill would allow state fish and wildlife agencies to use a portion of these excise taxes funds for recruiting, retaining, and re-activating hunters and recreational shooters.

The Izaak Walton League supports this bill, and is working with the firearms and archery industry and state fish and wildlife agencies to pass H.R. 877 in the House.

Visit [www.iwla.org/advocacy](http://www.iwla.org/advocacy) to send an email to send to your Representative urging him/her to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 877.



***Ikes On Target*** is a publication developed for Iwla chapter presidents and designated shooting sports coordinators.

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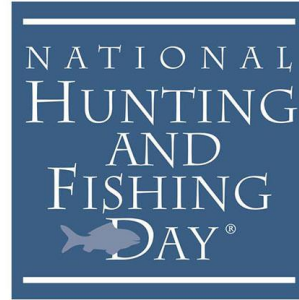
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[www.iwla.org/outdoor-recreation/shooting-sports](http://www.iwla.org/outdoor-recreation/shooting-sports)

### 2019 National Hunting and Fishing Day



September 21<sup>st</sup> is National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF Day)! And the Izaak Walton League of America continues our longtime support of NHF Day by returning as a national sponsor for 2019.

Nationwide, League chapters bring together sportsmen and women to celebrate the rich tradition of fishing and hunting. You can learn more at [www.NHFDay.org](http://www.NHFDay.org).

Some funding is available to groups that focus on conservation and promote hunting and fishing with a NHF Day Live It! Grant.

The Wonders of Wildlife is accepting applications and encourages IWLA chapters to submit a detailed application with their specific needs.

Deadline for this year's grant request is (postmarked) May 31, 2019.

For questions regarding the NHF Day Live It! Grant, call (417) 225-1162, or e-mail [nhfday@wondersofwildlife.org](mailto:nhfday@wondersofwildlife.org).

### Shooting Sports Conservation Committee

Did you know that the League maintains a committee on shooting sports?

Formed in 2008, the Shooting Sports Conservation Special Committee offers guidance to the Executive Board on related policy, works to promote the shooting sports to chapters and divisions, and organizes how-to workshops at national conventions.

**Chair**, Ernie Padgette, of Bealeton, Va. can be reached at (540) 439-6085 / [epadgette@sprynet.com](mailto:epadgette@sprynet.com).

**Members** include Jim Buitter, Crete, Ill.; Jay Butler, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Rick Cerwick, Des Moines, Iowa; Michael Fuge, Stevens Point, Wisc.; Keith Halper, Calumet City, Ill.; Craig McIntyre, Indianola, Iowa; Lisa McIntyre, Indianola, Iowa; Rodger Mettenbrink (**Vice Chair**), Grand Island, Neb.; Rodger Moran, Mt. Airy, Md.; David Prater, White Post, Va.; John Wittwer, Lincoln, Neb.; and Earl Hower (**Staff Liaison**).

League members interested in serving on the committee may sign up annually at the national convention.

Final appointments are subject to annual approval by the current IWLA National President.