

President: Dave Harbison
Vice President: Tom Mailleux
Treasurer: Bob Young
Secretary: Position not filled

**LEAGUE OF ESSEX COUNTY SPORTSMAN'S CLUBS
MEETING, APRIL 20, 2006**

***NEXT LEAGUE MEETING IS THURSDAY
MAY 18, 2006 DANVERS FISH & GAME 07:30 PM***

MEETING MINUTES

Roll Call:Meeting Date
In attendance representatives from:Apr 20Club meeting night:
Andover Sportsmen's Club.....1Monthly, Second Thursday
Association of Ipswich Sportsmen.....2N/A
Cape Ann Sportsmen's Club1Monthly, Second Wednesday
Danvers Fish & Game Club.....0Monthly, Second Thursday
Essex County Sportsmen's Association1Monthly, First Wednesday
Georgetown Fish & Game Club1
Hamilton/Wenham Rod & Gun Club.....1Monthly, Third Tuesday
Haverhill Hound, Rod & Gun Club.....1Monthly, First Monday, 07:30 PM
Haverhill Ridge Runners Fish & Game Club2Monthly, Second Sunday, 10:00 AM X Mother's Day
Ipswich Fish & Game Club.....0
Lawrence Rod & Gun Club.....1Monthly, First Monday
Lynn Fish & Game Protective Association.....1Monthly, Second Wednesday
Plum Island Surfcasters Club.....1Monthly, Third Tuesday
11 of 13 Present: Quorum Established

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife: www.masswildlife.org
G.O.A.L www.goal.org
Massachusetts Sportsmen's Council www.masportsmen.org
G.O.A.L "MESSAGE"
N.E.F. Publishing Corp. "THE FISHERMAN"
US Sportsmen's Alliance www.ussportsmen.org
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Alliance 1-877-770-TRCA www.trca.org
Massachusetts Wildlife Federation www.masswildfed.org
US Sportsmen's Alliance www.ussportsmen.org
National Shooting Sports Foundation www.nssf.org

To contact the League of Essex County Sportsmen's Clubs Phone or FAX (978)-465-5101, E-Mail pswalsh@comcast.net
League of Essex County Sportsmen's Clubs web sight at [http:// lecs.surfcaster.com](http://lecs.surfcaster.com)

- 1. EACH CLUB REPRESENTATIVE IS TO PRESENT TO THE LEAGUE E-MAIL ADDRESSES OF AT LEAST THREE PERSONS IN THEIR CLUB WHO WILL BE INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM TO BE SET UP BY JOEL LARSON AND CHUCK CASELLA.**
- 2. YOUNG ADULT PHEASANT HUNT PARTICIPANTS REQUESTED**
- 3. NEW OFFICERS NOMINATED, ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH**
- 4. CLUB MEMBER FOLLOW UP ON LEGISLATION REQUIRED**
- 5. NEW COMMITTEE ON INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS APPOINTED**
- 6. GOAL BANQUET, MAY 19 AT THE HILL TOP**

7. IF YOU ARE HAVING TROUBLE WITH A POLICE CHIEF REGARDING FID FOR A YOUNG ADULT FOR THE PHEASANT HUNT, DON'T FORGET TO TALK WITH GOAL.

Secretary's Report: There were no minutes taken at the March meeting. :

Treasurers Report: Treasurer not in attendance..

Communications: None reported, Mail not picked up.

Mass Council: Not attended by any Essex League member.

Banquet Committee: The banquet was well attended, more than 100 people. All comments have been positive.

Tom Mailloux was nominated for the position President and Chuck Casella was nominated for the position of Vice President. Elections will be held next month. There was an article in a Lynn paper congratulating Don McLorie and John Agurkis on receiving the Sportsmen of the Year Awards and stating that the banquet was a success.

Youth Pheasant Hunt: For complete information regarding the Young Adult Pheasant Hunt either call Dr. Mark S. Tisa at Mass Wildlife, (508) 792-7270, X 129 or the Hunter Ed program at (508) 792-7434. For complete details, click contact [www.masswildlife](http://www.masswildlife.com), click on education, then on Young Adult Pheasant Hunt. For those of you with no internet connection the text is noted below:

Introduction

The Massachusetts Young Adult Pheasant Hunt Program was developed by MassWildlife to provide an opportunity for 12-17 year old Hunter Education graduate to practice firearms safety, develop shooting skills, and participate in a special pheasant hunt with a safe, experienced hunter in a friendly environment.

The program is run by participating local sportsmen's clubs. Hunter safety is emphasized in all aspects of the program to help build the confidence of young adult hunters so they may feel comfortable hunting alone or with others in the field. This program is more than just a day of pheasant hunting in the field. It is a comprehensive three part outdoor recreation program:

Part One - Shooting Instruction and Practice. One of the most important elements for becoming a safe and ethical hunter is developing and practicing shooting skills. Young adults will practice the fundamentals of shotgun shooting and firearms safety by receiving hands-on instruction at the club range prior to the hunt.

Part Two - Pre-hunt Workshop. Young adults will have the opportunity to practice all aspects of a safe hunt during a pre-hunt workshop held just prior to the actual pheasant hunt. This will be a hands-on "in the field" session that will include safety exercises such as hunting in a group, zones of fire, crossing safely over obstacles, safely loading and unloading firearms in the field, proper field carries, handling and operating firearms safely, shoot/don't shoot scenarios and hunter ethics. In addition, the pre-hunt workshop will cover the basics on firearms for upland hunting, ammunition, gear, clothing, and other equipment typically used in upland hunting.

Part Three - Young Adult Pheasant Hunt. The program culminates with a day in the field pheasant hunting in a relaxed and friendly environment under the watchful eye of a safe, responsible, experienced hunter. It is an opportunity to experience the enjoyment and excitement of watching a dog working a bird; the thrill of seeing a pheasant flush from cover and taking the shot, and then cleaning and cooking the day's harvest.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who may sign up for the Program? Young women and men ages 12-17 who have successfully completed the Massachusetts Hunter Education Program are eligible to participate in the program. A Firearms Identification Card (FID) and hunting license is required for all young adults between the ages of 15 to 17. Young adults 12 to 14 years of age do not need a license or FID card.

Are there any costs or fees to participate in the Program? There are no costs to participate in this program. Safety glasses, hearing protection and hunter orange caps and vests will be provided free of charge. Clubs may, however, ask for a nominal donation to cover costs for such things as lunch, refreshments, clay targets or ammunition.

When does the Program take place? Part 1 of the Program; shooting instruction and practice, will take place during the summer or early fall. Part 2, the pre-hunt workshop will be held a week or two before the young adult pheasant hunt. The actual hunt (Part 3) will be scheduled for a Saturday prior to the October start of the regular pheasant hunting season.

Where can young adults sign up to participate in the Program? Contact your local sportsmen's club to see if it offers this program. A list below shows what clubs are participating in the program or contact your local [MassWildlife District Office](#).

LEAGUE OF ESSEX COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS

Clubs Which Participated in the 2005 Young Adult Pheasant Hunt Program

2005 was the pilot year for the Young Adult Pheasant Hunts. Clubs which participated in 2005 are listed below. Clubs which plan to offer the Young Adult Pheasant Hunt Program in 2006 will be listed as soon as applications are submitted. Feel free to phone or email the club contacts to learn more about the details of their club's scheduled Program, what worked, and what challenges had to be overcome.

Federal waters length limits on cod is 24 inches. Mass waters regulation will remain 22 inches. For a complete recap of marine fishing requirements see <http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dmf/index.html> and click on the required information tag. Chuck pointed out again the requirements on River herring. See above.

Northeast District

Concord Rod & Gun Club, Concord -- Kimberly Sullivan Ph: (781) 424-1800, E-mail: k_camarano@yahoo.com

Danvers Rod & Gun Club, Middleton -- Mike Robinson Ph: (781) 341-0410

Mike Robinson: is also the contact person for the League. It has come to my attention that the Essex County Sportsmen's Club is also sponsoring a hunt, contact Dave Harbison at 978-463-2009.

Legislation: H-1327, the trapping bill that will again allow leg holds is stalled in the Senate re Pam Resor. Send letters to your rep and senator in support of this bill.

By motion made, seconded and discussed The League agreed to send the letter, with revisions to reflect current events, to legislators and other interested parties regarding the Leagues opposition to legislation designated as S-2308.

Regarding the increase in dues as passed by the League 2 months ago, most of the clubs go along and have approved the additional funds. These additional funds are to be given to Mass Council with the understanding that a vastly improved web site and statewide communications system be set up. Some clubs are with holding additional funding until they see improvements on the part of the Council.

As the League was discussing the increased in League dues a new discussion began. The result of this discussion is that Joel Larson and Chuck Casella formed a committee whose task will be to significantly improve the League web site and to cause this site to be mopre message board interactive with member clubs. The committee and its goal was appointed by the President and approved by motion made, seconded and approved by the body. Contact Joel at jslarson@comcast.net or Chuck at chuckcasella@verizon.net with any positive suggestions or comments. In both cases be sure that the subject bar reads **Essex League** so their spy ware doesn't erase your message before they get it. chuckcasella@verizon.net.

Topsfield Fair: Tom Walsh will bring a designer of industrial trade show booths into the sportsmen's building in order to hear her suggestions regarding possible improvements we can make in the various booths. Depending on her comments a meeting will be held with all the participating entities in order to formulate an action plan for 2006.

New Business: Due to the lack of tagging stations for tagging pelts throughout the state, Mass Trappers will be positioning the Board to allow trappers to call or e-mail regional offices of the Department then give the department the required information and obtain tags for their pelts. The species requiring tags are beaver, otter, bobcat, coyote and fisher. Remind club members that North Reading was nearly shut down to all hunting as a result of some hunters acting out after being asked by a home owner to put a little more distance between them and the home owner's house. Remember, the 500 foot rule is absolute, but if asked by a citizen to maintain a reasonable distance from their home, discretion is desirable and abstinence and aggressiveness may get the town shut down. Citizens just don't understand someone acting out when they have a firearm or bow and arrow in their hand. This situation was saved only due to the intervention of a hunter with facts in his hands regarding the safety of hunting and information regarding land stamp money being used for land acquisition funds. There was a question as to whether the Council had petitioned the Board regarding the free day of fishing. No information yet.

IN THE FUTURE I WOULD SUGGEST THAT IF THERE IS A REQUEST TO BE MADE TO THE COUNCIL THAT THE ACTING SECRETARY BE INSTRUCTED TO REQUEST THE COUNCIL IN WRITING.

There being no additional business the meeting was adjourned by motion, seconded and passed.

Collation for May meeting by Lynn Fish & Game Protective Association