

**ATA DELEGATE REPORT**  
**OCTOBER 2015**  
**Mark Stevens, Minnesota**

Another trap shooting season has passed. Minnesota was well represented in Sparta, and many of our members shot very well. That being said, many do not attend and potential winning spots on State and National teams are left unrepresented. We all need to encourage more of our state shooters to attend the ATA Zone Shoots and the Minnesota Zone Shoots. Then, the next step is to attend Sparta! Please help me increase Minnesota representation throughout the next year.

Congratulations go to Minnesota's Zach Warweg (Junior Gold) and Max Bunning (Sub-Junior) who both achieved Captain of their respective categories on the 2016 ATA All-American Team List! We are all so proud of you both. Zach, get the fishing stuff ready, and Max, we need some skeet lessons!!

The Minnesota board of directors has a meeting coming up Late November that has several votes that concern all of us.

1. Should we move the MN Zone Shoot to a different weekend to be able to have more youth represented? Currently the MN Zone shoot falls on the date of the MN State High School League championship held at the Minneapolis Gun Club. More than 100 youth shooters, as well as their parents and coaches, attend this championship each year with many being ATA shooters. To move the shoot means we must move clubs which have had those dates for years to another date.
2. The MN Central Zone has only two clubs throwing Zone Shoot targets now, Beaverbrook and Forest Lake in the rotation. Perhaps more will follow in the future. There are all kinds of ideas on the table, many that have been discussed which include: a) Make the Zone shoot a 1 day shoot, b) Annex the central Zone into the Northern and Southern Zone and split the state in half, and c) Shoot at several clubs around the state and hold the zone as a Telephonic Shoot, but you can only be registered for your targets in your zone, even if you shoot at another venue. A contributing problem with this is the Zone meeting, where your representatives are nominated and elected for office, must be held during the zone shoot, which can be problematic.

There are many considerations the board of directors must take into consideration of this issue. I urge you to contact your representatives and give them your opinions. We are here to serve you and would appreciate hearing your thoughts and bringing them forward.

Sally and I also hold a series of shoots each year, for youth only, called the MN Youth Chain Shoot, which is becoming larger and larger every year. We are currently working on and with some others on a 'think tank' to expand this shoot into six more sections of the state, which would be organized by others (potentially 36 more clubs). Sally and I would train the other clubs and organizers to hold registered shoots around the state for youth shoots. Each section should have 4 to 6 clubs involved in the chain shoots and all targets would be registered targets. We will be presenting this plan to the EC board in December and ask for some funding to help with the growing pains of this endeavor for the first year. We will also be a model for all the other States. If your club is willing to throw youth-only registered targets and you have members willing to work on this project please contact me. So far Sally and I trained over 200 NRA Level 1 Shotgun Coaches in Minnesota. We have great interest with them on this project, now we are in need of clubs and are happy to provide more details by email if you are

interested. The money raised during the shoot stays with each club. Club must pay ATA/MTA daily fees. A one-day shoot can provide great revenue for a club and, as we all know, there are some clubs in Minnesota who could really benefit from this project.

We will be holding five or six more NRA Level 1 coach classes again right after the first of the year through April. There is a waiting list so sign up early. Contact Sally at [minnesotashotgun@icloud.com](mailto:minnesotashotgun@icloud.com) for information or to be added to the mailing/waiting list, or visit [www.minnesotashotgun.org](http://www.minnesotashotgun.org) for updates and information.

It is an honor serving as your ATA Delegate. I value you trust and will work every day to keep it.

As always tell your family how you feel about them, we are not promised tomorrow. Hug your kids! Today was a blessing for us, as we have you as friends. Don't leave any doubt. Good luck to all of you hunting and or shooting this fall!

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