



AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
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END OF SESSION LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The First Session of the 148th Delaware General Assembly has finally come to a close. In previous Newsletters and Action Alerts we have attempted to keep you advised as to what is going on at Legislative Hall.

As you may have guessed from reading the various news reports, our legislative record for 2015 has been a mixed bag. The good news is that the "bad news" so joyfully reported by the press was enormously exaggerated and our successes woefully underreported – as usual.

To be both brief and succinct, the phrase "sometimes winning is not losing" best describes our efforts at Legislative Hall this session. Our team worked diligently and very successfully to make the best out of a very bad situation – they deserve our thanks and our praise for their efforts.

Please remember that 2015 is the first of two sessions that will make up the 148th Delaware General Assembly. Any bills that remain pending at the close of this first session will be available for further action when the Legislature returns in January – these bills do not die for lack of action, at least not at this juncture.

Also please remember that when you go on line to read the bills, the current method for bill drafting requires that the current law (if any) be shown and that amendments to the current law are shown as either "strikethroughs" showing the language to be removed or as underlined showing language to be added. Language that is not shown with either a strike through or an underline is NOT a proposed amendment to the law but rather the law as it exists now and which is not affected by the bill.

Now for the results:

- **HB 23** – Bill to modernize and up-date Delaware's Handgun Hunting Law – Remains on House Ready List – supported by both NRA and DSSA
- **HB 25** – Bill to allow the harvesting of grey fox in Delaware – Passed by both Houses and awaits action by the Governor – supported by DSSA
- **HB 26** – Bill to create a hunting license exemption for companions assisting persons with disabilities – Remains tabled in House Natural Resources Committee
- **HB 97** – Bill to allow handgun use for deer deprivation on DNREC authorized farms – Supported by DSSA – remains on House Ready List
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- **HB 168** – Bill to require trigger locks and/or other "safe storage" devices – defeated in committee – opposed by NRA & DSSA
- **HB 192** – Limits open carry but protects concealed carry in municipal facilities – Initially opposed by both NRA & DSSA – was heavily amended to provide numerous protections for law-abiding gun owners – Passed both Houses and awaits action by the Governor
- **HB 201** – Bill to do the same as HB 192 but pertains to County buildings – Passed both Houses and awaits action by the Governor.
- **HB 198** – Bill to add parklands to safe School Zones – opposed by both NRA & DSSA – currently assigned to House Judiciary Committee
- **HB 204** – Bill pertains to existing animal cruelty statute and would adversely affect trappers – On House Ready List
- **HB 217** – Ballistic Imaging Bill – introduced on 6/30/2015 – assigned to House Public safety Committee. Opposed by NRA & DSSA
- **SB 12** – Bill to cast back to include juvenile convictions for purposes of determining "prohibited person" status – Defeated in Senate Judiciary Committee
- **SB 19** – Bill allows undercover police to use so-called "gun buy-back" money to purchase firearms – Opposed by NRA & DSSA – Tabled in Senate Judiciary Committee
- **SS#1 for SB 160**, page 45, Section 95 – This substitute bill added language to the Epilogue of the Bond Bill to require General assembly approval of any change in hunting fees –Supported by both DSSA & NRA - Passed both Houses – Signed by Governor
- **SB 45** – Bill to modernize and up-date Delaware's implementation of the federal LEOSA law (HR 218) pertaining to concealed carry by law enforcement officers – Passed both Houses, awaiting Governor's action.
- **SB 55** – Bill to extend from 10 days to 15 days in which a hearing on an ex parte PFA must take place – remains in Senate Judiciary Committee
- **SS#1 for SB 68** (with numerous amendments – A Substitute Bill that would have affected internet advertising pertaining to hunting and firearms with regard to children – both DSSA & NRA opposed the original bill and were successful in having the

offending language removed – Passed both Houses as amended and awaits Governor’s action.

- **SS#1 for SB 83** – PFA Bill – Strongly opposed by NRA & DSSA in its original form. DSSA & NRA offered more than 22 amendments to the bill to protect both the Due Process rights and Property Rights of law-abiding citizens. Original Bill was replaced by the substitute bill that cured all of the Due Process and Property Right violations contained in the original bill. However, many of the amendments proposed by DSSA and NRA to further modernize and make Delaware’s PFA laws more fair and equitable were rejected. Senate Substitute #1 for Senate Bill 83 ultimately passed both Houses and awaits action by the Governor – The bottom line is that although the anti-gunners are claiming this Substitute Bill as a victory, the truth is that NONE of their core attacks on the Second Amendment or upon the Due Process and Property Rights of law-abiding citizens were successful and all were defeated by our team at Legislative Hall. In other words, the Bill that ultimately passed does nothing to further degrade the rights of lawful gun owners. Chalk this one up as a win for our Constitution.
- **SB 99** – Bill would punish a person who falsely reports a violation of a PFA Order – Remains in Senate Judiciary Committee – reflects one of our proposed amendments to SB 83.
- **SB 156** – Bans import, sale, purchase, trade, barter or possession of ivory (similar to Obama Administration regulatory attacks on ivory at the federal level – Introduced on 6/25/2015 – Opposed by NRA & DSSA – Remains in Senate Banking and Business Committee

Measures which DSSA and NRA are supporting and which have not yet been assigned bill numbers and have not yet been introduced are as follows:

1. A bill to allow Sunday Hunting for deer
2. A bill to clean up and revise mental health legislation previously passed by the 147th General Assembly so as to ensure that the rights of mentally competent law-abiding gun owners are adequately protected
3. A bill to allow the use of pistol caliber rifles chambered for straight-walled pistol ammunition to be used to hunt deer in Delaware – similar to the measure passed in Ohio.
4. A bill to clarify Delaware’s hunting laws so as to clearly allow persons with Concealed Carry Permits to carry self-protection firearms concealed while hunting.
5. Due to strategic and tactical considerations that currently limit further discussion, suffice it to say that both NRA and DSSA are working on a number of other potential items of legislation that will be designed to further protect and expand the rights of Delaware’s law-abiding hunters, trappers, shooters, collectors and gun owners.

Again, please remember that in a state controlled by anti-forces at all levels, from the State House to the Governor’s Mansion and even in the Department of Justice (sic?), not losing IS winning.

Finally, it is important to note that you – our NRA members and DSSA members - are responsible for each and every victory – large and small. It was you who made the phone calls – it was you who sent those all important faxes and emails; and it was you who conversed with the various members of the Delaware General Assembly and who delivered the message – “no more stupid gun laws – protect our rights – and respect the Constitution.”

You – our members – did a great job! Thank you for all that you did in 2015 – and remember, the fight isn’t over. We still have a tremendous amount of work to do in Legislative Hall in 2016 – and we have a tremendous amount of work to do at the polls on Election Day, 2016.

It’s up to you – you are the only person that can make a difference – keep up the good work!

IRISH POT OF GOLD

BY John C. Sigler

Believe it or not, there really is a “pot of gold” at the end of the rainbow on the Emerald Isle we call Ireland - both literally and figuratively.

“Gold” in terms of Gold Medals won by Americans during the 2015 Emerald Matches and the Creedmoor Cup Team Match held at the end of June at the Midlands National Shooting Center located just outside Tullamore , in central Ireland; and “gold” in terms of a relationship between American shooters and Irish shooters that has resulted in a very large milestone on the road toward restoration of certain rights to the Irish competitive shooting community.

But before I tell you about how the United States F-Class Rifle Team performed in Ireland this year, perhaps a bit of history would be appropriate. For you see, in this case, history did repeat itself and in both cases the shooting sports in each of our two countries benefited through the laying down of a challenge – actually two challenges, over 100 years apart.

THE BEGINNING - THE FIRST CHALLENGE

It all began in 1873 when the Irish Rifle Team under Major Arthur B. Leach won the famed English Wimbledon Match over teams from England and Scotland by a score never before registered by any team at any match held at 800, 900 and 1,000 yards. As reported by our American NRA’s first Secretary, General George W. Wingate, “Fired by their success Major Leach published in the New York Herald a challenge, on behalf of the Irish Rifle Association, to the riflemen of America to shoot a match in the autumn of 1874”. This match was to be held on American soil at the newly constructed Creedmoor Range on Long Island, New York. According to General Wingate, the American team was to be comprised of riflemen born in the United States using rifles of American manufacture

while the Irish Team was to perform using rifles made by Rigby of Dublin.

As you will recall, the National Rifle Association of America was newly formed in 1871 and within the American NRA was the Amateur Rifle Club. The Irish challenge was accepted by the Amateur Rifle Club despite the fact that Americans had never competed at ranges in excess of 500 yards and America had no rifles that could compare or compete with Ireland's famed Rigby rifles.

As a result of that Irish Challenge, America's Long Range Rifle Competitive Shooting Community was born and America produced its first long range competition rifle, a breach loading .45 caliber rifle manufactured by the Sharps Rifle Company, known as the Creedmoor Pattern Rifle.

Without going into all of the details described by General Wingate, suffice it to say that the Americans, who had adopted what was then a highly unorthodox "team doctrine" wherein the American shooters relied upon each other to "dope the wind" as opposed to the "single shooter doctrine" then widely used by the Irish and other European teams, won their first international competition on the last shot fired.

The next year, 1875, the rivalry continued with the American Team traveling to Ireland, again accepting an Irish Challenge for a rematch. This rematch was held on a range situated on a beach at a place called Dollymount, near Dublin. Again, the Americans won, defeating the Irish who, despite their loss, remained gracious and generous hosts.

Upon the conclusion of this match, and after giving "Three Cheers for the Irish", the Americans presented the Irish with a very large and elegant silver trophy, crafted by Tiffany's of New York, which became known as The Creedmoor Cup.

Subsequently, rematches between the Irish and the Americans took place on a regular basis with The Creedmoor Cup being the prize for which they competed. Unfortunately, the politics of the time eventually evolved into things about which we will not write. The matches ended around 1916 and the Creedmoor Cup disappeared along with the ability of the Irish people to keep and bear arms (and ammunition) for competitive shooting (or any other) purposes.

MODERN TIMES AND ANOTHER CHALLENGE

We now "fast forward" to the year 2009 and a place called Lodi, Wisconsin. I was President of the National Rifle Association of America at the time and was in Lodi at the Winnequah Gun Club for the 2009 F-Class Rifle National Championships (today we would call them the F-Class Long Range Nationals, but there were no "Mid-Range Nationals" at the time).

I had been invited by the United States F-Open Team to compete in the Nationals and to participate in a fund raising event for the US F-Open National Rifle Team. Surgeon Rifles of Phoenix, AZ had built and donated a rifle for the F-Open Team to raffle off to help fund the team's participation in the World Championships. The Team had asked me to shoot the nationals

with that rifle and to then autograph that rifle as the President of the NRA – and I had, of course, accepted.

After a long day on the range, I was headed into the club house to participate in the camaraderie and to lick my wounds from having shot poorly (surprising no one) when I was greeted by an American shooting friend who introduced me to Noel Kelly, the Captain of the Irish Team and then-Chairman of the National Rifle Association of Ireland – a very new national organization that had only been in existence since 2000. Mr. Kelly was accompanied by other members of the Irish Team, most of whom spoke a brand of English that was very different from my own "down-home" Sussex County, Delaware version, and all of whom were somewhat difficult to comprehend.

Essentially these fine gentlemen attempted to explain to me that they wanted me, as an American F-Class rifleman and as the president of America's National Rifle Association to issue a challenge to the Irish to invite the American F-Class Team to come to Ireland to compete for the long-missing Creedmoor Cup. At the time I understood that such a challenge was very important to them and I had a very vague understanding that by issuing such a challenge it would in some way assist them with building their team, building a range and being allowed to participate in international competition – and perhaps even help to recover the long-missing Creedmoor Cup.

I did, in fact, write a letter on behalf of the American F-Class riflemen challenging the Irish to invite us over for a modern version of the Creedmoor Cup Match. The Irish took up the challenge, built a range just west of Tullamore and invited the Americans, South Africans, Australians, Canadians and English to renew old traditions and old competitive rivalries. The Americans accepted the kind invitation. The first modern version of the Emerald Matches and the Creedmoor Cup were held in 2011, and a new tradition was begun through the renewal of an old and venerable tradition being observed.

CREEDMOOR AND THE EMERALD MATCHES - CIRCA 2015

The 2015 Emerald Matches and the Creedmoor Cup Match were held during the last days of June. I was privileged to participate in those matches as a firing member of the United States F-Class Open Rifle Team. After opening ceremonies, a tour of Dublin, a meeting with the Lord High Mayor of Dublin, and squadded practice on the preceding days, competition finally began on June 24th with matches fired at 1,100 yards and 1,200 yards.

The format for this match is somewhat unique in that each yard line serves as a "stage" rather than a match and the aggregate of the two yard line scores qualifies the top ten shooters in both F-Open and F-T/R for the shoot-off – in other words, it matters not whether you win or lose,, only that you make the shoot-off. The Irish took advantage of the home field by winning the F-T/R Shoot-off, leaving Americans Barry Brazil and Matt Schwartzkopf to take Silver and Bronze, respectively. Americans Dan Bramley and Mark Walker won Gold and Silver,

respectively in the F-Open Rifle Shoot-off, leaving the Bronze medal to others.

The next three days were devoted to the Emerald Matches, with two of those days devoted to individual matches at 800, 900 and 1,000 yards each day followed by a Four-Person Team Match at those same distances the third day.

Emerald Day #1 F-Open Aggregate winners were Americans Matt Davis, Allan Rosethall and David Gosnell winning Gold, Silver & Bronze, respectively. In the F-T/R Rifle category, the only American to win a medal in the Day #1 aggregate was Jim Crofts. However, Day #2 saw American F-T/R shooters Barry Brazil and Phil Kelley, go Gold and Silver, respectively, thus setting the stage for Americans Barry Brazil and Jim Crofts to win Gold and Bronze in the two-day Grand Aggregate, respectively.

Day 2 of the Emerald F-Open competition saw Americans David Gosnell and Matt Davis finish 2nd and 3rd, respectively. Day #2 set the stage for the F-Open Grand Aggregate winners to be Americans David Gosnell, Dan Bramley and Matt Davis finishing Gold, Silver and Bronze, in that order.

And for the record, I had a good day on Emerald Day #2, winning a Bronze at the 800 yard line and finishing 5th overall for the day – not bad for a poor country boy (Ok, I'll admit to being an old man and not a boy) from down in Sussex County, Delaware. (We won't talk about my sub-par performance at the 800 yard line on day #1 or how that score negatively affected my overall standing in the Grand Aggregate.)

And in case anyone asks – yes, the wind did blow! But it didn't blow those days like it would the following three days.....

The following day was Emerald Team Day in which we fielded two F-Open Teams and two F-T/R Teams. The two American F-Open Teams finished #1 & #2, winning Gold & Silver. (I was on the second team, winning Silver). Unfortunately only one F-T/R Team won a medal, that being a Gold Medal won by USA F-T/R Team Red. USA F-T/R Team Blue came in a disappointing 4th.

The final two days were devoted to the Creedmoor Cup Team Match – the real reason we flew over to Ireland and the real reason for the challenge.

Did I say the wind blew? Well it did – that old Irish wind blew, and it changed, and it switched ; it fishtailed and then

switched back again, and it did everything it could to confound and confuse the American Team Coaches. But try as it may, that old Irish wind could not keep the American 16 man Creedmoor Cup Team from defeating the Irish, once again – and once again proving that America has some of the best F-Class wind coaches in the world (Thank you coaches!).

But by then the Irish were our friends and shooting companions so at the very end, during the award of the “modern” Creedmoor Cup, the American Team gave a loud and resounding “Three Cheers for the Irish!” and thanked them for their friendship, their gracious hospitality, a good match, a wonderful shooting venue, and for the opportunity to continue a great American/Irish tradition.

But most rewarding of all were the words of the Irish Team Leader John Paul Craven when he described how the challenge issued in my 2009 letter to NRAI Chairman Noel Kelly, had given to the Irish the ability to build a range, compete at a high level on the international scene and to enjoy simple rights so long denied to the Irish people – rights that you and I take for granted every day.

Yes, it was an emotional end to a very wonderful experience – because for the very first time I came to fully realize that the letter I wrote back in 2009 had accomplished so much in terms of helping to restore a modicum of firearms freedom to the law-abiding competitive shooters of Ireland. It was quite humbling to understand that a single, rather simple letter like that could serve to affect the firearms rights of an entire nation – it's still hard to fully appreciate – and even harder to believe – but it's true.

Of all of the things I have done in my life and all of the things I have accomplished during my time as America's NRA President, writing that very simple letter was perhaps my most significant contribution to the cause of firearm freedom.

To the Irish, that letter was “a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow”.

And, oh by the way – while we were there, the Irish informed us that they believe that they now know where the original Creedmoor Cup might be – and they are hoping that perhaps it might be returned to International Competition in time for the next Creedmoor Cup Challenge Match, four years from now.



American F-Open and F-TR Teams



American F-Open Team



American and Irish F-Class Teams



F-TR Rifle



F-Open Rifle

'Nothing to debate': Second Amendment, legal gun in my purse saved our lives

Reprinted from Fox News online, July 8, 2015.

The United States of America is a great country. You can debate absolutely anything, whether or not it has merit, and whether or not it's any of your business.

But guns? There's nothing to debate. Throw out all the numbers and expert opinions. I've got your expert right here, and it's called EXPERIENCE. Just before midnight June 30th, my

husband, Chuck de Caro, and I and our Weimaraner were four days into an all-American, cross-country road trip. We'd just dined with a friend in Albuquerque and intended to hit historic Route 66, then stop for the night.

Realizing it was late and Route 66 is no fun in the dark, we stopped at a pet-friendly Motel 6. Chuck showered; I went to the car for dog food.

He was making wild passes with his gun. Finally he lunged at the briefcase in front of me, and headed for the door. For a second, I thought he'd leave. Instead, he opened fire on my husband.

Florida State Championship Cowboy Match: January 8 – 11, 2015

By Dan Watson (aka Vaquero Dan)

The armed guard patrolling the second floor was engrossed in a phone conversation, instead of checking the parking lot.

I unlocked our door, picked up the food I'd placed at my feet and was assaulted by a jackass with a big, silver semi-automatic weapon.

He shoved me into the room. I was airborne and landed on the bed. He shut the door and stood behind it, gun on me, debating his next move.

He didn't expect Chuck to open the bathroom door. My husband (Air Force Academy, U.S. Army Special Forces), said "What's going on here?" and advanced into the room. Stark naked and dripping wet, he maneuvered himself in front of the small table between the beds, concealing two small .380 legal handguns we'd brought in from the car.

I moved around, we spoke to the assailant, kept him busy, offered him things, kept him from focusing. We felt he'd shoot when he'd gotten what he wanted. He was comfortable with the situation, had been there before.

I walked my purse to Chuck, talking about finding something inside. I reached behind Chuck and slipped a gun in, then handed it to him, asking if he could see anything that we might give the man. He said yes, wrapping his hand around the gun.

The assailant grew agitated as I again walked across the room, splitting his concentration. He was making wild passes with his gun. Finally he lunged at the briefcase in front of me, and headed for the door.

For a second, I thought he'd leave. Instead, he opened fire on my husband. Chuck returned fire, emptying his gun even as he was bleeding profusely.

Bottom line: Assailant DOA in the parking lot. My hero recovering from five gunshot wounds. We both are alive.

Now, ask me how I feel about the right to bear arms. Here's the truth:

1. Criminals will always have guns, this is not about them.
2. Americans have a constitutional right to bear arms. Humans have a right to defend themselves. If we didn't have the Second Amendment, we would create it.
3. You can't control everything; but if it makes you feel better, go with a simple law preventing violent offenders from buying firearms. Make it "violent" offenders rather than "white collar" offenders, or most of Capitol Hill won't be allowed to own them.
4. Get a gun, get legal, be responsible, trust yourself. Don't trust yourself? Then don't carry. But for God's sake then, shut the f**k up about it, because that's where your involvement ends.

Chuck and I were married one year ago, on the Fourth of July. Sure, we celebrated our first wedding anniversary in a hospital. But thanks to the Second Amendment, my crack-shot husband and the pistol he used, we were able to have a first anniversary.

Lynne Russell is a former Headline News anchor and CNN correspondent.

The Siege at St. Augustine held at the Ancient City Shooting Range and hosted by The Ghost Town Gunslingers, is the first large state level SASS championship held each calendar year. Having participated in this shoot for the first time in January, 2013 and enjoyed the warm (75°) weather, it was on my list for a return trip. With the lure of warm weather, this match draws about 350 shooters. The competitors are split into two groups, each shooting early morning one day and afternoon the other day.

We arrived at the hotel, just off 95 in St. Augustine about 6 pm Wednesday evening. As we were unpacking the vehicle, we began seeing cowboys/cowgirls that we knew from "up north". After a quick dinner, we relaxed in our room after the long day.

After a nice hotel breakfast and plenty of coffee, I cleaned our guns and listened to The Weather Channel on the television. With my work load, I didn't have time to complete this chore before leaving home. The forecast was for a sunny, clear, mild day – perfect for a road trip. We drove about one hour south to Daytona Beach. Since we are NASCAR fans, we went to Daytona International Speedway. We walked through the museum, signed up for a tour and it was outstanding!

The next day, Thursday, was side match day. Side matches include speed competitions for pistol, rifle, shotgun, derringer and long range rifle, as well as a Wild Bunch Competition and practice scenarios for main match competition. Since my wife signed me up for side match day, I had intended to put a few rounds down range, after we signed in at the range. But the weather didn't cooperate! It was downright cold and windy with dark clouds moving in quickly...so much for getting in some practice before the main match competition. After we picked up our shooting packets and door prizes, we found out that we were to shoot early on Friday and late on Saturday. The theme for the match was "Famous Outlaws".

Friday, the first day of the main match competition, dawned cold, windy, and cloudy. We had to be at our safety briefing (held at the range) at 7:30 am and begin the match at 8 am. It was 27° and still dark, when we arrived at 6:45 am at the range. Our only conciliation was that it was 8° back in Delaware! After the safety meeting, our posse moved to bay #9 for our first stage. I shot the first two stages clean (no misses) and logged in some decent times. Just as we began our third stage, it began to rain. Everyone scrambled to cover their long guns in their carts before they (guns & competitors) were drenched. So we finished Friday morning by shooting three stages in the very cold drizzle. (It was snowing in Jacksonville, Florida that morning!) We had planned to visit vendors' row after shooting, but our warm, dry motel room was more appealing. After a hot lunch, I wiped down and oiled our guns. We could always visit the vendors Saturday morning.

At most state level competitions, they host a social gathering with dinner and match awards. Since we shot

Saturday afternoon, we had a short time frame to finish shooting, drive back to the motel, get ready, and drive to the function on time. We always enjoy going to these evening events, because we get to dress up in our fancy Old West attire. Sometimes, there are costume contests with awards given for best dressed shooting attire and best dressed evening wear. It's nice to see everyone looking so elegant.

When signing up for these matches, you select which category in which you are shooting. Most of the categories are age-based. (So we older cowpokes aren't shooting against the young guns.) Some categories are clothing and caliber limited, such as Classic Cowboy and B-Western.

At the awards ceremony, quite a few of our friends received awards in their categories. Then came my category...I shot decent times but had three misses overall. Silver Senior is among the largest categories and with some misses, I didn't know if I would place high enough to earn an award. Surprisingly, I placed 5th! Not bad for a "young at heart" cowboy!

We finished the festivities that evening with handshakes and hugs for our cowboy friends, new and old. We hope to see many of them at other state matches later this year, with hopefully better weather.

Sunday morning is when the top 16 shooters face off in an elimination tournament. Since we needed the day to travel home, we missed this, always exciting, final tournament. Of course, the temperature was 60° early Sunday morning when we headed back to Delaware.

If you want info about cowboy action shooting or the DE State Cowboy Match, call me at 302-698-9507(home) or 302-670-9990 (cell). Vaquero Dan, SASS life member.



DSSA SEEKING NOMINEES FOR DSSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association is currently seeking DSSA members who are interested in serving on the Board of DSSA.

Under the Bylaws, the Board of Directors may fill openings on the Board prior to the annual election of Directors normally

held during the Annual Meeting of Members. One or more vacancies currently exist on the Board and the Directors are seeking to fill all such vacancies pursuant to the Bylaws.

Members who are interested in serving on the Board of Directors of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association are encouraged to make their interests known by mailing a "letter of interest" to:

Nominating Committee
Delaware State Sportsmen's Association
P.O. Box 94
Lincoln, Delaware 19960

Required Qualifications:

Nominees for the position of Director of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association must be members in good standing of both the DSSA and of the National Rifle Association of America.

They must be strong supporters of NRA-ILA and must have a strong desire to serve to protect and defend the rights of Delaware's law-abiding hunters, trappers, shooters, collectors and gun owners, and to protect and defend the Right to Keep and Bear Arms as protected by the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and Article I Section 20 of the Constitution of the State of Delaware.

Directors must be of sound mind and good character, must be qualified under both Delaware and federal law to legally own and possess firearms, must be a citizen of and loyal to the United States of America and must be a resident of the State of Delaware.

Additional Qualifications that would be helpful, but are not required:

A competitive shooting background is helpful, but not required.

Hunting, trapping and/or wildlife management experience would be helpful, but not required.

Experience as a serious "gun collector" would be helpful, but not required.

Membership in other pro-gun, pro-Second Amendment and NRA affiliated clubs and associations would be helpful, but not required. Likewise, experience as an officer or director of an NRA affiliated club or association would be helpful but is not required.

Experience as an NRA certified instructor would be helpful, but not required.

Military and/or law enforcement experience would be helpful, but not required.

A business or professional background would be helpful, but not required.

Political and/or legislative experience would be helpful, but not required. Please note that DSSA, like the NRA, is a single-issue, non-partisan organization. If you are a political partisan who cannot separate "pro-gun, pro-hunting issues" from partisan party politics, this is not a position in which you would be comfortable.

Please note that the DSSA Board of Directors normally meets in Dover on the evening of the first Monday of every month.

**MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DONATIONS,
PLEASE TAKE NOTE:**

Our Organization exists and is sustained by the membership fees and donations we receive annually. Please note that we appreciate and need your support more than ever. Our membership has virtually doubled in the past few months and with this infusion of support DSSA can and plans to move forward in areas and ways we have not been able to do before. We ask that when making donations to DSSA or DFLA that you use a separate check for each organization. This will ensure that the monies will be used as you the member/donator would have us use it. To help in this area, DSSA has set out to allow online payments and registration for membership. As you read this, provisions are being made to facilitate credit card usage in a secure manner to make payments and to donate. THANK YOU

DSSA NEWS

The DSSA NEWS is a bi-monthly publication of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association. It is distributed to each member as a benefit of membership. Additional copies are provided to elected officials and other NRA state associations. If you would like to contribute to the DSSA NEWS please submit your material to jeff.hague@dssa.us. Questions or concerns may be sent to the same address.

Mail Delivery Option

If you have paid dues at the full rate of \$25.00 per year you may elect to receive your newsletter through the USPS. To make a change please contact DSSA Membership Secretary, William D. Bell at:

dabll@comcast.net or 302- 245-4822.

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