

Massachusetts Sportsmen's Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 462
Rockland, MA 02370-0462

Meeting for May 4, 2025 at 9:00 am held via ZOOM,
by President John Kellstrand

Minutes are posted on the MSC website.

President's Comments – Moment of Silence for Al Bonney of Plymouth Co League. Al passed away at 95 yrs old. Al was one on the founding members of the MSC. John will not re-run for Treasurer and/or President at the September elections. The Bristol Co Banquet was very nice with great food and prizes.

Communication – First Circuit Court ruled that the MA ban on AR/AK and large cap mags does not violate the Second amendment. A Rasmussen pole 19% of American adults polled say they or someone in their household bought a gun in the past year. MT Governor is enticing gun manufacturers in CO to "move back to America" after CO Governor signed a law that bans manufacturing, distribution, transferring, purchasing MSR's without a permit to purchase. PA Supreme Court on Game Warden access to private property violates the 4th Amendment says numerous clubs. F&W Board meeting on May 14th.

Legislation - House Budget: F&W Commissioner \$2.2M, operating budget of \$18M, amendments passed: \$100K for Trailside Side museum, \$318K to F&W budget, F&W Inland Fund be reimbursed, also an amendment to change the statute for this annual re-imbursement, Deer population control commission to be formed. Hearings on watch list are being posted for May 6th. Watch for updates. The CRC is working very hard on the problems from Chapter 135 of the Acts of 2024.

Hunter Ed / Fisheries & Wildlife – The Waterfowl regulations passed the hearing on April 29. Watch for updates to be posted at F&W. There is a new vendor for MASSFISHHUNT for 2026. The Convenience Fee will be increasing to \$8-\$10. There is a Bill to move Fishing and Boating Access to the Commissioner's Office. Coyote season extension letter created and sent to the F&W Board. The way F&W counts our one letter as one request. To make a change many more letters will be needed. This method is also affecting the way the change of the Black Bear season 20 letters in favor and 70 letters against. It doesn't matter how many people our organizations represent; they want individual letters.

Ware River Watershed – Not much activity at the meeting on April 17th. Degraded discussion with DCR. Next meeting has not been posted, Some discussion should have been tabled or side-bar and it wasn't.

Quabbin Watershed Advisory – Gate 43 was paved from the entrance to the launch. Gate 8 road is being rolled to compressed the stone.

Marine Fisheries – Two changes made to commercial Menhaden fishery management, There is an extension of seasonal vessel speed limits within Cape Cod Bay until May 15th.

Forrest and Parks – Check out the regional program (Boston, Northeast, Southeast, Central, West). The Cape and Northeast is still in a Significant Drought Status. All other areas of the Commonwealth are in a Mild Drought.

Super Raffle 2025 – Tickets are now available. **Drawing is at the next Meeting.**

1. Henry Big Boy, .44 mag
2. Henry Golden Boy
3. Ruger 10/22 with scope
4. \$250 Bass Pro / Cabela's Gift Card
5. Athlon 20-60x80 Spotting Scope
6. \$150 Bass Pro / Cabela's Gift Card
7. 2026 Spring Turkey Hunt
8. 7' Boat Rod & Case
9. Traditions Drop Breach Muzzleloader
10. Compound/Crossbow archery target block
11. SIG Sauer M17 Air Pistol
12. Cabela's Blind
13. LL Bean Knife

New Business – Should the venue for a banquet be moved east? The venue where Bristol Co had their banquet (Taunton) is open to hosting us.

Deer/Bear Damage Report – The vote for the bear change proposal is imminent.

Good of the order –

Tri-County Longbeards Banquet, Foxborough	May 17th
MBBA Learn to Fish Day, Racepoint Beach, Provincetown	June 7th

Adjournment – 11:37 am

Next Meeting – June 1st in person in Auburn.