



## Watauga Gun Club Newsletter

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September 2026

### Welcome (and Thank You)

Dear Members,

Thank you for your continued support and participation in our club. Whether you're a longtime member or recently joined, we appreciate your commitment to promoting safe, responsible shooting sports and preserving our club's traditions.

This month we'll cover upcoming matches, range improvements, volunteer opportunities, club news, and important reminders. **Our next monthly meeting is Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse.**

Stay safe, and we'll see you on the range!

### Membership Update

Members who will be voted on at the upcoming September meeting are:

- John Sarullo

### New or Prospective Members

For any questions on the application process, please visit our website at <https://wataugagunclub.com/>, or contact a member of the Executive Committee (contact info listed on the website) with additional questions.



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### Club News

**2027 Executive Committee Needed** – We need YOU to volunteer to help our club! If you are interested in any of the positions (all offices are open), please review the Club bylaws for more information on each position's duties. Feel free to reach out to any sitting EC member for additional information, too! Per our bylaws, we are required to present the candidates to the membership for consideration at our November meeting, and members present at the December meeting will vote on the upcoming year's officers.

### Range Updates

- Painting and improvements in the clubhouse are ongoing. We will also be completing projects to seal around the windows and make some other aesthetic and needed safety improvements, including enclosing our outlet boxes, framing and rebuilding the office door, and reinstalling a pass-through for the office.
- September 22<sup>nd</sup> is scheduled as a work day for anyone who wants to assist. The plan is to work on the fence line, including clearing weed growth, repairing broken fence, and removing dead limbs. Work is expected to take about 3 hours, currently scheduled from 0900-1200.
- Volunteers are always needed and welcomed! ***Thank you to everyone who has given your time, money, and other resources to help us get to this point in our hurricane recovery process. While we still have work to do, we would not have gotten this far without all your help. Please contact a member of the Executive Committee if you are interested in volunteering for range projects.***



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### Upcoming Events

| Date                | Event                                                             | Time                                                  |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| September 13        | 100-Yard Benchrest                                                | 01:00 PM                                              |
| September 19        | Steel Challenge                                                   | 10:00 AM, Signups begin at 9:00 AM                    |
| September 26        | ATA Trap Match                                                    | 08:00 on Saturday, 01:00 PM Sunday                    |
| October 3           | Concealed Carry Class                                             | 09:00 AM for the range portion, Registration Required |
| Thursdays & Sundays | Trap Practice<br>(\$7 per round for members, \$9 for non-members) | 04:00 PM Thursdays<br>01:00 PM Sundays                |

### Safety Reminders

As always, please be mindful of our safety rules! Safety is Everyone's responsibility.

### September Meeting Discussion: Dues Increase for 2027 and Dues Assessment

Members present at the August meeting were unanimously in favor of a proposed dues increase for 2027. Dues would increase by \$50 across the board, and agency (law enforcement) memberships would increase by a proportional percentage to member dues. If approved, dues would be as follows for 2027: **\$250 (individual) / \$375 (family) / \$625**



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**(agency)**. We would also, on a biennial basis, review dues rates to determine whether a cost-of-living increase was appropriate.

This increase is not only about addressing current expenses—it is about protecting the future of Watauga Gun Club and ensuring that it remains a strong, active, and affordable resource for our members for years to come. Our last dues increase was in 2022, and WGC remains the cheapest club in the state to be a member of.

Members present at the August meeting were also in favor of the proposed language regarding assessments and further passed a motion for a “trigger” rule - should the ByLaws change pass, the member assessment can be drawn against at the same time of passage (rather than requiring an additional notice and 30 day vote window). Reference Article IV.8. The amount proposed for the “triggered” assessment was approved at \$50 per member (execs not exempted), and would not prevent anyone from enjoying their membership for the remainder of the 2026 calendar year. It would, however, prevent 2027 dues renewal until the assessment amount was paid.

We appreciate the continued support of our members and their commitment to the success of our club. The proposals, including full language, was sent to the members in an email on 8/14/26, so we have satisfied our 30-day notice required by our bylaws. **The following will be discussed in and voted on at our September meeting:**

### **Article IV – Dues (Amended 2026)**

1. The member’s annual dues to the club shall be \$250.00 due no later than February 1st of each year. Law enforcement agency or ROTC dues are billed at an annual rate of \$625.00 per year.

*(the following 2 items are additions to Article IV)*

7. To account for economic changes, dues increase evaluations shall be conducted by the Executive Committee and Club Membership at least biennially (every 2 years),



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unless emergency circumstances require an evaluation before the two-year period expires. If an evaluation determines that no increase is necessary, dues will remain unchanged.

8. In the event of a natural disaster, emergency, or extraordinary circumstance requiring unbudgeted repairs or additional operating funds, the Club may issue a special assessment to its members. Proposed assessments must be published to the membership with at least 30 days' written notice and approved by a majority vote of members present at the relevant monthly meeting. Unpaid assessments shall become due according to the schedule established by the vote. While non-payment shall not result in the revocation of current membership, any outstanding assessment balance must be paid in full prior to membership renewal for subsequent years. In the event an assessment becomes necessary, Executive Committee members are not exempt from any assessment voted on and approved by the Club.

**Amendment II, Family Plan Membership Dues:** A new member will have the standard membership fee, but a spouse or family member would have a discounted (\$125) membership fee

### **Article VI, 5**

h) Except as outlined in 5(e) above governing emergency expenditures, Club disciplines shall contribute to range maintenance, excluding mowing, for the specific range areas and equipment they use at intervals to be determined by Club needs. If a required maintenance contribution would create financial hardship or deplete a discipline's operating reserve, the Discipline Director and Executive Committee shall meet to determine an adjusted contribution schedule or exemption. Existing bylaws still apply regarding expenditures that require membership approval regardless of a discipline's contribution.



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**For the above Article VI, 5, the language was revised and made more concise. This is the current bylaw already approved by the membership:**

h) Except as outlined in 5(e) above governing emergency expenditures, Club disciplines are expected to contribute an appropriate percentage of the cost of range maintenance (excluding mowing) as it relates to the area of the range the respective Discipline may use. This includes but is not limited to: gravel in a bay or bays, restoration work, lead reclamation, or berm maintenance. In such a case where Disciplines will contribute to range maintenance or other related expenditures, the Executive Committee will consult with the appropriate Discipline's director(s) and present them with estimates and a scope of work for the project in question. If the Discipline director disagrees with the scope or amount of the project in question, they may present alternative proposals and/or estimates for consideration. Existing bylaws still apply regarding expenditures that require membership approval regardless of a discipline's contribution.

**Triggered Assessment:** Members present at the August meeting also voted unanimously to trigger a \$50 assessment upon approval of the bylaws changes that will be voted on in September. If approved in September, the due date for the assessment will be established by members present at the September meeting.

## Contact Information

**Watauga Gun Club**

Website: [wataugagunclub.com](http://wataugagunclub.com)



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### **See You on the Range!**

Thank you for supporting the Watauga Gun Club. Your membership helps preserve one of North Carolina's premier shooting facilities for future generations.

**Stay safe, shoot straight, and we'll see you at the next event!**