



## Federation of Dutchess County Fish and Game Clubs, Inc.

P.O. Box 3201, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603  
[www.dutchessfishandgame.org](http://www.dutchessfishandgame.org)

*The Voice of the Sportsman since 1932*

### **September 14, 2023 Regular Delegates Meeting**

Short Hills Restaurant, Washington Hollow, NY

The meeting was opened at 7:42 PM by President Anthony Pittore

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Anthony Pittore.

A moment of silence was observed for armed services personnel, first responders, and past Federation members.

Roll Call: 25 people were in attendance, representing 19 clubs.

#### **Guests**

None

The Treasurer's Report was accepted upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Adam Yasiejko. All-in-favor (AIF).

The minutes of the previous delegates meeting on August 10, 2023 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Adam Yasiejko. AIF

The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on August 28, 2023 were approved upon a motion by Jim Guyette and a second by Adam Yasiejko. AIF

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Hunters Helping the Hungry**

Anthony Pittore reported that 64 pounds of venison meat is in the freezer remaining to be distributed. In addition, about 2100 pounds of pheasant & duck meat was donated by a local preserve.

Bill Connors noted that he and Anthony met with DEC region 3 personnel about forcing people taking deer on DMAP and nuisance permits, to donate the deer to the program. The outcome of the meeting was very positive.

##### **Fish**

Anthony Pittore – The DEC will be stocking Sylvan Lake tomorrow, with breeder stock fish. He expects about 700-800 fish will be released. Anthony, Bill Connors, and Mike Butts visited the fish hatchery last week and were very impressed with their operations.

Pre-planning for next year's Family Fishing Day is in process. The planned date is April 21<sup>st</sup> 2024.

### Conservation Education

Pete Kraayenbrink – nothing new to report. It is unknown if the several sponsored kids actually attended camp.

### Jr. Hunter Pheasant Hunt

Anthony Pittore reported that everything is in place to hold the hunt on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. 30 kids have been registered so far, but we would like to get about 5 more kids to participate. Extra hands are always helpful and greatly appreciated.

### Fundraising

Tom Fiumarello stated that we will wait a while until choosing a date for next year's clay shoot fundraiser. He checks a web site that tracks sporting clay events to confirm any possible conflicts, before choosing a possible date for our event.

### Youth Trap Shooting

Anthony Pittore, reporting for Tom Gannon, stated 2-3 kids consistently are in attendance of the weekly shoots. Tom is trying some outreach to local schools, at least to advertise the program.

Thanks go to the clubs that host the shoots: Southern Dutchess & Putnam Sportsmen, 100 Rod & Gun, Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun. The league is open to all kids ages 12-17.

### Legislation (and other conservation news)

Bill Conners discussed:

- The Sept 13<sup>th</sup> implementation of the state background check system for firearms and ammo. There are lots of reports of delays and problems. It is not good. FFL Dealers can no longer use the Federal NICS system and must use the state system. Tom Fiumarello stated that the delays are causing a lot of problems for shooters buying ammo at Mid-Hudson Sporting Clays club. Currently there is no law prohibiting individuals from buying ammo in another state and returning to NY.
- The Biden administration enacted rules to prevent funding of shooting sports programs (including archery) in schools. He expects this to be challenged. This does not affect archery programs in NY schools, since they are not federally funded.
- The DEC is doing a survey regarding a possible fee-based recreational marine salt water fishing license. He encouraged all to take the survey to make their opinion known. His personally supports it.
- The ADA challenged NY's stringent rules for disabled folks using crossbows. The result is that NY is now planning to enact more reasonable accommodations, but the individual will need to fill out a form and get a doctor's sign-off.

Hank Eichenhofer, Chestnut Ridge Rod & Gun Club delegate, thanked Bill for emailing out legislation related news to the clubs. There was discussion on improved ways to get those emails distributed to all club members.

### New York State Conservation Council

Bill Conners stated that the result of the state's stream access verification program seems to be that a lot less trout are stocked in streams and lakes. It deals with stream classification and criteria. The state FWMB (Fish & Wildlife Management Board) will be discussing the issue.

### Communications

None reported.

### Unfinished (Old) Business

None reported.

## **New Business**

Hank Eichenhofer stated that he wrote a thank-you letter to a Dutchess County legislator for renewing the opt-in law allowing 12-13 year olds to hunt big game regular seasons. He encouraged the Federation to keep up the rapport with the county legislators.

## **Announcements**

Tom Fiumarello stated that, due to his relationship with Cornell University canine research program, he has attended some very informative seminars on canine health. He plans to attend another one soon about transferable diseases, and if anyone has questions in this area, to let him know.

50/50 raffle winner – Dave Compton.

Next regular meeting date: October 12, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tom Holsopple,  
Secretary