

LAKEVILLE SCHOOLS CLAY TARGET CLUB

One of SCI's primary missions is to promote hunting and the shooting sports to young people in our area. We had the opportunity to do just that this March when we helped fund the start up of the Lakeville Schools Clay Target Club. Lakeville is a small school district in Northern Lapeer County and two residents, Cindy and Brandon Kennedy, worked very hard to get their program going. There was a national association they needed to join, a proposal that the school board had to approve and a place



to shoot which needed to be secured. Fortunately the Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club agreed to host Lakeville's students and provide three trained and certified coaches.

The first team meeting was held on March 28th at LCSC where the students, parents and coaches had a chance to meet. There were 8 middle school and 2 high school shooter athletes present. Firearms safety, shotgun types and function, trap shooting techniques and rules of the sport were discussed. Following that the shooters got a chance to pattern their guns and try their hand at breaking some birds. The three objectives of the club are number one safety, number two marksmanship and number three fun. All three objectives were met at this first meeting.

Going forward we expect the Lakeville Schools Clay Target Club to grow. Shotgun sports in schools is the fastest growing shooting sport in the country. When word gets out about the excellent program offered in Lapeer County the number of



participants could easily double or triple this year. It would be nice to see some young ladies join and have the opportunity to show the boys how it's done.

Additional participants will also bring a requirement for more funding. Starting a school clay shooting program is not inexpensive with the costs for a computer, protective gear, clothing, guns and shells all adding up. SCI Flint along with several other sponsors will be ready to help the young shooters from Lakeville Schools because we wouldn't want anyone to be unable to participate because we didn't do our part.

Sportsmen's club to serve as 'home field' for new Lakeville Schools shooting club

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ARCADIA TWP. — Late in January, the Lakeville Community Schools Board of Education gave their stamp of approval on the idea of creating a district shooting club.

Thursday evening at the Lapeer Sportsmen's Club, that club became a reality for 10 Lakeville students. Eight middle-schoolers and two high-schoolers, with their parents in tow, headed out the Arcadia Township outdoor recreation center for an orientation and safety meeting.

Along with the blessing from the Lakeville School Board, the Lakeville Trap Shooting Team has attracted the generosity of a few other organizations as well. Signed on as sponsors for this season are Lapeer County Pheasants Forever, Kennedy Excavating and the Flint Chapter of Safari Club International (SCI), and the club's new "home field," the Lapeer Sportsmen's Club. It provides their facilities for the club's five weeks of competition trap shooting free of charge. Carl Griffin,



While founding members and coaches of the inaugural Lakeville Trap Shooting Team and volunteers from the Lapeer Sportsmen's Club look on, SCI Flint Education Director Carl Griffin delivers a check to team volunteer Cindy Kennedy.

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