

Dear Sir,

I have read Mr. Leong's letter, and as an avid Sporting Clays Shooter and Certified Instructor, very little of Mr. Leong's editorial has any validity. I have been shooting and teaching at Mid-Hudson for quite some time now, yes the looks have changed, but in no way can you criticize or say that it is detrimental to the course. Like any golf course, some you like and some you don't, but what Mid-Hudson has done is provide the shooting public with a "shootable" course. If you think the course is set up difficult with long quartering and crossing birds, you really need to get those shooting glasses cleaned. What I found in recent weeks is a course designed to let shooters "break birds".....the good shooters will score in the high 80's and 90's, and those just starting out will be in the 40's and 50's. The rest of the world will be between those marks, as it should be. Are a few trees missing....sure, but that opens up sight windows, not ruin the course. Get over it. As far as the price.....well no one likes to see fees go up. Were you happy paying \$4.00/gal for gas or \$3.50 for heating oil.....no, none of us were, but my God, allow the owners to make a buck, and still return some of the profits to making the course better.....(new sign, paving, new gravel roadways, and yes.....clearing out some brush for the existing, and NEW stations) What do you pay if you shot Orvis, or the new Ten Mile River course opening soon?.....Both are or will be more than Mid-Hudson. So for me, and many other shooters I have spoken to, Pete and the gang at Mid-Hudson do a great job. You are entitled to your opinion, and need not shoot there if you so desire. But, let me know when you find a better and "cheaper" privately owned course in the Mid-Hudson/Metropolitan area that has the same costs of operation as Mid-Hudson.....I am sure you will not be calling me any time soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Fiumarello
Paragon Certified Instructor
NSCA Certified Instructor