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# Policies & Procedures

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## 1. General

### 1.1 About The League

State High School Clay Target Leagues are members of the USA High School Clay Target League, a division of the USA Clay Target League, a non-profit corporation. The League is the independent provider of clay target shooting sports to secondary and postsecondary schools. The League's priorities are safety, fun, and marksmanship in that order.

The USA Clay Target League's Board of Directors and/or the Executive Committee reserves the right to make alterations in, or amendments to, these Policies & Procedures at any time without notice, whenever it is deemed to be in the best interest of the League.

These Policies & Procedures apply to all League-sponsored events and participants.

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### 1.2 We Believe

1.2.1 Safe and responsible handling and storage of firearms and ammunition is the first priority.

1.2.2 Everyone should have fun.

1.2.3 Participation is a privilege and not a right.

1.2.4 Sportsmanship needs to have a constant presence.

1.2.5 Students should have an equal opportunity to participate.

1.2.6 Ethical behavior, dignity and respect are expected.

1.2.7 Participants will be chemically free.

1.2.8 Collaborative relationships with schools and students create a positive experience.

1.2.9 Academic priorities must come before participation.

1.2.10 Adults must serve as a positive role model to students.

1.2.11 The success of the team is more important than individual honors.

1.2.12 Shooting ranges are critical to the success of the League and are positive business leaders in their community.

1.2.13 Compliance with school, community, shooting range and League rules are mandatory for all participants.

1.2.14 Shooting sports strengthens connections within families and communities for life.

1.2.15 Everything the League does will always be in the best interest of the students.

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### 1.3 Priorities

The League's priorities, in order of importance, are safety, fun, and marksmanship.

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## **2. Sportsmanship**

### **2.1 Fair Play**

The League's success is dependent on the trust it instills in every student athlete, coach, shooting range member, parent and school official. The assured reliance on character, ability, and truthfulness for each person will create a safe environment that everyone will enjoy.

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### **2.2 Conduct**

Acts by coaches, volunteers, student athletes of using abusive or profane language, displaying unsportsmanlike conduct (includes but not limited to: Policy & Procedure violations; arguing with referees; unsafe handling/use of shotguns; distracting a competitor; cheating, etc.), consuming alcohol, or using drugs before or during any League event are prohibited and are grounds for suspension and/or expulsion from the League.

Student athletes are strongly encouraged to be respectful of the time constraints for all coaches, volunteers and shooting range staff.

All League-registered athletes, their parents/guardians, and team staff members are required to accept their respective League's participation agreement.

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### **2.3 Penalties**

2.3.1 All student athletes, team staff members, and shooting range officials must be familiar with the League's Policies & Procedures and must ensure that these Policies & Procedures are enforced. It is the responsibility of each student athlete to comply with the Policies & Procedures.

2.3.2 Any violation of Policies & Procedures should result in the following Two Strike Penalty Rule:

2.3.2.1 Strike 1: Upon a first violation the student athlete will be removed from team participation immediately and it will be the coach's responsibility to contact the parents of the student athlete and address and resolve the concern(s) before the student athlete can return to the team.

2.3.2.2 Strike 2: If a second violation occurs the student athlete will be removed from the team with no refund and will not be able to return for the remainder of the season.

2.3.3 The League must be informed immediately of any permanent roster changes. Individual teams may include alternative penalties and enforcement actions.

2.3.4 School conduct, academic or chemical abuse policies and penalties and federal Gun-Free Zones Act laws will always supersede any League policies.

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### **3. Safesport Policy**

3.1 The mission of the League is to emphasize the positive influence shooting sports can have on athletes and their families. The League does this by providing a safe, comfortable, and positive environment focused on safety, sportsmanship, teamwork, and fun.

3.2 One aspect of creating a safe environment for athletes, coaches, and team staff members alike includes ensuring misconduct, including any physical and sexual abuse, is identified, addressed, and eliminated.

3.3 Following the creation of the federal Safe Sport Authorization Act, the Center for SafeSport has identified six types of misconduct: emotional misconduct, physical misconduct, sexual misconduct, bullying, harassment and hazing.

3.4 All forms of misconduct are intolerable and in direct conflict with the mission and goals of the League.

3.5 The League is committed to the safety and protection of all participating athletes, as well as the coaches and team staff members.

3.6 Therefore, the League has published its Safe Sport Policy as a tool to help ensure a safe, comfortable, and positive environment for those participating in the League's activities.

3.7 The League recommends education and training for student athletes, legal guardians, and any adult staff member on a team that interacts with an athlete in any team capacity or any competition or event overseen by the League.

3.8 Education and training should include review of this Safe Sport Policy and completion of the Center for SafeSport Trained course.

3.9 Team staff members are recommended to provide certification demonstrating successful completion of the Center for SafeSport Trained course to their team leader before being granted access to practices and other League-sanctioned events in which there will be interaction with athletes.

3.10 Every team staff member must report suspicions and/or allegations of misconduct, as defined by Safe Sport Policy, the Center for SafeSport, and state and federal law.

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### **4. League Format**

#### **4.1 Clay Target Shooting Sport Options**

4.1.1 The League offers four different clay target shooting sports “virtual” leagues.

4.1.2 “Virtual” means that teams shoot at their local shooting range(s), submit the scores online, and then those scores are compared against all other athletes and teams in their respective conference.

4.1.3 There is no need to travel to other shooting ranges to compete in head-to-head competitions.

4.1.4 Conferences are determined by the type of clay target sport and then by similar team sizes.

4.1.5 The clay target shooting sport league offerings include trap shooting, skeet shooting, sporting clays and 5-stand.

4.1.6 Teams can compete in one or more leagues as determined by their preferred clay target sport(s).

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## **4.2 League Seasons**

4.2.1 The League organizes spring and fall clay target competition seasons.

4.2.2 Although examples used in these Policies & Procedures are in reference to the League’s spring season, the League’s Policies & Procedures apply to both seasons.

4.2.3 The League’s season schedule is defined as the first day after student athlete registration ends and the final League-sponsored event for the season is completed.

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## **5. Insurance**

5.1 All registered participants in the League are insured by the League.

5.2 The General Liability Insurance Policy provided to team staff members provides a \$1,000,000 per occurrence liability limit from claims made due to negligent acts resulting in bodily injury, personal injury or property damage to others.

5.3 The accident insurance for registered student athletes pays an athlete or an athlete’s beneficiaries up to \$250,000 of medical expenses if an athlete’s death or dismemberment is the direct result of a shooting-related accident.

5.4 Staff members and athlete registrants must agree to League terms of participation to receive insurance.

5.5 The names of all registered athletes, coaches and other staff members must be included in the team’s profile in ClayTargetGo! the League’s exclusive online management application suite prior to the first practice event to qualify for the insurance.

## **6. Costs**

### **6.1 Participation Costs**

6.1.1 Season Registration Fee – \$40 (per sport)

6.1.2 League registration fees include administration, awards, insurance, and a subscription to PullUSA the League's official magazine.

6.1.3 Paid registration fees are refundable prior to the registration deadline.

6.1.4 This must be submitted through the team's coach that is required to process the refund through their Team Management System in ClayTargetGo!

6.1.5 No refunds will be issued after the registration deadline.

6.1.6 League registration fees do not include optional participation in year-end tournaments.

6.1.7 All first-year student athletes receive a complementary official League participation patch to adhere to their gear.

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### **6.2 Season Registration Refund Request Policy**

6.2.1 Refund requests must be submitted prior to the League registration closing date.

6.2.2 No refund requests will be accepted after registration has closed.

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### **6.3 Refund Request Submission**

6.3.1 The athlete or the athlete's parent/legal guardian must submit a refund request to the Head Coach before the registration closing date.

6.3.2 Upon receipt of the request, the Head Coach is responsible for submitting the refund request in TMS by completing the following steps:

6.3.2.1 Navigate to TMS → Roster Management → Rostered tab

6.3.2.2 Find the applicable athlete

6.3.2.3 Click the Check box "Request Refund" next to the left of the applicable athlete

6.3.2.4 Click "Process Selected Athletes"

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### **6.4 Cancellation of a Refund Request**

6.4.1 If, prior to the registration closing date, an athlete elects to withdraw a previously submitted refund request and participate in the season, the athlete or parent/legal guardian must notify the Head Coach in writing.

6.4.2 The Head Coach shall cancel the refund request in TMS by:

6.4.2.1 Navigating to TMS → Roster Management → Rostered tab

6.4.2.2 Locating the athlete with a refund request submitted

6.4.2.3 Selecting the option to cancel the refund request

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## **6.5 Refund Processing and Timeline**

6.5.1 All approved refunds will be issued within five (5) business days following the League registration closing date.

6.5.2 Refunds are processed through the organization's financial institution and may require an additional five (5) to seven (7) business days to be credited to the original method of payment.

6.5.3 The organization is not responsible for delays caused by financial institutions or payment processors.

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## **6.6 Tournament Registration Fees (optional)**

6.6.1 Every spring every athlete is invited to participate in the League's State Tournament (In Minnesota this is called the Championship).

6.6.2 This is an optional opportunity for teams and athletes to compete in a season-ending event.

6.6.3 Each League will have an in-person event when feasible.

6.6.4 In certain situations a virtual event will be held instead of an in-person event.

6.6.5 Please see your League's website for specific tournament information.

6.6.6 No refunds will be issued after the registration deadline.

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## **6.7 Unpaid "Team Payment" Registration Fees**

6.7.1 When a team selects the "team payment" option for athlete registration fees (conference season or tournament), the team is responsible for full payment of those fees prior to the published deadline.

6.7.2 If the payment is not received by the deadline, the following will occur:

6.7.2.1 Season registration fees: Two weeks after the deadline, access to the team's Team Management System in ClayTargetGo! will be suspended and coaches will be unable to submit conference season scores. Access will be reactivated after full payment is received.

6.7.2.2 In-person Tournament fee: \$50 – Trap & Skeet, \$65 – 5-Stand & Sporting Clays.

6.7.2.3 The in-person tournament fee includes administration, insurance, targets, awards, and a special State Tournament t-shirt.

6.7.2.4 Fees do not include ammunition, practice, or travel costs.

6.7.2.5 Tournament registration fees: Unpaid teams will not be allowed to participate on tournament day.

6.7.2.6 Virtual Tournament fee: \$25.

6.7.2.7 The virtual tournament fee includes administration, insurance, awards, and a special State Tournament t-shirt.

6.7.2.8 Fees do not include ammunition, targets, or practice costs.

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## **6.8 National Championship**

6.8.1 The League holds a final, invite-only, National Championship in July.

6.8.2 Please see the National Championship website for information about qualifying requirements and registration costs.

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## **6.9 Team Costs**

6.9.1 The total costs for each student athlete to participate in the League is determined by the team.

6.9.2 Costs vary by team depending on ammunition costs, uniform expenses, and local shooting range fees.

6.9.3 Cost for participation is typically \$300-\$400 and usually includes targets, ammunition, and other team costs.

6.9.4 Additional expenses may include mandatory ear protection, eye protection, shooting gear, uniforms, or shotgun.

6.9.5 Athletes must supply their own shotgun.

6.9.6 Shooting ranges or teams may allow a shotgun to be borrowed based on team rules and/or state laws.

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## **7. Certification**

### **7.1 Student Athlete Firearm Education (SAFE) Certification**

7.1.1 Student Athlete Firearm Education (SAFE) Certification Course Fee – \$25.

7.1.2 The League's SAFE certification program is an optional firearm safety course designed by the League, for the League.

7.1.3 It is a fantastic option for new athletes that have yet to complete any firearm safety certification.

7.1.4 While all athletes are required to have firearm safety education, athletes are not required to take the SAFE course.

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### **7.2 Coach Leadership And Safety Support (CLASS) Certification**

7.2.1 Coach Leadership And Safety Support (CLASS) Certification Course Fee – \$FREE/\$25.

7.2.2 CLASS is the League's exclusive coach certification program.

7.2.3 All Head Coaches are required to be CLASS Certified, and can take the course at any time free of charge.

7.2.4 Assistant Coaches and/or team staff may also take the course for a fee.

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## **8. Shooting Range**

### **8.1 Shooting Range**

8.1.1 Shooting ranges are important partners for high school clay target teams and play a vital role in providing student athletes a safe, fair, and competitive environment to participate in the League.

8.1.2 Ensuring a consistent and fair shooting experience throughout the League is important to the enjoyment of the sport for all participants.

8.1.3 The League strongly encourages shooting ranges to adhere to standard equipment, field, target and target flight specifications to the best of the shooting range's abilities.

8.1.4 Clay target team events should be held to the same requirements as other high school events.

8.1.5 Therefore, no alcohol or tobacco will be used during League events at the shooting range.

8.1.6 Shooting ranges that host League teams should familiarize themselves with the League's Policies & Procedures.

8.1.7 Additionally, the League recommends that shooting ranges set clear expectations with teams and athletes regarding shooting range rules and safety procedures.

8.1.8 In all cases, shooting range safety procedures and product specifications supersede any League policies and/or procedures.

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## **8.2 Remote Shooting Range**

8.2.1 If shooting range access is unavailable, teams may coordinate with a local landowner to create a remote range.

8.2.2 Like formal shooting ranges, a remote range has to provide a safe, fair, and competitive environment for a team to participate in the League while following all shooting range requirements in these Policies & Procedures.

8.2.3 Remote range requirements include:

8.2.3.1 Land: Coordinate with the landowner to define expectations and requirements.

8.2.3.2 Insurance: Verify insurance requirements with the landowner.

8.2.3.3 Thrower (Trap): Specifications for the thrower must meet sport requirements.

8.2.3.4 Target flight: A radar gun will measure the speed of a thrown target.

8.2.3.5 Other: Consider electrical access for machines, shooting post area, shelters, racks, scoring tables, and more.

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## **9. Logo Use**

9.1 The League's logo may be used by a team only if the team complies to the

## **11. Privacy**

11.1 The League has strict rules and regulations regarding disclosure of athlete and parent contact information, including but not limited to names, phone numbers, email addresses, house addresses or any other information allowing a third-party to identify or contact any League participant or parent.

11.2 Coaches, assistants, staff or any other personnel with access to contact information may not copy, distribute, sell, share, or make available in any manner, to any other person, entity, or third-party.

11.3 In the event of unauthorized disclosure of any contact information, the individual(s) responsible shall be deemed in violation of this privacy rule, and the League may resort to any remedy available to it, through its internal Bylaws or at law.

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## **12. Terms Of Participation**

### **12.1 Athlete Participation Agreement**

12.1.1 All student athlete registrants must agree to the following agreement during registration.

12.1.2 USA CLAY TARGET LEAGUE STUDENT ATHLETE REGISTRATION AGREEMENT:

12.1.3 Before an athlete may register to participate in clay target practices, events and competitions (collectively “Events”) organized by the USA Clay Target League and its subsidiaries (“League”), the following terms, conditions and consents must be agreed upon.

12.1.4 Please read this agreement carefully; it is a legal document and affects your rights.

12.1.5 All boxes must be checked indicating the specific provision has been read and agreed to before an athlete may participate in League Events.

12.1.6 In the event of any conflict between this Participant Registration Agreement (“Agreement”) or any other policies or procedures or rules and regulations of the League, this Agreement shall govern.

12.1.7 Any athlete signing this Participant Registration Agreement, or parent or guardian of a minor person signing this Agreement (collectively “Athlete”), shall be bound by the terms hereof.

12.1.8 PARTICIPATION:

12.1.8.1 The undersigned Athlete seeking to participate in League Events, hereby affirms that I have the authority to act on behalf of the Athlete and, as such, do hereby give my consent for the Athlete to participate in the League.

12.1.8.2 I declare that I have read and fully understand this entire Agreement, and that by submitting this form I agree that the provisions of the form shall be binding upon me, my agents and representatives, and my heirs, assigns, successors or anyone taking an interest through my interest.

12.1.8.3 As a participant of League Events, I understand and agree that participation in League Events is a privilege not a right.

12.1.8.4 As a participant, I agree to abide by and support all rules and procedures adopted and established by the League and to fully cooperate with the League in the implementation of all rules, policies and procedures.

12.1.8.5 I further understand and acknowledge that the League, at its discretion, has the right to suspend an Athlete from participation in League Events, or permanently remove an Athlete from

the League, without prior notice or a hearing, based upon conduct, behavior, or actions of the Athlete, his/her parents, coaches, team members, staff, volunteers or family members of Athletes (collectively "Team").

12.1.8.6 I understand that this extracurricular activity is organized by the League, not my school or school district, and my participation is voluntary.

#### 12.1.9 ELIGIBILITY:

12.1.9.1 I hereby confirm that I have read and satisfy the eligibility requirements identified in the League's rules and procedures.

12.1.9.2 I further confirm that I agree to follow all League rules and policies to be eligible to participate in League Events.

12.1.9.3 I shall follow and conform my behavior to all eligibility rules, policies, procedures and other League rules as they may be amended from time to time, during my participation in the League.

12.1.9.4 I hereby further confirm that the League has notified me of concussion awareness and I have reviewed the concussion management information found on the following website:  
[www.cdc.gov/concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion).

12.1.9.5 I also confirm that in the last year, a doctor has not restricted Athlete's participation in sports for any reason without clearing Athlete to return to sports.

12.1.9.6 I further affirm that the obligation to understand concussion risks and awareness is my obligation and not the League's.

#### 12.1.10 SPORTSMANSHIP:

12.1.10.1 The League places a strong emphasis on sportsmanship and safety.

12.1.10.2 As part of this effort, parents/guardians are asked to read and discuss the elements of this Agreement under the heading of Sportsmanship.

12.1.10.3 These provisions are an important part of this Agreement and will be enforced.

12.1.10.4 PARENTS – I understand the League's first and foremost priority is safety.

12.1.10.5 I will enforce the League's safety standards with my child at all times.

12.1.10.6 I will encourage my child and other team members to have fun.

12.1.10.7 I will behave as a positive role model, respect the goals of the League, and reinforce the character values of good sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-discipline.

12.1.10.8 I agree to stay off the shooting field.

12.1.10.9 Any problems or criticisms will be presented in a positive way to the coaches or a designated assistant.

12.1.10.10 I will refrain from criticizing other shooters, coaches, using abusive language, or consuming alcohol or drugs before or during all League activities that I attend.

12.1.10.11 I understand that unsportsmanlike behavior on my part may result in my being asked to leave the area.

12.1.10.12 Such actions on my part could also result in my child being suspended, disqualified or even removed from the League, without advance notice or a hearing of any type.

12.1.10.13 I have reviewed this provision with my student Athlete.

12.1.10.14 ATHLETE – I understand that shooting on a League team is a privilege.

12.1.10.15 I agree to act responsibly and follow all safety rules while participating in the League.

12.1.10.16 I will encourage and support my teammates, cooperate and show respect to my coaches, and represent the team in a positive manner both at practices and in competition.

12.1.10.17 I will exhibit a positive attitude, practice good sportsmanship at all times.

12.1.10.18 I understand that unsportsmanlike behavior on my part may result in my disqualification from an Event, suspension or even expulsion from the League, without notice or a hearing of any type.

League's Name and Logo Terms of Use requirements.

9.2 If your team needs digital files of the League's logo, contact the League.

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## **10. PullUSA Magazine**

10.1 PullUSA Magazine is the official publication of the USA Clay Target League.

10.2 A complementary subscription to the quarterly magazine will be directly mailed and digitally delivered via email to registered and paid student athletes, Head Coaches, and participating shooting ranges.

10.3 Mailed to valid addresses only.

10.4 Athletes that do not want the magazine may opt-out through their profile in AMS.

Continuing exactly where we left off.

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### **12.1.11 CONSENT & WAIVER:**

12.1.11.1 Athlete acknowledges that the League is a team-based program that provides team competitions in trap shooting and which involves the use of firearms.

12.1.11.2 The team consists of the members, athletes, coaches, staff, volunteers and family members of the athletes (“Team”).

12.1.11.3 Athlete further acknowledges that the League emphasizes and requires the safe handling and use of firearms at venues and locations where firearms are present.

12.1.11.4 Failure to adhere to this requirement may be grounds for suspension or removal from the League without notice or the right to a hearing.

12.1.11.5 Athletes know and understand that there are risks and dangers associated with the use of firearms, including serious bodily injury, death and property damage.

12.1.11.6 Athlete agrees to assume all risks, inherent or otherwise, that may occur due to, arise out of or be in connection with Athlete’s own participation, including without limitation the risk of serious bodily injury, death and property damage.

12.1.11.7 Athlete further agrees to assume all risks, inherent or otherwise, that may occur due to, arising out of or in connection with the participation of others in the League, including without limitation other competitors, instructors/coaches, staff or volunteers of League, League Sponsors, or the Athlete’s school district, state high school athletic association, and audience members or spectators.

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## **12.1.12 RELEASE**

12.1.12.1 Athlete further covenants and agrees to hold the League and the Released Parties described below harmless from any liability and hereby waives and discharges the League, League Sponsors and the Governing Bodies, and each of their respective directors, officers, employees, agents or volunteers (collectively, “Released Parties”), from any and all claims, demands, actions, suits, proceedings, liabilities, damages, losses, judgments and expenses (including reasonable attorney’s fees and costs) that the Athlete may suffer, directly or indirectly, due to, or arising out of or in connection with Athlete’s and Team’s participation or conduct (negligent or otherwise) in the League.

12.1.12.2 Athlete hereby releases the Released Parties from any and all claims, demands, damages, actions arising whether directly or indirectly from or in consequence of any and all losses, injury (including loss of life) and/or damage to the person and/or property of the Athlete.

12.1.12.3 The Athlete agrees to indemnify and hold Released Parties harmless for all damages, claims and expenses sustained by Athlete as a result of or during participation in League Events.

12.1.12.4 This indemnity and hold harmless shall apply even in the event that the League or the Released Parties may have unintentionally or negligently caused damages.

12.1.12.5 This paragraph, and all waivers, hold harmless, indemnification and release provisions herein shall survive termination of the Agreement.

### **12.1.13 RISKS**

12.1.13.1 I ACKNOWLEDGE AND AFFIRM:

12.1.13.2 That the League Events will be at shooting ranges where firearms may be discharged at any time.

12.1.13.3 That firearms, ammunition and other paraphernalia related to firearms and the discharge thereof may take place without notice.

12.1.13.4 That the use of firearms, ammunition and other paraphernalia related to firearms and the discharge thereof is subject to certain inherent risks and hazards.

12.1.13.5 That in entering upon or using the shooting facilities, I do so at my sole and absolute risk.

12.1.13.6 That the Team and the League are not responsible for the actions of other teams or persons attending League Events.

12.1.13.7 That engaging in or observing shooting activities may expose me to lead particles and other potentially harmful contaminants.

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### **12.1.14 MEDICAL CONSENT**

12.1.14.1 Athlete gives his/her consent to League, League Sponsors, the Athlete's school district, the state high school athletic association and the host organization of any League Event to provide customary medical/athletic training attention, transportation and emergency services.

12.1.14.2 I further understand that in the case of injury or illness requiring transportation to a health care facility, a reasonable attempt will be made to contact the parent or guardian.

12.1.14.3 I acknowledge that the League and the Team do not provide health or accident insurance or other insurance for medical expenses.

12.1.14.4 I certify that an athlete is covered for accidental medical expenses by some recognized insurance company or the Athlete or his/her parents/guardians will assume full responsibility.

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### **12.1.15 PRIVACY POLICY**

12.1.15.1 The League takes your right to privacy seriously.

12.1.15.2 You are required to provide the indicated required information.

12.1.15.3 Data will be viewed by the authorized manager of your team via the League Team Management System.

12.1.15.4 Changes may be made to this policy from time to time.

12.1.15.5 Your participation is your approval of any changes to the site and use of data.

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## **12.2 Team Staff Participation Agreement**

12.2.1 All listed team staff registrants must agree to the following agreement during registration.

12.2.2 USA CLAY TARGET LEAGUE REGISTRATION & AGREEMENT:

12.2.3 Before anyone may register to participate in clay target events and competitions overseen by the League, the following terms must be agreed upon.

12.2.4 As a member, athlete, coach, staff, volunteer and/or family member of an athlete, I hereby agree to be bound by the terms of this Agreement.

12.2.5 I understand and agree that participation in League Events is a privilege not a right.

12.2.6 I and the Team agree to ensure that all rules and procedures adopted and established by the League are strictly followed.

12.2.7 I and the Team know and understand that there are risks and dangers associated with the use of firearms.

12.2.8 I and the Team agree to assume all risks associated with participation.

12.2.9 I and the Team further covenant and agree to hold the League and Released Parties harmless.

12.2.10 This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Continuing with structured numbering.

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## **13. Eligibility**

### **13.1 Athlete Eligibility**

13.1.1 Any student enrolled in school at the time of the student athlete registration deadline date is eligible to participate if he/she:

13.1.1.1 Is in grades six through twelve (or thirteen in some states), AND

13.1.1.2 Has completed a League-approved firearm safety certification program, AND

13.1.1.3 Meets all school athletics and/or activities eligibility requirements, AND

13.1.1.4 Complies with the League's Policies & Procedures, AND

13.1.1.5 If the team has the capacity to accommodate the student.

13.1.2 Homeschooled or online students may participate on a team if they meet the above criteria and the team is located within the same school district as their primary residence.

13.1.3 If a student athlete transfers to a different school during the League's season, the athlete must complete the season with the team for which they originally registered.

13.1.4 No team roster changes are allowed after registration is complete.

13.1.5 New York student athletes and their families must meet requirements as noted in Section 265 of the New York State Penal Code.

13.1.6 Must be 12 years of age or older.

13.1.7 Student athletes under the age of 17 cannot access their shotguns or ammunition outside of a shooting range and without an adult meeting the team staff requirements in these Policies & Procedures.

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## **13.2 Athlete Different School Team Participation**

13.2.1 If a student wants to participate in the League and the student's school does not have a clay target team, the athlete may participate on another team with the approval of both school's Athletic/Activities Directors on a Cooperative Agreement.

13.2.2 If both schools already have a cooperative participation arrangement for other sports or activities, a League Cooperative Agreement is not required.

13.2.3 If no cooperative participation arrangement is valid, then the student athlete **MUST** have the League's Cooperative Agreement completed by both school athletic/activity directors.

13.2.4 A student must join a team that is located nearest the student's home school district.

13.2.5 The League's Cooperative agreement is valid for only one year.

13.2.6 The student athlete must participate with the team for all events.

13.2.7 A student athlete that is a member of one team cannot join another team regardless if it is a different clay target sport or season offering.

13.2.8 The Head Coach makes all decisions if the team can accommodate any athletes from other school districts.

13.2.9 It is strongly encouraged that the student makes a concerted effort to start a team at his/her own school before participating on another school's team.

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## **13.3 Special Need Athletes**

13.3.1 Shooting sports provides student athletes and their families an equal opportunity to participate in the League.

13.3.2 Students with physical disabilities, learning disabilities, or mental health concerns should consult with the team's Head Coach prior to registering.

13.3.3 The student's participation may require written approval from a physician.

13.3.4 Special need student athletes may utilize coach assistance and/or apparatuses at any time while shooting.

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## **13.4 Team Eligibility**

13.4.1 The League encourages all athletes who meet student athlete eligibility requirements to be included on a team based on submission of registration and not by tryouts.

13.4.2 Different schools within or adjacent to a school district may combine student athletes to form a single team.

13.4.3 A minimum of one coach for every 10 team members is required.

13.4.4 An unlimited number of student athletes may be on a team if the athlete-to-coach ratio complies.

13.4.5 The number of members on a team will be determined by a combination of coach/student ratio and shooting range capacity.

13.4.6 All teams are required to have a minimum of two (2) student athletes registered by discipline before the deadline expires.

13.4.7 Teams with less than two (2) registered student athletes after the deadline expires will be notified regarding season participation and any paid registration fees will be refunded.

13.4.8 It is important that the Head Coach and the shooting range work together to determine the number of students the coaching staff and facility can safely and efficiently accommodate.

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## **14. Team Operations**

### **14.1 Team Sponsorships, Donations & Fundraising**

14.1.1 Sponsorships, donations and fundraising events for the team are strongly encouraged to help raise money and reduce the costs of participation.

14.1.2 Sponsorships cannot include or reference tobacco products, gambling, sexual connotations, or alcohol products (bar/restaurant establishments allowed).

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## **14.2 Other Memberships**

14.2.1 No school, or student in a school, shall be required to join any outside organization to participate in the League.

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## **14.3 Athlete Recruitment**

14.3.1 Recruiting student athletes for a team is coordinated through the high school.

14.3.2 Host an open house event at the school to invite everyone interested.

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## **14.4 Emergency Management Plan**

14.4.1 It is strongly encouraged that each team develops an emergency management plan.

14.4.2 Emergency management plans should include:

14.4.2.1 Immediate access to a phone to dial 911.

14.4.2.2 Team roster report.

14.4.2.3 Evacuation information.

14.4.2.4 Situation leaders.

14.4.2.5 Key contacts.

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## **15. Recognition**

15.1 The League provides iron-on patches to acknowledge student athlete participation and achievement.

15.2 Conference (orange): 25- and 50-straight patches.

15.3 State Tournament (blue): 25-, 50-, 75-, and 100-straight patches.

15.4 National Championship (purple): 25-, 50-, 75-, and 100-straight patches.

15.5 All-State (silver): Top overall season standings per League and discipline.

15.6 Athlete (red): For all new athletes to the League.

15.7 Schools are strongly encouraged to offer a lettering program and yearbook recognition.

## **16. Technology**

16.1 ClayTargetGo! is the League's exclusive online application suite.

16.2 Team Management System™ (TMS) includes:

16.2.1 Activity Dashboard.

16.2.2 Team Profile.

16.2.3 Team Roster.

16.2.4 Submit Scores.

16.2.5 Tournament Registration.

16.3 Athlete Management System™ (AMS) allows athletes and guardians to monitor activities.

16.4 Shooter Performance Tracker® allows athletes to monitor scores and rankings.

Continuing with the remaining sections in consistent numbered format.

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## **17. Equipment & Gear**

### **17.1 Equipment & Gear Overview**

17.1.1 Each athlete is responsible for personal equipment and items.

17.1.2 Shooting ranges or coaches are not responsible for a student athlete's personal items.

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### **17.2 Equipment Inspections**

17.2.1 Any team coach or RSO has the right to examine any item of an athlete's equipment including guns, ammunition, clothing, and other equipment to ensure proper accordance with these Policies & Procedures.

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### **17.3 Shotguns**

17.3.1 Student athletes are required to supply their own shotgun.

17.3.2 Some teams or shooting ranges may have shotguns to borrow or rent as allowed by law.

17.3.3 All types of smooth-bore shotguns, including semi-automatics, may be used provided their caliber does not exceed 12 gauge.

17.3.4 The student athlete cannot use a shotgun that:

17.3.4.1 Has any form of “release” trigger actions.

17.3.4.2 Has a sling or strap attached.

17.3.4.3 Changes the properly functioning firearm in the same round.

17.3.4.4 Uses attached devices that have magnifying or light emitting effects.

17.3.4.5 Has a pistol grip that does not have a stock.

17.3.4.6 Has a mechanical hammer used for “cocking”.

17.3.4.7 Utilizes a detachable magazine.

17.3.4.8 Has a barrel length of less than 21”.

17.3.4.9 Is designed or intended for home defense or tactical purposes.

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## **17.4 Ammunition**

17.4.1 All student athletes must use factory ammunition.

17.4.2 Ammunition load, shot size, and velocity specifications must meet the use requirements of the shooting range.

17.4.3 A student athlete cannot use:

17.4.3.1 Reloaded cartridges.

17.4.3.2 Tracers, copper and nickel coated shot.

17.4.3.3 Tracker wads during competition.

17.4.4 Shooting range ammunition requirements supersede League ammunition requirements.

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## **17.5 Eye Protection**

17.5.1 Eye protection devices designed specifically for shooting sports are required for each student athlete and coach to use while on the field during all events.

17.5.2 Prescription glasses can be used if lenses are plastic or polycarbonate.

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## **17.6 Hearing Protection**

17.6.1 Hearing protection devices designed specifically for shooting sports are required during all events.

17.6.2 Devices are recommended to have a Noise Reduction Rating (NRR) of 27dB or higher.

17.6.3 Devices allowing music are allowed if range commands are audible.

17.6.4 Standard commercial ear buds or headphones are not approved hearing protection.

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## **18. Safety & Courtesy**

### **18.1 Firearm & Ammunition Purchase, Storage, & Transportation**

18.1.1 All students and coaches will follow state and county laws and their school's policy regarding firearms and ammunition.

18.1.2 Teams and families must follow all state and federal laws on the purchase, sale, storage, and transportation of ammunition.

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### **18.2 Safe Firearm Handling**

18.2.1 All shotguns must be unloaded and have the action open when not shooting.

18.2.2 Shotguns should be uncased and placed in the rack immediately upon arrival.

18.2.3 All shotguns will be carried with two hands with the action open and muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

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### **18.3 Range Safety & Courtesy**

18.3.1 Safety is more important than speed.

18.3.2 Cell phones or electronic devices are not allowed on the field.

18.3.3 No eating or drinking while occupying a shooting station.

18.3.4 No heckling or distracting others.

18.3.5 Athletes must control ejected shells.

18.3.6 Only coaches can instruct students during competition events.

18.3.7 After your round, place your unloaded shotgun in the rack or vehicle.

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## **19. Conference Participation**

### **19.1 Events Definition**

19.1.1 Any League-sponsored practice, competition, or tournament is defined as a League event.

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## **19.2 Season Schedule**

19.2.1 The Spring season consists of nine consecutive weeks of conference events followed by tournaments.

19.2.2 Practice Weeks (1 and 2).

19.2.3 Reserve Week (1).

19.2.4 Competition Weeks (1-5).

19.2.5 Fun Week (1).

19.2.6 Tournaments.

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## **19.3 Score Submission**

19.3.1 Scores must be submitted prior to 9:00 p.m. CT on the Saturday of the scheduled event.

19.3.2 After submitting scores, staff members will receive a confirmation email.

19.3.3 Any student athlete score that is an error cannot be corrected after the deadline.

19.3.4 If no scores are submitted, the Reserve Week score will be used.

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# **20. Clay Target Shooting Procedures**

## **20.1 Basic Procedures**

20.1.1 Each clay target shooting sport has unique requirements and procedures.

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## **20.2 Preparation**

20.2.1 All shotguns must be carried open and unloaded when moving to the assigned station.

20.2.2 Test firing is not permitted.

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## **20.3 Start**

20.3.1 Upon a "START" command, each athlete will:

- 20.3.1.1 Take proper shooting position.
  - 20.3.1.2 Load shell(s).
  - 20.3.1.3 Close the action.
  - 20.3.1.4 Call for the target.
  - 20.3.1.5 Shoot at the target.
- 

## **20.4 Scoring**

- 20.4.1 The official score is the record kept by the scorekeeper.
  - 20.4.2 "HIT/DEAD" marked with (/) or (X).
  - 20.4.3 "MISSED/LOST" marked with (O).
  - 20.4.4 All athletes should verify their score before leaving the field.
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## **21. Scores & Standings**

- 21.1 Conference scores and standings are updated weekly.
  - 21.2 Individual rankings are determined by season average.
  - 21.3 True Team® scoring format determines overall team performance.
  - 21.4 Final results are published on the League's website.
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## **22. Conference True Team® Scoring**

### **22.1 True Team Overview**

- 22.1.1 The League's exclusive True Team® scoring format is used to determine overall performance.
  - 22.1.2 The format measures which team is the best overall rather than which team has the most top finishers.
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### **22.2 True Team® Points Calculation**

- 22.2.1 Each team in a conference must have the same number of athlete scores used.
- 22.2.2 The number of scores used is determined after registration deadline.

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## **22.3 Earning True Team® Scoring Points**

22.3.1 Athlete scores are ranked within a conference.

22.3.2 Points are assigned based on rankings.

22.3.3 Tied scores split points equally.

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## **22.4 Team Standings**

22.4.1 Team scores are compared against all teams in a conference to determine weekly and overall standings.