

Shotgun Qualification

◆ Recreational Clay Target Shooting

This shotgun qualification course has been designed to offer a Marksmanship Qualification Program shotgun shooting opportunity to those without convenient access to formal trap, skeet or sporting clays ranges. It can be conducted using an economical, portable clay target throwing trap anywhere a safe shot fall area can be obtained.



Guidelines

Unless otherwise stated, the following guidelines apply.

Shotgun

Any safe shotgun, 12-gauge or smaller, may be used. Different gauges and shotguns may be used for any round or rating.

Ammunition

Any safe ammunition with gun used containing no more than 1¹/₈-ounce of No. 7¹/₂ or smaller shot.

Target Throwing Trap

Any portable machine releasing targets electronically or by lanyard pull.

Trap Location

At least 3 feet in front of the shooter for safety.

Target and Distance

Standard clay targets used in trap and skeet shooting. The target should be thrown 60 yards from the trap (minimum of 50 yards).

Target Angle and Height

Straightaway when viewed from directly behind the trap. Target must fly between 8 feet and 10 feet high measured 10 yards in front of the trap.

Shot Fall Area

Must be safe at least 300 yards in any direction that shotgun may be pointing when fired.

Trap Operator Location

When releasing the targets, the trap operator must be farther behind the trap than the shooter for safety. When loading the trap, the shooter's shotgun must be unloaded and pointed in a safe direction with finger off the trigger.

Shooter Location

Behind and left and right of trap according to the lateral distance indicated in the Field Layout included with this Qualification.

Position

Shooters have the option of mounting the shotgun on the shoulder before calling for the target.

Shooting Procedures

Each round is 24 shots total. 12 shots are fired from left of the trap, and 12 shots are fired from right of the trap at the lateral distances indicated for each qualification level as shown in the field layout. Shotgun must be loaded with only one shotshell for each target. The shotgun must never contain multiple shells. Eye and hearing protection must be worn by

the shooter, trap operator, and all spectators.

Ratings

Ratings must be earned in order beginning with the Pro-Marksman level. Qualifying scores must be used as they are earned and may not be saved for more advanced levels. There is no Distinguished Expert level for this course. However, those attaining the Expert level may then begin shooting for the Distinguished Expert level in the Trap, Skeet or Sporting Clays qualification courses according to the requirements shown in this booklet for those events.

Awards

- Shotgun Patch
- Skill Rockers
- Parchment Certificates
- Medals and Medal Bar
- Skill Level Pins



See pages 39-41 for complete information on qualification awards. Reference Materials on page 42.

Recreational Clay Target

Rating	Position—Lateral Distance from Trap	Total Shots	Required Score	Repetitions
Basic Practical	This rating is achieved by completing the practical exercise conducted during an NRA Basic Shotgun Course.			
Pro-Marksman	2 feet	24	11 or more	2 times
Marksman	4 feet	24	13 or more	4 times
Marksman 1 st Class	6 feet	24	15 or more	6 times
Sharpshooter	8 feet	24	17 or more	8 times
Expert	10 feet	24	19 or more	10 times

Field Layout

