**Trapshooting Etiquette:**

1. Make sure you understand where your assigned trap field and lane is located on the grounds…be organized well ahead of the assigned shooting time.
2. Be sure you are quietly assembled behind the field well in advance of your turn to shoot. Forcing the rest of your squad to wait is very inconsiderate and holds up the event and squad behind you. Have your equipment and gear ready to go ahead of your squad’s turn.
3. Be ready when your squad is called and when it’s your turn to begin the shoot. This serves to make us look organized, focused and more professional than other squads.
4. Do not lean over after each shot to pick up empties or to retrieve a new round from ground level after each shot. Pick up empties if need be only at the end of the round and when the lane has been cleared to do so.
5. Have your required shells for the round in a shooting pouch or vest at the ready…never on the ground level.
6. Never close your action or raise your gun unless directed by the squad leader to look at a bird at the beginning of the round or until the shooter ahead of you has already fired.
7. Avoid all unnecessary movement and/or discussions from on your post with others that might distract or interfere with other shooters.
8. Remain on your post, standing facing the trap house quietly until the fifth man has fired and then move to the next post.
9. Shooters on post 5 are reminded to turn right and spin away from your squadmates. Walk behind your squadmates to post 1.
10. At the end of the round remain still on your post until the last man has fired and the clearing of the lanes has been given.
11. If you are a squad leader, do not fire until the protocol has been followed and/or until all shooters are at their posts and at the ready. It is your responsibility to make sure all members are set and safe.
12. Never pre-load your gun before changing posts/stations. When moving from post 5 to post 1…turn to the right and move away from the trap house with muzzle control and walk behind all shooters to avoid bumping into any other squad members.
13. Load only one shell at a time into the chamber or magazine on trap singles and only when it’s your turn to shoot. If time is called or another delay occurs…remove the shell from the chamber and control the muzzle of the gun.
14. Close your guns action only when you are on post and facing the trap house. Close it only when you are prepared to shoot and avoid distracting others when doing so.
15. Do not eject shells from your gun that can hit or annoy the other shooters to your left or right. Control your action and control the empties. Autoloaders should be fitted with a shell catcher or use a simple rubber band.
16. No unnecessary talking during a shoot while on post with squad members. The time to discuss hits and misses is after the end of the round. No cell phones or other electronics while on post is allowed.
17. As a spectator or squad in waiting, keep your voice down when you are around other squads shooting. Remember other squad shooters and adjacent trap lanes deserve to shoot undisturbed.
18. Call for your target in a short clear voice; avoid loud or obnoxious target calls as to disturb others or trip any voice activated releases.
19. Time your shooting to establish a rhythm in the squad. Take the time you need to be ready, but be consistent.
20. If a shell misfires or a malfunction in the gun happens…call time out to the squad leader and scorer/puller if needed. In the case of a squib fire…make sure the barrel is clear before resuming. Ask for the coach or appointed Range Safety Officer assistance if needed. Squib rounds may be counted as a lost bird by rule.
21. Coaching is not allowed any time when shooters are on the line during an organized shoot or competition. Only during practices are coaches allowed on the line.
22. **Be a Good Sportsman.** If you are shooting well, others are aware of it and you don’t need to provide for supporting behavior. By the same token, if you are having a bad day, accept it without complaint or display. Don’t do anything that might interfere with other shooters or cause into question the credibility of our entire team. All referee decisions are final and not up for appeal by anyone other than the coach.
23. **Caution:** Shooters are almost always happy to have you look at their guns if you ask permission first. Do not ever pick up another shooters gun from the gun rack and handle it without first asking his/her permission.

**Be professional. Always keep in mind that how you conduct yourself could likely be the single most remembered reflection of the entire team by others.**

**Above all…Always have fun and treat every shooter the way you would want to be treated.**