

TRAP SHOOTING CLUBS



TRAP SHOOTING can provide a healthy and popular activity for students. However, it involves the use of firearms and must be directed with great attention and forethought accordingly.

PACE Best Practices:

1. Contact your agent regarding PACE coverage issues and potential additional premium considerations related to this activity.
2. Review your weapons policy for compliance.
3. Consider directing interested staff and students to The Oregon State High School Clay Target League to set up a club (<http://orclaytarget.com/>). Additional training for coaches can be found at: <http://www.usashooting.org/membership/coaches/coachacademy>
4. Interested staff and students may find an alternative at a local gun club with trap/skeet shooting teams already in place.

The Oregon Clay Target League requires the following for school eligibility:

- Any public, private or parochial high school in Oregon are invited to participate. Teams require:
- Approval from the school (school board, principal and/or activities/athletic director)
- Use of the school name
- Review district policies on firearms possession and use (are there specific prohibitions on firearms already in place?) and carefully consider what issues may arise from having a shooting club affiliated with the school district.
- The school board should be included in the decision-making process and be willing to support the club.
- Oregon State High School Clay Target League policies specifically state that the only guns allowed are 12- or 20-gauge shotguns. No rifles or pistols are allowed while participating in the club.

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If District Sponsored

1. The Oregon State High School Clay Target League (<http://orclaytarget.com/>) offers guidance on setting up clubs.
2. The permission slip should clearly indicate that the district is not responsible for firearms or ammunition.
3. Firearms and ammunition are prohibited on school grounds and firearms should be safely and securely stored at the gun range.
4. Students should be fully conversant with Oregon gun laws.
5. Clear parental agreement requiring signed permission to participate.
6. Guidelines governing transportation (students driving, staff transporting, picking up and transporting guns, etc.) also need to be clearly defined.
7. Outline of goals that relate this activity to student education.
8. All participants pass a gun safety course.

Questions to consider:

1. What are the educational benefits if this is school district sponsored?
2. Are there any issues of students having to drive home to pick up a firearm (assuming no storage at the club) and possible multiple students in the same car and multiple stops for firearms?
3. What are the minimum qualifications the district will accept in an instructor, and does this decision impact coverage?
4. Are there health conditions that would create a concern (lead exposure, noise, eye care, etc.) and/or is a medical release necessary?
5. Will the shooting range be able to accommodate all students including those on IEPs, 504 plans and does it accommodate ADA issues?
6. Do waivers include language about storage of guns and ammunition, travel to the gun range, health and safety considerations, release to call for emergency medical support, safety training and Oregon State gun laws?

Some considerations are:

- Storage of firearms and ammunition.
- Proper training and use of personal protective equipment, including cleaning and storage, appropriate clothing, padded shooting vest, eye protection and hearing protection.
- Laws regarding transport of firearms, possession by minors, etc.
- The district should specify a student/staff ratio.
- Actions to be taken by the district should a staff member or student brings a firearm to school.

If you choose to move forward with the trapshooting club, run all permission slips, forms and questions through PACE Legal at pacelegal@osba.org.

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