

Here you will find the most common questions and answers for you to learn more about the New York State High School Clay Target League.

### **Students & Parents**

**What is the number one priority in the League?**  
Safety.

**What student is eligible to participate?**

Students must be *grades 8-12* and possess a NYS Sportsmen's Education Certificate provided through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

**How long is the spring season?**

The spring league is nine weeks starting late March. The State Tournament is the end of June at Bridgeport Rod & Gun Club, Eastwood Rd + Bull Rd, Bridgeport, NY. Opening ceremony is 8:45 AM, events start at 9:00 AM.

**Can boys and girls participate?**

Yes. This is the only high school sport that can host co-ed and adaptive student athletes.

**How much does it cost to join the team?**

*As of right now, the club has been able to cover all ammo, targets, registration fees, and team shirts. This year we sold shotshell wreaths and other craft items and sold raffle tickets for a quarter of beef. A \$35 registration fee is paid to the League for administration costs associated with operations, awards and insurance. This year we are doing the team payment method so individuals do not pay at registration. We pay from our account. We ask that all team members and their parents help in these fundraising ideas so they don't have out-of-pocket expenses. An annual four-issue subscription to the League's PullUSA Magazine is also included. Some school teams are sponsored by local businesses and organizations to help pay for costs. The State Tournament participation fee is not included in the team cost. Without fundraisers or donations and with the rising cost of ammo and targets, the cost would be about \$300 or more per student.*

**Do I or my school team have to join any other organizations to participate in the League?**

No. No school or any student in a school shall be required to join an outside organization in order to participate in a school event.

**Can a team not associated with the school participate?**

No. All teams must be approved by the high school and use the school name.

**How safe is clay target shooting?**

The League is the safest sport in high school. With more than 30,000 student athletes that have participated in more than 330,000 events that have shot more than 20 million times, there has been no reported injuries since the League started in 2001.

**Do I have to travel to other shooting ranges to compete?**

No. Competition occurs at the local shooting range (Berlin Rod & Gun Club). Scores are submitted by the coaches on the League's website and compared against other schools' scores within the conference.

**Can I participate in other high school sports?**

Yes. The League allows teams to shoot up to two days a week (including weekends) which provides most participants the flexibility to work around practices and games of other sports and/or activities.

**Can a student athlete complete a weekly event on a different day than the one their team is scheduled to shoot?**

No. Student athletes are required to shoot when the team is scheduled to shoot.

**How many students make up a team?**

Five students is the minimum number for a team. *The maximum number for us is limited to 20. We would divide the 20 students into 4 squads of 5 each. Two squads would shoot one day and the other two another day due to limited daylight time.*

**Is the League a sport or an activity?**

Both. Clay target shooting is an Olympic sport that is identified as an "activity" or "club" at the high school level. It is not a NY State sanctioned sport. It is Title IX compliant. All students participate and must adhere to the same rules.

**Is there a student scholarship available?**

Yes. Senior student athletes who are pursuing post-secondary education in environmental sciences or natural resources can apply for a scholarship available from the League.

**How do athletes and families track performance?**

Each athlete receives access to the Shooter Performance Tracker® – a web-based application to monitor an athlete's scoring and progress rankings that are compared against their team, conference, and all other student athletes in the state.

# USA High School Clay Target League

## Our Mission

The USA High School Clay Target League is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and operates State High School Clay Target Leagues as the independent provider of shooting sports as an extracurricular co-ed activity to high schools for students 14 and above who have earned a League-approved firearm safety certification.

### **We believe that...**

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

Everyone should have fun.

Participation is a privilege and not a right.

Sportsmanship needs to have a constant presence.

Students should have an equal opportunity to participate.

Ethical behavior, dignity and respect are expected.

Participants will be chemically free.

Collaborative relationships with schools and students create a positive experience.

Academic priorities must come before participation.

Adults must serve as a positive role model to students.

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

Gun clubs are critical to the success of the League and are positive business leaders in their community.

Compliance with school, community, gun club and League rules are essential for all participants.

Shooting sports strengthens connections within families and communities for life.

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