



## Code of Conduct Policy and Procedure

Safety is the number one priority at any shooting event.

While participating in shooting sports the athlete and their parents/guardians, must adhere to the following code of conduct. All shooters must always conduct themselves in a safe and professional manner while at a shooting range without exception.

### *PROHIBITED CONDUCT*

#### *Major Offences*

- 1) Use of foul, offensive language or threatening language
- 2) Acts or threats of violence
- 3) Endangering, threatening, or causing physical harm to any spectator, member of the SCTP, or to oneself, causing any person to reasonably fear for their safety.
- 4) Pointing of firearms (of any kind) at other individuals
- 5) Use of alcohol or tobacco products
- 6) Violation of any criminal law of the State of Arizona related to the misuse of firearms or violence against another person.
- 7) Destruction or defacing of any property including but not limited to graffiti.

#### *Minor Offences*

- 1) Horseplay
  - a. i.e. play fighting, running or jumping on objects
- 2) Aggressive behavior
  - a. Throwing of equipment (hats, shells, etc.)
  - b. Rough handling of firearms
- 3) Dress code violations
- 4) Violation of any criminal law of the State of Arizona that is not classified as a felony
- 5) Knowingly giving false and misleading information to a coach or Game and Fish official.

#### *Safety Rules*

- 1) Eye and ear protection is required on the shooting field at all times
- 2) A hat with the brim facing forward is required for skeet and/or sporting clays
- 3) When gun is carried with muzzle pointed upward, the muzzle must be above the carriers head, never under the brim of the hat
- 4) AT NO TIME SHOULD A MUZZLE BE PLACED ON THE TOE OR FOOT, this will result in immediate disqualification from the match
  - a. The muzzle can be placed on a rubber pad or carpet mat on the shooting station
- 5) Your finger must be kept off the trigger until your gun is mounted and you are ready to call for the target
- 6) Your gun MUST be open and empty at ALL times except when on the station prepared to shoot
  - a. Break action guns may have the action closed provided the gun is secured in a gun rack
- 7) You may ONLY load your firearm once you are on your shooting position and it is your turn to shoot

- a. Trap shooters are permitted to have a shell in the chamber with the action open provided they remain facing downrange on their station and the range is “hot”

### *SANCTIONS*

When an athlete is believed to have committed a major offense the Lead Instructor will report the incident to the Shooting Sports Coordinator at the Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) immediately. The Department will immediately conduct an investigation and during this investigation the athlete will be suspended. If the offense is confirmed the athlete will be suspended from the program for the minimum duration of one season for major offenses. Major offenses may also result in expulsion from the program. After an athlete has been suspended, reinstatement may occur only on athlete appeal (see athlete appeal). All athletes in the case of a major offense have the right to have their case reviewed by the Department.

When an athlete is determined to have committed a minor offense or violation of the safety rules, provided the safety violation does not also constitute a major offense, the Lead Instructor and coaching staff will determine the duration of the athlete suspension. This incident and suspension will be reported by the Lead Instructor to the Department. The Department will review the findings by the lead instructor and may revise the finding and/or sanction.

Safety violations during SCTP events will result in one warning to the athlete. A second safety violation will result in the disqualification of the individual from the event. The exception to this is any incident involving major offenses or the placement of muzzles on an athlete’s toes which will result in immediate disqualification.

The Department retains the right to review any suspension. The decision of the Department after any review is final. The Department and Lead Instructor have the right to remove an athlete from SCTP for failure to adhere to the shooters code of conduct and/or sportsmanship and ethics contract at any time.

### *ATHLETE APPEAL OF SUSPENSION*

An athlete removed from the program for first time major offenses may appeal for next season reinstatement. In no scenario will an athlete be reinstated for the same season in which they were expelled for major offences. The athlete is the only individual who may petition for reinstatement. No parent/guardian or coach may do it on their behalf.

An athlete petitioning for reinstatement must demonstrate that he or she is aware that there is no tolerance for that type of behavior in this shooting program. The athlete must demonstrate understanding of the code of conduct, sportsmanship and ethics, how it applies to the shooting sports and in which way they violated the code of conduct and the spirit of the codes. The appeal must be accompanied by a letter explaining why they should be reinstated into the program directed to the Shooting Sports Coordinator.

This information will then be evaluated by an appeal board at the Arizona Game and Fish Department composed of the Shooting Sports Coordinator, Hunting and Shooting Sports Program Manager, Wildlife Recreation Branch Chief, an individual from the Department’s Law Enforcement Branch, and a volunteer SCTP Lead Instructor or Coach. If needed, the petitioner

will be asked to appear before the board. The Appeal Board will evaluate all information and decide on possible reinstatement.

Once the Appeal Board determines that reinstatement is possible it will be the final determination of the Lead Instructor of the Club if they will accept the athlete back into their club for the next or subsequent seasons. If the Appeal Board denies reinstatement the athlete may appeal the following year. Only one appeal per season will be permitted.

-----cut here-----

*Please sign and return this portion to your Lead Instructor with the remainder of your registration paperwork.*

By participating in the SCTP you are agreeing to the code of conduct and athlete sportsmanship and ethics contract. You are agreeing to accept instruction from a certified SCTP Coach in an organized SCTP activity. You and your parents/guardians understand that the Lead Instructor can issue warnings to participants for code of conduct, safety and ethic violations. You acknowledge that you may be suspended or expelled from the SCTP program for violations of the code of conduct or sportsmanship and ethics contract.

Participants must have a parent or guardian present at events or training programs.

I understand and agree to the safety rules, code of conduct, rules and procedures, and sportsmanship and ethics codes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Student Athlete (Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I understand that my child/children are bound by the guidelines set forth and I as their parent or guardian agree to abide by the code of conduct rules and these guidelines as well.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent or Guardian (Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date