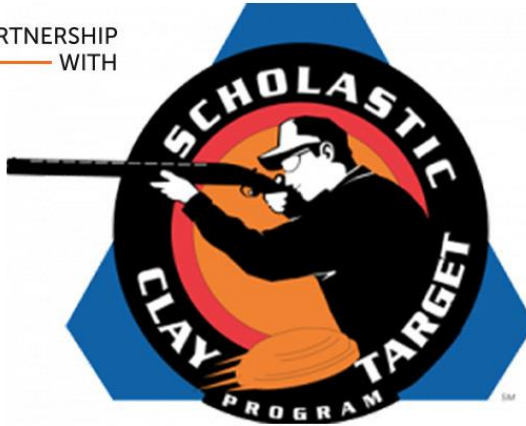


# ACUI **Clay Targets**

Collegiate Shotgun Bowl Series

IN PARTNERSHIP  
WITH



## **2022-23 ACUI & SCTP CLAY TARGETS OFFICIAL RULEBOOK**

The current ATA, NSCA, NSSA, USAS, and all ACUI & SCTP rules will govern all ACUI & SCTP competitions, including the 2022-23 Shotgun Bowl Series, the 2022 ACUI & SCTP International National championships, and the 2023 ACUI & SCTP Collegiate Clay Targets Championships. It is the shooters' and coaches' responsibility to be familiar with these rules.

### **Eligibility**

All ACUI & SCTP collegiate events are open to college athletes and teams. However, the following eligibility requirements must be met:

- All participants must meet eligibility criteria established by their school.
- All participants are limited to six years of eligibility. Students enrolled at two-year institutions are limited to three years of eligibility; if they transfer to a four-year school, six years total.
- All participants must be between the ages of 18 and 25 years old to compete in ACUI or SCTP collegiate clay targets events. If a participant turns 25 during a season, they may finish competing in that season's event.
- All undergraduate and graduate student participants must be in good academic standing with their institution in the academic term in which they qualified for the program.
- All participants must be enrolled for the academic term in which they are competing in an event for at least nine credits (six credit hours for graduate students). Seniors who will be graduating at the end of the academic term may be considered eligible if they are taking hours needed to complete their degree. Students who do not meet the

enrollment requirements during the semester in which an event takes place will not be eligible to compete in that event.

- All undergraduate and graduate student participants must be enrolled as a student in good conduct standing at the institution they represent, as determined by the institution in which they are currently enrolled.

Submission of the eligibility form is not required for conference championships, but an original form complete with all signatures is required for nationals.

### **Community Code of Conduct**

Negative posts, belittling accomplishments, bullying, posting of denigrating comments in public or on social media that create a hostile environment within our otherwise inclusive community are a violation of the ACUI & SCTP code of conduct in place for all ACUI student programs. This explicitly states that as a participant it is an obligation to abide by the code of conduct guidelines and violation of them may jeopardize status as a participant in the ACUI Clay Targets program & SCTP.

Refusal to turn in a scorecard, along with cheating, swearing, and verbal or physical abuse of an athlete, scorer, field judge, shoot official, or protest committee is activity deemed to be inappropriate and grounds for disqualification.

### **Alcohol, Marijuana, and Controlled Substances**

Alcohol/illegal or unprescribed drugs and firearms do not mix. Consumption of alcohol and other illegal substances are strictly forbidden during any ACUI & SCTP events. Further, any participant who is found to be in possession of or under the influence of alcohol or drugs while using, cleaning, maintaining, inspecting, or otherwise handling their shotgun or other firearm at any time will be immediately disqualified from the event and asked to leave without refund.

### **Hat Shooting**

Hat shooting is strictly prohibited. Any competitor who participates in hat shooting will be immediately disqualified and asked to leave the competition without refund. We recognize this is a celebrated tradition but encourage you to do your hat shoot at your next team practice.

### **Target Protests**

Hits and misses must be protested immediately after the results of the shot is announced. To appeal an individual hit or miss, the athlete must raise their hand and announce cease fire. The referee can poll the squad but is not required to do so. The appeal ruling by the referee is final and no further protest is allowed. Once the shooter calls for their next target or the next shooter calls for their target the result of the last target is final. The total results of any round must be protested immediately after the round is completed and announced. Once the next round starts the results of the completed round are considered final subject to addition/math corrections in registration. If the referee still does not call out the results loud enough, a line supervisor should be notified. Participants should sign the score sheet (next to the score total) before leaving the line. When the athlete signs the score sheet, they are verifying the individual

hits and misses and totals. Calculations are subject to addition/math corrections in registration. If a participant does not sign the score sheet, they forfeit all rights of protest.

Any protest should be conducted in a healthy, constructive form of conflict resolution. Reports of poor behavior demonstrated by the student athlete or coach can result in target penalties.

### **Scorecard**

Each competitor is solely responsible for their scorecards. Take care when reviewing your scorecard before signing and/or handing off to match officials and address any concerns with the tournament director as soon as possible. Falsification or manipulation of scorecards will result in disqualification from the event and a suspension or ban from the ACUI Clay Targets program & SCTP.

### **Late Penalty**

The penalty for being late for a squadded event is a three-target penalty and will be assessed in American Skeet, American Trap, Doubles American Trap, Doubles American Skeet, International Skeet, and Bunker Trap. Sporting Clays and Super Sporting will be worked in if there is a conflict, but please be diligent about making these times as well. Once the first shot is fired, the squad is set and you have missed your time. Late participants should join the squad at the beginning of the next round. The missed round will be made up later in the day provided there are openings. The three-target penalty will be assessed on the rescheduled round's score sheet.

### **Enforcement, Questions & Complaints**

Athletes may contact ACUI Clay Targets Program & SCTP staff with any concerns about the program at any time throughout the year. Misconduct, abuse of any rule, or other concerns – most importantly safety – may be reported by anyone, by any means to the ACUI & SCTP staff. Informal reports should be followed by a formal written report including incident date, time, location, witnesses, and detailed description. It's likely that the ACUI & SCTP staff will consult with a committee. The concern will be processed once, information gathered, deliberation had, and a ruling made. Penalties will be determined by the severity of the infraction up to, and including, disqualification from the event and all future ACUI & SCTP events. This ruling will be final. Any concern should be conducted in a healthy, constructive form of conflict resolution.

### **Registration**

All participants must be registered and fully paid before competing. If payment may be delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, please notify ACUI & SCTP staff immediately. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be done electronically through the SCTP SHOT System. All registrants are required to agree to the assumption of risk, code of ethics, media release, and cancellation policy.

### **Membership**

Teams are not required to be members of ACUI to compete in any ACUI & SCTP event. Membership with ACUI will provide registration discounts but is not required. To learn more, please email us at [acuiclays@acui.org](mailto:acuiclays@acui.org).

## **Ammunition**

Conference Championship events: The competitor is responsible for paying for and obtaining practice and competition ammo. Ammunition up to 1 oz. is allowed for the International events. For American events, please check the appropriate National Governing Body rules (ATA, NSSA, NSCA) rules for allowable loads.

Nationals: Please refer to the nationals match program for any further ammunition specifications.

## **Guns**

All guns must be fired while mounted on the shoulder. Any gun that cannot be shoulder mounted will not be allowable during competition.

## **Independent Athletes**

Individual students attending a school with an established team may "pay their way" and compete only if the coach and/or team leader approves of their participation. At conference championship events, the individual can compete as an "Independent" if the coach/team leader does not want them competing with the team but is okay with their participation. If the student does not receive approval to participate by the coach and/or team leader, the individual will not be able to participate. An individual from a school that does not already have a team represented at Nationals is welcome to compete and represent their institution, assuming they meet all other eligibility requirements.

All athletes (outside of the situation outlined above) have to be affiliated with the institution that signs off on their eligibility form. Students representing more than one institution are not permitted to compete as a team.

## **Classification System**

To recognize more deserving student athletes at the ACUI & SCTP Collegiate Clay Target Championships, ACUI & SCTP uses a classification system for competition at the National Championships. The system will be based on an athlete's average from participation in any of the 2022-23 academic year conference championships.

Classes will be determined as follows:

- Performance in American Skeet will determine class for American Skeet and Doubles American Skeet at Nationals.
- Performance in American Trap will determine class for American Trap and Doubles American Trap at Nationals.
- Performance in Sporting Clays will determine class for Sporting Clays and Super Sporting at Nationals.
- If more than one conference championships event is attended, athletes will be classified by their average score in each event. All percentages are rounded up.

The breakdown of scores for the classes are available below. If the athlete elects to shoot in class, they will shoot in class for all six events. Any athlete can decline shooting in class and elect to compete in open class. The classes are Open, A, B, C. Participants with no average from previous participation in a 2022-23 Bowl Series event are automatically placed in open class. If an athlete elects to shoot in class and their scores are in the top three scores of open class in any one event, they will receive the open class award and everyone in the respective class will move up. Any class changes must be requested before the first shot of the event.

The following participants are required to shoot in open class: past national champions in any shooting organization, past or present USA Shooting team member, NSCA Master class, NSSA A class or above, ATA A class or above. Shoot management reserves the right to move classes for athletes based on known ability.

Regardless of class, athletes can be squadded together but are only scored against athletes in their own class.

Classes are:

Open – Top average score of 95 or above

A – 85-94

B – 75-84

C – 74 or below

### **Divisions**

Divisions will be used to help recognized talented students from all size programs at the ACUI & SCTP Collegiate Clay Target Championships. Schools will compete in their respective divisions:

Division I – Schools with 21 or more representatives

Division II – Schools with 11-20 representatives

Division III – Schools with 1-10 representatives

Division IV – Junior colleges & Community colleges (technical or vocational).

Teams competing for the first time will be placed in a division based on the above criteria.

Coaches or student leaders may opt to have their schools participate in the larger school categories (aka "bump up") during the registration process but must notify the ACUI & SCTP staff of changes to the original intention during or before onsite check-in. A school remains in "home" division as noted by number of participants in an event. Divisions only apply to team awards and do not affect individual awards.

### **Student Transfers**

ACUI & SCTP are not governing bodies nor mandate relationships between students and teams. Recruiting conversations college-to-college from anyone to an enrolled athlete should never occur while at an ACUI & SCTP competition.

We recommend team leaders and coaches consider written agreements with their athletes that address the commitment and transfer process. Sample language can be found [here](#).

### **Professional Athletes**

Students will not be considered a professional athlete in any shooting sport until such time the sport is able to sustain a participant with a standard living wage net of entry fees and related competition expenses.

### **Dress Code**

Participants are representing their institutions and the Association. All participants should adhere to the dress code for their respective events. The dress code is designed to provide safety, be professional, as well as respect individuality, be conducive to learning, and preserve the dignity of each student who participates. For reference, the ACUI Clay Targets dress code encompasses most of those items spelled out for the U.S. Olympic shooting sports athletes with leniencies as deemed appropriate for our level of competition. The ACUI & SCTP dress code states;

- All persons, spectators, athletes, field judges, and range personnel must wear eye and ear protection on the course. All ear equipment should be disconnected from electronic devices on the firing line to ensure all safety commands can be heard.
- An athlete may choose competitive gear of their choice with the manufacturer's marks. An ISSF strip is required on your vest if you are shooting in the International Shoot-Out Skeet event.
- Participants are strongly encouraged to wear college/university identification for both the competition and the awards ceremonies.
- Appropriate footwear must always be worn in all events; flip-flops or similar sandals are not appropriate. Footwear must have closed toes and heel straps or closed heels.
- Appropriate attire displays no pictures or graphics of a sexual or offensive nature and no words or phrases that include offensive language or political statements.
- No sleeveless shirts are permitted.
- The clothing on the leg should be an appropriate length, such as longer than six inches above the center of the knee. Likewise, top clothing should completely cover the abdomen at all times.