**Monroe City FFA Trapshooting Guidelines and Expectations**

**Philosophy**

Trapshooting at the High School level is for recreational and educational purposes. Membership in a trapshooting team is a beneficial activity that teaches responsibility, sportsmanship, precision, cooperation, and encourages the development of outdoor skills and safety awareness. The most important factor in a successful trapshooting team is concern for the well-being not only of the individual, but also for the team as a whole. Fully educating members on safety protocol while promoting good sportsmanship is a chief goal of this activity.

**Sponsorship**

FFA Advisors will be sponsoring the team for the 2018-2019 school year. The advisor(s) will be present at all practices and competitions (unless other arrangements have been approved by the administration). The support of parents will be a great asset to establishing a successful team. However, participants and parents/ guardians must understand that all decisions regarding participation and team protocol will be made by the advisors and administrators in the best interest of the team as a whole.

**Membership Structure**

Membership on the Monroe City FFA Trapshooting Team is available exclusively for the Monroe City FFA members who are in good standing and are enrolled in Monroe City High School, grades 9-12. FFA Membership dues must be paid by September 1.

**Eligibility Requirements**

* A high school Monroe City FFA member who is in good standing, which includes dues paid, fundraising activities, and active in other FFA activities.
* Maintains a minimum 2.0 GPA, standards set forth by Monroe City School District.
* Referrals for weapons will result in permanent suspension.
* Provided a copy of health insurance to the FFA Advisor and have obtained a parent/ guardian signature on release form.

**Equipment**

Students will be required to provide their own shotguns for practices and competitive shoots. In addition, all students will be required to provide their own ammunition for practices and competitive shoots. There will be times when ammunition will be provided, in which the sponsor will make the members aware of. Students may purchase boxes from the sponsor for $6. However, the sponsor will not give IOU’s to shooters above the amount of $12.

Mandatory safety equipment (eyewear and ear protection) will be provided by the students as well. Closed toed shoes should always be worn.

**Practice Protocol**

Practices will be held at the residence of Adam Grove’s at 36970 Monroe Rd 370, Monroe City MO. Practice will be held on Tuesdays starting at 4:00pm. All team members are expected to be present for their flights 10 minutes early. Because of the number of students participating on the team, practices will be split into multiple flights. Students are expected to be present for the entirety of their flight in order to help clean up.

Students are allowed one excused and one unexcused absence. Arriving late to a practice or prior to the end of a flight will count as a member’s 1 unexcused absence. **Communication is KEY!** An excused absence is when a member contacts the sponsor at least 24 hours in advance, explaining in full why they cannot attend practice. An unexcused absence is when there has been no contact with the sponsor explaining why the student is not present at practice, is late, or leaves early.

Shooters are expected to stay quiet during shooting and waiting. Each member of each flight is expected to help clean-up at the end of each practice. It is gracious of Mr. Grove to allow us to shoot at his residence; we should do our part in helping it to stay clean.

**Transportation of Students, Guns, and Ammunition**

For the Area V mid-week shoots, guns will need to be brought to school in order to leave and compete. The following actions MUST take place each student and the sponsor:

* Guns will be brought to school, unloaded and in a case, prior to 8am.
* When on the bus, guns will be placed in the back of the bus and ammunition in the front.
* Students must ride to competitive trap shoots with the school. With signed or in-person parent permission, students may ride back with their parents. If a student would like to ride to a competitive event with their parents, written notification must be given to the sponsor 2 days prior to the event.
* On days of trapshooting practices, guns **CANNOT** be left in vehicles. Guns must be checked in at school prior to 8am or left at an off-campus site.

**Competition Shoot Criteria**

A minimum of one 5 person team will be able to participate in the competitive shoots of the Advisor’s choosing depending on the criteria for each shoot (see team schedule information). The teams will be chosen by the FFA Advisor and will be based on performance, attitude, and attendance.

At the end of the season, the 10 shooters will be placed on two teams to represent Monroe City at the final Area V Trapshoot. A minimum of 3 rounds of competitive shooting will be required to qualify for a final team.

**Attire**

Shooters must wear close-toed shoes, safety glasses, and ear protection. They must also wear a vest or a carrier when on the line. Students are asked to wear their FFA Trapshooting t-shirt to all competitive events. Hats are optional.

 **Fundraising**

Each shooter will be expected to sell 10 raffle tickets this year to raise funds for the team. These funds will cover the costs for registrations, practice clays, some practice shells, t-shirts, the end of season BBQ, and other miscellaneous costs. If the minimum of these tickets are not sold, members will be expected to pay their own registration costs for trap shoots, practice shells, and t-shirts. Raffle tickets for the 2018 Trap season are $10 for one ticket or $25 for three tickets and are provided from the Mark Twain Chapter of Quail Forever. If students sell more tickets than required, they will be rewarded with ammunition credits as presented in the Orientation meeting.

**Safety Guidelines**

All members must take a safety course with the advisor before being allowed to shoot at practice or competition. It is expected that every member follow each safety rule and guideline at all times. **Violations of safety procedures will not be tolerated at any time and will result in immediate suspension from the team.**

**Use of Alcohol, Tobacco, or Drugs**

The use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs is expressly prohibited at all school sponsored functions. If team members are observed or suspected to have used any of these substances, school policy will be followed in terms of penalties and participation eligibility. Remember that this is an FFA activity and the organization’s Code of Ethics should be followed at **ALL** times. The combination of firearms and mind-altering substances extremely dangerous and **WILL NOT** be tolerated on our team.