

2025-2026 Tri-State Trap Rules

1. The program is 50 16-yard and 50 handicap targets.

Entry fees for each program are **\$28** for adult shooters and **\$18** for Junior shooters. Juniors that elect to play any options pay the adult entry of **\$28**. Eight dollars of the entry fee for each adult will be paid to the League by the club holding the shoot. The club will retain \$20 from each adult entry to cover its costs for the program.

A \$10 Modified Lewis option is available to all shooters. 35% of the pool will be paid to the top two scores (divided 60/40). The remaining 65% of the pool will be paid to five (5) Lewis classes starting with the third highest score. Option entries are made at the same time as program entries.

A \$5 Purse option is available to all shooters. The payout is 50% to the highest score, 30% to the second highest score, and 20% to the third highest score. Ties divide. Option entries are made at the same time as program entries.

A \$2 – 100-Straight option is available to all shooters. The payout is 90% of the rolling sum of the pool at the time the eligible shooter breaks a 100 straight score. Ties will divide. Option entries are made at the same time as program entries.

A \$1 Draw option is available to all shooters. The payout is the rolling sum of the pool for any shooter whose score is equal to the random draw conducted at the conclusion of the shoot. The random draw includes all scores between 40 and 100. Ties will divide. Option entries are made at the same time as program entries.

Attention: Any option monies not redeemed by the end of the following target year will become the property of the Tristate League.

2. Shooters will be handicapped according to ATA (Amateur Trapshooting Association) handicap or Tri-State Trap League past performance, whichever is greater. No shooter may shoot at less than her/his ATA handicap as noted in the ATA Shooter Information Center. Shooters without records will be handicapped at 20 yards, unless in a special category. All new ladies and males younger than 15 years old start at 19 yards. Unless a shooter earns 2 or more yards during a year, s/he may reduce during following years at a rate of 1 yard per year until s/he reaches her/his ATA handicap, or the yardage above. (i.e. no shooter will shoot below their ATA yardage or 19 yards, whichever is greater). A shooter earning 2 yards or more during a year will carry that handicap forward to the following year.

Team captains are asked to ascertain that shooter handicaps are accurately noted on their rosters. (A “year” means all those shoots comprising one season-i.e. from the first to last shoot on the schedule, and having posted a valid score in league competition for the “year”. A shooter who does not participate for a year is still only eligible for a 1 yard reduction. For example: A shooter shoots in target year 2020-2021, and who does not participate in 2021-2022 can only take a 1 yard reduction from the yardage shot in 2020-2021, even though that yardage is 2 years old).

3. Veteran and Senior Veteran shooters who have not registered targets with ATA for more than one year or who may have health issues affecting their shooting, may request a reduction from their league handicap. The League will handle these requests on a “case by case” basis.

4. ATA reductions or ATA increases during the League season are not recognized. A shooter's handicap remains fixed (except as earned under #5 below) as of the first shoot entered.

5. Shooters will earn yardage at each shoot as follows:

- a. high score and ties - 2 yards
- b. second high score and ties – 1 ½ yards
- c. third high score and ties - 1 yard

6. It is the shooter's responsibility to verify that her/his entry is correct, that her/his score entered on the shoot record is correct, and that s/he shot from the correct handicap. Shooting from the wrong handicap will result in disqualification from that shoot.

7. All ATA rules will be observed, including eye and ear protection. ATA rules will govern if any discrepancies arise.

8. Entries will not be accepted in the first 15 squads unless the shooter is present at the entry desk.

9. No entries will be accepted after 2 pm.

10. A shooter may not enter a program more than once.

11. A shooter may shoot for only one team during the season.

12. A shooter must shoot one of the first seven shoots for a score to be counted toward a team score during the last seven shoots.

13. The five highest scores entered by team members will be counted toward the team score. A team with fewer than five shooters will only be allowed to count the scores from those present. Teams will be awarded points based on the number of teams contending. For example, if seven teams entered scores, the highest team score will receive 7 points, the second highest team score will receive 6 points, etc. Tie scores will drop to the next highest score for each team until the tie is broken.

14. In the event of a forecast for inclement weather in the four-state area, the Executive Committee may call for cancellation of the shoot. The President must contact all the club representatives. The club representatives will pass the information to their club shooters. The website will also contain the notification of cancellation. This decision will be made by 5:00pm the day prior to the scheduled shoot.

15. At the end of the season and after all bills have been paid, the Treasurer may divide a portion of remaining money among the teams. Teams will earn 1 share for each event where that team has five shooters competing. Any team with fewer than five shooters will earn 0 shares for that event.

For example:

- Money to be divided: \$3000
- Number of shoots: 14
- Number of teams: 7
- A total of 98 shares are available. (7x14)
- Each share is worth \$30.61 (3000/98).

For the year each team would receive 14 shares for a total of \$428.54 (30.61×14). Should a team forfeit a share, that share is divided among the other seven teams. Each of the 6 teams that did not forfeit would receive \$5.10 ($\30.61 divided by 6 added to \$428.54).

The team forfeiting 1 share would receive \$397.93 ($\$428.54 - \30.61).

16. The League statistician will calculate the options payouts. Payouts will be rounded to the nearest \$0.50. The club holding the shoot will pay the league treasurer for option payouts. The league will make payouts to all shooters at the following shoot date.

17. Clubs will receive membership cards for each shooter. The shooter's name, team affiliation, and handicap will be entered. The schedule for the League will be on the card. This card is presented at the entry desk at each shoot.

18. A trophy will be awarded to the High Gun at each shoot. Ties will be carried over to the next shoot and will be determined on the total 100. Ties remaining or ties for the last shoot will be determined on long run in reverse order—"miss and out" starting with the 100th target. Trophies will be awarded at the League banquet.

19. A shooter may accept only one trophy for season averages. These trophies will be awarded in the following order: High Overall, High Overall Runner-Up, High Handicap, High 16-yards, High Handicap Runner-up, High 16-yards Runner-up, High Vet, High Sr. Vet, High Lady, High Junior, Most Improved. Trophies will be awarded at the League banquet.

20. Trophies will be awarded to four handicap groups based on the season average: 19-20, 21-23, 24-25, and 26-27 yards. The groups are based on a shooter's handicap at the beginning of the season.

21. A shooter must have recorded at least 10 scores to be considered for the season trophies. The 10 highest scores will be used to compute a 16-yard average, a handicap average, and an overall average. To be considered for the "Most Improved" a shooter must have a "best" average from the previous year.

22. Trophies for season averages are based on a shooter's "High 10" average-i.e. an average of her/his 10 best scores. Ties for season averages will be then be decided using the "High 11" or, if necessary, "High 12" if two or more shooters are tied using "High 10." A shooter without a "High 11" or "High 12" average who is tied with another shooter with a "High 11" or "High 12" loses the tie-breaker. If still tied, League officers will determine a tie-breaker.

23. A shooter must shoot all scheduled shoots to receive recognition for perfect attendance.

24. A shooter recording a score at 10 or more shoots will receive a free ticket for the year-end banquet. A shooter recording a score at nine shoots may purchase a ticket for the year-end banquet for \$8. A shooter recording a score at eight shoots may purchase a ticket for the year-end banquet for \$16. A shooter recording a score at seven shoots may purchase a ticket for the year-end banquet for \$24. A shooter must shoot at least seven shoots to be eligible to receive a ticket to the banquet. Juniors may bring two guests per banquet ticket.

25. The League statistician will determine the amount due for all banquet tickets. The League Treasurer will collect it at the door.

26. Each club will be given one free banquet ticket for use at their discretion and one that may be sold at \$80 per couple. Clubs may request a complimentary ticket for shooters who were unable to compete due to personal reasons.

27. Shooters must be present to win any door prizes at the banquet. Complimentary tickets are not eligible for door prizes.

28. Shooters may register their 16-yard targets with the ATA at the end of the year by paying the appropriate fees.