



## Clay Sports Ireland Safety Rules and Guidelines

Clay Sports Ireland is dedicated to ensuring that safety for all participants and spectators at our events is paramount.

To ensure the safety of all, the following rules **MUST** be adhered to and enforced by clubs and event holders alike:

- **Eye Protection** – Your eyesight is precious so look after it as such. The wearing of suitable visible eye protection by shooter / trappers / officials and spectators at or around shooting positions at all shoots is mandatory. Shooters will not be allowed participate if eye protection is not worn.
- **Ear Protection** – Due to the extreme noise levels created by a shotgun firing it is imperative that shooters or those in the vicinity of a shooting stand wear adequate ear protection. Shooters will not be allowed participate if ear protection is not worn.

To further ensure the safety of all the following guidelines should be adhered to at all times when at a range or event:

- Never load your gun until you are in the stand and ready to shoot.
- Never close your gun until it is your turn to shoot and you are in the stand.
- Always ensure your barrels are pointed down range when in a shooting position.
- Always keep your gun open and empty. In the case of semi-automatic shotguns always keep you gun in a slip / case between stands and when holding outside of a slip / case ensure the barrel is pointed directly upwards and a safety flag / block is used and visible.
- You should always look to see the barrels of your gun are clear before you load and shoot as a slight obstruction can prove fatal.
- In the case of a misfire, always point the barrels down range and wait 30 seconds before opening and removing the cartridge.
- It is advisable for any person attending a shoot to wear a hat / cap as clay targets can break into small sharp pieces that may cause injury. Event organisers will do their utmost to ensure the chances of this are slim with the positioning of targets but cannot eliminate it completely.

The best person to ensure safety is adhered to is you and we would therefore ask you to be diligent at events and to notify a referee or grounds person in the event of a breach of safety rules or concerns you may have with regards to safety.