



ATHLETE SAFETY & CONDUCT PLEDGE

As a USAYESS athlete, I understand that participating in shooting sports carries significant responsibility. My actions can affect my safety and the safety of everyone around me.

I understand that safety is everyone's responsibility, and I agree to speak up if I see an unsafe condition or unsafe behavior.

As a Safe and Responsible Athlete:

I will:

- Treat every firearm as if it is loaded at all times.
- Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- Keep my finger off the trigger until I am on target and ready to fire.
- Be certain of my target and what is beyond it.
- Never rest a firearm on my foot or place my hands over the muzzle of a firearm.
- Load my firearm only when authorized and when I am at the appropriate shooting station or position.
- Never leave or turn away from my shooting station until my firearm is completely unloaded and safe.
- Carry and handle my firearm only in the manner required by applicable range rules, discipline rules, and instructions from coaches or officials.
- Keep break-open firearms open and semi-automatic firearms visibly safe when required by range or event rules.
- Wear appropriate eye and hearing protection whenever required.
- Immediately obey all commands given by coaches, referees, range personnel, and event officials.
- Never engage in horseplay, reckless behavior, or unsafe firearm handling.
- Immediately report an unsafe firearm, unsafe condition, or unsafe behavior to a coach, range official, or responsible adult.
- Learn, understand, and follow all firearm safety rules, range rules, and USAYESS safety requirements.

USAYESS does not permit release triggers in USAYESS events. I understand that any firearm identified as having a release trigger may not be used in competition.

I understand that there is never a score, target, competition, or award important enough to compromise safety.

As an Individual:

I will:

- Develop my skills to the best of my ability and give my best effort in practice and competition.
- Compete honestly and within both the spirit and letter of the rules.
- Take responsibility for my actions, decisions, and behavior.
- Treat every athlete, coach, official, volunteer, spectator, and other individual with dignity and respect.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship in both victory and defeat.
- Accept correction and coaching respectfully.
- Learn from my mistakes and make appropriate changes when I fail to meet these expectations.

As a Member of a Team:

I will:

- Support and encourage my teammates.
- Contribute positively to my team's environment and reputation.
- Respect my coaches, teammates, competitors, and volunteers.
- Follow team rules and applicable USAYESS policies.
- Understand that my actions reflect not only on me, but also on my team, family, community, and USAYESS.
- Help younger and less experienced athletes when appropriate and set a positive example for others.
- Remember that individual success should never come at the expense of safety, integrity, sportsmanship, or my team.

As a Member of My Community:

I will:

- Conduct myself with honesty, integrity, responsibility, and respect both on and off the field of competition.
- Be a positive representative of my team and USAYESS.
- Respect the facilities, property, natural resources, and communities that make our activities possible.
- Demonstrate responsible behavior in person, online, and on social media.
- Strive to be a positive influence in my school, community, and the shooting sports.

My Commitment

Because I am a representative of myself, my family, my team, and USAYESS, I understand that I have the opportunity and responsibility to set a positive example for others.

I understand that participation in USAYESS is a privilege and that unsafe, dishonest, disrespectful, or unsportsmanlike conduct may result in corrective or disciplinary action in accordance with USAYESS policies.

By accepting this pledge, I agree to put safety first, compete with integrity, treat others with respect, take responsibility for my actions, and represent USAYESS to the best of my ability.

THIS IS A RELEASE OF LEGAL RIGHTS. READ IT CAREFULLY AND BE CERTAIN YOU UNDERSTAND IT BEFORE SIGNING

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Print Parent's Name: _____

Signed on: _____

By registering with and/or participating in any USAYESS sanctioned events, you are agreeing to this policy regardless of whether a signature is present.