



AlaskaYESS Varsity



TEAM MEMBERSHIP & LETTER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLAY TARGET SHOOTING SPORTS

2026-2027 AlaskaYESS Season

Basic Requirements for All High School Athletes

Each of three Series will average 7-12 weeks. Fall Series is September-December, Winter Series is January-March, Spring Series is March-May, and Prep for State is May-to-State. Every Series has 3 tournaments, and participation in competition is required for participation. The clay target sports year concludes with the AlaskaYESS State Championship in June.

AlaskaYESS athletes will comply with all rules governing extracurricular activities set by the school district, USAYESS, and, for the most part, National Governing Bodies (NGB) for each discipline (ATA/Trap, NSSA/Skeet, NSCA/Sporting Clays). This will include academic requirements of a minimum 2.0 grade average, practice requirements, behavior expectations, citizenship, TAD Policy, and registration with USAYESS. Progress Reports must be submitted at the first team practice of each Series.

IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE: Breaches of the SPIRIT as well as the LETTER of USAYESS, AlaskaYESS, team and shooting facility rules, including the AlaskaYESS Philosophy & Values Agreement, will be grounds for suspension or expulsion from the program.

AlaskaYESS athletes must behave and speak in a respectful manner throughout the entire season, during school and while participating in any AlaskaYESS activity, to all faculty, coaches, officials, range personnel, teammates, competitors, and adult volunteers.

AlaskaYESS athletes must display a level of vigilance and responsibility with regards to the practice of safe firearm handling, whenever handling or in the presence of firearms, at all times. Furthermore, athletes are to follow the firearm regulations of local, state and federal law, as well as the rules and regulations of AlaskaYESS and the NGBs with regards to firearm practices.

AlaskaYESS athletes must be able to break down the shotgun they are using, clean it, and reassemble it correctly after every practice or competition. A clinic will be held each season to teach this skill to AlaskaYESS athletes and their parents.

AlaskaYESS athletes are expected to attend and participate in 90% of scheduled practices unless excused by the head coach. Participation in a different sport, vacation or other voluntary absence is not considered an excusable absence. Athletes will have a schedule of practices and competitions when they register for the year and should plan their activities around their team obligations. Non-participation in team practices and/or competitions may result in removal from the team.

AlaskaYESS athletes are expected to fully participate in any fundraising or community service activities with their team.

Remember that your membership with a team is based on the approval of the Coaching staff. Continued membership with your team depends upon your commitment, attitude, stewardship, coachability, teamwork, collaboration, sportsmanship, fundraising, and participation levels. We look for the development of these excellent

character traits for the potential of All-State Team designation, Varsity Team membership, and Lettering in the shogun sports.

Members of a high school clay target team may not be members of other clay target sports teams during the AlaskaYESS 2026-2027 Season.

RECRUITING:

It is the responsibility of every athlete to promote their team and recruit new members, particularly within the high school teams! Peer-to-peer recruiting is the most effective means of growing team membership. These new-to-shotgun sports athletes will be assigned to D or E Class by coaching staff but will register with USAYESS as Junior Varsity athletes.

HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION CLASSES: PROTOCOL FOR PLACEMENT & ADVANCEMENT:

Athletes who join a team after the Fall Series and are new to the sport or have no performance history will generally be placed in D or E Class for competition. Classes will be set with the 2026 Fall Series based on their Series total percentage of targets, according to the policy below.

1. The Fall Sporting Clays Series results will be posted as highest to lowest score, *without* Class assignments, for the first two events. Following the 3rd event, Classes will be assigned, and awarded, based on the final total percentage of all three events. Results for each event will be posted By Class within 24 hours of the awards ceremony.
2. Athletes will start the next Series in the Class based on their total percentage from the previous Series.
3. If they shoot a percentage that is 2 Classes lower than their current Class, they will be assigned to the next lower Class for the next Series, unless there are extenuating circumstances, approved by the Shoot Administrator, such as physical injury or a death in the family.
4. An athlete may not be assigned more than one Class higher or lower.
5. Athletes will start the next Season (2027-2028) in the Class they competed in at State Championship, or the last Series they participated in. New athletes will be assigned to either D or E Class by coaching staff for the first Series they compete in and will be assigned to a new Class for their next Series as determined in rule #2.
6. By-Class competitions are all-inclusive, non-gender distinctions.
7. Initially there will be 7 Classes: Master, AA, A, B, C, D, E. Additional Classes may be added to maintain a proper Class size for fairness and recognition prior to first shot in any given Series.
8. Senior Varsity athletes are expected to maintain B Class or better in competition performance.

ATHLETE AWARDS & RECOGNITION:

There will be one First-In-Class award in every Class for every tournament.

Athletes who earn Master Class will receive a Master Class medal no matter what Class they are assigned to. They will not be eligible for a medal in their assigned Class in addition to the Master Class.

All 3 events in each Series will count towards HAA and HAA Runner-Up by Class awards. Athletes must participate in all 3 events in the Series for their scores to count towards HAA. Results will be posted for each event by total score within 24 hours of the event.

An athlete's progress may also be recognized through the AlaskaYESS Marksmanship Program according to their performance in competition, whether AKYESS sanctioned or NGB-sanctioned. Marksmanship is not earned through practice targets. Athletes will receive their backtags for Marksmanship patches upon earning their first Entry patch in any discipline. These awards are paid for by the team, and athletes are expected to wear their backtag on the back of their team vest during competitions.

AlaskaYESS strongly recommends that athletes participate in registered NGB events as often as possible. All competitions are great training and experience outside of team practices.

2026-2027 AlaskaYESS Season Lettering Criteria

The following criteria must be met to qualify for a Series or year-end high school Letter. Athletes may receive a Series Letter by meeting the criteria below. End-of-Season high school traditional chenille letters may be awarded to qualifying athletes following the Spring Series, based on the criteria below.

BY SERIES:

1. Meet all the basic requirements stated above.
2. Maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA through the course of the Series, with no D's, F's, or U's. Progress reports must be submitted for Lettering at least 2 weeks prior to the end of each Series.
3. Complete the Series as an active member of the team, competing in all scheduled competitive events throughout the Series, and making 90% of scheduled practices with the team. (Practicing on your own does not count for team practice.)
4. Must have a thorough understanding of the rules of each Discipline of the Series: Trap includes Wobble and Double Trap; Skeet includes Double Skeet and Sport Skeet; Sporting Clays includes 5-Stand, Sporting Clays, and Double Sporting.
5. A Fall or Winter Series Letter requires a minimum of 14 hours of volunteer work at the annual gun show in December.

BY END-OF-SEASON:

1. Meet all the basic requirements stated in this document, including all the requirements for By Series Lettering.
2. Earn at least 2 out of 3 Series Lettering awards.
3. Complete Skeet, Trap, and Sporting Clays Series as an active member of the team, competing in all scheduled competitive events throughout the 2026-2027 Season.
4. Must have attained Senior Varsity status by the end of the 2026-2027 Season. Senior Varsity athletes are expected to maintain B Class or better in competition performance.
5. Show marked improvement in practice and competition scores over the course of the 2026-2027 Season.
6. Must be able to competently act as a trapper/scorer for all the competitive disciplines of each Series.
7. Must compete in all events of the 2027 AlaskaYESS State Championship.
8. Must have participated in any and all team fundraisers, community service events, and team meetings.

Exceptions to any of these requirements will be at the discretion of the coaching staff, provided the exception can be supported and is without bias or favoritism, and must be approved, in writing, by the State Administrator's Office.

Either the Head Coach or the Team Manager will present a list of athletes who should be awarded Letters to their high school Athletic Director's office within two weeks of completing the season and will make arrangements to pick up the Letters and/or pins and distribute them to the appropriate athlete(s) during a team ceremony, which may be held at a practice, at State Championship, or at the discretion of the Head Coach.

All loaner shotguns, team vests, and any borrowed equipment must be returned in good condition prior to receipt of Letters.

I therefore certify with my signature below that I have read and understand this Policy for Team Membership and Lettering Criteria and agree to the requirements stated in this document as well as any documents required for membership for the 2026-2027 Season.

(athlete printed name) (athlete signature) Date: _____

(parent printed name) (parent signature) Date: _____