

Farrer MAHS Clay Target Shooting Information



Farrer has a long tradition in supporting students' personal development and welfare through sporting endeavours. Since 2012 Farrer has had a Clay Target Shooting Program. This program stresses responsibility, personal development, self-discipline, healthy competition and of course, gun safety.

Some of our students have had experience with shooting before joining this program, mainly hunting using rifles; others have not shot regularly before or not at all. Regardless of previous shooting experience all students are trained and coached in the skills particular to the use of shotguns to shoot clay targets. Training is provided by qualified coaches and experienced shooters.

This program is facilitated and subsidised by the Tamworth Clay Target Club (Tamworth CTC) and its members. All shooters, after their initial trial period, are expected to join the Tamworth CTC unless they are already members of another Australian Clay Target Association (ACTA) club.

Requirements to participate in Clay Target Shooting.

Try before committing to the sport.

Students may try Clay Target Shooting by filling in a permission note which includes a code of conduct AND a NSW Firearms Registry P650 form which allows access to the range under direct individual supervision. This will allow the student **three opportunities to try Clay Target shooting in a three month period**. Each time the student shoots will cost approximately \$16. Should the student decide not to pursue this sport the student's permission note and P650 will lapse. (The student can re-try the sport following the same process **once** more, but not in the same calendar year).

- **It is expected that the student take responsibility for obtaining the relevant forms from, and return them to, the shooting coordinator, (currently Mr Wade). If a student is not capable of doing this themselves they are not responsible enough to be shooting on a public range.**
- **Any student who is not on a positive colour level OR is demonstrating poor or irresponsible behaviour in any area of school life will not be allowed to shoot.**
- **Students must have turned 12 before they can shoot on an ACTA ground.**
- **Students must be physically strong enough to safely manage a competition shotgun.**

As of 2018, there will be no P650 shooters after the term 2 leave weekend. The exception to this is a year 7 student waiting to turn 12 who cannot shoot before this time due to age. Students in this situation must apply to the Shooting Coordinator for an exemption PRIOR to the term 2 leave weekend.

Requirements for continuing to shoot

If a student decides to continue to shoot.

- The student must have presented a signed permission note which includes a code of conduct. This will need to be renewed every two years OR if there is a change to DEC requirements.
- From 2017, each shooter will have to pay a \$30 annual Farrer Shooter's Levy. This will provide replacement equipment such as spare hearing protection and club shooting vests, as well as covering incidental costs in running the program. This levy will need to be paid to the school prior to the first leave weekend in term 1 for continuing shooters OR prior to regular shooting for new shooters, (i.e. after using up the three trial practise shoots, see above).
- The student must obtain a Minor's Permit from NSW Police Firearms Registry. This will remain valid until 3 months after the student turns 18. The student must do a safety course and the parents/carers must apply direct to the NSW Firearms Registry for the Minor's Permit. Safety Courses are conducted periodically at the school when trainers are available or can be done via private providers. The cost for the Permit in 2016 is \$75; the cost for Safety Courses varies depending on the provider.

- The student must join the Tamworth CTC, or another club, and the ACTA. Student's must maintain these memberships and provide evidence to the organising teachers of their currency. This must be done annually. The cost of membership in 2018 is \$80.
- The student must remain on positive levels in the school discipline system, (Green, Bronze, Silver or Gold)
- The student must not be demonstrating poor or irresponsible behaviours in **any area of school life**. Any decision to ban a student for a period of time will be made by the team manager.
- All school levies for transport must be paid.

Practise Days

Most Wednesday afternoons during term time students can sign up to do shooting. Students sign up in a booklet at the duty office **prior** to lunchtime on the day of the practise. There are limited slots available so it is 'first in best dressed'. The amount of students we can cater for on any given day varies depending on availability of transport and time of year, (in winter we run out of light earlier). Cost for practise is currently \$16 which pays for targets and ammunition but this may vary slightly over time. **Practise is conducted under the supervision of experienced adult shooters and coaches.**

Competition shooting

It is expected that all continuing shooters will be aiming to shoot competition. Students will not be allowed to shoot competition until such time as the organising staff are satisfied that they are ready to do this. A student must learn the etiquette of competition and how to referee and score. The student must have demonstrated at practise that they habitually follow all gun safety procedures relevant to competition clay target shooting. The judgement as to whether a student is ready to shoot will **not** be made on the basis of how good the student's practise scores are going. It will be expected that students attend a Tamworth CTC shoot as a helper to observe competition protocols prior to shooting their first competition.

Normally students will have access to one or two competition shoots per term. Most competition shoots available to students will be at the Tamworth CTC, however occasionally the students will be offered the opportunity to do an 'away' shoot at another club. Most shoots at the Tamworth CTC are provided with free nominations for local juniors, this is a subsidy from the club of approximately \$40. 'Away' shoots normally require juniors to pay a nomination fee. At all shoots accessed through the Farrer Clay Target program, the students will be provided appropriate ammunition at cost. NOTE: Once a student has their ACTA membership they are entitled to shoot at any ACTA club and parents/carers can organise this for them.

Transport

All transport to and from Clay Target Shooting will be in school buses. Parents/carers can transport students if they wish and pick the students up from the club/shoot. Students who will not be using the transport provided should communicate this to the organising teachers, but should sign up so that ammunition and guns can be organised for them.

Shooting Disciplines

There are many shooting disciplines in Clay Target Shooting. At Farrer we concentrate on Down-The-Line Trap (DTL). In 2016 a small group of our more experienced boys had the opportunity to try ISSF (Olympic) Trap, a much harder discipline. We hope to expand the range of shooting options into the future. Currently the organising staff are looking at including Ball Trap, Sporting and Skeet into our program.

Equipment

Guns

We do not have the facilities to store guns or ammunition at the school. The Tamworth CTC loans club guns (Beretta Silver Pigeons) to the students to use. This is provided by the Tamworth CTC free of charge, however there is only a limited number of these guns available. A small number of our current shooters use guns provided by family members. Whilst we will support and encourage students to do this, the school and organisers can take no responsibility for care and transport of these guns.

Ammunition

Students are provided quality ammunition at cost. This cost will vary over time, however currently our ammunition is being provided by Calibre Country Gun Shop in Tamworth at a big discount off rrp. This is a considerable saving for the students. However, should family members choose to provide ammunition for the junior shooter, that family member will take responsibility for the ammunition. All ammunition must be factory loads, no reloads are permitted when shooting with a school group.

Shooting Vests, Hearing Protection, Shooting Glasses

All necessary equipment is provided on loan by the Tamworth Clay Target Club. Students who decide to continue to participate in the sport are encouraged to purchase their own hearing protection and shooting glasses. This can be done by parents or through the organising teachers.

If a student decides to purchase their own shooting vest we encourage students to purchase a Khaki or Green vest as it will match other team vests. It can then be embroidered with the school crest and student's name etc. This is done via the organising teachers, at cost.

Uniform

Practise days are treated like any other sports training, students can choose what to wear, however it must be in line with the expectations of the ACTA and Farrer MAHS. Most students attend practise in school uniform as they leave for this straight after school.

Competition days are days in which the student's represent Farrer MAHS and the Tamworth CTC.

The following is the uniform guidelines for competition days.

- A yellow Farrer sports shirt, (or as an alternative, Farrer Clay Target Club shirts are available, currently \$35).
- From Term 3 2016, a Farrer Clay Target cap (\$15) will be required for competition. This cap is only uniform for shooting and is not to be worn for other sports.
- Black sports shorts, Farrer green tracksuit pants or neat blue jeans
- In cold weather, Farrer tracksuits, jumpers and shell jackets should be worn.
- Consideration for other apparel will be made when shooting in more extreme weather conditions at the discretion of the organising teachers.
- NOTE: Covered shoes are required under ACTA rules. No camouflage patterns on any clothing is allowed on practise or comp days under ACTA rules.

Contacts

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