

2019

# **Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association**

## **Youth Trap Teams**



## **Policies & Procedures Handbook**

**MCF&GPA  
PO BOX 1042  
Mariposa, Ca. 95338**

**Range-  
Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association  
4443 Old Highway  
Mariposa, Ca. 95338**



## **Section 1 Introduction**

### **A. The Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association Youth Trap Team**

The Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association currently has two youth Trap teams; The Mariposa Grizzlies Trap team & the Mariposa Youth Trap Team. The Mariposa Grizzlies Trap Team, & Mariposa Youth Trap Teams (to be called Youth Trap Team (YTT) for the remainder of this document) are a division of the Mariposa County Fish and Game Protective Association (MCF&GPA) which is a 501(C) (3) non profit organization, which promotes and supports co-ed youth activities of the mariposa community and surrounding communities in the sportsman like shooting of trap, skeet, and sporting clays. The YTT is governed by the Executive Committee which is governed by a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Board of Directors, here after referred to as the Executive Committee.

### **B. President**

The MCF&GPA President is an unpaid position and is elected by a majority vote of the MCF&GPA membership to run the day to day operations of the Association

### **C. Purpose and design of the YTT**

The YTT is a team based Youth development program for school aged youths (grades 3 through 12) which uses participation in the shooting sports to provide it's participants with a positive, life enhancing experience and is designed to instill in them a set of personal values or character traits that teaches fair play, individual responsibility, sportsmanship, self-discipline and personal commitment-qualities that will serve them well throughout their lives and will be instrumental in helping each participant reach their full potential.

YTT activities are designed to incorporate two indispensable elements-SAFE and FUN. YTT participants, led by trained and dedicated coaches, are taught the safe and responsible handlings and use of firearms. The learning environment at team practices and at competitive shoots, is designed to include the element of fun for all participants. Participants discover the joy of contributing to a shared team goal and the commitment that goes along with it. During this self discovery process, participants develop proficiency in a sport that can be shared and enjoyed with family and friends for a life time.

Competition is clearly a part of the YTT program, but it is NOT the main emphasis of the program. The "win at all costs" philosophy has no place in this program. Striving to win while playing by the rules does. Participants are encouraged to set goals for improving their skills and contribute to the team.

Honoring the game, exhibiting good sportsmanship and being a responsible team member are primary values MCF&GPA wishes to instill in its participant. It is the duty of everyone involved in the MCF&GPA and YTT-coaches, parents, and participants to familiarize themselves with the rules in this handbook and to uphold the high moral and ethical standards of personal conduct that participating in the shooting sports requires.

### **D. Sanctioned Shooting Discipline and Seasons**

The MCF&GPA offers opportunities for teams to participate in the Clay Target Program in the shooting sports of Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays. All registered YTT participants shall represent the MCF&GPA program at any designated clay-sport competition event within the CYSSA program, or any other clay sport competition event identified for participation requested by the MCF&GPA Board and/or coaching staff during the current year shooting season. Should any registered YTT participant choose to represent themselves outside their registration within the YTT program at an identified and approved clay sport competition event by the MCF&GPA board and / or coaching staff, during the current year shooting season without board approval, then immediate expulsion shall occur.

The administrative year begins on January 1 and ends at the Grand American Championship in August, if required. Signups for participants will be held the last week in October through the last week in December. Weekly practices will begin in January and will continue until the State championship in June or Nationals in July.

## **Section II – General Requirements**

### **A. Participation**

#### **A.1 Student Status and Age Eligibility**

All school age youths in grades 3 through 12 with the physical, mental and emotional maturity to participate in a team shooting sport are eligible to participate. Participants must be students enrolled in a public or private accredited school or enrolled in a bona fide home school program. Eligibility ends with graduation from high school or once a student reaches his or her 20<sup>th</sup> birthday, whichever comes first. The MCF&GPA Board may grant a variance for the age requirement in view of special circumstances. High school participants graduating in the fall or spring semester of the current season are eligible to complete the entire season.

#### **A.2 Competitive Divisions and Categories**

Divisions and Categories are designed to allow participants the opportunity of competing on a level playing field with one another. Grade level in school and years of participation-not age –within a division are the criteria used. Home schooled students 15 years of age or older must compete in the Senior Division. Grade and age determinations are as of September 1st.

Rookie Division (Grades 5 and under)

Intermediate Division (Grades 6 through 8)

Entry Level Category -1<sup>st</sup> year of participation in the Intermediate Division

Advanced Category–After one year of participation in the Intermediate Division

Senior Division (Grades 9 through 12)

Junior Varsity Category-1<sup>st</sup> year of participation in the Senior Division

Varsity Category –After one year of participation in the Senior Division

#### **A.2.1 New Participant Requirement(s)**

New participants, who do not possess a California Hunter Safety Card, MUST attend in-house gun safety instruction BEFORE approaching the shooting line, Any participant or Parent/Guardian may request Gun Safety instruction at any time.

### **A.3 Fees and Costs**

Each participant is responsible for his/her funding including but not limited to the MCF&GPA membership fee, practice ammunition and travel.

***PRACTICE NIGHT PROGRAM FEES: Per participant, \$10.00 due each Practice night to treasurer upon sign in.***

***If a participant fails to notify his/her coach prior to a competitive shoot of their impending absence, the parent will be responsible for lost entry fees incurred. Failure to pay for this loss shall remove the participant from the next scheduled shoot.***

### **A.4 Competitive Registration Deadline**

The deadline for registration to be eligible to compete in the state shoot is one month prior to the state shoot.

### **A.5 Forms**

All participants and potential participants interested in becoming a member of the MCF&GPA Youth Trap program, must fill out the Consent Waiver, Medical Consent, and Sportsmanship contract, and any other forms designated, and pay all applicable fees in order to participate in the YTT program. These completed forms and fees are to be held by the Treasurer until the new participant has participated in a maximum of two practices at which time the participant must decide to either join OR decline. The registration forms must be held on file and fees paid in full prior to that individual participating in the YTT program. Should the participant decide after the second practice to decline joining the team the fees will be returned, and the forms will be shredded.

### **A.6 Fundraising & Participation**

Participants are REQUIRED to participate in all fund-raising events. Fund raisers are necessary in which to cover costs associated in running the YTT program. Participants are required to volunteer for a minimum of 8 hours during club functions, and/or range clean up days. Participants and their Parents/guardians are required to attend a minimum of 2 Club dinners each year.

### **A.7 Sign-Up Deadline**

The deadline for new participants to sign-up will be January 1 of each year.

## **B. Squads**

### **B.1 Squad Composition**

All participants must be members of a squad. Squads are determined by the Head Coach.

### **B.2 Regular Practices**

MCF&GPA will hold weekly practices for its YTT Participants. Each participant is required to attend a minimum of six (6) official practices as approved by the coaches and shoot a minimum of twenty-five (25) targets at each session to be eligible to shoot in the State Championship event. Fun Shoots are not to be counted as practices.

### **B.3 Bump up Rule**

In a competition where a team would not otherwise be able to field a competitive squad (a competitive squad is five (5) participants in trap and three (3) in skeet and sporting

clays who are of the same category or division) in a particular division or category, a lower division category participant or participants may be elevated or “bumped-up” to fill that squad. The squad, collectively, then assumes the identity of the highest ranked division or category squad member for that event only. Those individuals that were bumped-up are only eligible for awards in the higher division and category that he/she was bumped up to for that event only.

A participant may also compete on a mixed squad (a squad made up of different divisions and categories) or a short squad (one that is not full) and maintain their individual classification. Those mixed or short squads are not competitive squads, but the individual participants are eligible for individual awards in their respective division and category.

#### **B.4 Special Teams**

Competition team event participants, representing MCF&GPA, outside/not associated with the CYSSA program, shall be derived from various historical factors, reviewed by coaching staff (based upon relationship with Participant in question), finalized upon board decision.

### **Section III- Safety Requirements**

#### **A. Personal Safety**

##### **A.1 Eyes and Ears**

All participants must wear appropriate eye protection when on the shooting line. All participants and anyone on the shooting field must wear appropriate ear protection during practices and competition.

##### **A.2 Footwear**

All participants must wear closed toe footwear while on the shooting field.

##### **A.3 Toe Pads**

The use of toe pads or the resting of the firearm barrels on any part of the foot is strictly prohibited.

##### **A.4 Muzzle Control**

While on a shooting post or station, the muzzle must never cross any part of the shooters anatomy or any other person’s anatomy.

#### **B. Range Safety**

##### **B.1 Firearm Actions**

All participants must keep firearms unloaded with the actions open at all times except when they are on the firing line and it’s their turn to shoot. When changing stations during and event each participant’s firearm must be unloaded with the action open

##### **B.2 Loading the firearm**

No participant may close the action of their shotgun until the PREVIOUS shooter has completed their shot unless otherwise permitted by the Head Coach. At no time will anyone load a shot-shell into a firearm at any location other than the firing line.

##### **B.3 Muzzle Control**

It is recommended that participants carry auto-loaders and pump shotgun with the barrel up and above the brim of the hat.

##### **B.4 Weather**

Events are normally held “rain or shine”. Events may be canceled due to bad weather if in the opinion of the range officials; the weather poses a safety risk, such as lightning.

##### **B.5 Auto-loader Ejection**

Use of a shell catcher or other casing controlling device is required for use the auto-loading/ejecting shot guns.

### **B.6 Shell Bags**

The use of shell bags is strongly recommended for all participants during practice and competition.

### **B.7 Participant's Ability**

Participants must be fully able to function and operate their firearm in order to participate. On review of the participant's inability to safely operate their firearm, the coaching staff has the right to remove the shooter from the program.

This is an extremely cut version of the safety & Range Rules for a complete version of the range rules and requirements-refer to the Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association Standard Operating Procedures which may be found on any of the three club ranges.

## **Section IV-Personal Conduct**

### **A. Appropriate Dress Code**

Each participant, coach and assistant coach represents MCF&GPA. Promoting a positive image is in the best interest of everyone involved.

#### **A.1 Tops**

Items of clothing that expose any part of the torso are prohibited. Cut off t-shirts, halter tops, muscle shirts or torn clothes are prohibited.

#### **A.2 Bottoms**

Short shorts (in-seams must be at least 5"), low riding shorts or pants revealing undergarments or buttocks are prohibited.

#### **A.3 Shoes**

Closed toed shoes must be worn at all times. No sandals or flip flops will be allowed.

#### **A.4 Team Colors**

All participants shall wear their issued shirt and hat at any sanctioned competition.

### **B. Attitude/Conduct**

**B.1** Acts of using abusive or profane language, displaying unsportsmanlike conduct, including but not limited to arguing with scorekeepers/referees/RSO's, unsafe handling/use of firearms, disrupting a competitor, cheating by participants, coaches, adult volunteers or parents will not be tolerated and are grounds for athletes disqualification from an event or suspension and/or expulsion from the YTT program. Participants, coaches, volunteers, & parents are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages or using drugs while on the MCF&GPA Range, this will not be tolerated during practice or competitive events and are grounds for suspension, disqualification or expulsion from the program/event.

**B.2** All participants, coaches, parents, and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times by displaying courtesy, consideration, and good sportsmanship, win or loose, to all team members, coaches, competitors and officials.

**B.3** Breaches of the spirit as well as to the letter of the MCF&GPA rules constitutes grounds for suspension, disqualification, and/or expulsion from the program.

**B.4** All reasons for disqualifications, suspensions or expulsions shall be reviewed by the MCF&GPA Board. The President upon decision of the Board may suspend or expel a participant, team, volunteer, parent, or coach from MCF&GPA or for other conduct, which, in his/her opinion, casts the MCF&GPA in disrepute or

constitutes a disruption to the program, whether or not the activity occurs during a club function (practice, fundraiser, etc) or competitive event. Upon the decision of the MCF&GPA board, the President shall render said MCF&GPA Board decision to the Claimant. The rendering of the MCF&GPA Board decision will be final.

### **Section V- Equipment**

#### **A. Shotguns**

**A.1** Any shotgun action type, 12 gauge or smaller, may be used as long as it is in a safe and workable condition. Shotguns used for all the shooting sports, except trap, must be able to shoot twice without being reloaded.

**A.2** Guns with trigger releases are prohibited.

**A.3** Choke tubes or shotgun barrels may not be changed during any sub-event with the exception being chokes in sporting clays.

**A.4** Lenses, optics, or other shooting scopes are prohibited.

**A.5** No exposed hammer break open guns allowed for competition

#### **B. Shot shells**

**B.1** Shot shells used in the trap, skeet and sporting clays, disciplines must meet the following specifications:

- A maximum shot charge of 1 1/8 oz. cannot exceed a velocity of 1,290 ft/sec. or

- A maximum shot charge of 1 oz. cannot exceed a velocity of 1,325 ft/sec. or

- A maximum shot charge of 7/8 oz. cannot exceed a velocity of 1,350 ft/sec.

There is no velocity standard for skeet or sporting clays

**B.2** Shot shells with a shot charge greater than 1 1/8 oz. and containing shot larger than #7 1/2 are prohibited in all disciplines.

**B.4** Shot shells containing nickel, steel or copper coated shot, tracer loads/wads, or black powders are prohibited in all disciplines. Factory Loads are recommended.

**B.5** MCF&GPA Youth Trap Team program only supports 12 & 20 Gauge ammunition for \*2018 any other gauge must be provided by the participant.

**B.6** 2018 Ammunition Law: No ammunition provided to any shooter by the Mariposa County Fish and Game Protective Association may be taken off the premises.

Ammunition as long as it is available will be distributed by the coaches at practice and shoots.

### **Section VI- Coaches and Coaching Staff**

*All Coaches, Assistant Coaches, & Volunteers must be MCF&GPA board approved.*

#### **A. Head Coach Requirements and Responsibilities**

The Head Coach must be 21 years of age or older. The Head Coach must hold an accepted current Coaching Credential and verify that all his/her Assist Coaches hold an accepted current coaching credential from one of the following:

- NSCA Level 1 or higher Instructor Certification
- NSSA Level 1 or higher Instructor Certification
- NRA/ATA Trap Coach Certification
- Team USA Shooting Coach Certification
- NRA Shotgun Instructor Certification
- 4-H Shooting Sports Shotgun Certification
- Boy Scouts Shotgun Instructor Certification



The Head Coach first and foremost is responsible to ENSURE THE SAFETY of all participants. The Head Coach must emphasize the safe handling and use of firearms.

The Head Coach is responsible for:

- Monitoring the participant's attendance at practices.
- Verifying the division and category information for each participant is correctly entered on the consent and waiver forms.
- Keeping the medical consent forms for each participant in his/her possession at all practices and shooting events
- Attending all competitive shooting events to supervise his/her teams. In the event the Head coach cannot be present, He/she must designate an assistant coach to provide supervision and leadership.
- For registering him/herself with any competitive shooting event.

The Head Coach is the primary point of contact between any competitive shooting event and the MCF&GPA Youth Trap Team.

The Head Coach must be approved by the MCF&GPA Board, is under direct supervision of the MCF&GPA Board.

The Head Coach must fill out the required registration form and CYSSA background check paperwork at the beginning of the season each year and mail with the required payment. The Head coach must supply MCF&GPA with a copy of his/her coaching credentials and background check form. Submissions are due by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **B. Assistant Coaches**

All Assistant Coaches must be approved by the MCF&GPA Board, are under direct supervision of the MCF&GPA Board and the Head Coach.

All Assistant coaches must fill out the required registration form and CYSSA background check paper work at the beginning of the season January 1<sup>st</sup>, of each year, and provide the required fees.

All Assistant coaches must supply MCF&GPA with a copy of his/her coaching credentials and background check form. Submissions are due by January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The Assistant coach's first and foremost responsibility is to ensure the safety of all participants and must emphasize the safe handling of firearms.

### **C. Volunteers**

All Volunteers must be approved by the MCF&GPA Board, are under direct supervision of the MCF&GPA Board and the Head Coach.

All volunteers who are in direct contact with the team must submit the required fees, and fill out the CYSSA background check paperwork at the beginning of the season January 1<sup>st</sup>, of each year. All Volunteers must supply MCF&GPA with a copy of his/her background check form. Submissions are due by January 1<sup>st</sup>, of each year.

### **Section VII-Sportsmanship Contract**

**The Mariposa County Fish and Game Protective Association Youth Trap Team Program (aka YTT) places a strong emphasis on sportsmanship and safety. As part of this effort, Parents/guardians are asked to read and discuss this contract with their child/athlete. This is a contract among the YTT, the parent/guardian and his/her child. The signatures on this form signify an agreement to comply with the provisions of this contract.**

#### **PARENTS:**

I understand the Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association Youth Trap Team Program's first and foremost priority is SAFETY with my child at all times. I will enforce the YTT safety standards with my child at all times. I will encourage my child and other team members to have fun. I will behave as a positive role model. Respect the goals of the YTT. And reinforce the character values of good sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-discipline. I agree to stay off the shooting field unless I am wearing the required safety equipment. Any problems or criticisms will be presented in a positive way to the coaches or a designated assistant. I will refrain from criticizing other shooters, coaches, using abusive language, or consuming alcohol or drugs before or during all YTT program activities that I attend. I understand that unsportsmanlike conduct on my part may result in my being asked to leave the area. Such actions on my part could also result in my child being disqualified or even removed from the YTT program.

#### **ATHLETES:**

***I understand shooting on the Mariposa County Fish and Game Protective Association Youth Trap Teams is a privilege.***

- I agree to act responsibly and obey all rules as specified in the MCF&GPA Youth Trap Teams Policy and Procedures Handbook while participating YTT activities.
- I will encourage and support my teammates, cooperate and show respect to my coaches, and represent the team in a positive manner both at practices and in competition. I will set specific attainable goals, attend practices with a positive attitude, practice food sportsmanship at all times, and conduct myself as a lady or gentleman at all times.
- I understand that un-sportsman's like behavior, use of illegal drugs or alcohol, or acts of violence on my part may result in my disqualification and even expulsion from the YTT program. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do. By signing this form, I affirm that I am academically eligible to participate in

extra-curricular activities as set forth by my school, that I have read and understand the behavioral standards for athletes as stated above, and that I agree to abide by the stipulations therein.

### **Section VIII- Miscellaneous**

Policies and procedures shall be reviewed yearly.  
These policies and procedures were approved on \_\_\_\_\_, and shall be held on file with the Secretary.

#### **Executive Board:**

President: Frank Posey  
Vice President: Roy Lancaster  
Secretary/Treasurer: Tamara Posey

#### **Directors:**

Don Nelson  
Larry Gregory  
Stephen Cole  
Roy Lancaster  
Christopher Posey (youth Committee Chairman)  
Owen Swart

#### **2019 Volunteers:**

Frank Posey (RSO)  
Tamara Posey (RSO)  
Roy Lancaster (RSO)  
Don Nelson (RSO)

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Website: [www.mariposafishandgame.com](http://www.mariposafishandgame.com)

#### **Credits:**

Los Banos Tigers Trap Team Policies and procedures Handbook  
CYSSA Handbook

**Parent/Legal Guardian Athlete Acknowledgement**



**This is a mandatory document for participation**

**By signing below**, you acknowledge you have received a copy of the Mariposa County Fish and Game Protective Associations Youth Trap Team **Policies & Procedures Handbook.**

**You also acknowledge** your understanding of, and, agreed compliance to the Mariposa County Fish and Game Protective Association Youth Trap Team **Policy & Procedures & the Youth Trap Team Sportsmanship Contract.** With further understanding that failure to adhere may result in immediate removal of you and any persons partied to the signatures below:

Mariposa County Fish & Game Protective Association Youth Trap Team Athlete  
Signature of Receipt & Acknowledgement:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print your name

Acting Parent/Guardian Signature of Receipt & Acknowledgement:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print your name