

## **BOOKLET NO. 2**

### **HOW TO RUN SMALL SHOOTS**

Clay target shooting is a well-established participant sport, both internationally and in Great Britain. The national governing body for English clay target shooting, the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association Ltd, was formed in 1928 and has been providing support for Clay Shooting clubs ever since.

Some forms of clay shooting are sufficiently difficult to warrant inclusion in the Olympic Games, but they can also be made easy enough to allow even the complete novice to break a satisfying number of targets during an hour or so of good, basic instruction.

For this reason, clay shooting at farm shoots, country shows and for charity events is increasing in popularity. Properly run, these events attract a large number of competitors of varying standards and generate considerable interest among spectators.

The Clay Pigeon Shooting Association (CPSA) has prepared this booklet to assist organisers in the selection of suitable grounds and equipment, as well as to offer advice on the actual running of such events.

#### **THE SITE**

For one or two shooting stands, a minimum of 5 hectares (something in excess of 10 acres) is needed. For larger shoots that may have up to 10 shooting positions, areas up to 15 hectares (over 30 acres) will be needed. All the space in which shot and clays may fall must be under the control of the shoot operator. Areas concerned must be either owned by the operator or they should have written consent to overshoot. The shooting area should not have any public footpaths, bridleways, navigated waterways, roads, railway lines etc., running through it. Consideration to the proximity of housing or public areas outside the shooting area should be given, in order to reduce the possibility of noise complaints.

#### **PLANNING**

Small shoots are typically run on agricultural land. As such, agricultural land has deemed planning consent for "other activities" including clay target shooting for 28 days in any given year under the 1964 General Development Order; commonly known as the 28 day GDO. A shoot proposed on any other land, say a golf course or at an hotel, would require planning consent and advice should be sought from the local planning office.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS**

The Environmental Health Officer of the local council's Health and Safety Executive should be notified of any shooting event. The primary concern will be that no noise nuisance is going to be created by the shoot and other considerations such as the direction

of shooting, proximity of housing and public places, duration and repeat frequency of the shoot will also be considered.

Shot must not fall into coastal foreshore or any reservoirs, waterways, ponds and lakes. If there is any doubt as to the effects of lead fallout finding its way into the water table, contact the local authority for advice.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (S.S.S.I.'s) and wetlands may have controls on lead shot fallout. Advice should be sought from English Nature: [www.englishnature.org.uk](http://www.englishnature.org.uk)

## **THE LAW**

Unless all persons attending the shoot are shotgun certificate holders, a police permit under Section 11(6) of the Firearms Act 1968 (commonly referred to as an 11(6) exemption permit), is required to allow non-certificate holders to acquire ammunition and be in possession of a shotgun under supervision. The permit application should be made to the Firearms Licensing Division of the local county police. The police may wish to inspect the site and are likely to apply National Governing Body guidelines (i.e. CPSA minimum safety requirements) in making their decision. The permit is issued in the name of an individual who is responsible for the supervision of all non-certificate holders using guns. Ammunition may be sold under an 11(6) certificate, but not removed from the site by non-certificate holders.

Very small private events at which non-certificate holders are present may take place with the landowner's permission in his/her (or appointees) presence, provided that this person is a certificate holder under Section 11(5) of the Firearms Act 1968. In practice, the CPSA would not recommend that this exemption is used unless the event is non-commercial and is of a very small size.

Shoot operators also have a duty in law to ensure that persons banned from owning or being in possession of a shotgun do not shoot. It is best practice for the ground to sign-in all non-shotgun certificate holders shooting within the 11(6) permit under a Section 21 declaration. This would state: *I the undersigned declare that I am not a person prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition under Section 21 of the firearms act 1968.* The act prohibits anyone who has had a custodial sentence of three months or more from for a period of five years, or if the sentence is over three years a ban for life on owning or possessing a shotgun.

Any event that is commercial (and this includes charity events) and that has more than five persons deemed to be employees (whether paid or not) must have a written risk assessment. This will include a First Aid assessment and any risks associated with young persons (aged under 18 years). The written risk assessment should be summarised in a Safety Policy Statement prepared by the shoot operator. Help with this can be obtained from the local council Health and Safety Executive in their leaflet entitled **5 Steps to Risk Assessment**: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns>.

## **SAFETY**

Safety is of paramount importance. A Safety Officer should be appointed at every shoot. The CPSA trains Safety Officers and also provides Instructor and Coaches qualifications. CPSA Club Safety Officers have all the knowledge necessary to control a shoot safely and most CPSA qualified Instructors/Coaches are also trained Safety Officers.

General safety issues on running a shoot are explained in detail in our free booklet number 4 named "The CPSA Safety Guide", with further comprehensive details in our publication "The Safety Officers Manual" as well as H&S information on our ground operators CD Rom.

## **GROUND AFFILIATION TO THE CPSA**

Shooting grounds can be affiliated to the CPSA. This means that they have a CPSA trained Safety Officer who has certified that the ground possesses the minimum safety requirements. Contact CPSA HQ for Safety Course details and Affiliation forms. Feasibility inspections on new land and advisory safety inspections of established shoots can also be arranged by the CPSA. A fee is charged for these services and more information is available from CPSA Head Office. Affiliated clubs may also benefit from specialist shoot ground insurance and more information on this appears later in this publication.

## **OFFICIALS**

The CPSA holds a database of trained Referees, Safety Officers, Instructors and Coaches. Where novices are involved, the CPSA recommends they are supervised by qualified Instructors or Coaches, either one to one, or in squads of typically not more than 5 per coach. Contact CPSA HQ for details of qualified persons in your area.

## **CHILD PROTECTION**

The CPSA offers member clubs a Child Protection Policy, and can arrange for National Criminal Record Bureau checks on club officials. All CPSA officials cleared in the scheme have details of their clearance held on the CPSA HQ database, and confirmation of their status on the register is available on application to CPSA HQ.

## **EQUIPMENT**

### **TRAPS**

Unless a more permanent shooting ground is envisaged, which is beyond the scope of this booklet, (see CPSA publication "How to form a Clay Pigeon Club"), the most basic type of target thrower (trap) is one that is portable and may be mounted on a tripod or sledge. These traps include a seat for the operator (trap operative) and are manually operated.

They are relatively light in weight and some models can be dismantled to fit into the boot of a small car.

The simplest manual trap will throw a single target at various angles and a fixed speed, while the more sophisticated will be adjustable for speed and may be capable of throwing two targets simultaneously at variable heights and angles. They may be designed to throw special targets such as rabbits, or can be adapted for a variety of target types and sizes.

Most of these traps are cocked by hand, but there are some available that are foot operated, which makes life much easier for the trap operative. However, because of the degree of physical effort required and the potential danger inherent in the use of all such machines, it is recommended that only adults or older teenagers (over minimum school leaving age – M.S.L.A.) be assigned the job of trapping, and that anybody operating a trap receives specific training in the use of the equipment.

Portable automatic traps are now increasingly popular. Battery operated “single stackers” with a magazine holding 50-75 clays will fit into an estate car, whereas a full rotating turret machine holding 200 or more clays can be wheelbarrow based for portability and transported in a light van or trailer.

## **SHOOTING ENCLOSURES**

It is recommended that shooting positions have their arc of fire limited by shooting enclosures.

These enclosures restrict gun movement and reduce the chance of a shooter firing in an unintentional direction, or turning with a loaded gun. Consideration to the limits of left and right fire, high targets (top bar on the cage) and the capabilities of left-handed shooters need to be considered when positioning or building an enclosure. Enclosures can be purpose-made from metal or plastic or constructed of wood and other natural materials. Straw bales are often used and may be useful in noise reduction if the stand is large enough to encompass the muzzle flash of the gun.

Although smaller shooting stand areas are used in competitions for experienced shots, shoots that have novices should have enclosures with at least 1.2m square shooting areas to allow a coach good access in the enclosure with the shooter. This size will also be large enough for disabled shooters.

If there is a restraining bar across the front of the enclosure to ensure a shooter does not lean out of the enclosure, this bar should not be above knee height. This will allow guns to be lowered quickly to a safe position without hindrance.

## **SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

Shoot operators have a duty of care in law to do all that is reasonable and practicable to mitigate risk. All shooters and other persons within 20m of the shooting position must wear eye and ear protection.

Hearing damage resulting from shotgun discharge without hearing protection is gradual but permanent and can result in premature hearing loss and Tinnitus. Shoot organisers should have loan earmuffs or disposable earplugs available to all those who need them attending a shoot.

The CPSA also recommends all persons in the vicinity of shooting wear eye and ear protection as well as head protection from falling clays. Trap operatives must be equipped with suitable Personal Protective Equipment (P.P.E.) which may include gloves, eye, ear and head protection, suitable clothing, and a red safety flag for signalling. The shoot should also have an audible sound signal to stop shooting (e.g. horn, whistle etc.) and suitable safety notices as appropriate.

A range of safety notices is available from the CPSA - see the end of this booklet. The shoot should also have the route between shooting stands clearly defined and the use of barrier tape or ropes is recommended where permanent fences, hedges or topography do not separate safe and dangerous areas.

## **ORGANISING THE SHOOT**

### **SAFETY**

Whilst the main object is that everybody has fun, attention to safety requirements is of paramount importance and cannot be over-emphasised. It should be remembered that shotguns could be lethal to human life at all ranges up to and beyond 200 metres and that injury can be caused as a result of being struck by pellets at distances greater than this. For this reason, the CPSA recommends that an Exclusion Zone of at least 275m (300 yards) be provided in every direction in which it is anticipated any shots will be fired. Don't forget the real beginners and that left-handed shooters may shoot in directions other than those anticipated when the shoot is laid out!

### **DIRECTION OF SHOOTING**

There are a number of things that will go a long way towards ensuring an enjoyable and successful shoot. Whenever possible, the shooting enclosures should be set up so that the competitors are never forced to shoot towards the sun. This means positioning the traps and shooting enclosures so that the shooter is generally facing north to northeast.

### **BACKGROUND**

Where the background is the sky, black targets are ideal. However, if the clays are flying against a dark background of trees or hills, the black clays will prove extremely difficult to see. Under these conditions it is best to use orange, white or yellow targets.

## **NOISE**

Noise is a very important consideration. Animals in a field a hundred metres away will pay little attention to shotgun discharge that is directed away from them, but they will not like either clays or shots directed toward them.

Poultry is particularly vulnerable in this respect and care must be exercised to ensure that shooting is conducted at a reasonable distance away from any building where they may be housed.

It should also be borne in mind that shots fired directly away from relatively close houses are likely to be less intrusive than shots fired directly toward houses much further away. Because of this and the potential noise problems, it is a good idea if the clay shooting area gets first choice on any site made available for a multi-activity event.

Careful observation of these points is very important, particularly if it is intended that the area be used again.

## **CARTRIDGES**

Cartridges can only be sold on the production of a valid shotgun certificate. Alternatively, if the ground has a section 11(6) permit, they may be sold for use on the ground, but not for removal unless the purchaser has a shotgun certificate.

Where an Instructor/Coach is accompanying a novice, it is normal that they have the cartridges in their care and that the novices do not handle them.

Agricultural land may want only fibre wadded cartridges to be used and, if so, an exchange policy might be used for regular shooters turning up with plastic wad cartridges.

The CPSA recommends that only shot sizes 6 and above, (the lower the number the heavier the shot), are used and that the maximum load is 28g (1oz). Game cartridges are discouraged.

For have-a-go days, training and charity events, light load trainer cartridges (24g) are likely to be a good choice, with lower recoil, less noise and a cost saving to the shoot organiser.

Low noise, sub-sonic cartridges can reduce noise by up to 5dB in noise sensitive locations. This is a significant reduction and these cartridges also have the benefit of lower recoil for beginners.

Shoot organisers must always be aware of not allowing cartridge calibres to be mixed. A 20-bore cartridge dropped into a 12-bore gun will fall down the barrel and lodge there, with the chamber appearing empty. The unobservant shooter might then load and fire a 12-bore cartridge with the probable result being a blown gun and possible bodily injury.

Shoot organisers must also be aware that older side-by-side guns might not be chambered for modern 70mm cartridges. Shorter 65mm cartridges should be made available for sale

on a ground where older guns may be frequently used, and these are also perfectly safe in modern 70mm (or magnum 75mm) chambered guns.

## **SETTING UP THE SHOOTING ENCLOSURES**

Given that a site is judged to be suitable, organisers are then left with the problem of how best to utilise the available space, taking into account the minimum exclusion zone recommended by the CPSA. It is surprising how many shooting enclosures may be fitted into a relatively small area, although the CPSA recommends a separation of at least 20m between adjacent enclosures. Every enclosure should have a fully competent Referee in charge of it as it is not sufficient to have one person in charge of three different enclosures, for instance. Alternatively, a squadding system may be employed where an instructor/coach or scorer accompanies a group of shooters around the course and supervises them at each enclosure in turn.

Small shoots typically run between 25 and 50 targets per round and between 5 and 10 shots at each stand is normal, giving anything from 3 to 6 enclosures in use. Competition shoots of 100 targets typically employ 10 to 14 enclosures.

Enclosures should be positioned to take into account other shooting enclosures, public areas and housing, direction of fire, noise distribution and the landing areas of both clays and shot. Stands should not be set so as to allow a shooter at one stand to see flying clays from another – this could cause confusion as to which targets are intended for any given shooting position.

A written notice on each stand should advise the shooter of the targets, for example “Crossing pair of midis L to R” or similar suitable description.

Other stand variations include a Sportrap layout with 5 shooting enclosures in a line around 15m long with 4 to 6 trap positions spread around. Each shooter will shoot at 4 or 5 targets or combinations from each shooting position to cover 20-25 targets in a round. The combination varies at each shooting enclosure according to a “menu” listing the trap positions.

Flushes may be run from adjacent stands, where a group of traps throw a number of clays in a short time and the competitors try to shoot as many as possible within a time frame or cartridge quantity. Unless they are experienced shots, it is advisable to have someone to supervise each shooter in a flush squad (containing two or more shooters) who can also act as the cartridge loader.

## **SCORING SYSTEMS**

The most popular system is 1 hit = 1 point, with a miss = 0 points. This is usually recorded on a scorecard as “ / ” for a hit and “O” for a loss or miss. This is to make altering of cards to falsely record a score more difficult.

A larger number of stands may be beyond the ambition of most first-time shoot organisers. For small shoots one or two stands can be made sufficiently interesting using a scoring system as follows:-

Breaking a single target with first barrel scores two points and with the second barrel (full use of the gun), scores one point. Breaking a single target of the pair also scores one point, while breaking both scores three. Of course, any variation on this theme may be employed, but it is suggested that the scoring scheme for every stand is displayed on a written notice at the stand.

To add further interest, a good idea is that of the “bonus target”. This needs to be a target of a completely different colour or size to the rest, thrown by the trap operatives at their discretion, so that each shooter gets one in his series of targets. Hitting this target is worth two points (a bonus of an extra point). Of course, on a ten- target stand this will mean eleven points are possible.

For more ambitious events, the use of two traps at some or all of the stands can make a competition interesting enough for a shooter of any standard.

### **TARGET TRAJECTORIES**

The easiest stands to set up are generally “going away” and “quartering” stands. Traps are behind the exclusion zone, whereas trap operatives/equipment are in the safe zone. As with any trap position, consideration needs to be given as to where fragments of clays might fly if they break whilst being released from the trap. Trap positions, barriers and exclusion zones should be appropriate for this eventuality.

Crossers, rabbits (clays rolling along the ground) and driven clays may have trapping positions in the shooting area. Trap operatives and equipment must be suitably protected i.e. red flags and adequately protected hides, together with a system to stop shooting when the traps need servicing or the trap operatives need a break.

Driven clays, those coming towards shooters and high targets off banks or towers, need special consideration as to the landing zone of unbroken clays and also where shards of clays might fly when they are broken.

### **TYPES OF EVENT**

Small shoots might be arranged for any number of reasons. The following is a list of typical applications:

#### **THE SYNDICATE SHOOT**

A group of shooters who organise a shoot on a DIY basis. All participants assist in set up and break down of equipment and the shooters take it in turns to trap and score. This is usually the lowest cost style of shoot, all costs being shared and no outside employment is involved.



## **THE HAVE-A-GO**

Often in association with game fairs, country shows, steam fairs etc. One or more enclosures supervised by an Instructor. Participants pay an entry fee for a set number of shots, usually 10 or 20 per try, and have the opportunity to try out clay shooting under instruction. Qualified CPSA Instructors and Coaches are listed on the CPSA website, [www.cpsa.co.uk](http://www.cpsa.co.uk)

## **STRAW BALE SHOOTS**

So called because under the 28-day GDO planning, no permanent structures can be erected, but the use of straw bales to make shooting enclosures is the use of natural materials from a farm and can easily be recovered after use.

Typically run as a Sporting Clays Open Shoot, 5 enclosures would be erected either in a line down a field, or shooting outwards from a central position. Each enclosure might have 10 targets, thrown in pairs together, or following targets for variety. If space permits, a practice enclosure or pool shoot might operate on the side. These clubs might be “closed” for members and guests only or “open” for all comers.

## **SPORTRAP SHOOTS**

These shoots are set up to provide a good level of competition in a small space. The layout of a row of close enclosures with a number of traps around can give 20 or 25 shots with a large variety. This more challenging type of shoot might be at a game fair, or as an extra at a 50 clay-sporting event. A Sportrap layout could also operate as a pool shoot.

## **THE CHARITY EVENT**

These are often one-off events especially arranged, or annual events run in conjunction with an established shoot. Costs are kept to a minimum by organisers donating the venue and their time, and prizes and consumables are often sponsored with further money-raising events such as raffles and the sale of food.

## **CORPORATE HOSPITALITY**

These might be arranged as one-offs and set up as a straw bale type shoot, or held at an established shoot. Having qualified instructors or coaches to supervise is important and targets would usually be set to enable the shooter to hit them easily in order that even those with no prior experience have a satisfying time. Prizes for high gun, best novice, best lady and a booby prize (e.g. “From the Clay Pigeon Preservation Society”) might be awarded. As corporate events are often run in conjunction with catering, shoot organisers are advised that no alcohol should be served until shooting has been completed.

If a corporate event is held in conjunction with other activities, organisers should note that short time slots are not appropriate for safe clay shooting. Longer time slots will give for a more satisfying experience.

Where multi-event activities are operating simultaneously, for safety reasons, special considerations must be given to the position of the shoot within the overall event. Organisers are reminded that a shoot's exclusion zone is probably by far the largest parcel of land needed, in comparison with quad biking, archery or similar events.

## **SPECIALIST EVENTS**

One-off events arranged for corporate hospitality, as an extra at an existing shoot, at game fairs, or as charity events, might be organised through a specialist mobile provider. The CPSA has trade members who supply fully mobile shoots or specialist side shows such as Clay Snooker events. See the listings on the CPSA web site at [www.cpsa.co.uk](http://www.cpsa.co.uk).

All the above types of shoot should consider carefully their status and ensure they have appropriate insurance, notified any authorities and have the necessary consents and permits for their operation.

## **FOOD**

Note that if food is prepared or served at any shoot, food hygiene regulations may apply and the shoot organisers should seek advice from their local Environmental Health Department. Larger shoots could use outside caterers or snack wagons and charge for the catering rights, or take a profit share.

## **THE ACTUAL EVENT**

Any event may be restricted to exclude International shots, CPSA Class AA, A or even class B shooters, but this will eliminate a awful lot of keen (and paying) shooters. Another system is to allow anyone to enter, regardless of skill, and this is known as an "Open" shoot.

So that no one need feel that he or she is wasting their time entering against such strong opposition, a sound idea is to run classes along the following lines:

- I. An 'Open' competition for all comers.
- II. A 'Novice' competition. The organisers must decide what constitutes a novice for their event. This could perhaps be anyone who is unclassified by the CPSA or anyone who has never won a prize of any sort at a clay shoot.
- III. Ladies, veterans and colts classes.
- IV. "Clubman" class for those with no CPSA shooters classification or below a defined level. Usually C class or below.
- V. Competition classes can be defined as A, B, C and D (novice) and these can be CPSA classifications or club classes from keeping local club records of shooters scores.

The same shooting enclosures are used for everyone but the shooters category must be established **before** he/she goes to shoot. Unclassified shooters can gain a class for the day based on their performance at the first stands, or on the first half of their card. This way everyone from the experienced clay shooter to the near beginner gets an opportunity to win something. Prizes can be donated, trophies or cash. Cash prizes are often generated from an optional prize fund, say £2.00 per round added to a round cost. Shooters enter “clays only” to exclude themselves from the prize pool or “competition” to compete for the prizes.

Competitors should be allowed to re-enter the competition as many times as they wish (if time allows) but of course, only their best score can count towards the results. This is advertised as a ‘re-entry’ event.

All ties should be decided by a further round of shooting on one or more of the stands. This ‘shoot-off’ round is, of course, free of charge to all those in the competition and is typically over 10 targets and then “sudden death” if there is no clear winner after the initial shoot off.

It is always a good idea to write down the conditions of entry and display these at the entry point.

## **PRIZES**

All sorts of prizes can be offered. The largest shoots can even offer cars! Smaller shoots will have trophies for high gun and classes, cash prizes from a prize fund, free rounds within a club, cartridges or other shooting requisites, plus sponsor or donated prizes.

To avoid complications, it is recommended that for each of the events, trophy or article prizes be awarded rather than cash, with a cup or plaque for a winner of the main competition. The number and quality of the prizes depends on whether they have been donated especially for the event or whether they have come from entry fees. This must be allowed for when deciding on a suitable entry fee. Ideally, a **minimum** of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes should be awarded for each event. If it is decided that prizes are to be allocated on a ‘one person one prize’ basis, this should be declared in the entry conditions.

## **POOL SHOOT**

If there is space and labour available after the main shooting stands have been organised, a pool shoot can also be included in the attractions. Generally speaking, a pool shoot consists of ten targets, thrown in pairs, usually made sufficiently difficult so that even the best shots will be hard pressed to hit all of them.

After every twenty or so shooters have had a go, a percentage of the entry fee is paid back to the one who has scored the most hits. Shooters tying on the same score split the prize money. A new pool may then be started and everyone may have another go. Pool shooting can continue as long as time permits at the owner’s discretion.

The entry fee for the pool shoot may be fixed so that a reasonable profit is made from this feature. This is an excellent diversion for those shooters waiting their turn in the main event and also a good way of generating extra income. Again, remember to ***display the times and conditions of entry at the entry point.***

### **TRAP OPERATIVES**

All trap operatives must be provided with suitable Personal Protective Equipment (P.P.E.) including: hearing and eye protection and, in the case of inclement weather, suitable clothing. It is also recommended that the trap operative be provided with a hard hat and a thick pair of gloves. This includes manual trap operators and automatic trap fillers and setters.

Trap operatives and trap positions must be protected from accidental shots being fired towards them. Ideal for this purpose is a stack of straw bales, backed up by a screen of corrugated steel or similar supported by a suitable frame (fig 2). The bales and screen should be high enough to conceal the trap operative with room to spare when they are in the seated position. The trap operative must also be provided with a long-handled red flag, which they can raise if for any reason they need to call a halt to the proceedings.

Having raised the flag, it is essential, ***for their own safety, that the trap operative does not move from their seated position until they are actually collected by the referee or the person in charge – STAY PUT RULE.*** They should be instructed not to move unless they are collected even though they may have been called and told it is safe to emerge.

It is essential that trap operatives be fully conversant with the safe operation of the trap. Shoot organisers must satisfy themselves that this is the case before allowing them to work this machinery.

For safety reasons, only one trap operative may be allowed at each trap position and job swapping is discouraged.

(fig 2)

### **VERY IMPORTANT**

A suitable barrier should be set up at least ten metres behind the firing point to keep back any spectators. Without this, onlookers may press forward until they are level with (or even in front of) those shooting. Please note, that hearing protection should be worn wherever peak noise exceeds 85dB. This can be as far away as 40m from a shooting point.

So that there should be no misunderstanding regarding safety rules, notices should be posted warning the shooters of the following:

1. Guns must be kept in gun sleeves until immediately prior to use.
2. Guns may only be loaded at the firing point.
3. Guns must be carried broken until the shooter is on the firing point and preparing to actually shoot.
4. Guns must be kept pointing down the range at all times.

5. The shooter must not turn away from the firing point until his gun has been opened and unloaded of its unfired cartridges or empty cases.
6. Only 1 (or a maximum of 2) cartridges(s) may be placed in any part of the gun at one time.
7. Shot size may be no larger than No 6 and no greater than 1oz (28g).
8. Only whole clays must be fired at, not broken pieces or anything else flying or on the ground.
9. Never point a gun, loaded or unloaded, at birds, animals and most of all, people.

The Safety Officer must be strict regarding the enforcement of these safety rules. Clay shooting has an excellent safety record and every effort should be made to keep it this way.

Safety notices at the perimeter of the exclusion zone may also be appropriate to the situation of the shoot. In extreme cases, sentries may even be required to control pedestrian, equestrian or farm traffic through or past a shoot.

### **EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS**

Traps, clay targets and ammunition may all be obtained from your local gun dealers. Since they will inevitably be experienced shooters, they will often be able to provide invaluable assistance regarding the running of your shoot and may even agree to take over the organisation of it too!

Should they be unable to advise or help in any way, the CPSA is willing to make alternative suggestions. Wherever possible, however, we would always suggest approaching the local dealers first.

See the listings on the Trade Member links on the CPSA web site at [www.cpsa.co.uk](http://www.cpsa.co.uk).

### **INSURANCE**

CPSA qualified Instructors and Coaches who have CPSA Professional Indemnity Insurance cover or who are members of Sports Coach UK hold £5,000,000 coaching and officiating public liability insurance. The use of suitably qualified and insured officials is strongly recommended.

Organisers of clay shooting events, even the most informal, are strongly advised to take out a minimum of Third Party Liability insurance cover of at least £2,000,000 for any single accident. Employers liability insurance will also be needed if anyone is employed or “deemed to be employed” in the running of the event.

If you cannot arrange suitable cover with your own insurance agent then contact the following brokers:

## **CPSA AFFILIATED CLUB INSURANCE:**

CPSA Honorary Insurance Advisors

Perkins Slade Ltd  
3 Broadway  
Broad Street  
Birmingham  
B15 1BQ

Tel: 0121 698 8000

All Current CPSA members are automatically covered individually for £5,000,000 civil liability insurance and £20,000 personal accident insurance (for those aged between 10 and 75 years) whilst shooting as part of their association subscription, but this cover **DOES NOT** cover the shoot operators activities and separate ground activity cover is needed.

### **List of Safety Posters**

10 Points of Safety (A3)

Guns must not be closed at any time (A3)

Warning Falling Clays (A3)

Warning Shooting in Progress (A3)

Remember – Good Shooting is no Accident (A4)

Eye and Ear Protection (A3)

Open It! (A4)

Stop the Shoot at the Sound of the Whistle (A4)

No Mobile Phones (A4)

Clubman Individual Membership is available at extremely competitive rates – contact CPSA HQ.

Professional Indemnity Insurance available to all CPSA Qualified Instructors, Coaches, Referees and Safety Officers – contact CPSA HQ.

Club Insurance is available from Perkins Slade Ltd (see outside back cover).