



# *Armada High School Trap Team Handbook*



**2024/25 School Year**

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Revised 1/27/24

# Welcome to the Armada High School Trap Team

Welcome to the Armada High School Trap Team, we are a co-ed team. Eligibility for our team extends to students between grades 6-12, who possess a Hunter Safety Certificate or League approved Firearm Safety Certificate along with a Sports Physical. We participate as a team in the Michigan State High School Clay Target League (MSHSCTL). Spring season runs from March through June, while the Fall season runs from September through October.

## Mission Statement

Armada High School Trap Team has a mission of educating and training youth in grades six through twelve, who have their Firearm Safety Certificate, in extra-curricular co-educational activity of shooting sports. We will provide education and training to provide opportunities to those student athletes so they understand and experience the safe handling of firearms while competing in socially acceptable shooting sports. Though this the organization strives to emphasize a co-educational, safe, ethical, respectful, chemical free, dignified, learning experience. ***Participation is a privilege, not a right!***

## ***Fees and Refund Policy***

Fees to participate with the Team must be submitted to the Armada High School at the time of registration with the team. The fees are needed to secure range time, targets, and additional team administrative costs. League registration has been changed to Team Pay and is included in the season's cost..

As part of our team registration for spring season, a check for (amount to be announced at beginning of registration) per student athlete will be collected before the start of the season. This will cover the outlined weeks of the spring season, Winter Fest, Spring Fling, RLAM and State Shoot Tournaments.

As part of the fall registration a check for (amount to be announced at the beginning of registration) per student will be collected, this covers the outlined weeks of the Fall season, Fall Brawl and Fall Classic

- League registration fees are nonrefundable through the team.
- Participation fees will not be refunded after the start of the spring or fall season.
- Injured athlete refunds will be given prior to the start of week 3 in the given season. A physician's note may be required.
- A refund request must be made in writing by the parent/guardian of the athlete requesting a refund.
- Any athlete that is suspended or released from the team due to violation of school policy, team / league policy, or school or team code of conduct will not be eligible for a refund.
- Coaching Staff must approve all refunds.

## **Attendance/ Eligibility**

Upon league / team registration, we will adhere to the following attendance policy. Athletes absent for the week or cannot complete a round, a score of "0" will be entered for that week. Athletes must post scores in **ALL** competition weeks to qualify for postseason performance recognition awards. If a shooter is absent for more than two competitions (2 weeks) due to ineligibility of grades and that has not contacted school administrators upon notification of ineligibility, the shooter will be asked to sit out the remainder of the season and tournaments. Armada High School Trap Team **will only** accommodate athletes who participate in school

sponsored activities where a grade is given i.e. band. There are **no make up or shoot-aheads** without a pre-written request and approval. Athletes must contact coaching staff of all tardies and absences, failure to contact the coaching staff of tardies and absences will result in penalties up to and including dismissal of the team. One of the following will suffice as contact, a text message, email or phone call. *Also see lettering*

## Volunteers and Fundraising

The success of our organization depends completely on the **enthusiasm, effort,** and **expertise** of our parent volunteers. *We are an organization run solely by volunteers, and every volunteer matters.* All positions including the head coach and his coaching staff, committee members, as well as all necessary tasks are organized, directed, and completed by volunteers to whom this team is deeply indebted.

All team members and families are **Strongly Encouraged** to take part in an effort to support our team by volunteering and participating in fundraising. At time of registration a Trap Booster Fundraising / Support Check for the amount of TBD may be required. Please see Trap Boosters for further information

We have expenses that are incurred as part of running and maintaining our program. We do not receive any outside monetary support; we rely on fundraising and sponsorship dollars to pay for our expenses.

We have implemented the following policy regarding volunteering and fundraising:

Booster Club Fundraising Committee They're mission; to plan events and coordinate volunteers to work through SignUpGenius

**Everyone's help is needed for success.**

# Uniforms

A decision made by the coaching staff, team uniforms will consist of a Barepelt shooting vest.

Cost of vests shall be covered by the student athlete, see coaching staff for pricing.

Boosters will have Spirit Wear available for purchase also, look for Spirit Wear announcements on Facebook or

on the Booster Email and Band App.

# Weather Safety

Trap is an outdoor sport and we shoot in all types of weather; wind, rain, snow, etc.

We will only stop for thunder & lightning. Please dress accordingly.

# Attire

Every participant in the League will promote a positive image by wearing appropriate attire during all events.

\*\* Prohibited items include: • Clothing that exposes any part of the torso, including but not limited to, cutoff t-shirts, halter tops, tank tops, etc. • Short shorts and low riding shorts or pants revealing undergarments or buttocks. • Flip-flops or opened-toed shoes/sandals. • Any clothing with pictures, caricatures, designs, messages, writings, or other embellishments with direct or indirect references to alcohol, tobacco, sex or sexual connotations, drugs, gambling, or profanities.

# Code of Conduct

I, (Print Athletes Name) \_\_\_\_\_ hereby pledge to honor and support the Armada High School Trap Team by adhering to the team's Code of Conduct as stated below. As a member of the Armada High School Trap Team I understand that it is a unique privilege to participate in this High School Sport. I will agree to follow all the rules as outlined by the Michigan State High School Clay Target League, and those that the Team, School, and District have adopted. I will be respectful of all fellow team members, coaching staff and volunteers at all times and represent the Team and School with pride and integrity whether at School or League / Team activity. This is a Team sport that meets twice a week and shoots our events as a Team. Therefore, I am ***STRONGLY ENCOURAGED*** to be present for the entire duration of all Team events, including, but not limited to weekly competition/practice, MSHSCTL State Championship & MSHSL Tournament.

Requests for alternative shooting times for other sports or work will not be honored. If another non-sports school activity is scheduled on the same night, and time allows, I may be able to arrange a shooting session early enough to accommodate the other event. I am required to, maintain, and wear the assigned Teams uniform anytime that I am competing with my team or while attending any League event or Team activity unless otherwise directed by the Teams leadership.

My parents and I will respect Coaches and follow their direction. Understanding that I need to follow the direction of my coaches, especially during our League and Team activities to protect all Athletes, Coaches, Volunteers, and Spectators

I agree to make Safety my Number One Priority whenever I am handling a firearm. I agree not to have any firearms or ammunition on any school property. Courtesy and Sportsmanship go hand in hand when creating a safe and fun environment. This also portrays our sport in the best possible light within our school and the greater community. I will put a strong emphasis on the value of team unity, sportsmanship, and hard work. Each player will have an important role to play.

A critical part of being a good team is everyone knowing their role, and performing it to the best of their ability. Trap shooting is a fun, once-in-a-lifetime high school experience in which I'll enjoy and take with me into adulthood. Along with the safety rules the following conduct and sportsmanship rules will be strictly enforced:

Blatant violations of safety rules, discourteous behavior including heckling, bullying, trash talking, temper tantrums or disobedience of instructions and or directions from coaching staff will result in immediate removal from the trap line and possibly club grounds.

Transportation, especially in the neighborhood surrounding B&BS Gun Club, as well as on B&BS Gun Club property, needs to adhere to basic / natural traffic laws and is paramount for the safe arrival and departure of athletes and spectators. Complaints are taken very seriously

and could result in removal from the team. Athletes must also adhere to the Teams policies on mood altering chemicals, including alcohol and tobacco. This includes consumption, possession and distribution.

### **Social Media Guidelines**

All Armada Trap coaches, players, parents, participants, committee members, and volunteers shall abide by the following guidelines when using social media:

1. Be positive and respectful, and always take the high road. When disagreeing with others' opinions, remain appropriate and polite. If you find yourself in a situation online that is becoming antagonistic.
2. Do not post content that would be detrimental to Armada Trap or damage Armada Trap's reputation. Remember that even while you are on your own personal time, you are a representative of Armada Trap, and people may interpret your online postings or social interactions as though they were official Armada Trap statements.
3. Use good judgment when posting comments on any official Armada Trap sites. Bear in mind that your comments can create liability for Armada Trap. If you are unsure whether a comment is appropriate to post, either do not post it or obtain prior approval from the Head Coach.
4. Be smart about what you publish. Once something is posted, it exists online forever. Ask yourself, "would I want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now?" If the answer is "no," do not post.
5. Encourage others to engage in positive interactions on social media. If you are concerned about any Armada Trap member's coaches, parents, participants, volunteers, and committee members' use of social media, please bring your concerns to the attention of the coaching staff.

### **Violations of the Social Media Policy**

The Armada Trap Coaching Staff shall have the authority to monitor and enforce this Social Media Policy. The Armada Trap Coaching Staff, through the Head Coach shall have the authority to remove any inappropriate or offensive comments from official Armada Trap sites and to block any individual or organization from posting on any official Armada Trap social media platform if they determine, in their sole discretion, that such removal or block is in the best interests of Armada Trap. The failure of any Armada Trap coach, player, parent, participant, committee member, and volunteer to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be considered a violation of the Armada Trap Code of Conduct,



and any Armada Trap Member who fails to adhere to this Social Media Policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of such individual's involvement in Armada Trap, in accordance with the Armada Trap Code of Conduct.

The Michigan State High School Clay Target League (MSHSCTL) has specific rules regarding **appropriate attire and conduct** as well. You are expected to abide by the Leagues Policies and Procedures. Any misuse or violation of these rules could result in suspension of your shooting privileges with the team and possible permanent removal from the team's roster. Penalties for failure to follow these policies will coincide with the Teams conduct penalties stated below.

- Prior to starting 2024 Spring League, Athletes are required to have a valid current **Sports Physical**

## **Armada High School Trap Team Code of Conduct Penalties**

### **First Violation Penalty:**

Athletes will immediately be removed from the trap line and/or club grounds. Athletes will receive a score of "0" for all rounds: in progress, already completed or yet to be shot, for the event in which the violation occurred.

### **Second Violation Penalty:**

Athletes will be suspended for 2 (two) consecutive League events or Team events. If the violation occurs with less than 2 (two) League or Team events remaining in the season, the athlete will be suspended for the remainder of the season. Reinstatement to the Team requires a face to face meeting with the Head Coach, one assistant coach, the athlete and parent(s) along with school administration, prior to being reinstated.

### **Third Violation Penalty:**

Athletes will be permanently expelled from the team for the remainder of the season and will forfeit all shooting fees paid and all shell/round credits that they have accumulated. Reinstatement to the team is at the discretion of the head coach.

I have read and understand the policies stated in this handbook, with my signature I agree with the code of conduct

Athlete Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian

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

CodeConduct and Sports Physicals to be turned into the Athletics Office before the **First Practice**

# Shooting Procedures/Safety Rules

Each athlete must provide the following **mandatory** equipment each week: Shotgun (12 ga. recommended ) in Gun case  
Team vest.

Ear protection, Noise Reduction Rating (NRR) of 27dB or higher. NO EAR BUDS per MSHSCTL  
Shooting Glasses (ANSI Z87 Rated).

**NO sunglasses!** ( prescription glasses are acceptable)

***Shell catchers are mandatory for all semi-automatics.***

Optional (recommended) equipment: - Magnetic barrel rest - Shooting Towel

Arrive to the gun club no later than 30 minutes prior to shoot times . We understand that athletes may be in multiple sports & parents have work schedules to accommodate. If you need to make special arrangements, please contact Team Performance Manager at least 1 day before practice.

**REMINDER: No guns are allowed at school. DO NOT put them in your Vehicle at school.**

Upon arrival at the gun club, carry your uncased/unloaded gun, with chamber open, to the gun racks located inside or on the front porch of the clubhouse. We HIGHLY recommend that all athletes put a label (or some unique way to identify their gun) on their gun stock with their name on it, as there will be a lot of duplicate gun models.

**REMINDER:**

***Once a gun is in the gun rack, it's only taken to the field or to your vehicle .***

**THIS IS NOT SHOW AND TELL**

## Squading

The Team has opted to squad on “a first come first out” method, arrangements for athletes to squad together will be the responsibility of the athletes wanting to participate together. Squadding for tournaments will be determined by the coaching staff based on averages, and ability.

## Team Lettering Requirements

### MSHSCTL RANKING POLICY

Varsity – Season average score of 19 to 25

Jr Varsity – Season average score of 15 to 18.99

Novice – Season average score of 14.99 and below

- 1) *Lettering is determined in **Spring Season only***
- 2) *Maintain academic eligibility for the spring season ( Fall season will be taken into consideration)*
- 3) *Zero code of conduct violations*
- 4) *Completion of 5 competition weeks*
- 5) *Participation in 3 of 4 spring tournaments*
- 6) *Coaching staff will review all potential varsity candidates to determine **adherence of the code of conduct, sportsmanship and team participation***

Letters will be handed out at the end of **spring season** banquet/award ceremony along with any team / individual awards. At this time, **ONLY** High School Athletes (grades 9-12) are eligible to receive their Varsity Letter. Middle School Athletes who have earned Varsity status, will be recognized for their achievements by the Arnada Trap Team.

## Individual Awards

- Student athletes in good standing with the MSHSCTL will also be eligible to earn several individual awards. See the MSHSCTL web site for details.
- Student athletes in good standing with the Team will also be eligible to earn the following awards:

Athletes having a 3.5 GPA will earn an Academic Achievement Award

- 1) Spring Season only - Top Gun Male: Varsity, JV & Novice
- 2) Spring Season only - Top Gun Female: Varsity, JV & Novice
- 3) Spring Season only - Rookie of the Year - Only first year athletes are eligible.
- 4) Spring and Fall - Top Gun Male - Competition Weeks 1-5
- 5) Spring and Fall - Top Gun Female - Competition Weeks 1-5
- 6) Spring and Fall - 25/50 straight - MSHSCTL Patch-Pin

## Tournaments

- Participation in tournaments is mandatory.

Any Athlete that has missed a competition during the course of the season due to absence or ineligibility will be listed as Varsity average

- All practice and competition procedures and safety rules still apply during tournaments.
- Squad or team assignments shall be determined at the discretion of the Coaching Staff.

## Nationals Team Requirements

We want to take our best to Nationals, that being said being one of our best requires more than just having a high average for 5 weeks of competition. The coaching staff has the final decision on who makes the squads.

#### Grades:

Your school work is very important, at anytime that the school makes you ineligible to participate in our competition score weeks or any tournament you will be considered ineligible to join our Nationals Team.

#### Attendance:

The season is short, attendance at all the practices we provide is what makes our team and individuals top contenders year after year. Not making all the practices could effect the coaches decisions when selecting the Nationals Team.

We participate in multiple tournaments every season. The coaching staff consider these tournaments mandatory in attendance to be considered to be eligible for the Nationals Team Squads. Also the performance at these tournaments will count as well as competition weeks to help determine who is eligible for Nationals Team.

#### Attitude:

Making the National Team should be a goal that you want to strive for and making the team should be an achievement recognized by the team. Showing up at practices and competitions days means more than shooting 2 rounds and heading home. Fields need to be set up and taken down. Participating in all the activities such as gun mount practice and eye exercises. Setting a good example for the new younger less experienced team members is important.

## **Social Media Applicability**

This Social Media Policy applies to all coaches, players, parents, members, committee members, and volunteers. This Social Media Policy applies to all social media content posted by Armada Trap coaches, players, parents, participants, committee members, volunteers in their professional and personal capacity to the extent such content is related to Armada Trap.

## **Aspirations**

Armada Trap strives to create a positive and inclusive organization that is dedicated to helping young athletes reach their potential. In furtherance of this goal, Armada Trap aspires

to engage members of the local community in positive, honest, transparent, and knowledgeable dialogue about Armada Trap through social media. Armada Trap views social media as an important tool for communicating its successes and opportunities for athletic and individual development. Armada Trap also views social media as a platform for receiving constructive feedback from the community and for discussing Armada Trap's challenges and opportunities for improvement in a positive and constructive way.

## **Coaching Staff / Contact Information**

Coaches: Mark Barnette, Rob Beyer

Team Manager: Nick Walkowski

Team Performance Manager: Coach: Mark Barnette

Range Safety Officer:

Fundraising Chair: Please See Booster Club

Spirit Wear Chair : Please See Booster Club

Team email: [armadatrap@gmail.com](mailto:armadatrap@gmail.com)

Booster email: [armadatrapbooster@gmail.com](mailto:armadatrapbooster@gmail.com)

## **Resource Links and Websites:**

MSHSCTL Website: <http://miclaytarget.com>



Team Facebook: Armada Trap



Team Website: <https://armadahighschooltrap.com>



Find us on the MidwayUSA foundation endowment:

Armada High School Trap Team ID: R16323



A special **THANK YOU** to our Home Sponsoring Club B&BS Gun Club, without their support and access to their facility and grounds the Armada Trap Team would not be possible. Please take a moment and visit the B&BS website, please see the Coaching Staff to find out more about B&BS and how you can help support the Club.

