

Safety

Clay Target Shooting has one of the most enviable safety records of any sport within Australia and around the world. As a result of its safety record, our members know that they can compete in the sport they love assured that no harm will come to them.

Because we use a firearm to compete in a recreational sport, it is of the utmost importance to maintain a high standard of safety for our members, visitors and the public.

The first two things new shooters are taught are the safety rules and the correct gun handling methods.

The following are the golden rules of safety. The rules are not limited to those below and a comprehensive set of rules is located in the Australian Clay Target Association's (ACTA) Shooting Rules book at <https://www.claytarget.com.au/acta-referees/rules-book-and-amendments.html>.

Golden Rules-

1. Consider every firearm as though it is loaded at all times.
2. All firearms are to remain open and unloaded unless you are on the shooting stations of the range or designated practice mounting area or club pattern board.
 - Never point a closed firearm in any other situation than stated above.
 - When closing or opening a firearm always keep the firearm pointed down range.
3. Always check that the firearm is unloaded, never assume.
4. Always use cartridges that are in good condition, the correct gauge and chamber length for the firearm that you are using.
5. In case of a misfire or malfunction keep the firearm closed and pointed downrange until the referee can inspect it.
6. Always unload and have firearms open on the referees call and/or when the red flag is up.
7. No alcohol or drugs are to be consumed until the close of competition or whilst using a firearm for coaching or in the designated practice mounting area or club pattern board area. At no time is a firearm to be considered or used as a toy/play thing, i.e. no "Horseplay".
8. Safety is the individual's responsibility: you are responsible for the safe handling of yourself and your firearm at all times. No unsafe behaviour will be tolerated on any ACTA or WACTA grounds.

If you see something that you consider to be unsafe, do something about it. At the very least question the person and the behaviour, it could save someone's life.