

First Shot Fundamentals

Revised April 2014

M.A.T

1. Shotgun Nomenclature and Safe Gun Handling Rules
 - a. Muzzle – Front of the barrel

ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION

(Discuss safe direction)

- b. Action - The parts that load, fire and unload the gun

ALWAYS KEEP THE ACTION OPEN AND UNLOADED

UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT

- c. Trigger – Part of the action that releases the firing mechanism

ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER

UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT

- d. Stock and forearm – the parts of the gun that you grip
(Explain how you grip the gun to shoot and to carry in a safe manner - muzzle up with two hand grip)

2. EYES AND EARS – Safety glasses and ear protection **always required** in front of the safety line.
3. Eye Dominance
 - a. Check eye dominance
 - b. Explain why it is important
4. Six Shotgun Shooting Fundamentals
 - a. Stance – explain boxer stance and foot placement
 - b. Gun-Ready Position
 - c. Mount the Gun (**touch on asking permission to adjust**)
 - d. Swing to the Target
 - e. Trigger Pull
 - f. Follow Through
5. Orientation to range, traps and targets

6. Range Commands

- a. Range is Hot/Live and Ready to Fire – No guns should be handled until the range has been declared Hot or Live Fire.
- b. Cease Fire - Immediately stop firing and keep the gun pointed in a safe direction!
 - i. Anyone can call a cease fire
 - ii. All shotguns should be kept pointed in safe direction; instructor takes control of firearm and waits for directions from the range officer
 - iii. All trap operators should make sure no target are thrown
 - iv. Once the problem is fixed, the range officer will declare the range open and shooting may resume
 - v. Examples of why to call a cease fire could include a dog, deer, person or anything down range that you wouldn't want to shoot

7. Firing the First Shots

- a. Passing of the Gun
 - i. Explain and show process of passing the gun from instructor to student and back.
 - ii. Two hand grip
 - iii. "Thank you" and "You're welcome"

8. Shotgun Shooting Step by Step

- a. Watching Targets
- b. Finger Point
- c. Finger Point and Bang
- d. Dry Point with the Shotgun
- e. Dry Fire
- f. Ball and Dummy

9. Debrief and Review/Life Skills Wheel