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| **April 2013** | **Air Cadet Central Edition** |

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| *This guide is intended as a handy summary and a starting point for further research into a subject.*  ***Always consult current official policy before undertaking training.*** |

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| Clay target shooting is an authorised cadet activity run under the  civilian **Clay Pigeon Shooting Association** (CPSA) rules.  This means that you do not require the normal shooting qualifications required by Pam 21-C (eg. SA(SR)07 or SAAI).  Current policy can be found in a letter from HQ Land Forces[[1]](#footnote-0). | In this guide:  [1. Courses and qualifications](#_y996e5d50seq)  [2. Equipment and costs](#_roprjevw6iys)  [3. Competitions](#_hcsotydqi4rx)  [4. Summary](#_xcjmanfeq7v7) |

# 1. Courses and qualifications

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|  | The CPSA runs its own courses which enable you to become competent in shotgun handling, running a clay target range and coaching technique.  To get started, you need to attend a **Shotgun Skills Course** (1 day) to gain your basic proficiency in handling shotguns and elementary shooting technique.  This is then followed by a **Safety Officers Course** (1 day) which entitles you to run a clay target range. Note that this qualification does not allow you to ‘coach’ to improve technique, it only allows you to safely run a range. |

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| Completion of an **Instructor Development Workshop** (1 day) makes you eligible to attend a **Level 1 Instructor Course** (5 days), which allows you to coach technique.  The Army Rifle Association (ARA) runs a variety of courses[[2]](#footnote-1) which are open to all CFAVs and are very competitively priced. Course dates are published annually in a Defence Instructional Notice (DIN) which your WHQ should be able to obtain for you[[3]](#footnote-2). |  |

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| 2. Equipment and costs To get started you will need a budget of **between £1500 and £2000**.  This will allow you to purchase:   * A good-quality single-stack electric clay target trap.   + This avoids safe handling issues associated with manual traps. * One or two shotguns (normally second hand). * PPE such as glasses/caps. * Cleaning kit. * A starting box of clays. * Ammunition.   You can spend more, and get more capability, but this is a typical basic setup cost. A reasonable condition 12-bore shotgun can be had for around £500.  Squadrons purchasing shotguns must do so under **Non-Service Weapons** arrangements[[4]](#footnote-3), which includes a requirement for annual servicing.  *The Corps SME on Clay Target shooting is Flt Lt Allan White, who is part of the Corps Shooting Development Team (Clay Target).* |  |

# 3. Competitions

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|  | A cadet Clay Target Shooting competition is held annually as an inter-service match against the Sea Cadets and Army Cadets. Teams consist of 4 cadets of any gender who can demonstrate that they have passed the Shotgun Handling Test (delivered by CPSA safety officers). Costs are in the region of £100 per team of 4, plus messing contributions.  Competition details are published annually by the **Council For Cadet Rifle Shooting**[[5]](#footnote-4) |

# 4. Summary

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| **Attend Shotgun Skills course.**  **Attend Safety Officer course.**  **Raise funds and obtain your equipment.**  **Locate a CPSA or MOD shotgun range.**  **Train your cadets in shotgun handling.**  **Go shooting!** |

1. [LF/PSC/Cadets1001 dated 25 October 2011: Policy for Clay Target Shooting by Cadets.](https://sharepoint.bader.mod.uk/ACO%20Document%20Library/Activities/Shooting/Clay%20Target/Clay%20Target%20Shooting%20Policy%2025%20Oct%2011.doc) [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. [LF/PSC/Cadets1001 dated 25 October 2011: Policy for Clay Target Shooting by Cadets.](https://sharepoint.bader.mod.uk/ACO%20Document%20Library/Activities/Shooting/Clay%20Target/Clay%20Target%20Shooting%20Policy%2025%20Oct%2011.doc) Enclosures 1-4. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
3. 2013DIN10-002 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
4. ACP 26: Security Of Arms And Ammunition (Restricted). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
5. [80/21 dated 7 February 2013: National Cadet Clay Target Shooting Championships 2013.](https://sharepoint.bader.mod.uk/ACO%20Document%20Library/Activities/Shooting/Clay%20Target/Clay%20Target%20Competition%202013.doc) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)