



Team Handbook

2024-2025

Welcome to the 2024-2025 Season

We hope you had a fun summer and are ready to bust some clays! We had a great season last year and saw so much growth from our shooters. We're excited to build upon those successes and work towards an even more successful season. We look forward to helping everyone grow in their skill and love of this great sport! Let's make this season a great one Ravens!

MISSION STATEMENT

The SST Ravens is a competitive youth shotgun team based out of the Seattle Skeet and Trap Club in Ravensdale, WA. Our team is committed to providing a safe, fun, supportive environment for youth to grow their skill and confidence in shotgun shooting sports. We provide training and competition opportunities in Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays. As a team focused program, we strive to maintain a positive environment built around integrity, respect, and good sportsmanship. SST Ravens is a member of USAYESS (USA Youth Education in Shooting Sports) www.usayess.org.

SST Address

26520 292nd Ave SE, Ravensdale 98051

COACHING STAFF

Taegen Markus - Head Coach
Steve Lockhart
Tyler Markegard
Ed Herrera
Tim Lade
Mike Compton
Grayson Helms
Chad Uphaus

PRACTICE

The Ravens practice as a team twice per month (schedule permitting) with competitions typically running March through June. Practices will be announced through TeamSnap and shooters are **REQUIRED** to update their status with "Going" or "Not Going" a **minimum of ONE full week before** practice to help ensure we have the proper amount of coaching per shooters. In the event of ammunition shortages, practices may be altered.

Shooters will be asked to sign the attendance sheet prior to the start of each practice to record their attendance. **In the event the shooter does not participate in the 3 REQUIRED SST Team**

Competitions, the shooter/parent will be responsible for payment to the SST Ravens in the amount of \$25 per practice participated in.

Please be courteous of coaches and teammates practice time. Shooters should arrive **15** mins prior to practice start time to receive practice instructions, prepare equipment and start on time. Parents of shooters under the age of 12 need to be present during the entire practice. Parents are expected to be at the club prior to practice ending.

***If you are more than 15 mins late to the start of practice the shooter will forfeit their practice eligibility.**

***All team members are required to help with cleanup and loading houses at the end of practice.**

If you are under 18 and drive yourself to practice, parents and shooters must fill out the parent agreement form. See Coach Taegen.

In addition to the organized team practices, Ravens are encouraged to practice on their own as much as possible. Getting your head on a gun and shooting is what will get you to the next level; Ravens are encouraged to practice regularly outside of team practices.

Seattle Skeet and Trap Club
Sundays 10am-3pm
2 Free rounds

TEAM SAFETY VIDEO

All shooters and at least 1 parent of their shooter(s) will be responsible for watching the Safety Video prior to engaging in their first team practice. Safe gun handling practices are our number one priority and should any shooter display or engage in unsafe practices they may be asked to sit out a competition and/or practice or be removed from the team.

HUNTERS SAFETY

All SST Ravens are required to complete a Hunter's Safety online course and a field course prior to the start of the season.

COMPETITION

The Ravens compete on a Local, Regional, and National level. During the competition season we regularly compete throughout Washington and Oregon along with providing the option to attend Regionals in Las Vegas as well as Nationals in Texas. The final Season Competition schedule will be released when determined by the WAYESS Board.

All Ravens are Required to attend the following 3 Team Competitions to be on the Active Competition Roster

- ★ SST Shotgun Challenge
- ★ Lower Columbia Challenge
- ★ WAYESS State Shoot

Please keep in mind that the Ravens compete for not only individual awards, but team and squad awards. The number of team participants at competitive events dictates the awards our team will be eligible to receive.

SST RAVENS & PARENT VOLUNTEER EXPECTATIONS

The success of our SST Ravens Hosted events lies solely in the hands of the SST club and parent volunteers. Parents will be asked to volunteer at these events. Scoring, pulling targets, loading machines, cooking, selling raffle tickets, trash collection etc. are some of the duties we will need to fulfill.

It is expected that Ravens and parents will be available to volunteer for SST hosted event(s). The SST board has requested the help of the Ravens Shooters and/or families. Mandatory 4 Shooter Volunteer Hours will be required to be completed throughout the season. Dates and times of opportunities will be communicated through Team Snap.

RAVENS TEAM FEE - \$300.00 per shooter

The SST Ravens Team Fee helps offset the costs of clay targets, ammunition, registration fees and the competition uniform. Annual team cost is \$300.00 Ravens team members receive the following benefits:

Practice: *12 and 20 ga Ammunition and clay targets for all SST Ravens team practices

Competition: * Full registration fees and ammunition (12 and 20 ga) for WAYESS SST Ravens Team competitions.
(Shooters are responsible for providing own ammunition for practice rounds at competitions)

MEMBERSHIP FEES

SST Ravens are required to hold memberships to the SST Ravens Team, the Seattle Skeet and Trap Club and USAYESS.

SST CLUB MEMBERSHIP - \$200/annual family fee for 1st year - \$150/annual renewal fee

Seattle Skeet and Trap memberships run Jan-Dec. If you have an existing membership you will need to renew in January 2025. If you are not currently a member, you will need to buy a membership at a prorated amount for 2024 and renew the membership in January 2025. Please discuss details with the front office.

USAYESS ATHLETE MEMBERSHIP - \$50.00/youth

SST Ravens is a member of USAYESS (USA Youth Education in Shooting Sports). All Ravens must register yearly for a USAYESS Athlete membership as part of the Ravens membership process. Please register at <https://www.usayess.org/athlete> and select "Seattle Trap and Skeet Youth/Seattle Trap and Skeet Collegiate 2024-2025".

Print the Shooter Safety Pledge and Medical Release form, sign and turn in to Team Manager.

ATHLETE EQUIPMENT (Athletes should have all Equipment by 2nd Practice)

Shotgun

Chokes

Eye Protection

Ear Protection

Shooting Bag

Gun Case

COMMUNICATION THROUGH TEAMSNAPE

TeamSnap is the primary communication tool for the SST Ravens; it allows coaches to send communication to team families through email and use the Team Chat function to communicate. TeamSnap is Required to be downloaded for all shooters and checked regularly to ensure you receive all communication.

TeamSnap is used to report a shooter's status for (Going/Not Going) practice and competition. Practices and competitions will be uploaded on the Schedule; scheduled events prompt an email to be sent. Ravens families can update their status directly through this email (Going/Not Going). You can also update a status directly in the TeamSnap app by selecting "Schedule" and scrolling to the appropriate event. Upcoming events often appear on the Home Page.

All shooters must update their status on TeamSnap at least 1 Week prior to a practice or by the stated deadline listed for competitions. This status allows us to accurately plan for the number of coaches needed at a specific event, determines squadding for competition, and ensures we bring the correct amount of ammunition. PLEASE NOTE: If you plan to attend a competition and do not update your status as "Going" in TeamSnap by the required deadline there is the possibility that we will not have a spot available for you to compete in. If your status is listed as "Going" and you no-show a competition our team is charged for your registration fee.

Shooters will be responsible for paying this registration fee back to the team if you no-show. Please help us mitigate issues by keeping your status in TeamSnap updated on time and communicating with coaches any changes; we understand sickness is unavoidable, so please communicate to avoid any unforeseen costs.

TEAM UNIFORM

As part of your membership fee, all Ravens will receive a team hat, shooting vest, and team shirt to be worn during competition. Ravens are encouraged to wear their uniform at other non-team competitions, but are not required to do so. Ordering information for the uniform will be sent through TeamSnap and a team fitting will be held at practice to determine sizing.. (Unless a new size is needed or there is significant wear, vests are given on a 2 year cycle.)

Full team uniform is required to be worn for all competitions (* Team hat/visor, shooting vest and shirt). Sponsors play a large role in keeping costs down for shooters and in return we are asked to wear the team uniform and post to our SST Social Media accounts.

Payment can be made through check, cash, or credit card. Make checks payable to SST and note "Ravens" in the memo field. After paying in the club house, please provide the Team Manager with the receipt.

SPIRIT WEAR

In addition to the official uniform, a team store with Team Spirit Wear items for the whole family will be announced through TeamSnap in the coming weeks.

TEAM EXPECTATIONS RECAP

- ★ Athletes are Required to wear the Provided Team Uniform to Shoots
- ★ Athletes are Expected to Arrive at Practice 15 mins prior to Start Time with Equipment ready
- ★ Athletes are Required to Arrive at least **1 hour** Prior to their Squad Start Time at Team Competitions
 - Report Times will be posted as soon as shoot times are available to Coaching Staff
 - Report Time is Subject to Change per Shoot OR per day
 - Athletes will refer to TeamSnap for Report Time information
- ★ Athletes are Required to complete Hunter's Safety Online and Field Course
- ★ Athletes are Required to Participate in the **3** Required Team Shoots
- ★ Athletes will be asked to participate in at least 4 hours of volunteer work at SST
 - Volunteer Opportunities will be communicated through TeamSnap
- ★ Athletes are Required to stay for the Duration of the Event
 - Event Includes ALL shooting disciplines AND Award Ceremony
 - Athletes will be responsible for taking award photos with Sponsorship Banner
- ★ Athletes are Required to Communicate through TeamSnap Regularly
- ★ Athletes are expected to dress accordingly and prepare for *LONG* Days at the shooting range for Shoots and Practices
- ★ Ravens will conduct themselves in a respectful and honorable manner that has a positive reflection of the SST Ravens. No swearing, no alcohol, no drugs. WAYESS has a zero tolerance policy.
- ★ Ravens will maintain a clean and safe firearm and safety equipment. Athlete should always clean their firearm after every practice.
- ★ Ravens will read and understand USAYESS guide book. Safety pledge and medical release will be signed.

** The SST Ravens Shooting Roster Size is at the sole discretion of the Coaching Staff. Should Athletes not meet the Team Commitments and Expectations, Athletes may be removed from the Active Competition Roster.