

2025 CERTIFIED REFEREE'S STANDARDIZED EXAMINATION

January 1, 2025

This examination is to be conducted by the State Association, an NSCA National Delegate, NSCA Member Club or a Level II or III Instructor. All applications **MUST** be sent to NSCA Headquarters for processing. An application and test have been supplied in this packet. You may make copies if additional tests are needed, call 1-800-877-5338 to request additional copies if you do not have access to a copier, or go to the NSCA website www.mynsca.com to download the referee application and test.

Please follow instructions for administering this examination. The **2025 online NSCA Rule Book** may be used for reference by the applicant, but **ALL** questions must be answered correctly to pass. **At this time, we have no printed NSCA Rule Books. USE THE 2022 RULE BOOK THAT CAN BE FOUND ON THE NSCA WEBSITE - PAGE NUMBERS WILL COINCIDE WITH THE ANSWERS ON THE ANSWER SHEET!** Corrections to wrong answers must be made by the applicant under the guidance of the examining officer.

Individuals whose applications are approved will be issued Certified Referee credentials (patch and card). The fee for Referee Certification is \$20.00. Certification will be good for a period of three (3) years ending on December 31 of the 3rd year of certification.

The examination poses questions about new rules, the most common occurrences and about situations that seem to give referees the most problems. Questions will be added or revised as rules change.

If you are teaching a class, please return **all** completed applications and exams you administered with your fee for the total amount to NSCA Headquarters for approval. NSCA will process the applications upon receipt including the necessary fees and will forward each applicant credentials as a Certified Referee.

**APPLICATION FOR “CERTIFIED REFEREE” CREDENTIALS
2025 SHOOTING SEASON**

Referee Credential Fee: \$20.00 for a 3-year program (includes patch and card)

*Please **print** the following information clearly. This will assist us in expediting your application.*

Name Phone #

Address Apt# City State Zip

Email Address DOB

- Check here if the above address is new. All records will be corrected to this new address.
- I am a current member of NSCA. **My NSCA membership number is** _____.
- I am not a member of the NSCA. Please send membership information with my Certified Referee credentials. (NSCA membership **is not** required to become a Certified Referee.)

Years experience as Sporting Clays Referee _____

Officiating experience in other sports (list sports and years):

I believe in the aims and purposes of the National Sporting Clays Association and will enforce the official rules and regulations in all shoots in which I officiate.

Signature of Applicant

The following must be filled in by the Officer giving examination.

This is to certify that the above applicant has been administered the NSCA referee examination on _____, 2025 and that he/she is fully qualified.

Signature of Examining Officer NSCA National Delegate, Club/Assn/Instructor.



2025 NSCA CERTIFIED REFEREE STANDARD EXAMINATION

January 1, 2025

1. In a two-shot single target presentation, if the target is missed with the first shot and an ammo or gun malfunction occurs, preventing the second shot from being fired, the target will be re-attempted. The shooter must intentionally miss the target on the first shot. The second shot will count for either dead or lost. If the shooter breaks the target on the first shot in this scenario the target will be scored as lost.
 - a) True
 - b) False
2. A target which breaks at launching shall be called "NO BIRD" and the shooter will be provided a new target.
 - a) True
 - b) False
3. Ignorance of the rules will not be a cause to "re-attempt" targets lost because of rule violations.
 - a) True
 - b) False
4. Should the shooter break both targets with either the first or second shot then the result will be scored as "two hits"
 - a) True
 - b) False
5. In the event of a "NO BIRD" on a simultaneous pair (true pair) or following pair, nothing can be established. Two good targets must be present to record the score.
 - a) True
 - b) False
6. The Field Judge may poll the spectators and may reverse his/her original call.
 - a) True
 - b) False
7. Eye and Ear protection is mandatory for all persons, spectators, shooters, field judges, and trap personnel on the course.
 - a) True
 - b) False
8. The shooter shall be allowed a combined total of:
 - a) four (4) gun malfunctions per day attributed to either the shooters gun or ammunition.
 - b) three (3) malfunctions per day, per event attributed to either the shooter's gun or ammunition.
 - c) three (3) malfunctions per station attributed to either the shooters gun or ammunition.
9. In a squadding sequence, it is the responsibility of each shooter to be ready on time or within five (5) minutes of that time.
 - a) True
 - b) False
10. When the shooter calls for the target:
 - a) The target must be launched immediately or with a delay of up to three (3) seconds.
 - b) The target must always be launched immediately at the call for the target.
 - c) The target may be launched at the trapper's discretion.
11. In the event of a "NO BIRD" on the second target of a report pair, the first bird will be established as "DEAD" or "LOST" and the shooter will repeat the pair to establish the result of the second target.
 - a) True
 - b) False
12. The first shooter of every squad shall be allowed to view a good presentation of targets from within the shooting station.
 - a) True
 - b) False
13. The call of "LOST" or "DEAD", "MISS" or "HIT" shall be announced by the Field Judge prior to recording the score on every target.
 - a) True
 - b) False
14. When calling for the target the shooter may use the "pre-mount" gun hold position.
 - a) True
 - b) False
15. The number of stations, quantity of targets and characteristics of targets from each station, on each field, will be determined by the Shoot Officials and will be the same for all shooters. Changes in target trajectory, distance, and/or velocity due to wind, rain, time of day, or any other natural cause does not constitute a violation of this rule.
 - a) True
 - b) False
16. In a registered NSCA 5-Stand event; a shooter's gun must be open and empty while changing stands. a) True
 - b) False
17. In a registered NSCA 5-Stand event; a shooter's feet must be behind the front openings of the shooting stand except when changing stands.
 - a) True
 - b) False
18. While viewing targets: All competitors may mount their loaded gun and track the targets being viewed.
 - a) True
 - b) False
19. .410 events shall be open to all shotguns of .410 bore, using shot loads not exceeding one-half (1/2) of an ounce.
 - a) True
 - b) False
20. A Report Pair is two sequential targets, where the second target is launched at the sound of the gun firing at the first target.
 - a) True
 - b) False

21. In a NSCA 5-Stand event with multiple layouts, when the squad moves to the next layout, the original first shooter will rotate to the end of the line; the rest of the shooters on the squad will move up (toward the first cage) one position, thus rotating who the first shooter is at each subsequent layout.
 - a) True
 - b) False
22. When a shooter is in the process of shooting, no one (other than the Referee/Trapper) is allowed within three feet (3') of the shooter.
 - a) True
 - b) False
23. One example of an ammunition malfunction is:
 - a) a soft load in which the shot and wad leave the barrel.
 - b) a shell with very weak report but noticeable recoil.
 - c) a shell, which fails to fire, providing firing pin indentation is clearly noticeable.
24. It is everyone's responsibility to report any unsafe shooting condition or action immediately to Shoot Officials.
 - a) True
 - b) False
25. Shoot Management may disqualify any shooter for willful or repeated violation of gun safety precautions, which endanger the safety of field personnel.
 - a) True
 - b) False
26. In a NSCA 5-Stand registered event, shooters may not leave their station until instructed to do so by the referee or until the last shooter has fired his last shot.
 - a) True
 - b) False
27. In a NSCA 5-Stand registered event no chokes may be changed after the round has begun. Failure to comply will result in loss of ALL targets attempted (in that round) after the choke was changed.
 - a) True
 - b) False
28. In a two shot single target presentation the target will be scored "HIT" or "DEAD" if broken by either shot.
 - a) True
 - b) False
29. No more than two (2) shells may be loaded in the gun at one time.
 - a) True
 - b) False
30. The shooter must fire with his/her gun shouldered for all targets.
 - a) True
 - b) False
31. The shooter fires at the first pair of targets at a station and decides they have the wrong choke. The shooter then removes their adjustable chokes and shoots the remainder of the targets on that station without any chokes in the gun. The results are scored as follows:
 - a) the results on the first pair being scored as established and the remainder of the targets on that station being scored as "lost" or "missed".
 - b) all targets on that station being scored as "lost".
 - c) all targets on that station being scored as established by the shooter.
32. Guns with release type triggers are allowed and must be clearly marked.
 - a) True
 - b) False
33. A shooter not seeing the target presented:
 - a) will get to shoot at another target
 - b) be charged with shooter malfunction and scored lost.
34. In the event of a "shooter malfunction" on the first bird of a report pair:
 - a) nothing can be established, and the shooter will re-shoot the pair.
 - b) the first bird will be established as "lost" and the shooter will repeat the pair to establish the result of the second target.
 - c) both targets are scored as "lost".
35. In a **20-gauge event** a shooter may shoot a 1-ounce load.
 - a) True
 - b) False
36. All shooting stations must require the shooter (except wheelchair shooters) to engage all targets from the standing position.
 - a) True
 - b) False
37. During a registered event, each shooter must verify his/her score before leaving the station. Once the shooter has left the station his/her score is final.
 - a) True
 - b) False
38. In the event of a gun malfunction the shooter must first unload the gun and then hand the gun to the Field Judge for examination.
 - a) True
 - b) False
39. A shooter may test fire a gun without the permission of the Field Judge as long as it is safe.
 - a) True
 - b) False
40. When shooting simultaneous pairs (true pairs) the shooter has the right to shoot either of the targets first.
 - a) True
 - b) False
41. When a target is broken by either the first or the second shot it will be scored by making a slash (/ or \) on the scorecard, in the correct position on the scorecard.
 - a) True
 - b) False