



# Cross Trail Outfitters Claydusters Program



Cross Trail Outfitters is a Christian youth hunting and fishing club under the national umbrella of Cross Trail Outfitters, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit. We are about building relationships with youth, their families, landowners, volunteers and donors. Primarily, we work with boys ages 7-20 by sowing into their lives through discipleship and mentorship, helping them to grow closer to God and seeking God first in their lives through a common interest in the outdoors.

Cross Trail Outfitters is an independent, inter-denominational ministry. Our ministry is based on our Statement of Beliefs, and we are not formally linked with any denomination other than the Biblical Church – that is, the Body of Christ. CTO seeks to teach, mentor and disciple young men through life circumstances while preserving our hunting and fishing heritage.

The CTO Claydusters program is intended to teach youth gun safety and improve their shotgun shooting skills and participation is open to both boys and girls. Age of participant is dependent on a child's ability to listen and follow instruction and the ability to safely handle a shotgun, that determination will be made by the Claydusters coaches. Some participants may choose to shoot competitively, and the Claydusters coaches will look for opportunities for those kids to compete. Parent supervision is encouraged during practices to help ensure safety.

Below are more details about Cross Trail Outfitters:

## **Mission Statement**

Guiding the next generation to Christ through the outdoors.

## **Vision**

Cross Trail Outfitters is a relationship-based, Great Commission ministry making disciples of youth – and through them their friends, families and communities – by building lifelong friendships through a common interest in hunting and fishing. We strive to connect the next generation to the body of Christ, through local churches and other ministries.

## **Statement of Beliefs**

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
- We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
- We believe that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for the salvation of lost and sinful man.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.
- We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **CTO Sportsmen's Pledge**

As a member of Cross Trail Outfitters and a child of God, I solemnly pledge:

- To uphold the law and Cross Trail Outfitters Code of Ethics,
- To take good care of my equipment and be skillful in its use,
- To revere the life and habitat of the animals I pursue,
- To treat other people and their property with kindness and respect,
- To seek a closer relationship with God, His Son, His word, and His Creation,
- To honor God with my thoughts, words, and actions; daily becoming more of the person He wants me to be,
- And to enthusiastically share my outdoor heritage and Christian Faith with the people I meet.

## **Cross Trail Outfitters Code of Ethics**

As ambassadors of Christ and representatives of our hunting and fishing heritage, all members of Cross Trail Outfitters solemnly pledge that we will always endeavor:

- To honor God in all we do.
- To be an example of righteousness, never engaging in immoral behavior or speaking in an unwholesome way.
- To take the time to pass on to others our beliefs, ethics and the lessons we have learned in the outdoors.
- To respect our bodies as a temple of the Lord. (Never coming under the influence of alcohol in the field and never using illegal drugs.)
- To speak truth, pay what we owe, and treat others with courtesy and respect.
- To obey all game laws and regulations and the rules of those in authority.
- To make good use of the game we harvest.
- To respect the land, equipment and other resources entrusted to us.
- To be good stewards of the Lord's creation, treating the animals and land with the utmost care and respect, with the mind toward preserving and improving these resources for future generations.
- To strictly seek the highest levels of safety, especially when handling firearms.
- To keep the equipment clean and in top working order and to be proficient in its use.

# Standard Operating Procedures for Shooting Range

## Range Rules:

- **ABSOLUTELY NO HORSE PLAY OR RUNNING AROUND DURING SHOOTING PRACTICE!**
- ALWAYS wear eye and ear protection. No open toed shoes allowed on the range and participants need to wear a cap while shooting.
- ALWAYS stay behind the firing line until it is your turn to shoot.
- DO NOT approach anyone instructing another student on the firing line.
- Look and listen to the instructor at all times, even while others are shooting.
- Never walk away (to use the restroom or get a drink) without letting the Range Officer Safety Officer know. The person will be identified before practice starts.
- STOP SHOOTING IMMEDIATELY WHEN YOU HEAR "CEASE FIRE!"
- **Failure to follow and obey these rules will result in you having to leave the practice area.** If the behavior continues your parents will be called to pick you up. Any of the Range Officers or CTO staff have the authority to remove you from the practice area.

## Gun Safety Rules:

- ALWAYS keep the gun pointed in a safe direction
- ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- ALWAYS keep the gun unloaded until ready to use
- Know your target and what is beyond every time you shoot.
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate. If you are not sure, let the Range Officer do a general inspection if you haven't used the gun recently.
- Know how to use the gun safely. Know the major parts and know to safely load and unload it. You WILL NOT be allowed to shoot until you demonstrate to the Range Officers (CTO staff) that you know and understand these basics.

## Spectators:

- ALWAYS stay behind the firing line.
- Let the coach and range officers do the instructing. If you have a questions or concern, bring those up before or after practice.

## Hygiene Guidelines:

- Refrain from eating, drinking or placing your hands near your mouth or nose while on the range or cleaning a gun.
- Wash hands thoroughly with cold water after practice since shotgun ammo contain lead.

## Program Safety and Equipment:

- All guns, ammunition and archery equipment will be kept in a secured location (locked) when not in use.
- All equipment used by CTO shall be kept in good condition and will represent no hazard as a result of poor condition to the user at any time.
- A certified NRA Range Officer will be on site during the use of all firearms.
- Cross Trail Outfitters adheres to the firearm safety protocols of the National Rifle Association and the archery protocols of the National Field Archery Association.