

Mason-Dixon Clay Busters

Participation Cost Estimates

The cost of clay target shooting is similar to the cost of golf. Only the most basic equipment is needed to get started and target/ammunition costs (much like green fees) are paid along the way. If your child becomes more interested in clay target shooting, it is likely that he or she will soon desire more specialized equipment. Below are some cost estimates for our program. Actual costs will vary depending on the equipment you select and how much you participate.

Please keep in mind, our program keeps an inventory of loaner equipment, including shotguns. We do this so that new participants can get a feel for the sport before they make an investment in equipment. For more information on our loaner equipment use the contact information listed at the bottom of this page.

Shotgun

By far the most expensive startup cost in clay shooting is a shotgun. A good example of the most basic type of shotgun is a Remington 870 pump. The Remington 870 retails for about \$350. Midrange over/under or semi-automatics shotguns run approximately \$750-\$2000.

Shell Pouch / Vest

You will need some type of container to hold your ammunition in while you are on the line shooting. Basic shell pouches sell for around \$25 while shooting vests can run between \$50 and \$150.

Eye and Ear Protection

Eye and ear protection are mandatory for participants at all clay target ranges and are highly encouraged for all spectators. The most basic equipment will work for starters. You should be able to find a pair of glasses for under \$25 and enough earplugs to last the season for a buck or two. Midrange shooting glasses with multi color lenses will run approximately \$75-\$200.

Shooting Bag

Shooting bags must be capable of holding at least 5 boxes (125 rounds) of ammunition, your shooting glasses, ear protection, bottled water, sunscreen, etc. Shooting bags do not have to be fancy and you may already have something lying around the house you can use. If not, simply purchase any bag capable of holding the materials listed above. Dedicated shooting bags are usually built a little 'tougher' to handle the weight of ammunition and pockets are designed for shooters. You should be able to find something that works for around \$25-\$50.

Ammunition

While our program has been blessed over the years with receiving grants and donations that have paid for the majority of the ammunition we use, grants and donations to the program cannot be relied upon so the responsibility of providing ammunition falls to the participant.

The cost of factory ammunition varies depending on the quality of components. I encourage use of factory ammunition in my program since I cannot closely monitor the quality of my student's reloads. On the low end, factory ammunition can run about \$6.00 per box of 25 and up to \$8.50 per box for higher-end brands.

To give you some idea as to just how much ammunition you will need for a season, we typically hold between 6-10 practices (per discipline) and on average we shoot between 2-4 boxes (50-100 rounds)

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per practice.

Registration Costs

As a team, the Mason-Dixon Clay Buster's participate in five (5) clay target disciplines: Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays, International Trap, and International Skeet. Participants in our program are free to choose the discipline(s) they shoot in. We do recommend that beginners to start with Trap as we are able to dedicate more assistance and coaching to new shooters in this area.

For each of our shooting disciplines, we combined the cost of our practice targets, competition fees, and governing body fees together and charge our shooters a onetime "participation fee". These participation fees typically run between \$75 and \$100 per discipline and cover everything except a participant's equipment, ammunition, and travel expenses.

Additional Information

Please remember that these are only estimates and actual costs will vary. The actual value of what we provide in our program is typically more than double what our participation fees run. We are able to do this with the help of grants, donations, and fundraisers. These savings are passed directly to our participants. We work very hard at making our program affordable to families and are constantly searching for new partners to accomplish this. Our goal is to keep the costs associated with the program as low as possible.

For more information on the Mason-Dixon Clay Busters program, visit our website www.masondixonclaybusters.com or contact Roger Beardsley at 717-235-0743 or coach@masondixonclaybusters.com