

Qualification Requirements for Muzzleloading Shotgun Instructor Candidates

1. Pre-Test: Score 80% or higher on the *Basic Muzzleloading Shotgun Shooting Course Student Exam*

It is **STRONGLY** recommended that Instructor Candidates (IC's) read the NRA handbooks *The Muzzleloading Shotgun Handbook (EF 14410)* and *Home Firearm Safety (ES 14120)* prior to attending the Instructor Candidate class. The handbooks may be purchased for \$14.00 and \$7.00 respectively (plus shipping and handling) through the following link:

<http://materials.nrahq.org/go/products.aspx?cat=G-Books>

2. Safe Handling Exercises:

The candidate must demonstrate basic safe handling practices and procedures for checking an ignition source and a load in the muzzleloading shotguns specified.

a. Percussion Shotgun

Explain and demonstrate the proper procedures to check whether this gun is unloaded (i.e. no ignition source, no ball, no powder) by:

- i. Pick up gun, point in safe direction, keep finger off trigger.
- ii. Place hammer in half cock and inspect nipple.
- iii. Follow procedures to check bore for load as outlined in the *NRA Muzzleloading Shotgun Handbook*.
- iv. Return gun to table with muzzle pointed in safe direction and hammer at half cock position.

b. Flintlock Shotgun

(NOTE: If a flintlock shotgun is not available, a flintlock rifle or pistol may be substituted for this exercise.)

Explain and demonstrate the proper procedures to check whether this gun is unloaded (i.e. no ignition source, no ball, no powder) by:

- i. Pick up gun, point in safe direction, keep finger off trigger.
- ii. Open frizzen, inspect pan and gently lower hammer.
- iii. Follow procedures to check bore for load as outlined in the *NRA Muzzleloading Shotgun Handbook*.
- iv. Return gun to table with muzzle pointed in safe direction, frizzen open and hammer down.

3. Live-Fire Exercise:

The candidate must safely demonstrate basic shotgun shooting positions and shooting fundamentals.

- Target is 16 yards Trap, position 3, straightaway targets.
- Student must use either percussion or flintlock muzzleloading 12-gauge shotgun.
- Choice of shotguns is up to the student.
- Students are encouraged to use their own firearms.

Student will load and fire ten (10) shots while:

- i. Following range commands.
- ii. Follow proper loading procedures as outlined in the *NRA Muzzleloading Shotgun Handbook*.
- iii. Assume the proper stance and mount according to details in shotgun handbook.
- iv. Correctly execute other essential shotgun shooting fundamentals as described in handbook.
- v. Observe NRA Gun Safety Rules and other applicable range rules and procedures.

The ten (10) shots total must result in a minimum score of 50% - five (5) clays broken.