

NSSA Instructors

Certification Course

The instructor certification program began in 1993. The purpose of the program is to promote target marksmanship, provide sound fundamental skills, while saving people money and promoting safety and ethical behavior. Instructor ratings depend upon experience and attendance at various instructor courses. There are approximately 400 certified instructors. Most of these are Level One Instructors while there are only a handful of Master Instructors. Instructor's names and telephone numbers appear on the web page and periodically in *Skeet Shooting Review*.

The NSSA Instructor Certification Program has been divided into four distinct levels based on an instructor's experience and skill level. The minimum requirements for the various levels are:

- Member of NSSA
- 18 years of age
- Currently or previously "C" Class or higher in one gun
- Attendance and successful completion of training/seminar

LEVEL 1

Level 1 is designed to cater to the novice and beginner shooters. The objective is to train instructors in solid communication skills, safety, and standardized skeet shooting techniques endorsed by the NSSA. You must comply with the above requirements and be C Class or higher (currently or previously) in one gun and must successfully complete a Level 1 Course. Each gun club should have, as a minimum, a level one instructor. The Level 1 instructor is critical to promoting our sport by bringing new people into the sport in such a manner that they save them time and money while making the entire adventure enjoyable.

LEVEL 2

Level 2 is designed to increase the instructor's abilities to include intermediate level shooters (B Class & below). Instructors must have completed Level 1 training and provided 100 hours of certifiable paid instruction at Level 1. Level 2 instructors will learn to identify, assess, improve shooting methods, reinforce good basics, and advance performance. To obtain Level 2, the individual must be A Class or higher (currently or previously) in one gun and must successfully complete a Level 2 seminar. Level 2 instructors may be selected as Zone Instructors, based upon the needs of NSSA.

LEVEL 3

Level 3 is designed to expand the instructor's capabilities to include advanced shooters (B-A-AA classes). Instructors must have completed Levels 1 and 2 training and must have provided 400 hours of certifiable paid instruction as a Level 2 instructor. Level 3 instructors will learn to trouble shoot, improve technique, enhance the mental game, correct target difficulties, and improve shoot off performance. In order to achieve Level 3 status, you must be AA Class or higher (currently or previously) in one gun.

MASTER LEVEL

The Master Level expands the instructor's abilities to include the accomplished shooters (AA-AAA). Master Level instructors are capable of instructing across the entire spectrum of shooters. Master Level instructors must have completed Levels 1,2, and 3 while providing 1100 hours of certifiable paid instruction, with 600 hours at Level 3. Master Level instructors are full-time instructors who can assess, improve and correct problems in all areas of skeet shooting, including attitude and mental aspects. Must be AAA Class or higher (currently or previously) in one gun.

The program is designed where instructors can choose to advance to higher levels after attaining adequate teaching time, experience, and successful completion of seminars at each level. The main thrust of the program is to certify as many Level 1 instructors as possible with the goal of having at least one certified instructor available to every NSSA member club.

The course or seminar lasts two days and includes theoretical and practical instruction. Practical assessment will be done on the range during the Level 1 course and all seminars. A written test will be administered in the Level 1 course only. The cost of the course is \$300 per person. If the Chief Instructor or Zone Instructor is required to travel to a centralized location to instruct applicants, each applicant will be required to pay a share of the instructors expenses. Level 2, 3, & 4 seminars will be conducted at NSSA headquarters.

Those people who successfully complete the Level 1 Course will receive an official NSSA Certificate of Accreditation, a cloth patch, a copy of the NSSA Instructor's Reference Manual and a Guide for Instruction. Levels 2,3, and Masters receive a certificate of accreditation & cloth patch.

The program is designed to improve shooting skills, promote safety, and promote skeet shooting. We believe this is an excellent opportunity for members to gain accreditation and then assist the organization by providing an instructional service, which will provide healthy growth for our sport. The Level 1 Course is designed to teach students "how to teach beginners." An added benefit of these programs is enhancement of your individual shooting fundamentals. Course schedule information can be obtained by contacting the Chief Instructor, Ralph P. Aaron at email rpaskeet@yahoo.com or telephone 334-347-8363.

Ralph P. Aaron
Chief Instructor
NSSA