

COURSE INSPECTION and PROCEDURE for Shoot Organisers

No competition may start until the course has been inspected for safety.

The (one) person in charge of the event (the shoot organiser) needs to take note that -

- A course inspector cannot be from the host club or anyone else who helped set up the course
- Any inspector cannot inspect a particular course (whether altered or not) on two consecutive occasions.
- The shoot organiser must inform the safety officer before the event which person is inspecting and signing off the course.
- A course inspection sheet and, if a Record Status event, the course specifications i.e. printed details of target number, target group (or size) and distances (exact or within specified range) must be available for the inspection
- The course must, as far as they can judge, be fully complete before the inspection.
It's not good policy to have the course inspected too soon. Problems, mainly caused by the weather, can render part of a course difficult, impassable or hazardous after a number of days. A week or more before the event is unacceptable. The best time is two days before the event. The day before may be cutting it fine if there are more than trivial changes or improvements to be made.
- It's advisable to have to hand any equipment e.g. rope, barrier tape, direction arrows etc. plus necessary tools plus some manpower, in case changes are to be made. Also, if it's a record status event, there must be available a printed record of course parameters (distances and target groups) for the inspector to check, plus a measuring tape to check distances.

The course inspector needs to take note that -

- No course is perfect, but the inspector needs to feel confident that the course constitutes no defined hazards to the safety of all types of competitors whilst they are shooting or navigating the course
- If it's a record status event, the distances and targets need to be correct.
- If there are problems steps can be taken, namely -
 - The fault(s) can be rectified in time, reinspected, and the event proceed
 - The fault(s) are safety issues which cannot be rectified in time in which case the hazard must be safely bypassed or alternatively shoot is to be cancelled
 - It's a Record Status shoot and the faults are incorrect shoot parameters which cannot be rectified so the shoot can proceed but without its Record Status
- The inspector must be apprised of the method used for a clear and loud signal for the start of the shoot or part thereof, and for terminating the event if necessary.
- The course inspection sheet remains in operation until the event starts and must be sent to the safety officer no later than the Tuesday after a shoot by post or e mail
- The inspector is entitled to ask for reasonable expenses of up to €50.