***How to become a clay target shooter***

Welcome to the wonderful sport of clay target shooting! A sport that is suitable for the whole family, all ages and genders. Ignore the negativity about firearms as clay target shooting is one of the safest sports available. Become a member of the over 14,000 Australian clay target shooting fraternity, be able to compete in over 270 different clubs around the nation and gain wonderful friendships along the way.

It is simple to join in the Northern Territory and here’s how:

1. Contact your local clay target club (contact details are on our website <http://www.ntclaytarget.org.au/> ) and find out when they have a practice day and the time. You will be welcome at any of our clubs and there will be people there who will be delighted to show you the ropes.
2. We advise that you try the sport before becoming a member to see if it suits you. You may visit a club and shoot for a maximum of three times. After that our insurance rules require you to become a member.
3. You do not need to have a firearm licence or own a gun to try the sport. All clubs have club guns that are available at a fee for use by visitors and have ammunition for sale. You will be shooting under the supervision of members who are both licensed firearm owners and accredited coaches. However, if you take up the sport you will eventually need to obtain your own shotgun and, of course, a firearm license in accordance with the NT Firearms Act. Details of the requirements for firearm licenses may be found on the NT Police website (<http://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/Police/Firearms-Weapons.aspx> ).
4. Don’t rush into buying a shotgun as many long standing members have a wealth of experience and knowledge so take your time and listen to the experts before you part with your hard earned cash!
5. If you are either a bona fide visitor or a financial member a national insurance scheme will cover you for personal liability.
6. When you join you must become a member of the club, the NT Clay Target Association and the Australian Clay Target Association. Membership fees vary between clubs and details are available at each club office. There are different levels of membership but full membership brings a number of benefits including a monthly national magazine, a personal record booklet, ability to compete in competition from club to national level and as stated above access to over 270 clubs around the country.
7. Membership does require adherence to a high standard of safety rules and personal ethics. While clay target shooting is fun, it is also great for personal development as it requires a high level of commitment, discipline and concentration to be able to achieve even a reasonable and personally satisfying standard of competition.

***Why not give it a go?***