

TEAM INTRODUCTION

2026 – 2027

Website: palmettoeliteshooting.com

About the Team

Our team was established in 2017 under the name “Wando Shooting Team”. Although the team was named after the “Wando” area and *not* the high school, a majority of the public has always assumed that athletes had to attend Wando High School. In 2021 the team name changed to Palmetto Elite Shooting to better represent our region, our team, and our supporters.

We are a competitive youth shooting sports team for boys and girls across the Lowcountry from 5th through 12th grade.

Palmetto Elite Shooting focuses on safety, team building, life skills, and competition. We are proud to be the home of many local, state, and regional championships for various individuals and squads; and we have several alumni competing at the collegiate level.

We are proud that several of our athletes have earned coaching certifications. These young leaders are learning to give back to their sport at an early age. Palmetto Elite Shooting will make every effort to provide coaching certification opportunities available each season.

Health Benefits of Shooting Sports

Fine Tuning Fitness with increased strength, stamina, balance, hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills. Shooting sports requires upper body strength and conditioning to maintain stability and effective form. In addition, carrying your body weight through the balls of your feet while maintaining your shooting stance is great for your core and helps support proper posture. Strengthening the abdominal muscles allows the weight of the upper body to be evenly distributed over the front and back, improving balance. Physical conditioning is highly recommended for all shooters of all levels.

Mental Processing: Some say shooting is 90% mental and 10% skill. In order to be successful, you have to first assess and control variables such as timing and reading the weather all before performing the physical skill of getting into position, pulling the trigger, and following through. Shooting sports requires intense, short-bursts of concentration in order to achieve good form.

Focus: To perform well, you need to be extremely focused. You cannot be distracted when in control of a firearm (you MUST leave the chaos of everyday life behind). Shooting sports requires you to focus on your breathing, which should be slow and steady. This breathing pattern is proven to calm individuals making them feel instantly more relaxed and ready to perform.

Developing Self-Discipline: In a sport where success depends almost entirely on dedication and practice, target shooting is pivotal for developing skills such as self-discipline. Discipline is necessary to fire one shot after another with consistent and proper technique. While many shooters develop a shot plan or routine, it takes self-discipline to execute that routine consistently. This is particularly true in a competition setting when the pressure is high and there are always distractions. Shooting sports makes your brain zero-in on the task-at-hand which increases your concentration levels.

(Health benefits provided by Eley Ammunition, October 2020)

Shooting Disciplines

Palmetto Elite Shooting competes in sporting clays with a goal to compete in American Skeet and Trap in 2027-2028 season.

Sporting Clays

The SC Youth Shooting Foundation (SCYSF) is the primary sporting clays program with 5 tournaments each season.

There are also opportunities with the National Sporting Clays Association (NSCA).

Other

For fun, the team often enjoys a good round of Annie Oakley .

We also promote local and regional fun shoots, charity shoots, trainings, and camps throughout the year.

Commitment is Crucial

Sporting Clays require 3 person squads to compete and we aim to get our shooters squadded up early in the season with the same group.

When there is a shooter who cannot keep up with his/her shooting commitments, it is not only a big disappointment to the other squad mates who have, but it also lets down the entire team.

There is “no bench” in shooting sports – everyone shoots. However, the more committed an athlete is, the quicker they improve and excel in the sport.

We expect all of our shooters to be fully committed to their shooting sport, to their squad, and to the entire team.

Expect to commit to a minimum of two Sundays and one Saturday through April 2027.

Safety is Critical

Safety is Palmetto Elite Shooting's top priority at every meeting, practice, and tournament.

The various shooting circuits in which we participate all have relative safety precautions that we also adhere to as a team.

We apply precautions at every practice and event to ensure all athletes, coaches, and spectators follow safety protocol. Safety precautions include, but are not limited to:

- Demonstration of proper firearm carry and loading procedures
- Providing firearm safety briefings and introduction to the rules for the ranges where we practice and compete.
- Eye and ear protection must be worn by everyone on the course
- Coach to athlete ratio: Although rules dictate no more than 4 athletes to each coach, we generally have no more than 3 athletes per coach. (Keep reading to find out why coaches are key!)
- Several of our coaches and athletes have received certification in the nationally acclaimed Stop the Bleed ™ trauma first response training, which we hope to offer each season.

Coaches are Key

You do not have to be an accomplished shooter to be a certified assistant coach. The primary responsibility of our assistant coaching staff is to ensure shooter safety and accountability to the highest degree. Palmetto Elite Shooting has a core group of coaches that focus on athletic skill improvement.

Coaches are expected to attend as many practices as possible for safety reasons. (No more than 4 shooters per coach)

Becoming a certified assistant coach requires a fee for class training and for range training. Beginning and advanced training opportunities are made available each season.

Several of our high school level athletes have already received at least one coaching certification. This is a great way for them to begin mentoring younger, new shooters as well as to gain further knowledge of their sport.

Volunteering to coach is vital to the team's capability to compete and to grow.

One parent of each athlete needs to become a certified coach for safety!

The larger our coaching staff, the less burden on our busy volunteer coaches and their families.

Team Requirements

Anyone 5th through 12th grade is welcome to join.

All shooters over the age of 12 must have successfully completed the SC DNR Hunting Education Course (online or in person). New shooters to the team have until November of each year to complete this requirement. If a shooter turns 12 during the season, they are required to complete the course before participating in the next tournament.

Each athlete should have a parent become a certified coach. This is particularly critical to shooters in elementary and middle school, as most of these shooters are usually new.

We encourage that high school athletes who participate in all disciplines (sporting clays, trap and skeet) obtain at least one assistant coaching certificate.

Commitment to your squad, your team, and the sport is second only to safety in being paramount to Palmetto Elite Shooting.

What to Expect

Athletes are required to provide their own firearm, ammo, eye & ear protection, and shooting vest or pouch at all times

Registration is Open!

Deadline to Register: October 2, 2026

Mandatory Team Meeting & First Practice

Partridge Creek Gun Club, Ridgeville

Sunday, October 4th

2pm to 4pm

If you are unable to attend, please let us know right away.

Cost

Beyond properly maintaining your firearm, your expenses are dependent on how often your athlete practices and competes. Costs include, but are not limited to:

Team Registration Fee is $50

Partridge Creek Youth Season Membership is $50 (not required if family member is a member)

Annual organizational fee for SCYSF to participate is $103 **total**

Practice costs depend on how much each athlete shoots ($0.25 per clay) and if they or parent rent a golf cart ($5 per rider)

Tournament fees range from $100 to $110 and golf cart rentals are from $60 per tournament

Ammunition costs approximately $107-$125 per flat (250 rounds) at the time of releasing this presentation (September 2026)

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Practices

All practices are held at Partridge Creek Gun Club in Ridgeville. This is a private club that generously allows Palmetto Elite Shooting to practice regardless of membership. No one is allowed on premise without a member present.

Practices are held on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4pm.

Dress Code

Not Permitted: open toed shoes (i.e. flip flops or sandals), jeans with tears/rips, or shorts.

Practices: Shorts or comfortable clothing

Tournaments: Uniform Jersey is required and all athletes must wear blue jeans or khaki pants and closed toed shoes.

This season’s Jersey



Tournament Calendar

Presented by the South Carolina Youth Shooting Foundation (SCYSF)

December 5: Backwoods Quail Club, Georgetown SC

January 9: Hermitage Sporting Grounds, Camden SC

February 13: Palmetto Shooting Complex, Edgefield SC

March 13: Rocky Creek Gun Club, Richburg SC

April 24: (State Championship) Clinton House, Clinton SC

BONUS SHOOTS:

- Day of Clays South Carolina at Hermitage Sporting Grounds, Camden SC (November 14, 2026) - https://www.midwayusafoundation.org/docsc/
- Jr US Open at Backwoods Quail Club, Georgetown (June 24 – 27, 2027) - https://www.jrusopenclays.com/
- NSCA Registered Shoots - https://scorechaser.com/

Get Registered!

Registration Deadline is October 2, 2026 (no exceptions)

All fees will be invoiced once registration has closed

Thank You

We are looking forward to a great season!

PALMETTO ELITE SHOOTING

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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