



Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council

Vermont State Annual Qualification Course for Shotguns with Buck Shot Loads

Course synopsis: This is the course of fire recognized by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council for qualification of law enforcement officers who wish to carry shotguns in a law enforcement capacity. This particular course is for buckshot loads only, and if an officer wishes to or is required to also use slugs, the qualification course for that ammunition type must also be successfully completed. An officer must qualify with their shotgun annually and officers are only considered qualified by the Council on the same ammunition type, make, model and gauge shotgun which they complete the qualification with. Officers who do not wish to carry, are not required to carry, or are not expected to deploy a shotgun on duty are not required to complete this course. A shotgun familiarization course is recommended best practice for all law enforcement officers regardless of whether they carry a shotgun on duty or not. Qualification reports for each officer must be forwarded to the Vermont Police Academy annually upon successful completion of the course on the form provided on the Council's web page. This course must be administered by a firearms instructor who is certified by and in good standing with the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council.

Equipment: The shotgun which is regularly carried by the officer participating in the qualification, or a shotgun of the same make, model and gauge as the shotgun which they carry on duty. The shotgun that the officer qualifies with should be equipped with substantially the same appurtenances (such as stock type, sight systems) as the one that the officer regularly carries on duty.

9 rounds of buckshot which is the ballistic equivalent of the ammunition that the officer regularly carries in their gun on duty.

Shot timer/stopwatch

Target: The target description and scoring area shall be the same as the VCJTC's handgun qualification course

Range: Minimum of 15 yards

Overview: For this course of fire, successful completion requires the shooter to meet the hit ratios and time standards for each string. Failing to successfully pass any string requires the shooter to reshoot the failed string only.

Course of Fire

15 Yards:

Start with cruiser loaded shotgun (magazine loaded with buckshot, action closed on empty chamber with safety on) in low-ready position.

Cycle action and fire 3 rounds in 15 seconds standing offhand. (scoring is 74% of pellets in scoring area to pass)

Tactical reload 3 rounds. (no time limit)

Engage safety and tactical move forward to 10 yards.

10 Yards:

Start in low ready position

3 rounds in 12 seconds standing offhand. (scoring is 74% of pellets in scoring area to pass)

Tactical reload 3 rounds

Engage safety and tactical move forward to 7 yards.

7 Yards:

Start in low ready

3 rounds in 10 seconds standing offhand. (scoring is 100% Pellets in scoring area to pass)

Transition to handgun, fire 2 rounds center mass, no time limit

Weapon empty, action open, safety on.

Scoring: 9 pellet OO buck

15 yards: 20 hits of possible 27

10 yards: 20 hits of possible 27

7 yards: 27 hits of possible 27

Handgun: 2 hits of possible 2

Scoring: 8 pellet OO buck

15 yards: 18 hits of possible 24

10 yards: 18 hits of possible 24

7 yards: 24 hits of possible 24

Handgun: 2 hits of possible 2

