

AIM is the official Youth program of the Amateur Trapshooting Association. Members of AIM enjoy the thrill of shooting registered competitive targets on a level playing field either as a team or as an individual. The purpose of the program is to provide a *safe* and positive experience with firearms through registered trapshooting programs for youth, elementary school through college age. AIM encourages good sportsmanship and personal responsibility while establishing the foundation to make trapshooting a lifelong avocation. The acronym stands for Academics, Integrity, and Marksmanship. Participants must maintain satisfactory academic levels and conduct themselves in a safe and respectful manner at all times.

The program has been in existence for the approximately four years which actually replaced a Scholastic Clay and Target Program that had been in operation for quite a few years at the club. The shift to AIM was made due to age restrictions imposed by SCTP: AIM allows participants to remain in the program until the age of 23 [if still enrolled in college]. The AIM program enabled a number of college age shooters to return to the organized program and once again compete individually and as part of a team.

The coaches, Rob and Tina Wolfe, are both NRA and ATA certified coaches. They have been competitively shooting for more than ten years a have been coaching for six years. The Wolfe's enjoy working with the kids as well as giving back to the sport the both love.

The AIM program has received support from: the St Joe Valley Conservation Club, the Butler Legion Post 202, the St. Joe Lions Club, Friends of the NRA, and a host of other individuals. Without their generous support, the program would not be possible. This program not only promotes firearms safety, it allows kids and young adults an alternative to spring and summer sports such as soccer, baseball, etc. The participants learn something about themselves, make friends, and gain a respect for the shooting sports. This year's program will kick-off in early April. The participants will participate in a Zone Shoot, travel to Indianapolis for the Indiana State Shoot (in July) and finally the Grand American event held in early August which allows them to compete with teams from all across the United States and a few foreign countries. The program has been a great success and continues to grow each year.