

On Target February 13, 2016

On Target is used to communicate important information to those involved in the shooting sports project.

Important Dates

April 1, 2017
Last date to host spring
qualifying match

April 1, 2017
Spring Match
Registration due

April 1, 2017
State Training
Registration due

April 7-9, 2017
State Certification Training

April 29, 2017
Spring State Match
Alma, Kansas

September 16, 2017
Archery State Match
Lindsborg, Kansas

September 23-24, 2017
State Shotgun Match
Kechi, Kansas

September 30, 2017
Fall State Match
Topeka, Kansas

STATE MATCH REGISTRATION INFORMATION

---Registration will continue to be done using the online system called Cvent. Coordinators and agents will register all participants online using the link provided. Registration for all spring state matches will open in late February and be due April 1st.

---All counties must provide at least one volunteer. Have at least one volunteer's information from your county when filling out registration.

---This link is only sent to coordinators and agents.

---**Late registration will not be accepted!**

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

---The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) offers \$1,000, one-year scholarship assistance to qualified juniors in order to encourage and reward their outstanding efforts. Based on merit, selected individuals are high school seniors who are currently enrolled in a team or club that is participating in rifle or pistol marksmanship competitions. The CMP seeks applications from high school seniors who currently compete in marksmanship competitions.

<http://thecmp.org/communications/cmp-scholarship-program/>

---Pratt Community College has made available five scholarships in the amounts of \$1,000, \$750, \$500 (2), and \$250 for 4-H shotgun shooters who will be attending Pratt Community College in the 2017-18 academic year. The deadline for completing the application for the Pratt Community College scholarships has been extended to April 1.

---Kansas can send two applicants to the national level for the Daisy scholarships.

These two applications can be found at <http://www.kansas4-h.org/projects/agriculture-and-natural-resources/shooting-sports/index.html>



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VOLUNTEER UPDATES

---If you would like to be added to the master volunteer list for any discipline, please email Briana Jacobus at briana0@ksu.edu with your name, phone number, email and discipline(s) interested in assisting in.

STATE MATCH UPDATES

---New rules are now posted. Please be sure that you are following the [2017 Spring State Match Rules](#). They are on the website and attached.

---**ALL shooters** will now need to sign in at check in at all state level matches. This will be just like a sign in for a local practice. It will be integrated into the registration table. You must sign in before you can pick up your targets.

---Counties/Districts must pay BEFORE shooting. No shooters from that county will be allowed to shoot until the payment is turned in via mail before the match or a payment at registration before any shooting starts. No county with an outstanding balance will be allowed to pick-up their targets.

---Guns **must** be in a case at all times when being transported at matches and not on the line.

---Please read match rules before attending any matches.

LETTER FROM SHOOTING SPORTS COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Competitions have begun across the state for BB gun, air rifle and air pistol, be sure to read and follow the State Match Rules and the underlying rulebooks for each discipline. All of the rulebooks are found on the Kansas 4-H website at www.kansas4h.org. Qualifying scores for all disciplines are also found in the State Match Rules.

Want to see what competitions are coming up in your area, check out the shooting sports events at www.kansas4h.org. All the qualifying matches are listed, registration information and the match bulletins can be found by clicking on the link for each match.

Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match qualifiers – there will be 2 qualifiers held in same format as the Daisy National BB Match, Legion State Match hosted by the Flint Hills Jr. Shooters in Wabaunsee County. This match will be held on March 11 at Wabaunsee County High School in Alma. The second match is the KSRA state match hosted by the Bullmasters 4-H Shooting Sports in Holton. Registration information will be posted soon.

Want more information on what is happening throughout the state in shooting sports check out the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Facebook page.

Lisa Cronkhite, Secretary
Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Committee

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LETTER FROM SHOOTING SPORTS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Welcome to 2017! I feel we have a great group working together on the Shooting Sports Committee (SSC) and the Match Committee and am excited about the coming year. I would like to thank the outgoing SSC members for their service and dedication – Brent Norris, Erica Norris and Jay Hofaker. In addition, thank you to the outgoing member of the Match Committee, Beth Alloway. Thank you all very much for your support and dedication to the Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

It is a pleasure to announce the leadership for the 2017 SSC. Michelle Perez, Chair; Dan Mosier, Chair-Elect; Lisa Cronkhite, Secretary; and Ray Bartholomew, Treasurer. The Chair of the Match Committee will be Dan Mosier and Secretary will be Cindy Colle. Thank you to each of you for accepting these leadership roles.

The 2017 spring season is off and running. I am sure many of you are already practicing or anxiously awaiting a warm day to get out and practice.

The State 4-H Shooting Sports Spring Match for BB gun, air pistol, and air rifle will be April 29, 2017, at Wabaunsee County High School, Alma, KS. While that seems so far away, it will be here before you know it. The Match Committee is looking for volunteers to help in a variety of areas. One of the most difficult positions to fill is that of Chief Range Officer (CRO) and Assistant Range Officer (ARO). CRO's are to keep control of the range at all times, give range commands, and ensure safety rules are followed. In addition, the CRO must be a certified rifle or pistol instructor and 21 years of age. AROs are to assist the CRO and to ensure that all rules are being followed. For 2017, the CRO's are asked to commit a full day and AROs are asked to commit half a day without interruption. Without these roles filled, the Spring State Match would not be possible. In addition, the following areas need volunteers: registration, t-shirt sales, scoring room, and target runners. Volunteers to help set-up Friday night and with sorting, labeling, and taping targets, as well as help setting the ranges. If you would like to volunteer, email Briana Jacobus at briana0@ksu.edu.

I look forward to working with all of you and your programs this year as well as seeing you at the upcoming shooting matches and events. May 2017 bring much success and fun to your shooters and your program!

Michelle Perez, Chair
Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports Committee

“The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.” –Walt Disney

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INFORMATION FROM THE STATE 4-H OFFICE

4-H Shooting Sports Minimum Standards

Safety first a phrase we've all heard since we were young; but now more than ever when working with 4-H Shooting Sports we need to be aware of setting a priority of safety. Nearly, 75% of Kansas Extension Units offer certified 4-H Shooting Sports Programs across Kansas, therefore knowing the risks about shooting sport can insure we can maintain a vital, thriving program.

4-H National Headquarters provides guidance through the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee that has geographical participation from across the Nation. It is this committee that establishes standards for the 4-H Shooting Sports to insure consistency and program safety.

Three ways the 4-H Shooting Sports Program maintains program consistency:

1. Use of the approved 4-H Shooting Sports Curriculum
2. A standard structure for the training and certification of 4-H Shooting Sports Instructors
3. Program minimum standards and best practices at the state level

Therefore, for more details on the Minimum Standards & Best Management Practices of a 4-H Shooting Sports Program check out the Kansas 4-H web page at Shooting Sports.

According to the Minimum Standards & Best Management Practices of 4-H Shooting Sports Programs, following the minimum standards are not negotiable. A state level 4-H Program with an active 4-H Shooting Sports component is advised to adopt and adhere to these standards at the state and local level. Should an injury occur in a state due to the disregard of any these minimum standards, the potential negative legal/liability ramifications to the land-grant university system could be significant.

However the National Committee does continue to receive questions whether a State must follow the minimum standards or are the statements optional and if the standards only apply to 4-H Shooting Sports or extend to all 4-H club activities? The answer to those questions can be answered in two parts: 1) program safety, and 2) legal exposure for the State and Land-grant University. The activities most questioned are combat sports i.e. paintball, laser guns, archery tag, etc.



INFORMATION FROM THE STATE 4-H OFFICE (CONTINUED)

Program Safety

Program Safety was established because of injuries that occurred in the past, or because certain practices that might be common in the world of shooting sports may not support the safety training found in the 4-H program.

Legal Exposure

If someone is injured within the state 4-H shooting sports program because the state has chosen to disregard a program minimum standard or best practice that has been established by the program management body, that is recognized by 4-H National Headquarters, then the state Extension program has just placed itself in a very precarious legal situation. The national committee would never say that a state “Must follow these minimum standards,” because we do not have the authority to set policy. However, when written, recognized national program standards are ignored, resulting in damage or injury, the legal counsel of the injured party has just been given significant evidence to support their case in a court of law.

Each of the ten minimum standards are vital for maintaining a safe program, however two key standards worth highlighting:

Regarding simulated combat sports including but not limited to, paintball guns, air-soft, laser guns, archery tag. Pointing any type of gun including paint ball guns, air-soft guns, laser guns, laser paintball, archery tag bows and arrows or sighting devices at any person or any humanoid shaped target is inappropriate in any 4-H program activity.

Cloverbud age youth (5-7) age youth are not allowed to participate in any shooting sports activity that includes the handling or live-fire of any air-guns, firearms, or archery equipment. (based on age before January 1, current year).

Pam Van Horn
Extension Specialist



INFORMATION FROM THE STATE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Instructor Certification Training

On line registration will be available soon for the spring training at Rock Spring 4-H Ranch/Center April 7-9, 2017. Coordinators and agents are responsible for signing up the county/district trainees and will be provided a link to complete this task. As a reminder, selection of trainees for your local program is by invitation by the coordinator and agent, assuring that the attendee has the appropriate skill set for the discipline as well as skills in working with youth. Not all adults or youth that show an interest are an appropriate fit for becoming a certified 4-H instructor. It is recommended that each local program develop and follow policies on how the current instructors will mentor new instructors to provide sustainability for the local program while reaching additional youth in the community.

There are number of changes being implemented with the spring training. The following are the highlights:

- Attendees that have not completed the required volunteer screening will need to come early on Friday for the volunteer orientation. This is part of the overall risk management plan for 4-H and will enhance the information that we provide during the general sessions, attempting to have all participants with a similar understanding of 4-H and volunteerism in Kansas prior to the regular training sessions.

- Western Heritage/Cowboy Action participants will be required to arrive a day early as we have added an extra day to the discipline.

Occasionally we have inquiries about transfers from other state 4-H certifications to become Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports instructors. Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports has a long time standing policy that we will not accept certifications from other states. The issue of transferring certifications from one state to another was discussed a few years ago at a National Coordinators Meeting. At that time very few of the states accepted transfers from other states. Part of it is tied into the risk management and the liability assumed by the state program. Another is that extension service delivery of programs varies from state to state therefore it's important to know state policies.



INFORMATION FROM THE STATE VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR (CONTINUED)

Testing Email Accounts

Updated minimum standards were recently sent out to the State Coordinators. Ray plans to test the data updated from the most recent renewal information by sending all instructors their own copy directly via email. These will be sent blind copy so your email will not be shared with others. If you have instructors that do not have email, coordinators will need to provide them with a copy. Ray also plans to send out a copy of each unit's data set from the renewal record to coordinators and agents. This will include who were renewed for this 4-H year (2016-2017) as well as a listing of previous instructors. The information has been provided on a case by case basis in the past to units that are starting back up a program to give assistance to communicating with past instructors and in some cases locating club or county equipment. Once the information is received the coordinator and agent will need to confirm with Ray the accuracy of the information. The past renewal process brought to light that not all units are on the same page with regards to volunteer screening. The risk management for shooting sports requires that all adults working with the program, both certified and official adult volunteers, need to be volunteer screened. In addition to this all youth who are, or plan to become, Jr. Apprentices at training this year need to be volunteer screened.

Ray Bartholomew
Kansas 4-H Volunteer Coordinator

LETTER FROM MATCH COMMITTEE CHAIR

Grant Money for Youth Shooting Sports Programs

Kansas Wildlife, Parks & Tourism sponsors a grant program to assist youth shooting sports programs. The "Pass It On" program has limited funds available for the purchase consumable supplies, such as shells and clays. The grants are limited to \$450 per year, per organization. To be eligible, the program must allow youth participation without charging a fee. For more information about the "Pass It On" program and application instructions contact KDWPT, Mike Miller, mike.miller@ks.gov.

Dan Mosier II
Kansas 4-H Shooting Sports,
Match Committee Chair &
Shooting Sports Committee Chair-Elect

