

Shooting Sports

Description: Description: The 4-H shooting sports project teaches safe operation of firearms and archery equipment.

State Fair Entries: 3 per county; one per level

Current Program Disciplines offered: Air Pistol; Air Rifle; Archery; .22 Rifle; Muzzle Loading; Shotgun. Each discipline has separate guidelines but some basic safety rules. Emphasis is with hands-on experiences, actual learning of safe skills and techniques of firearms, as well as recreational use. All equipment, safety gear and targets provided. Please call the Extension Office for specific discipline information. There is an additional fee to enroll in this project.

Air Pistol; Air Rifle and Muzzle Loading: Open to youth in Grades 3-12; .22 Rifle and Archery: Open to youth in Grades 4-12; Shotgun: Open to youth in Grades

5-12. Preference to have previously taken Air Pistol, Air Rifle, .22 Rifle, Archery or Muzzle Loading in Allen County.

4-H'ers may exhibit in a maximum of three (3) different disciplines.

An Allen County 4-H General Record Sheet must be completed, signed and turned in at the beginning of check-in for All Exhibit Building Projects.

- Enroll in 4-H, pay annual program fee, and enter project in V2.4honline by May 15
- Enter exhibit(s) in FairEntry by May 24, 2024. See page 7 Rule #24.
- Exhibits checked-in Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 9am-12, judging starts at 12:30 pm

Exhibit Guidelines:

All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using no more than 36" of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Live ammunition is not allowed to be exhibited (no powder or primer). Firearms or ready to shoot bows are not allowed to be exhibited. Unstrung bows are permissible. An arrow with its arrowhead attached must be displayed in a secure case. An arrowhead without the arrow attached must be displayed in a secure case. An arrow may be displayed unsecured if its arrowhead is removed. Modern broadhead arrows are not allowed to be exhibited.

Displays involving firearms or bows may be exhibited as a photographic display on a poster or in a notebook following grade level guidelines. Handmade items must include information explaining how the item was made and its intended use. Photos are encouraged.

Some county 4-H programs offer in-person shooting instruction, depending on facilities. Disciplines include archery, rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader and pistol. In-person instruction in any of these disciplines must be led by a 4-H certified instructor. While some counties provide an option to exhibit at the county level, there is no state fair exhibit in these specific disciplines. Contact your county 4-H educator to learn about discipline opportunities in your county.

Judges evaluating exhibits should recognize individual differences and creativity, therefore using information in this document as a guide rather than a requirement.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Beginner (grades 3-5 suggested): Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a shooting sports topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Intermediate (grades 6-8 suggested): Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a shooting sports topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate. Another option is to create an item to be used when developing shooting sports skills.

Advanced (grades 9-12 suggested): Create an educational poster, notebook or display about a shooting sports topic of choice that is age/grade appropriate.

Another option is to create an item to be used when developing shooting sports skills. Youth can also design and complete an independent study activity.