

## SHOOTING SPORTS

**PLEASE NOTE: Any changes/updates from the previous year will be *BOLDED and ITALICIZED*! Pay special attention to any projects with *BOLD, ITALICIZED WORDS* because they have changed from last year.**

The 4-H shooting sports project teaches safe operation of firearms and archery equipment. Six disciplines are offered at the county level: archery, outdoor skills, muzzleloader, pistol, rifle, and shotgun. The in-person disciplines offered in Hendricks County depend on the availability of certified 4-H shooting sports instructors to teach the safety classes, ranges, and equipment.

Completion, exhibition participation, and State Fair information for Shooting Sports			
Division/Level	Grades (suggested)	Completion Activities Needed	Maximum State Fair Entries
Beginner	Grades 3-5	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET and Attend Safety Meeting for Discipline	1 Entry
Intermediate	Grades 6-8	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET and Attend Safety Meeting for Discipline	1 Entry
Advanced	Grades 9-12	EXHIBITION –or– RECORD SHEET and Attend Safety Meeting for Discipline	1 Entry

**Remember:** 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. Reference Sheets are available at the Extension Office for use if needed. For personal safety, do not include personally identifiable information such as mailing address or phone numbers on posters/displays/exhibits.

### GUIDELINES

1. Refer to the Hendricks County 4-H Policies, Entry & Exhibit Guidelines for poster and general display guidelines.
2. **Artificial Intelligence (AI) may be used, with parent permission, when creating this exhibit and is to be documented as a reference. A majority of the work to create this exhibit is to be the 4-H member's original work.**
3. Be sure to enroll in the project on 4-HOnline and enter exhibit information into FairEntry by designated date. **2025 designated FairEntry Deadline is Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:59 p.m.**
4. Complete the Record Sheet (if not exhibiting at the Hendricks County 4-H Fair).
5. 4-H members are required to attend one safety meeting annually per discipline before participating in live fires or the skills tournament.
6. For safety reasons, all 4-H'ers participating in firearms and/or archery live fires must wear appropriate attire. (Shoes must be fully enclosed, NO ORANGE ATTIRE, no dangling earrings and drawstrings on sweatshirt or jacket, hoods must be tucked in, etc.).
7. To participate in this project, each 4-H'er is expected to pay a materials fee for each discipline to help cover the cost of award patches, other awards, basic equipment, etc. The instructor will collect the fee at the first discipline session the 4-H'er attends. Fees must be paid or financial arrangements must be made before participating. Financial assistance is available.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.

### EXHIBIT CLASSES

#### **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.

**Skills Tournament**

Depending on the schedule, there is typically a Shooting Sports Skills Tournament that utilizes safety and skills learned throughout the year. This is not a requirement for completion of the shooting sports project. Must still meet requirements of completion in order to participate in the Skills Tournament. More details available at Shooting Sports meetings.