

Equipment Guidelines

Equipment Guidelines for beginning participants. We highly recommend working with an instructor to find the right type/size equipment for youth.

Archery

Juniors and Sr. Hunter/sporter

1. Hunting type bows, either compounds, or recurve will be permitted.
2. Only fixed hunting signs and bare bows will be permitted. Peep sights will be allowed. Slide bar sights are acceptable. No sight magnification is allowed. Wrist slings are allowed.
3. Any of the following, which is considered to be of a competitive nature and will NOT be permitted:
 - Extended sight bars that measure more than 7 inches from the front of the sight window to the center of the pin housing.
 - No type of competition or carrying slings
 - Range finders
 - Crossbows
 - Broad-head hunting tips
 - “No gloves” or bare fingers (Must use gloves, tabs, or releases)
4. Only one (1) stabilizer will be permitted, not to extend more than 12” from the bow riser.
5. Arrow tips must extend 1” (from the point of the tip) in front of the bow riser.
6. Mechanical releases can be used on compound bows only.
7. If mechanical releases are not used, finger tabs must be used.
8. Standard NAA whistle commands will be used.
9. All shooters must wear arm guards.
10. Hip quiver is required.
11. Maximum draw weight: 60 lbs.

Rifle

In 4-H Shooting Sports we shoot Small Bore Rifle, only .22lr. Rifles for competition can weigh no more than 7.5 lbs., with sights and magazine, without sling. Rifle trigger pull can be no less than 3 lbs.

O CLASS

1. The intent of the O Class rules is to promote target competitions with .22 caliber rim-fire rifles that are low-cost, readily available, sporter-type rifles typically used in informal target shooting, plinking, or small game hunting.
2. Sights will be open with standard front post or bead.

T CLASS (Telescopic/Tactical)

1. Peep/aperture sights, scopes up to 6x.
2. The following rifles are allowed to be used T class- AR style with M-4 stocks, aftermarket stocks for standard rifles (10-22, etc.)

Youth can use any rifle deemed safe and suitable by the instructor.

Shotgun

1. 4-H typically recommends 20 gauge or 12 gauge because of ammo availability.
2. Shot size allowed: 7.5, 8, 8.5, 9; 1300 feet per second (FPS) maximum
3. ONLY factory loads will be allowed; no reloaded ammunition is allowed.
4. We recommend youth be at least 10 years old for the shotgun discipline, however, size and ability to handle the gun are the deciding factors, so shotgun size is important for youth shooters. Participation is at the coaches discretion.

Air Rifle

1. .177 caliber air rifles less than 7.5 pounds with metallic sights are permitted.
2. No telescopic sights allowed.
3. Trigger pull must be a minimum of 1.5 lbs.
4. Air Rifles that are officially approved include all those listed in [Civilian Marksmanship Program \(CMP\) publication](#) "National Standard Three Position Air Rifle Rules" section 4.2.1. Any rifle not included in this list that complies with the requirements of the Sporter Air Rifle Rules must be submitted for a decision prior to the competition and may be added to the list of approved rifles.
5. Slings are allowed for the prone and kneeling or sitting positions. Slings must be 1.25 inches or less in width.
6. Rifles are limited to less than 700 FPS for safety concerns.

Pellets must be flat nosed or wad cutter type pellets.

Air Pistol

1. Any .177 caliber (4.5 mm) air pistol weighing less than 3.3 pounds with a trigger pull of at least 17.6 ounces, metallic sights only.
2. Overall size is limited to those that will permit the pistol to be completely enclosed in a rectangular box having inside dimensions of 420mm x 200mm x 70mm (approximately 16.35" x 7.87" x 2.76").
3. Pellets must be single loaded.
4. Pellets must be flat nosed or wad cutter type pellets.

Small Bore Pistols

Seniors Only

1. Any pistol (single-shot or semi-automatic) or revolver. The pistol shall most closely match the description of a pistol of the [NRA Production Division](#) - except as noted in Rule 3.4 or a rule specified in this synopsis. A Production Firearm is one which is or has been a catalog item readily available to the general public, equipped with factory notch and post sights.
2. All standard safety features of firearms must operate properly.
3. The firearm shall have no visible internal or external modifications except as noted in the [National 4-H Tournament rules](#).
 - Barrel length, including cylinder, not more than 10 inches.
 - Trigger pull no less than 2 pounds.
 - .22 caliber rimfire – long rifle
 - Any sights, including telescopic, are permitted with the exception of those sights that project an image on the target.
 - Open sights may be adjustable but not over 10--inch sight radius.

Muzzle Loading

1. Any safe muzzleloader will be allowed.
2. Sights will be open iron sights, peep or aperture, no telescopic sights.
3. Only patched round ball ammunition is allowed.
4. Maximum load allowed will be 60 grains.
5. No wooden ram rods allowed.