

2023 Shooting Sports Contest

Competition Eligibility Rules

1. Every competitor must be currently enrolled in the 4-H shooting sports project.
2. Every competitor must possess a valid Colorado Hunter Education Safety card and must upload it to 4HOnline prior to 5:00 PM on the Monday before the competition begins, regardless of the competition category.
3. Senior division teams (for the state contest) and individuals are youth ages 14 to 18 years as of December 31 of the current 4-H year.
4. Junior division teams (for the state contest) and individuals are youth ages 8 to 13 years as of December 31 of the current 4-H year.
5. Junior age youth may compete as seniors, if desired, but seniors may not compete as juniors. Juniors cannot enter both age divisions in the same class. A senior team must have at least two seniors on it.
6. All youth who plan on competing in the County Shoot must annually attend one of the countywide safety training sessions regardless of previous safety training or experience. The sessions will consist of a general safety review followed by discipline specific safety workshops. Youth must attend, and be signed off for receiving, training in each of their disciplines (Archery, Rifle [air or .22], Shotgun, Pistol [air or .22], Muzzleloader). If unable to attend one of the scheduled Pueblo County sessions, arrangements may be possible to attend similar training with another county. If unable to attend training in another county, you may submit a letter to the Shooting Sports Council explaining the circumstances and requesting an individual safety training session with the discipline superintendent or a designated instructor. 2023 training sessions will be:

March 4, 2023 12:30 PM, Colorado Building, Colorado State Fairgrounds

March 7, 2023 6:00 PM PM, Colorado Building, Colorado State Fairgrounds

7. Every shooting sports member who plans on competing in the County Shoot MUST participate in a least one county sanctioned qualifying match, in each discipline in which they are registered, prior to the County Fair Shoot. EXCEPT AS FOLLOWS: A senior 4-H member may be excused from the requirements to participate in a qualifying match in any discipline in which they have competed in the two previous, consecutive year's county shoots. To be excused, the youth must submit a letter to the Shooting Sports Council requesting excusal and stating which discipline they are asking to be excused from. Additionally, the letter must include a signed statement from a certified 4-H Pueblo County shooting sports instructor in each discipline being requested stating that he/she has observed the youth practice this year and certifies they are qualified in all disciplines being requested. **The letter must be submitted to the Shooting Sports Council through the Extension Office by June 1 each year.** Members who are unable to attend the scheduled qualifying matches and do not meet these minimum requirements may submit a letter to the Shooting Sports Council by June 1 AND attend the June Shooting Sports Council meeting to discuss their individual case.
 - a. Course of Fire for Shotgun: Members can shoot one round of the classification that they plan to register for County Fair (i.e. You plan to shoot Trap- one round needs to be shot; Trap and Skeet- one round of each; Trap, Skeet & 5-Stand- one round of trap and skeet). Members who plan to shoot Skeet and 5-Stand during County Fair competition must have shot Skeet in at least one sanctioned qualifying match prior Fair.
8. Members must shoot at the designated time during the scheduled County Fair competition. Exceptions will be made for conflicts with other 4-H County Fair competitions, but the shooter must make arrangements in advance with the discipline Superintendents. State Fair qualifying score eligibility is determined only by the County Fair shoot.
9. In all disciplines, youth must declare the individual classes that they will be shooting in on the county fair entry forms, which are due by June 1. Additions will not be permitted after this date; however, scratches will be allowed pending superintendent approval.

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Shooting Sports E-Record Policy

1. All Shooting Sports record books must achieve a score of 70% or more to be eligible to enroll in that project and compete in it the following year.
2. Your 2022 E-record score will be used for eligibility to participate in the disciplines included in the e-Record in the 2023 Pueblo County Fair. If a youth did not drop a project by the project add/drop date of March 1, 2023, the youth is still required to complete a record book to avoid a score of 0% to be eligible to enroll the following year in that discipline.
3. Anyone with a learning disability should provide us with a letter from their school Special Education Teacher and special arrangements may be made to grade the e-record.
4. Record books are due to the CSU Extension Office **September 11, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.**
5. A county panel will grade all of the e-records. All record books that receive a blue ribbon will qualify to be judged for Champion and Reserve Champion Shooting Sports Record Book in each age division: Junior, Intermediate and Senior. These Best Record awards will be given out at Achievement Night in the fall.

Contest Rules

Pueblo County will follow the Colorado State 4-H Shooting Sports rule book. These complete rules can be found online at: <http://www.co4hshooting.org>. This rule book will govern the County Fair shoot. Exceptions may be made if the county does not own the required targets (silhouettes, 3D targets, etc.).

Equipment and Ammunition Requirements

1. All competitors are encouraged to use their own equipment.
2. Each .22 rifle, shotgun, .22 pistol and Muzzleloading shooter must bring and use personal eye and ear protective gear while shooting. Air rifle/pistol shooters need protective eye glasses only. Archers must have a quiver, arm guard and finger protection (unless using a release).
3. Archers it is **MANDATORY** that you case your bow and arrows during transport from the FITA range to 3D range during County Fair competition. If you fail to do so, it will result in the competitor being *disqualified* from the entire Archery competition by the Archery Superintendent.
4. Air rifle shooters will need 20 rounds of ammunition for each competition category they enter and .22 rifle shooters will need 40 rounds. Practice ammunition is extra above the 20 or 40 rounds. All .22 caliber ammunition should be long-rifle. Air and .22 pistol shooters will need sufficient ammunition to shoot 24 record shots plus sight-in shots.
5. Shotgun shooters will need 50 rounds for competition plus extras for tie breakers. Advanced shotgun shooters will need 75 rounds for competition plus extras for tie breakers.
6. Muzzleloading shooters will need supplies for 10 record shots plus sight in.
7. Competitors must bring all needed ammunition with them. Ammunition will be stored in a safe location until it is brought to the range.
8. Regardless of equipment choice, category limitations will apply as defined in the current Colorado 4-H Shooting Sports Rule Book.

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County Fair Competition Awards

Awards for all classes to be offered on the following basis:

Individual: Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, Champion/1st place ribbon, Reserve Champion/2nd place ribbon, and 3rd through 10th place ribbons.

If there are more than 10 entries in a class, the entries below 10th place will receive a blue, red, or white ribbon depending on the percentage of successful shots:

100% to 50% of the possible points = blue

49% to 25% of the possible points = red

24% to 0% = white

Grand and Reserve Grand will be given in the following classifications:

Archery Compound (highest event score in traditional, limited, OR unlimited)

Archery Recurve (highest event score in traditional OR limited)

.22 Hunt and Scope (highest event score in hunt OR scope)

.22 3P and 4P (highest event score in 3P OR 4P)

Shooting Sports Youth Award

This award takes into account a 4-Hers accomplishments in shooting sports, as well as their participation in the 4-H program as a whole. This award will be given out at Achievement Night in the fall.

The "REQUIRED" items must be submitted to be considered for this award.

Highest event value in the discipline added to scores in each category below	1000 points max
Record Book* (Required minimum score of 70% on the initial due date) *Submit ONE final record book containing all disciplines.	100 points max
4-H Portfolio/Report Form (Optional – will be used as 2 nd tie-breaker in the event of a tie)	The point value assigned to 4-H Portfolio after grading will be added towards youth Shooting Sports award point total.
Discipline Specific Shooting Sports Project Exhibit* – Display Board, Standalone or Decorative Item (Required) *If a youth submits both a display board, standalone and decorative item in one discipline, only the highest scoring exhibit will be counted. *If a youth submits a decorative item, they must declare which discipline the item will fit upon request.	Blue – 100 points, Red – 75 points, White – 25 points Additional Points: Grand Champion – 25 points Reserve Grand Champion – 20 points Class Champ (not Grand or R Grand) – 15 points Class Reserve Champ (not Grand or R Grand) – 10 points
In the event of a tie...	1 st Tie-breaker: Top E-Record score (on initial due date) 2 nd Tie-breaker: Top 4-H Portfolio score 3 rd Tie-breaker: Top Discipline Specific Shooting Sports Project Exhibit score.

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*Four total archery awards will be given: one each for recurve and compound per age division.

*Four total .22 rifle awards will be given: one each for 3p/4p and hunt/scope per age division.

Contestants for the State Shooting Competition

1. Junior and senior teams are composed of up to six persons for each event except shotgun, which has up to five members.
2. All members will be scored as individuals. The top four will be combined for the team score.
3. Junior age youth may compete on senior teams, if desired, but seniors may not compete as juniors. Juniors cannot enter both age divisions in the same class.
 - a. Senior teams must have at least two seniors on them.
 - b. Juniors cannot go to Nationals.

Outdoor Skills Contest

Contest Description: The participants will be required to take part in a performance challenge that involves shooting and orienteering challenges. They will take a written test related to ethical and environmental decisions in the outdoors.

Contest Superintendent: Jennifer Roberts

Age Divisions:

- Junior (8-13)
- Senior (14-18)

Rules:

1. The outdoor skills contest is for participants who are enrolled in the Outdoor Skills discipline.
2. The total possible score is 450-500 points.
3. Each participant will be required to bring ONE compass for use during the contest.
4. Each participant will be required to bring required safety equipment needed for .22 Rifle and Shotgun, if they chose to participate in them.

Contest Format:

1. Written Test
 - a. Each age division will have its own age appropriate test.
 - b. Test will consist of multiple choice, True/False, fill-in-the blank, and may include "ranking" questions (i.e. rank 4 items from best choice to worst).
2. Compass Course
 - a. Junior participants will run one (1) course
 - b. Seniors will run two (2) courses
3. Shooting
 - a. Archery
 - b. Air Rifle
 - c. .22 Rifle
 - d. Shotgun
4. Real-Life Scenario
 - a. Applying knowledge, skills and ability to Reality

Written Test: (100 points)

Content

- i. Wildlife Identification: including skulls, fur, tracks, pictures of animals, horns, wings & scat
- ii. Wildlife habit and habitat
- iii. Orienteering questions about how to use & read USGS maps
- iv. Basic First Aid questions
- v. General & basic questions about firearms, archery equipment and about hunting with firearms & archery

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- vi. Outdoor Ethics
- vii. Hunting Safety

Resources

NRA Hunter's Guide
4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program (WHEP) national manual

Equipment- clipboard, pencil, & any other supplies needed for the written test will be provided.

Compass & Map Course: (50 points)

Procedure

The course will be plotted with flags/stakes. Participants will be given a course card that dictates starting at a specific flag number. Two or more compass headings and distances will be given on the card—that if accomplished correctly—will bring the participant back to another specific flag. Score is calculated from how close the participant comes to the designated end flag.

Map

Questions can be asked for the participant to identify or utilize for location. The map will be provided by the Superintendent.

Equipment

Participant may provide their own compass, but it must be approved by the range officer. Some necessary equipment – including the compass, will be provided.

Resources

USGS flyer that is titled "Topographic Map Symbols" (free from USGS)

Shooting: Contestants are expected to participate in both Archery and Air Rifle. Contestants can shoot all disciplines to include Archery, Air Rifle, .22 Rifle and/or Shotgun. They can drop one score in the shooting competition of the event. **(300 points)**

General Description:

- a. Targets- Archery will utilize 3D targets; pellet rifle will use 2D animal targets.
- b. Distances will vary but will be no greater than 40 yards.
- c. Up to 10 shots for archery, up to 10 shots for pellet rifle, 25 shots for shotgun and 20 shots for .22 Rifle
- d. Each participant may use whatever shooting position they determine is their best for each target. A shooting point will be determined for each target but shooting position is up to the participant.
- e. Shot opportunities will be presented as to simulate a hunting environment and/or situation.
- f. Emphasis is on Hunting & Outdoor Skills and not as much on shooting skills/accuracy. High shooting scores will help the overall score for an individual but will not be a significant portion of the competition.
- g. Scoring will involve things such as correctly identifying the appropriate kill zone that would facilitate a quick, clean harvest; shoot/no shoot, and other decisions involved with situation/scenario – not only shot placement. Scores are calculated according to tournament scoring.

Archery Equipment:

SS Council will provide recurve bows.

Air Rifle Equipment:

SS Council will provide air rifles.

.22 Rifle and Shotgun Equipment:

Must be provided by the participant along with required safety equipment.

Real-Life Scenario: (50 points- optional dependent on resources the day of competition)

- a. The participant will apply their knowledge, skills and abilities to a real-life situation. The scenario will deal with an outdoor adventure—hunting or camping trip, etc. The team will make a 5-7 minute oral presentation. The participant may also be asked to physically

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demonstrate and/or assemble necessary equipment, supplies, etc. needed for the situation.

Restrictions—Participants must not possess references, resources or aides of any kind; written, recorded, or electronic. There shall be no communications between the participants, coaches or other individuals during the competition.

Awards—Danish system according to scores.

***Note: Outdoor Skills & Hunting has a wide variety of activities to utilize during contest day. Therefore, all of the above criteria is subject to change with notice to all members participating in advance prior to contest day.*