

Teton County 4-H Shooting Sports

Mission

The purpose of the Teton County 4-H Shooting Sports program is to educate youth about the safe handling and operation of firearms, as well as provide a safe environment where both youth and adults can enjoy shooting sports. This project is designed to enhance a young shooter's experience and teach them the basics of safe and effective shooting.

Goals

Goals of the shooting sports program in Teton County include:

- Teach safety and proper technique by utilizing trained volunteer instructors
- Help youth achieve their projects in 4-H
- Foster enjoyment in all aspects of shooting sports

Safety

Everyone involved, including parents, youth, instructors, and range officers, will observe safety as a first priority when involved in the Teton County 4-H shooting sports program. This means listening to the trained instructors, watching diligently for safety issues that may arise, and paying attention during all activities. A certified 4-H leader **must** be present at all 4-H shooting sports programs.

On the shooting range, the Range Officer has final say on safety. Everyone involved in 4-H shooting sports should follow the RO's instructions immediately. There are certain risks involved in shooting sports. The duty of the RO is to minimize those risks. All youth must wear eye protection, as well as ear protection for designated projects.

Administration

The program will be administered by the Teton County Extension Office through a County Coordinator. The Coordinator is responsible for the budget, setting meeting times and places, providing information to the **4-H Newsletter** and setting the schedule of the regular shooting times and places. In times when there is no active volunteer County Coordinator, the Extension Agent will act in this role. Ultimately, the responsibility for the program rests on the Extension Agent. All equipment that is county owned is the responsibility of the Extension office. Additional rules may arise as deemed necessary for safety by the RO, or by the County Coordinator.

Participation

Teton County 4-H shooting sports is open to any enrolled member of 4-H who is at least 12 years of age, according to the 4-H year. We will allow those who are considering joining to shoot with the group, but they must fill out and sign the same forms as active members. Similarly, leader volunteers who are present must be enrolled as leaders for a shooting sports project.

There is an additional fee to participate in the shooting sports projects. These vary depending on the project. These funds pay for improvements, equipment, and costs associated with shooting.

A release form must be signed by the shooter and parent before shooting. There is also additional forms to sign for shooting sports where handguns will be used.

Due to the nature of the discipline, leaders will have to physically, although respectfully and appropriately, touch youth members for the purpose of getting them into proper position for shooting. If you object to this, please submit a letter to the Teton County Extension office.

Participants are responsible to dress appropriately. Weather in Montana can be sudden and unexpected, so make sure you come prepared. Generally, clothing will include long pants, sleeved (short or long) shirts and appropriate footwear. Clothing that may distract or cause safety concerns may cause a shooter to miss the event. Safety concerns are the decision of the RO. The Coordinator has the final word concerning the dress code.

Parents

Parents are encouraged to attend all shooting events. Parents may be asked to provide assistance with scoring, recording scores and attendance or other duties as they arise. The shooting areas must be kept clean and neat. Pets and observers must not be allowed on the range. Observers will keep noise and distractions to a minimum. No flash photography will be allowed and cell phones will be either shut off or put on vibrate mode.

Shooting Members

Member will obey all range commands, be expected to progress in their abilities, learn more of their equipment and sport. Members are expected to be in control of their equipment, attitudes and behavior. Members are expected to be at the shooting site ready to participate at the agreed times. Members will treat all equipment, facilities, adults and other members with respect. Members are reminded that this is a 4-H function and all 4-H general rules apply.

I agree to abide by the above rules as I participate in the Teton County 4-H Shooting Sports program.

4-H Member signature

Date

4-H Parent signature

Date

Extension Agent

Date