2018 ILLINOIS 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS STATE SHOOTS

Archery: September 8 – Pekin Archers, Inc., 2501 Edgewater Drive, Pekin. Cost: $25/participant

Shotgun: September 15 – Bunker Hill Shooting Park, 11374 Prairie Dell Rd, Bunker Hill. Cost: $50/participant

Rifle and Pistol: September 29 and 30 – Central Illinois Precision Shooters, 6125 County Rd 1175 N, Bloomington. Cost $45/participant/event

STATE SHOOT RULES and EVENTS

ALL PARTICIPANTS - Upon arrival to the property, please take your equipment and ammunition/arrow to the registration site. All shotguns, air rifles, pistols, small bore (.22) rifles and compound bows must be unloaded, cased or similar. Recurve bows must be unstrung.

Since each State Shoot will fall on a different weekend, eligible 4-H members will be able to compete in multiple state events rather than only one. They will be able to compete in a maximum of 4 State Shooting events – 1. Shotgun. 2. Archery- either recurve or compound 3. Rifle - either air or .22, and 4. Air Pistol

VOLUNTEERS – The state shooting events cannot be held without the assistance of many adult volunteers. We will need many for these events, as example in Shotgun we will need 6 Range Officers and 6 Scorers so 12 already for shotgun. In addition, we will need help with scoring, registration, armory (area for shotguns and ammunition, lunch, etc. You can see the number we need adds up quickly. Roughly we will need: Pistol/Rifle – 5; Archery – 10; Shotgun – 15.

We may be requiring volunteers from counties who have 4-H’ers participating. Please consider assisting if possible. Parents you do not need to volunteer the entire day. We are flexible.
GENERAL RULES FOR ALL DISCIPLINES

Entry Requirements

A. **AGE:** Only youth who are age eligible for 4-H in 2018-19 may participate. That means no one who will be 19 by September 1, 2018 may compete.
   
   a. **Eligibility:** The state shoot is open to youth who will be 4-H members during the 2018-19 4-H year and are members of a certified 4-H Shooting Sports 4-H Club in their county and completing in the discipline for which they have received instruction.
   
   b. **Minimum Age:** Youth must be at least 14 years of age by Jan. 1, 2019.
   
   c. **Maximum Age for State Contest:** Youth cannot be 19 years of age or older by Sept. 1, 2018.
   
   d. **Maximum Age for National Team:** Youth cannot be 19 years of age by Jan. 1, 2019. Youth in their last year of 4-H who were 18 on Sept. 1, 2018, but who turn 19 in September, October, November, or December of 2018 may participate in the state contest but cannot be selected for the national contest.

B. Our State Shoots are intended to provide an opportunity for our Illinois 4-H members to compete with those with like interests from throughout Illinois. First, we wish to provide a very safe environment and expect that all participants follow all rules and polices of the State Shooting events. The events that will be offered at the State Shoots are difficult as they are the same events that the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships offer. The events will also provide the opportunity to select State Teams that will compete at Nationals in June 23-28, 2019, in Grand Island, NE.

C. By entry to this Illinois state shooting event the participant, parent and certified leader/instructor is verifying that the youth has demonstrated basic safety, and possess basic knowledge and skills required to participate in this State event. Any participant, which, in the opinion of the range official, does not exhibit this basic knowledge and skill set, will be excused from the competition.

D. **Registration** for all four State Shoots will be done electronically. Each State Shoot you are participating in, you must register separately. All fees must be paid by credit card at the time of registration. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE** – August 15, 2018

E. The contests are all separate registrations. Youth may participate in multiple contests. Please use the following urls to register for the event. Events that a 4-H’er may compete – shotgun; either air rifle, smallbore rifle, or air pistol and either recurve or compound archery – maximum of four.

F. **The Emergency Youth Medical form, Agreement to Assume Risk forms, Code of Conduct, and Photo Release must be brought to the registration site by the participants – for each event.** The individual electronic registration forms and appropriate fees are to be sent back electronically when completed. Following the registration deadline, counties that have youth registered will be contacted to verify the participants’ eligibility (enrolled in the project and in good standing in the 4-H Club)

G. Each contestant must also meet any and all other requirements set by the State Shooting Sports Advisory Committee, State Coordinator or requirements set forth by their County for eligibility to compete in State contests.
**Safety**

SAFETY IS ALWAYS THE PRIMARY CONSIDERATION – ALWAYS STAY OUTSIDE OF ANY STAKED YELLOW CAUTION TAPE-D AREA!

Any violations of accepted safety rules are grounds for immediate disqualification. No Warning Required! Each participant, coach, range personnel, or parent on the firing line will also wear appropriate eye and/or ear protection for all shooting events.

A. **Eye Protection** – shooting glasses or equivalent prescription glasses are required for all events involving air or powder driven projectiles. They are recommended for archery as well but are not required. ISU or UIT glasses may be worn only if both eyes are adequately protected. All persons on or near the firing line are required to have eye protection.

B. **Ear Protection** – In any event where noise is a recognized hazard to future hearing (i.e. if it goes ‘bang’) hearing protection is required of all persons on or near the ranges. Ear plugs or head style ear muffs may be worn at the discretion of the shooter, range officer or coach: but proper hearing protection is required. Such equipment may be used in air or archery events if the shooter desires, but is not required.

C. **Cased Requirement:** All firearms, air guns, and bows, must be in case at all times – range officials will give the final command for uncasing. Recurve bows to be unstrung.

D. **Open and Empty:** All firearms will remain open and empty until the shooter is on the range and the command to load or fire, is given.

E. **Indicators:** Safety Procedure for Air Rifle, and Small bore Rifle – while in the case and when brought to the firing line. Air rifles shall have a weed eater string (of bright color) in the barrel and protruding a minimum of six inches out of the muzzle and out of the action (Clear barrel indicator-CBI). Small bore rifles should use some type of Open Bolt Indicators (OBI).

F. **Muzzle Control:** Shooters must maintain control of their muzzles at all times. Firearms must be carried in the muzzle up position whenever uncased on the range unless the action is hinged and broken open. Regardless of condition, muzzles may not be pointed toward or rested upon any part of the body of the shooter or another person. Violation of this rule may result in a warning, disqualification from a round, or disqualification from a match.

G. **Audio headphones or ear pieces and cell phones are not permitted on the firing line or the field.** Once an individual or team is called to compete, ear pieces or headphones must be removed and remain off during the competition. Spectators should also be sensitive to the shooters and turn off ringtones when near the competition.

H. **Range officials have the right to check all firearms and archery equipment prior to its use in competition to determine that it meets qualifications and/or that it is safe.** Equipment determined to be unsafe will not be allowed on the range.
**Equipment**
Contestants are responsible for providing their own ammunition, equipment, safety glasses and ear protection. ‘Own equipment’ could mean personal, county or other means of using equipment. The State 4-H Shooting Sports Program will not be offering equipment. Some equipment borrowing will be allowed. (Shotgun shells - 12 and 20 gauges will be available for purchase at the facility, if not bringing your own.)

**Spotters**
Use of spotters - check individual shooting disciplines.

**Dress Code**
Participants are expected to dress appropriately. Team uniforms or shirts with the use of the 4-H logo are encouraged, but not required. Both young people and adults should wear attire appropriate for the weather while remaining modest and socially acceptable.
All shooters and coaches should remember that their photographs may be taken or an individual be asked to interview for the media. Remember that you represent all of 4-H Shooting Sports - Make it a positive image. Clothing with alcohol or tobacco advertisements, sexual connotations, inflammatory & other inappropriate messages or images as determined by match officials are prohibited. **Footwear:** No open toed shoes are permitted on the firing line. The footwear must completely cover the foot. Crocs, flip flops, sandals, etc. are not permitted.

**Accommodations**
In the event that any participant is physically incapable of complying with the general rules or specified discipline rules, the event staff will make every reasonable effort to accommodate that individual, allowing them to compete. Any accommodation made must not jeopardize range safety. Specific arrangements must be made and approved **IN ADVANCE, prior to pre-registration**, with the State Coordinator. The Chief Range Officer must also be notified prior to relay on the day of the state shoot.

**County Teams/Squads**
Counties may have as many individuals as they desire within the shooting events. Teams/squads will consist of 4 individuals. In the event a county has more competitors in a discipline category than required to fill a team then the county may have more than one team/squad. High team/4-H Club scores will be based on the scores from the top four, 4-H Club shooters from the 4-H Club.

**Scoring**
Individual scores will be tabulated at the completion of each event. When possible, scores will be posted as targets are scored and tabulated. **Please leave scoring personnel alone so scores can be posted as soon as possible.** After targets are scored, youth shooters may review under supervision of the scorer. Each shooting discipline scoring system will be determined by the State 4-H Planning Committee.

**Appeals/challenges – Scoring**
Competitors only (not adults) may challenge their score in an event. Score keepers will not listen to an adult only the shooter. The first challenge must be done within 30 minutes of the announcement or final posting of scores. If not satisfied after the ruling on the challenge, the shooter must immediately ask to appeal. That appeal will be handled by the Chief Range Officer and/or the Chief Scorer. No scoring challenges are allowed after targets leave the official scoring area unless at the specific request of the range official. Other grievances should first be addressed to the line officer or range officer – by the shooter NOT by an adult. The Chief Range officer will make a determination on the grievance. A final appeal of a decision or ruling by a Chief Range Officer must be directed to the match director within 30 minutes of the ruling and must be accompanied by a $50 fee. If the appeal is upheld and the decision reversed, the $50 will be returned. If not, the $50 stays with Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports.
Spectator Interference
Disruption or interference by parents, coaches or other individuals will not be permitted; this includes parents hovering over the scorers. There is no contact/discussion allowed with the participant by the coach, parents, or anyone during the shooting activity. Sanctions ranging from a warning to ejection from the grounds or disqualification of an entire team will be imposed for interference with the operation of the match or disruption of the events on a firing line or field. Every effort will be made to keep these events fair, child-centered and positive.

Coach Removal
4-H reserves the right to remove any coach from the range or firing line in the event that his or her behavior is deemed detrimental or distracting to their own shooter or others. Coaches should remain positive and supportive being careful not to disrupt other shooters. In the event that a coach is removed from the firing line, another coach may substitute for him/her at the discretion of the range officer.

Sharing of Equipment
Sharing equipment is allowed, but no more than two people on a team may share a piece of equipment. This is an allowance that helps those teams and individuals with limited resources, while at the same time, helps match efficiency by limiting the number of relays that must be conducted.

Alcohol/Tobacco Policy
No alcoholic beverages may be consumed on the grounds during this event. The use of tobacco is also prohibited. Violation of this policy is ground for ejection from the premises.
2018 STATE SHOOT AWARDS

Ribbons
Participation ribbons will be given to all 4-H participants. Ribbons, various colors, (printed 1st to 10th) place will also be awarded to the top 10 individuals in shotgun, archery recurve, archery compound, air rifle, air pistol, and small bore rifle.

Trophy Belt Buckle will be awarded to the top individual in:
- Top Individual – Shotgun
- Top Individual – Archery Compound
- Top Individual – Archery Recurve
- Top Individual – Air Rifle
- Top Individual – Small bore Rifle
- Top Individual – Air Pistol

Medallions will be awarded to the 2nd – 5th place individuals in each of the six disciplines.

Medallions will be awarded to top five 4-H Clubs in: (top 4 individual scores from 4-H Clubs will compose teams)
- Top Shotgun 4-H Club Team
- Top Compound Archery 4-H Club Team
- Top Recurve Archery 4-H Club Team
- Top Smallbore Rifle 4-H Club Team
- Top Air Rifle 4-H Club Team
- Top Air Pistol Team

Travelling Trophy
A ‘travelling’ trophy will be awarded to the top 4-H Club who demonstrates the best overall/accumulative score in 4 of the 5 events of archery recurve, archery compound, air rifle, small bore rifle and shotgun. 4-H clubs will choose the 4 events they wish to be scored. (For this our first year, accumulative score will be composed of the 4 ‘best’ teams representing the 4-H Club (top 3 individual scores will compose the ‘team’) – as the event grows the top 4 scores will compose teams. Only one score can be used per shooting event – i.e. – a 4-H club cannot use two scores from shotgun – only the one. If a 4-H Club wins the overall score for three consecutive years, they keep the trophy/plaque. Adjustment to scoring of disciplines may be required to determine winner.

Additional Information
There will be food and drink available for purchase at all three locations. Minimal menu at Rifle and Archery.

You will see numerous adults during the day wearing orange vests, striped ‘referee shirts’, and the colored State Shoot shirts. These are the folks that made this event happen – please extend your thanks as they have put in many hours of work so this event could occur.
Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports State Team Selection,
National 4-H Invitational, and General State/National Information

Some clarifying points of interest for our State Shoot and the National Invitational:
The Illinois State 4-H Shoots is held in the early fall of the year. It is a privilege rather than a right to represent the Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports programs on the State teams going to National. Illinois will select state teams from the State 4-H Shoot who will then compete in the annual National 4-H Invitational typically held in June of the following year. This provides the opportunity for coaches to be selected and work with the teams until the June National event - for the shooting discipline teams of: Shotgun, Air Rifle, Smallbore Rifle, Archery Compound, Archery Recurve, and Pistol. For our State Shoots, a 4-H member currently enrolled in the specific shooting discipline may compete in our State 4-H Shoot as many times as they so wish – even if they win it. The National Invitational only allow a 4-H member to compete once in any given shooting event.

Selection criteria of Illinois’ State Teams for National 4-H Invitational:

1. Age Requirements – Refer to the age requirement on Page 2.
2. **A 4-H member may only participate in a shooting event at National once.** Example – a 4-H’er makes the Illinois State Team in shotgun and decides to participate at National – once they participate at National they can no longer do so in shotgun, but may in other offered shooting events if making the State Team.
3. Must follow all of the National 4-H Invitational registration, rules and policies (found at our Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports Website: [http://web.extension.illinois.edu/shootingsports/](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/shootingsports/)).
4. Individuals selected for the state teams must participate in all of the three shooting events for each event at National – i.e. – Shotgun - 100 rounds of trap; 100 rounds of skeet; 100 rounds of sporting clays on three separate days. Archery/compound; archery/recurve, air rifle; and, smallbore rifle also have three shooting events – found at the website listed above, under Event Synopsis.
5. The top four scoring individuals will be selected from our offered State Shoots. Scores will need to be somewhat ‘competitive’ of those that have been attained at recent National shooting events – (we do not want to send our Illinois 4-H members to an event that they would become disillusioned and can only attend one time – something to be taken into consideration when the selection process is undertaken). For an idea of the quality of shooters attending National, you can check out the scores of this year’s National by visiting: [http://4h.unl.edu/ntlshootingsportsinvitational/results](http://4h.unl.edu/ntlshootingsportsinvitational/results)
6. Those selected to attend must make the commitment to attend the entire event which in 2019 is June 23-28 in Grand Island, NB.
7. Must have letter of recommendation/shooting background, and all necessary registration material completed and turned in on designated date – to be determined.
8. Each team must have an adult coach who has been approved as a 4-H volunteer by the Illinois State 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator. The coaches are expected to work with the team/s from the State 4-H Shoot until the National event. Coaches may also travel with their respective teams to National and take care of specific team responsibilities, and may serve as the chaperone for the respective team members. Some funds will also be provided to the coaches by the Illinois 4-H Foundation.
9. The Illinois 4-H Foundation has graciously agreed to pay for some of the expenses incurred including the registration fee. Individual 4-H clubs and county programs may be able to assist as well.
10. We highly encourage family members of those selected to attend as this event is strongly supported by family members, from throughout the country.
11. We may not send teams in all of the areas that we currently offer – we are very new to this National opportunity as compared to most of the states that have been competing on this scale for 25-30 years.
Illinois 4-H State Shotgun Shoot
September 15, 2018
Brittany Shooting Park, Bunker Hill, IL

Register @ go.illinois.edu/4hshotgun
Registration fee of $50 covers, lunch, t-shirt, 100 clays, building fee, etc.

Schedule
8 to 9 AM – Registration
9 to 9:15 AM – General Safety Program and Pledges
9:15 to 9:30 AM – Shooting Begins
Noon – Lunch
Shooting Resumes
Shooting ends around 4PM
Awards program when scores are tallied

GENERAL SHOTGUN RULES
Shells - 12 and 20 gauges available for purchase on facility, if not bringing your own. NO RELOADS PERMITTED

Equipment - 12, 16, 20, 28, and .410 gauges of Shotguns are accepted. 10 gauge is not allowed.

a) Release triggers are not allowed.

b) Eye and ear protection and a shell pouch are required and must be provided by the shooter.

c) Case - Shotguns are to be cased and to remain in a case until directed to uncase by range officials. Cased shotguns and ammunition are to be brought to assigned ‘armory’ upon arrival on grounds for safety inspection and storage.

Safety
a) Muzzle Control: Shooters must maintain control of their muzzles at all times. Firearms must be carried in the muzzle up position whenever uncased. Hinged actions may be carried, broke open, over the shoulder and with the muzzle(s) down and in front of the body...not with muzzle pointing backward. Regardless of condition, muzzles may not be pointed toward or rested upon any part of the body of the shooter or another person. NO resting of the muzzle on shoe or toe pad. Pads to rest muzzle on are permitted – but must be a pad on the ground...not any part of the body.

b) Action must be open & empty until at the shooting station and the shooter is ready to call for the target.

c) Shotguns are to be cased and to remain in a case until range official allows them to be racked (immediately prior to shooting). No handling is permitted until called to the field/station. Must be cased when moving between ranges.
d) Audio headphones or ear pieces are not permitted on the firing line or the field. Once an individual or team is called to compete, ear pieces or headphones must be removed and remain off during the competition.

e) Scheduling/squadding: Normally, a county squad of 5 will shoot together if requested. At the 4-H National Championship squads/teams of 4 are used. We will follow Nationals standard – 4 per squad. A county may have multiple squads. **Counties wishing to squad their shooters must do so by identifying them on the electronic registration form. To do so type in the names of the other members of the squad.** Shooters are expected to follow the schedule. If not present when called, the participant may be disqualified.

Match officials have the authority to inspect ammunition and make determination if ammo meets requirements.

f) Targets declared “no bird” or “no target” shall not be scored.

g) One lost target shall be scored on:
   - Balk or failure of the gun to fire due to fault of the shooter (safety left on, failure to load a shell, etc.)
   - If a shell having once misfired is used again and fails to fire the results shall be considered a fault on the part of the shooter and scored lost.
   - Failure to load the shell into proper barrel for singles.

**Scoring**

a) Scoring will be done on the field/range. Challenges should be immediate. Shooters should challenge a ruling on the field immediately, if they feel a referee has missed a call. Once the next shooter has fired, the right of appeal is lost. The range officer in counsel with the scorer will decide the issue.
   The decision on the field is final and not subject to further appeal.

b) Tie scores for the top 10 individual places, if needed, will be broken by a shoot off. Shoot-offs will be conducted at the completion of all entries. Individual - Determined by shoot-off.

   One round (25) from the 16-yard line. After one round at 16 yards and ties still exist, management may increase distance up to 21 yards for second round of 25. If ties still exist after second round, then management may increase distance up to 27 yards if required to break tie.

c) If participant is not present for the shoot-off, he/she will receive the lowest placing of the tie.

d) Team awards: Team placing will be determined by the total score of the highest four, 4-H Club individuals. Breaking of team ties will be determined by the score of the 4th place member, then 3rd, etc.

e) Top 4 scores will determine team score - regardless of how individuals have been squadded. Depending on number of participants, a 4-H Club could have multiple “teams”.
   - **Disqualification:** Participants not abiding by range rules, safety rules, and/or 4-H rules may be disqualified without warning and without recourse. 4-H range officials are responsible for the interpretation of rules and given sole responsibility/authority for the enforcement of said rules.
**Shotgun Event**
A 4-H member will shoot 4 rounds of 25 of trap – 100 total.

a) Ammunition – shooter will provide their own ammunition (also available for purchase at facility). Ammunition must meet the requirements established by the Amateur Trap Association (ATA).

b) No load shall contain more than 1 1/8 ounces of shot. Shot size must be 7 ½ or smaller. Loads must not have a velocity of more than: 1290 fps with a maximum shot charge of 1 1/8 oz., or 1325 fps with a maximum shot charge of 1 oz., or 1350 fps with a maximum shot charge of 7/8 oz. **(No Reloads Permitted)**.

c) Ties – tie scores will shoot rounds of 25 until ties are broken.

*Please be aware that those being selected for the Illinois 4-H Shooting Sports Shotgun team, who will be competing at the National 4-H Invitational, will shoot the following on three separate days at National:
- Day 1 – 100 rounds of trap
- Day 2 – 100 rounds of skeet
- Day 3 – 100 rounds of sporting clays*