



2021 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships General Rules

The 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships follows the guidelines for National 4-H Competitive Events as established by National 4-H Headquarters at the National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

<https://nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource/Competitive%20Events%20R2016.pdf>

By entry in these events, the team coach or shooting sports program coordinator verifies that those youth entered are *bona fide* members of the 4-H program in their respective states, knowledgeable and proficient in the safe use of the equipment, and knowledgeable of the general rules of the events. Match and/or range officials may dismiss or disqualify any participant if he/she believes the participant does not demonstrate the basic proficiency and knowledge required. Violation of any of these policies and/or rules are grounds for disqualification and dismissal from the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships.

The 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships consists of 9 disciplines with 3 events in each:

Discipline	Event 1	Event 2	Event 3
Archery Compound	FITA Round (½ FITA)	Field Round (½ course)	3-D Round
Archery Recurve	Field Round (½ course)	FITA Round (½ FITA)	3-D Round
Air Pistol	Single Shot-Rapid Fire	Air Pistol Silhouette	Slow Fire - Bullseye
Air Rifle	National Standard Three-Position Sporter Air Rifle	Sporter Air Rifle-(Standing)	NRA Sporter Air Rifle Silhouette
Hunting	Wildlife Identification and Wildlife Management LF – Archery	Hunter Skills Map Reading LF – Sporting Clays	Hunter Decision-Making Compass Course LF – Smallbore Rifle
Muzzle-Loading	50 Yard Bullseye	25 Yard Bottles and Haffner Combination	Muzzleloading Rifle Silhouette
Shotgun	Sporting Clays	Skeet	Trap
Smallbore Pistol	Slow-Fire Bullseye – Single Stage	Smallbore Hunter Pistol Silhouette	Camp Perry Round (modified)
Smallbore Rifle	NRA Smallbore Silhouette Rifle	CMP Rimfire Sporter Rifle Match	NRA Three-Position

The above listing is not a firing order. Firing orders will be provided upon check-in prior to the actual start of the matches. Every effort will be made to provide practice or warm-up time on the day prior to each event.

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2021 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships Direct Health Measures

The National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee is very happy to be able to host the 2021 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships in Grand Island “in-person.” Even though these requirements and recommendations are not what was the normal at past events, we are asking for your cooperation in following these guidelines that allows us to host this “in-person” National 4-H event this year. The National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee takes the safety, well-being, and health of all participants, parents, volunteers, and spectators very seriously. You will be immediately notified of any changes if they should occur. Thank you for your cooperation.

Event Expectations

Indoor Events/Activities

- Masking or Face Covering will be **required for all individuals** (participants, coaches, volunteers, parents & spectators. Social distancing expected.
- Masking or Face Covering is required for all participants at indoor shooting ranges, except when participants are actively on the shooting line. Participants must replace their mask or face covering before leaving the shooting line. Mask or face covering is required before scoring any target.
- Hand sanitizing or hand washing stations will be readily available at outdoor/indoor venues/facilities.
- Direction of traffic flow indoors will be designated with signage. Entry and exit points will be designated.
- Team coaches or state coordinators are required to assure that a daily health screening (symptom questionnaire) of their team members and coaches is completed daily.
- State Team Photo: Mask or face covering is required.
- Opening Ceremony: Seating will be assigned on the floor for participants and coaches by state. All spectators, family members, etc., will be seated in the stands.
- Parade of participants by state: States will be announced one by one from the state’s designated floor seating area, delegates of the announced state will parade around the main arena floor and return to their designated seating in the floor area.
- Evening & Final Awards Programs:
 - Seating – Assigned floor seating for participants and coaches by state. All spectators, family members, etc., will be seated in the stands.
 - Awards - Discipline event winners will be called to lineup while maintaining a minimum of 6 feet of spacing between individuals.
 - Awards will then be presented to individuals placing 1st through 10th as they cross the stage. (Individuals, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will proceed to the Official Photo area). All others exit stage and return to their assigned seating area.
 - Team Awards will then be presented to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd place teams in the discipline. These teams will exit the stage to the Official Photo area.
 - Photos – Official individual & team photos will be taken as awards are presented. A second photo backdrop will be available for states & families to take pictures.

Outdoor Events/Activities

- Masking or face covering is required for all participants at shooting ranges except when participants are actively on the shooting line. Participants must replace their mask or face covering before leaving the shooting line to score any target.
- All volunteer crew members are strongly encouraged to practice social distancing and must wear a mask or face covering if social distancing cannot be maintained from other individuals.
- Spectators – Strongly encouraged to wear masks or face coverings at the shooting ranges, as well as to practice social distancing.
- Team coaches or state coordinators are required to assure that a daily health screening (symptom questionnaire) of their team members and coaches is completed daily.



Synopsis of General Rules

I. Participation

1. **4-H Membership** – All 4-H Shooting Sports members in good standing and meeting the criteria below are eligible to compete in 4-H shooting sports events, subject to limitations imposed by the specific event and the rules for active membership instituted by their state. Official 4-H enrollment is required.
2. **Age Requirements** – Participants must be 14 to 18 years of age on January 1st of 2021 to compete at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships.
3. **Official Entry**– Participants and teams must be approved as the official entry by the State 4-H Program Leader or his/her designee. The selection of participants is at the discretion of the State 4-H Program, or the Land Grant University, in which the 4-H Shooting Sports Program resides. A state event is not required to select participants for the national event.
4. **Individual Participation** – All individuals participating as team members are competing concomitantly as individuals. Where teams cannot be formed, individual participants may compete in the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships for individual awards and recognition.
5. **Team Composition** - Teams are composed of no less than 3 and no more than 4 individuals. Each land grant university, operating a state 4-H Shooting Sports Program, is limited to one team per discipline, with a maximum of 36 participants overall.
6. **Team Representation** - No participant may be a member of more than one team or represent more than one 4-H Shooting Sports program in the national event. This does not preclude individuals who change residences and are otherwise eligible from participating as members on any team in 4-H events after meeting the eligibility requirements of the sponsoring 4-H Shooting Sports program.
7. **Event Participation** – Each of the nine disciplines in this competition includes three different events. A given team or individual is restricted to participation in the events in only one discipline in any annual 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships, i.e., no individual may compete in more than one discipline in any given 4-H Shooting Sports National Championship. Participants are expected to complete all individual events in the discipline they represent.
8. **Repeat Participation** - An individual may enter the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships repeatedly, through the process of selection used in their home state. They may participate in an event in which they qualified if they have not previously competed in that discipline in a prior 4-H Shooting Sports National Championship, i.e., they may represent their state in a given discipline only once.
9. **Substitutions** - A team may send a substitute for a registered participant who is unable to attend the Championships. Substitutes must have the written approval of the state Shooting Sports Coordinator and meet all eligibility requirements for participation in the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships. Substitutes will be accepted until the state contact picks up the official registration materials at the Championships.
10. **Post-Secondary Restriction** – Participants may not represent their state in any discipline in which they have engaged in training or competition at the post-secondary level. Thus, members of club or NCAA competitive teams disqualifies otherwise eligible 4-H members from participation in that discipline in the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships. For example, training as a member of a rifle, shotgun, or archery team, either as a club sport or as a NCAA sport, and representing that college or university disqualifies the member from competing in related events at the National Championships.
11. **Amateur Status** – Participants must have amateur status in the discipline they are competing in at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships. Individuals engaging in any of the following practices would disqualify the individual from competing in related events at the National Championships. Amateurism requirements do not allow:
 - Contracts with professional teams
 - Salary for participating in athletics
 - Prize money above actual and necessary expenses
 - Tryouts, practice, or competition as a professional team
 - Benefits from an agent or prospective agent
 - Agreement to be represented by an agent
 - Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition

II. Conduct

1. **4-H Image and Honor** - The 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships is a youth event showcasing a



major component of the 4-H program in the individual states and nationally. Its nature demands that all of us involved in the event from the match directors and state coordinators to the young people, parents and coaches participating must put forward the best image of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program and the 4-H program generally. To protect that public image, use of alcoholic beverages and any use of tobacco products by minors is not permitted on the grounds of the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships. Violation of this policy is grounds for disqualification and dismissal from the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships.

2. **Knowledge of Rules and Procedures** – Where possible, each event in this program has been associated with the appropriate National Governing Body (NGB) for that event. Exceptions to NGB rules are noted in the “Synopsis”. Participants and coaches are responsible for reading the rules, understanding procedures used in each event, and complying with the rules and standards involved. Questions are encouraged to clarify areas of confusion or misunderstanding. Ignorance of the rules does not obviate their existence. Participants are responsible for knowing the rules of their events and complying with them. Learning the rules is part of the educational process for shooting sports participants.
3. **Dress Code** - Participants and coaches are expected to dress appropriately for the events in which they participate. This dress code should be followed at all times during the event – from check-in to closing ceremonies including practice time. Team uniforms or shirts are encouraged, but not required. Both young people and adults should wear attire appropriate for the weather while remaining modest. While these codes can leave a lot to interpretation, it is important to recognize that individual choices can at times, bring unwanted attention either to an individual or to the group as a whole.
 - Shorts, skorts, and skirts must be at least finger-tip length, with arms extended and shoulders relaxed, while standing, so that modesty is maintained in all shooting positions.
 - Tank tops with spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, bare midriffs, low necklines, or otherwise revealing clothing will not be allowed.
 - Clothing with sexually suggestive wording or graphics; and alcohol or tobacco advertisement is not appropriate.
 - Leggings (tight fitting/yoga-type stretch pants) are allowed when worn underneath compliant shorts, skorts or skirts.Range officials, national committee members and shoot organizers will enforce dress codes, if required. All participants, coaches, parents, and family members must remember that they may be photographed or interviewed for use by local, regional, or national media. Let’s do all we can to make sure that is a positive image for 4-H!
4. **Footwear Policy** - Participants are required to wear shoes that completely cover the foot at all practices and events during the National Contest. Examples of footwear **not** acceptable, but not limited to, include: open-toe shoes, sandals, clogs, crocks, flip-flops, and bare feet.
5. **Behavior and Sportsmanship** - All participants, coaches, and spectators will demonstrate the highest levels of sportsmanship, supporting the objectives and ideals promoted by the 4-H program in general and the 4-H Shooting Sports Program in particular. Participants or coaches will render aid and/or testimony if asked to do so by any match official. All participants, coaches, and observers are expected to conform to appropriate state 4-H Code of Conduct, expectations, or volunteer agreements, as well as to the National 4-H Shooting Sports Program Code of Conduct, not only to the letter, but in its intent.
6. **Ceremony Celebration** – Due to possible personal injury to spectators and participants, there will be NO throwing, tossing, or discharging of any items or devises during the opening ceremony parade of participants, or during awards ceremonies. Participants are discouraged to trade state items this year.
7. **Fan/Spectator Support Items** – The following items **will NOT** be allowed as fan/spectator support items at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships: artificial noisemakers, (including but not limited to horns, cow bells, bells, buzzers, shakers, clickers, thunder sticks, rattles), compressed air horns/sirens, and whistles. Sportsmanship vocal cheering and support from the team are encouraged.

III. Range and Facilities

1. The Heartland Public Shooting Park allows use of golf carts, ATV’s, club cars and similar vehicles on site. Individuals can rent two seat golf carts from the Heartland Public Shooting Park for a fee of \$50 per day. There are no half day rentals. Contact the Heartland Public Shooting Park (308.385.5048) directly if you are interested in renting a golf cart. Carts are available on a first come, first serve basis. Operators of all vehicles at the Heartland Public Shooting Park must be 18 years of age or older and hold a valid driver’s license. Violation of this rule is grounds for disqualification for any individual or team involved. No golf



carts, ATV's, club cars or similar vehicles will be allowed on the 3D and Field archery ranges during competition except designated Range Officials.

2. Only factory loaded ammunition may be used. On the Trap, Skeet, and/or Sporting Clays Ranges, sizes of 7 ½, 8, 8 ½, or 9 shot may be used. The HPSP does have a limited supply of shot shells on hand. Teams are strongly encouraged to source and bring/ship their own ammunition.
3. Food and drink may be brought to the Heartland Public Shooting Park, but **No** food or drink may be brought into the Heartland Events Center or the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center. Food vendors will be available at all range locations (Heartland Public Shooting Park and Pinnacle Bank Expo Center).

IV. Equipment and Firearms Check-in

1. 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.
2. All firearms and archery equipment, except shotgun, must be checked prior to the start of official competition. Shotgun participants **DO NOT** need to check-in their guns or equipment prior to competing with the exception of Hunting Skills participants. Individuals participating in Hunting Skills must check-in ALL of their equipment. Equipment certification will start during the check-in period, and stickers will be attached to verify that equipment was checked in. Spot check of equipment may take place on the range prior to, during, or after any match. Chief Range Officers may verify check-ins on the range. Spot checks prior to or following any competitive event are permitted and likely. Competitors whose equipment does not meet the event standards will be given an opportunity to adjust or to modify equipment to bring it into compliance prior to a second check. Check-in staff may be able to assist in that process if needed. Equipment failing to meet specifications during on-range spot checks will result in disqualification.
 - *Rifles must make weight with the magazine inserted in the rifle.*
 - *All arrows brought to Archery Check-in table on Sunday, must be stored in a quiver or a storage container.*
3. During check-ins, firearms must be brought to the check-in stations cased with an ECI (OBI, CBI) in place and the action open. Safe handling is imperative, particularly with respect to muzzle control. A site for opening cases will be designated.
4. Competitors are limited to checking in a maximum of three firearms or bows during the official equipment check-in period. Chief Range Officers may verify a backup firearm or archery equipment, if needed, on the practice range.
5. **Equipment check-in is scheduled for Sunday only, from 4-8 p.m. No equipment check-in is scheduled for Monday. Each discipline will have designated entry and exit doors for check-in. See the 2021 schedule.**

V. Range Protocols

Note: In this section, "firearm" is broadly defined to include all rifles, pistols, shotguns, and muzzle loading arms regardless of type or action, including air guns. Range safety protocols will be strictly and vigorously enforced.

1. Firearms will be the last piece of equipment brought to the range by the competitors and the first piece of equipment to be removed from the range at the end of each event. When moving among positions, e.g., to different firing points in silhouette, the action must be open, ECI or CBI in place, and the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. In shotgun events, a visibly open action is sufficient.
2. All firearms will remain cased until the competitor prepares to take the range for their relay and the range officer has declared the range ready. ECIs or CBIs will be in place until the shooter is on the firing line and will be replaced in the action prior to leaving the firing line. This does not apply to shotguns where the open actions permit visual observation by range staff.
3. No competitor shall rest the muzzle(s) of a shotgun or any other firearm on a shoe, toe pad or similar device such that the muzzle points at any part of an individual's body.
4. Deliberate shooting or attempting to shoot any living animal while on competitive ranges is grounds for ejection from the event or from the match.

VI. Practice Rounds

1. Practice on all ranges, where permitted, will be supervised by the National Championships Range Officers and Heartland Public Shooting Park staff. The Chief Range Officers will make a concentrated effort to allow all competitors an opportunity to practice if desired. Teams will be randomly assigned a practice time



each day at their respective range during this event. Monopolization of ranges will not be permitted. All competitors and coaches are requested to be courteous and respectful in this regard.

2. Where practice on competition ranges is not permitted, shoot management will attempt to provide an alternative practice site.
3. Where practice is not permitted on competition ranges, no shooter, coach or other individual aside from authorized range staff shall preview, walk, scout, use range finding devices, or attempt to inform competitors of shooting distances, shot placement, or other information designed to give the shooter an advantage. 3-D archery, hunting live fire, and sporting clays are examples.
6. Practice targets on the shotgun ranges will have the following fees (cost/person):
 - a. Trap & Skeet - \$5.50/25 targets
 - b. Sporting Clays - \$14.00/50 targets

VII. Health and Safety

1. Medical Consent Form and Adult Supervision

It is the responsibility of each team to have the appropriate state health consent and release forms for each participant. An adult supervisor or coach must be present at each event site with immediate access to those forms during events. They must also have access to them in off hours. The National 4-H Shooting Sports Program and the host institution are not responsible for medical authorizations or health histories of the participants.

2. Safety

Safety is the first priority for range staff, participants, coaches, and spectators. Standard and accepted range and shooting safety rules will be followed at all times. Any site-specific safety considerations will be announced at the appropriate venues. Match Directors, Range officers, or other event staff may caution, warn, or eject any person on any range for unsafe behavior. Such ejection may result in forfeited scores, disqualification, or ejection from the grounds. Any spectator contributing to unsafe behavior or rules violations may be barred from the ranges by National Committee staff or event management at any level.

3. Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

- a. Except in emergency situations, cell phones, radios, or other electronic communication devices may not be used on or in the immediate vicinity of competitive ranges during active competition.
- b. Essential communication may take place off the ranges where the process will not interfere with participants in any venue or compromise safe operation of the range.

4. Ranging, Walking or Previewing Ranges

In any contest where estimating ranges is inherent in the contest, use of range finders, previewing ranges, communicating distances to later competitors or similar actions is not allowed. These actions are grounds for disqualification for any individual or team involved.

5. Eye and Ear Protection Requirement

- a. **Eye Protection:** Adequate eye protection (shooting glasses, safety glasses or safety goggles, or hardened prescription glasses are required for all competitors in muzzleloading, pistol, rifle, and shotgun events. This includes hunting live fire events for rifle and shotgun. Coaches or spectators on or near firing lines are subject to the same requirements.
- b. **Ear Protection:** In hunting live fire, muzzleloading, shotgun, smallbore pistol, and smallbore rifle, all competitors and those on firing lines must have adequate hearing protection. Where electronic hearing protection is used, it may not include radio or similar broadcasts as background noise, since that could interfere with range commands. This protection is strongly advised for spectators who are close to such ranges.

VIII. Reasonable Accommodation

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships, the individual or state coordinator **MUST** contact the host state Match Director, Steve Pritchard, before completing the registration process and prior to the registration deadline of May 20, 2021. Those instances require a written petition supported by a physician's written statement detailing the accommodation, the issues preventing the use of standard position or positions, or modifications in equipment required to permit participation in the event.

IX. Coaching

1. **Coaches** – Each team must have one (and only one) adult coach, designated on the registration form, and present during practice and competition. The designated coach is the only adult permitted to discuss procedures, ask questions, or advocate for his or her team with range officials. The coach must be



designated on the official entry form and approved by the appropriate state 4-H program leader or state 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator or their official representative.

2. **Coaching** – As a general rule, limited coaching is permitted as described in this section; but some events and some Chief Range Officers may have different guidelines for coaches. It is each coach’s responsibility to know what is allowed in the discipline/event they are coaching. Coaches may not create a disturbance, upset either their competitors or others, create unnecessary delays, or otherwise interfere with the safe and efficient operation of the range and execution of the matches. Coaches may assist participants during prep time, setting up equipment, spotting sighter shots, and offering positive advice and support. Unless called to the line by range officials, coaches will remain in the coaches’ area. The coach’s area will be set up behind the competitor ready line. Coaches will remain behind that line once preparation time ends, unless called to a firing point by the referee. Once record shooting begins, no coaching is permitted unless initiated by the shooter through the range officer and with his or her permission. Coaches may NOT initiate contact with their shooters. Coaches may not handle firearms or equipment once the match has begun, nor may they advance to the firing line unless authorized by the range officer. Coaches may use spotting scopes to observe shot placement. Specific coaching instructions may be issued on the ranges for each event. **PLEASE NOTE:** Non-verbal coaching is permitted in air rifle (Rule 5.2.2), provided it does not disturb other competitors. Except for coaching permitted in Rules 5.2.1, other forms of coaching or communication such as talking or the use of electronic communications between a competitor and coach while the competitor is on the firing line are prohibited.
3. **Spotters and Scorers in Silhouette Matches** – State team members will be split into different relays to permit shooters to spot for one another. Teams with three competitors may have one of the original pair spot for the third team member. Coaches **may not** be Spotters. Spotters can only be a registered competitor within that event. One exception, if a Team/State only has a single shooter, then Coach/Parent/Another competitor may spot for the shooter. Quiet conversation between the spotter and the shooter is permissible. An official scorer, either from another team or an event official will be assigned as an official scorer. Match directors will provide instruction as needed for scorers.

X. Challenges and Protests

1. **Challenges** – Only participants may review their targets and challenge scoring. Once targets have been scored, they will be made available for review by the shooters firing on those targets for a period of sixty (60) minutes, unless otherwise posted. Upon completion of that time period, the right of challenge expires, and scores will be deemed correct as posted.
2. **Challenge Fees** - Any challenge must be accompanied by a fee of \$1 per hole challenged. Serial challenges (following one challenge with another) are permitted, but once the shooter has reviewed and either challenged or accepted their scores, the right of review terminates. A jury (not including the original scorer) will review each challenge and render judgment to the challenger. An upheld challenge will result in changing the score to reflect the proper scoring and return of the challenge fee. Challenges sustained, i.e., scoring determined to be correct, will result in forfeiture of the fees, which will be deposited in 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships funds. No fee is required to point out mathematical errors or similar mechanical problems.
3. **Protests and Protest Fees** - Youth participants only (no coaches, parents, or other adults) may protest:
 - a) an injustice they feel has been done to them individually.
 - b) conditions under which another competitor was permitted to fire, or
 - c) equipment not meeting standards another competitor was permitted to use.
4. **Steps to Filing an Official Protest** - Only the shooter affected can make the protest – not parents, coaches, or other adults. A protest must be initiated immediately upon the occurrence of the protested incident. Failure to comply with the following procedure will automatically void the protest:
 - a) State the complaint verbally to the Chief Range Officer. If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the Chief Range Officer, then:
 - b) Appeal the decision in writing to the Assistant Range Officer within 30 minutes of the CRO’s decision. The Assistant Range Officer will then assemble a Range Jury*.
*The Range Jury of five (5), shall be composed of a range official (not the one that just ruled), two state team coaches and two 4-H competitors. Jury members must be familiar with the rules and have experience in competition. It is the responsibility of the Range Jury to interpret and apply the rules and resolve protests. Jury members may not rule on a matter in which they or their team are personally involved. Decisions by the Jury must be based on applicable rules or, in cases not specifically covered by the rules, must be governed by the intent and spirit of the rules. The jury may



also hear verbal explanations from both the Chief Range Officer and the person making the appeal. No Jury decision may be made that is contrary to the Rules. Written protests must be decided by a majority of the Jury.

If not satisfied with the decision of the Range Jury, then:

- c) The Final Appeal in written form and accompanied by a \$50 cash protest fee must be submitted to the Match Director within 30 minutes of the Range Jury's decision. The written protest must include: shooter's name, date, time, description of incident, a solution, and signature of shooter. A Match Jury composed of the Match Director and 2 representatives of the 4-H Shooting Sports National Committee will render the final decision. No further appeal may be made.
- d) If the Match Jury decides in favor of the appeal, the cash protest fee will be returned. If the previous decision is upheld, the protest fee will not be returned.

XI. Silent Auction

The popular silent auction will be held on Wednesday evening, June 23. **All** states are invited to donate at least one item representing their state to put on the auction. This could be a gift basket, t-shirt, hat, or any item that is appropriate for an auction. ***Please turn items into the Registration Desk by 6:00 p.m., Monday, June 21st*** or items can be shipped to arrive in Grand Island after June 11th but before June 19th. Address shipping label to read – **Fonner Park, Attn: National 4-H Shooting Sports/D. Willey, 700 E. Stolley Park Road, Grand Island, NE 68801.**

XII. College Recruitment

College recruiters are invited and welcome to attend the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships. Recruiters are not to interfere with any daily competitions during the event or a competitor's daily schedule. All expenses related to their visit will be the college recruiter's responsibility. No fee is required to attend the National Championships. A courtesy request to attend the National Championships should be made to the Match Director at least one week prior to the start of the event.

XIII. Awards and Scoring Procedures

Awards

- Daily Awards - to members of the top five (5) teams and the top ten (10) individuals for each daily competitive event.
- Overall Recognition – High overall individuals and high overall teams will be recognized based upon results from all three (3) of the daily events. Members of top 5 teams and top 10 individuals in each discipline are recognized.
- Medals - 1st, 2nd, 3rd place team members/individuals
Ribbons - 4th-5th place team members; 4th-10th place individuals
- **H.T. "Tom" Davison Award** – state sweepstakes award named in honor of H. T. "Tom" Davison, the first chair of the National 4-H Shooting Sports Program and former program leader for 4-H in Texas. This award recognizes the state recording the greatest number of team points (see explanation below). This traveling trophy stays with the high overall state until the following Championship. In order to be eligible for the award, a state must have recorded team scores in all nine disciplines.

Scoring

Because of the desire for each event and discipline to have equal standing in determining "overall" awards, various methods of scoring have been used. Whether raw scores, placement points or modified percentage points are used in determining awards at the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships ...none are perfect. This is because of three different shooting events for each team category; each with varying degrees of difficulty, different scoring opportunities within each event (0 or 1 for silhouette vs. 5,6,7,8,9 or 10 on bullseye targets), and varying raw score potential (i.e., 600 points for smallbore 3P compared to 40 points for silhouette, and large differences in participation numbers). Additionally, there are 9 different divisions or categories for competition. Therefore, the national steering committee has decided to use a modified percentage scoring system in an attempt to be as fair and equitable as possible. Please read closely as the scoring methodology is explained.

- Daily individual awards - Raw scores and appropriate tie-breakers are used in determining placements in the daily events. (Highest score wins) Scores from any "Finals" match will not be included in daily individual awards.



- Daily team awards - The top 3 individual raw scores of each team are used in determining team placements. If a team has 4 members, the lowest score is dropped. If a team tie exists, only then will individual tie-breakers be used. Scores from any “Finals” match will not be included in daily team awards.
- Overall Individual Awards - are determined by an individual’s total accumulated modified percentage points from the (3) daily events they participated. Scores from any “Finals” match will not be included in overall individual awards.
- Overall Team – are determined by a team’s total accumulated modified percentage points from the (3) daily events they participated. Scores from any “Finals” match will not be included in overall team awards.
- Davison Award – determined by placement points. After overall team awards are determined, each team will be assigned a placement point. The highest total of placement points determines the state sweepstakes award.

Modified Percentage (%) Points

Modified percentage scoring can help equalizes the point differences between events. For example: a raw score potential of 40 in smallbore silhouettes compared to 600 points in 3P.

It also better reflects the relative excellence of competitors compared to placement points. Example: Air Pistol - slow fire bullseye (400 pts.).

		<u>Raw Score</u>	<u>Placement Pts.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Mod %</u>
Competitor A	1 st	376 pts.	18	.9400	1.000
Competitor B	2 nd	360 pts.	17	.9000	.9574
Competitor C	3 rd	359 pts.	16	.8975	.9548

In this example, a placement point differential of (1) is the same when A is compared to B - 376/360(14 pts. raw score) as well as when B is Compared to C - 360/359 (1 pt. raw score). Most people feel that relative excellence should be considered when determining High Overall Awards within a shooting discipline/category. The modified percentage scoring method permits this.

A modified % will be used at the National Championships. Using the highest score recorded for a particular event as the baseline rather than the “perfect” score helps in equalizing the various difficulties of different daily events.

Modified % Formula: $\frac{\text{Individual Score}}{\text{Highest Score}} = \% \text{ score}$

Modified percentage scoring is also a better alternative for determining for High Overall Individual awards because tie-breakers will not affect the result as does placement points. Example: Shotgun -Trap. Top 10 scores with Placement Points after ties are broken: 100(81), 99(80), 99(79), 98(78), 98(77), 98(76), 98(75), 98(74), 97(73), 97(72). In this example, 2nd place has a raw score of 99 and placement point value of 80 – AND 8th place has a score of 98 with a placement point value of 74. That’s 6 placement points difference for only 1 less target. With the modified percentage method 2nd place equals .99 and 8th place equals .98, a 1% difference. Breaking ties does not handicap an individual (or team) when figuring High Overall Awards.

Placement Points

Placement points are used to provide equal status among the nine (9) categories of competition. Each discipline is awarded the same standing for team placements in each event. This is the same method used in other multiple event team competitions such as swimming and track & field. This permits comparison across disciplines on an equal standing for determining the Tom Davison Award.

Actual point value of each team placement at the National Championships is determined by the discipline/event with the highest number of registered teams. Example: if Shotgun has the greatest number of teams (21), placing points for teams in all events will be 21 points for 1st, 20 points for 2nd, 19 for 3rd, etc. Placement points are awarded after team ranking is determined by the modified percentage method.

Ties

Ties will only be broken to determine top 10 individual awards and top 5 team awards. Each event has its own specific method for breaking daily tie scores. Ties for high overall individuals and high overall teams by modified percentage points will be broken using the placements in events.