

YELLOWSTONE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS PLAN (REVISED 12/2020)

Mission Statement, Goals and Safety

Mission Statement: The mission of the Yellowstone County 4-H Shoot Sports Program is to provide the equipment, coaching and atmosphere for youth development through the Extension Office, Shooting Sports Leader (Leaders), and Volunteers. The focus of the program is to assist each member with the tools, knowledge and opportunity to participate, so that they may succeed in their 4-H goals.

Goals: The goal of the 4-H Shooting Sports program is to provide youth development and decision making skills through participation in Shooting Sports. 4-H Shooting Sports exists so that youth can set goals and make decisions in a comfortable environment. The members are encouraged to make adjustments to their technique, attitude, and or behavior to be successful in the completion of their goals.

Shooting Sports Leaders will work with youth to help them achieve their goals. 4-H will provide the framework for a successful, safe, and educational program by scheduling, procuring equipment and supplies, and providing financial and administrative support where necessary.

Safety: Leaders, parents and members will observe the safety rules for the range. Leaders will coach the techniques, safety precautions and procedures of the 4-H program. All leaders will be responsible for the safety of the range, shooters, bystanders, and themselves. Unsafe practices will be corrected immediately. No person will eat or drink until washing hands after being on the range. If water is not available, leaders will provide antibacterial wipes or waterless hand sanitizer.

Certified Leaders, Project Leaders, and Volunteers

Certified Leaders: To be a Certified Shooting Sports Leader, he/she must attend a State Shooting Sports Leaders certification workshop for the discipline they wish to instruct. To keep certification, a leader must teach or assist in teaching a Shooting Sports discipline at least every **two (2)** years. Recertification is mandatory after **seven (7)** years. Certified leaders are encouraged to attend events, regular shooting nights and activities for disciplines that they are not certified in to broaden their knowledge and strengthen the program. Certified leaders should be assigned so that each shooter has one point of contact with a coach.

Shooting Sports Committee

Tony Neil – Archery

Kimberly Kano – Archery

Rodney Harms – Archery

Christina Harms – Archery

Kristi Trupka – Archery / Pistol/Hunting

Jared Pfeiffer – Archery / Pistol/Hunting

Kevin Adkins – BB Gun / Air Rifle

Allen Cantu – Air Rifle/Shotgun

Adam Serock – BB Gun

Lisa McFarland – Small Bore Rifle/Precision Air Rifle

Kim Bender – Shotgun

Barry Bender – Shotgun

This committee consists of at least one designated leader per discipline who will serve as the lead contact person. The duties of the committee will be to: plan, coordinate, and assist the county coordinator and Extension Agent with running of the Yellowstone County 4-H Shooting Sports Program. This includes but is not limited to the following: dates, times, venues, registration procedures, range personnel, scoring and awards, other pertinent components of each individual event.

County Coordinator: The program will be administered by the Yellowstone County Extension Office with a County Coordinator. The Coordinator is responsible for the budget, grants, setting meeting times and places, providing information to the 4-H Newsletter and setting a schedule of regular shooting times and places. The Coordinator communicates information about Postal Events, Invitational Shoots and information from the State Office. The coordinator is responsible for setting the time and date of any recognition for shooting sports members or leaders. This may be done at Family Fun Night.

Event Coordinators: If conducting an event, each event must be assigned an Event Coordinator. Event Coordinators are responsible for the budget for their event. They are responsible for the equipment, repair, and consumables for the event. The Event Coordinator is responsible for the condition of the range for their event. The Event Coordinator will keep an inventory of their equipment. The Event Coordinator will keep a record of the attendance of coaches and members for each shooting session.

Parents: It is recommended that parents attend all shooting events. Please be supportive while observing and assisting to create an environment where each member is given the best opportunity to meet individual goals. Parents may be asked to provide assistance with scoring, recording scores and attendance, or other duties as they arise. Pets and observers are not 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.

Duties of the 4-H Members

Shooting Members: Each member must complete and turn in the following paperwork in order to be eligible to shoot;

- 1) **Enrollment in a Yellowstone County 4-H Club and Shooting Sports Project(s)**
- 2) **Medical Release Information** (entered in your ZSuite enrollment)
- 3) **Informed Consent and Waiver of Liability Form** (attached)
- 4) **Equipment Agreement and Waiver of Liability Form** (attached)

The members will also be given record book information and are expected to complete the included records and activities. All shooters are required to attend safety instruction for each discipline in which they are enrolled. Members need to be dressed appropriately for the event in which they are participating. **Safety glasses are required on all gun ranges.** Hearing protection is required for all disciplines other than archery, air rifle, air pistol, and BB Gun. Generally, clothing will include: long pants, sleeved (short or long) shirts and appropriate footwear. Member will obey all range commands, be expected to progress in their abilities, and learn more about 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 upon 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.

Equipment, Facilities, and Fees

Equipment: Yellowstone County has a limited number of equipment that can be checked out for each discipline. Members may use leader approved personal equipment, if they so desire. All equipment used in the project will be inspected for approval by the Shooting Sports Leader.

Facilities: Clubs shoot at a variety of locations in the county. When at any of the locations, please be respectful of the building, equipment (yours and others) and other people in the area. When you are done

getting your equipment out, please take your case off tables or chairs and store it safely out of the way. When you leave, there should be no garbage or any mess left for someone else to have to clean up.

Fees: All members are subject to fees above and beyond standard 4-H enrollment. Typical fees include: discipline, facility, and competitions. If families are unable to cover fees, scholarships are available and can be requested by contacting the county extension office.

Project Participation Requirements

No Shooting Sports projects that involve firearms, air guns or archery equipment may be taken independently without a certified leader. In addition, 4-H members must meet certain age and prerequisite requirements to participate in each of the shooting sports projects. The following table outlines these requirements:

Project	Age	Prerequisite	Yellowstone County Additional Requirements
Air Pistol	9 by October 1	4-H Member	
Small Bore Pistol (.22)	9 by October 1	1 year in air rifle	Special approval by instructor
Air Rifle	9 By October 1	4-H Member	
Small Bore Rifle (.22)	9 by October 1	1 year in bb gun or air rifle	Special approval by instructor
BB Gun Safety	8 by October 1	4-H Member	
Archery	9 by October 1	4-H Member	
Shotgun	9 by October 1	4-H Member	Age 9 – 11 need special approval by the instructor
Muzzleloading	9 by October 1	4-H Member	
Hunting/Wildlife*	9 by October 1	4-H Member	
Western Heritage	12 by October 1	1 Year in SS	

*Must be able to possess legal license to field hunt

Events, Locations, and General Information

Event	Location	Month
Postal Shoot		November
County Shoot	Billings	February
State 4-H Shoot	Bozeman	March
State BB Gun Shoot	TBD	April

**YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM
INFORMED CONSENT AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FORM**

I, _____ (parent/guardian name) am parent/legal guardian of and responsible for _____ (4-H member name) who is enrolled in the shooting sports program in Yellowstone County, Montana. I am aware, understand and accept the program and its curriculum.

My child is enrolled in the following disciplines of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program.

<input type="checkbox"/> Air Pistol	<input type="checkbox"/> BB Gun Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Hunting/Wildlife
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Bore Pistol (.22)	<input type="checkbox"/> Archery	<input type="checkbox"/> Western Heritage
<input type="checkbox"/> Air Rifle	<input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun	
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Bore Rifle (.22)	<input type="checkbox"/> Muzzleloading	

As an enrollee in this discipline, I am aware of the sporting equipment involved, circumstances of its use and consequences of its misuse. I am aware of the fact that there is a potential for physical harm to my child if precautions, safety and training are not followed. With respect to this potential danger, those volunteers that are coaching and providing the instructional training will deem it necessary to instruct and discipline from time to time for the best interest of all involved. The foremost concern is safety, with skill attainment, and enjoyment second.

I am also aware and understand that my child from time to time will be touched, moved and held in a manner to assist positioning, balance, comfort and provide continuity in curriculum training for the discipline being taught.

I am also aware that even though my child enrolls in the 4-H Group Accident Policy, it is a very limited secondary policy that is not adequate insurance coverage. I understand it is my responsibility to provide added coverage for accident and liability at my own expense.

I am aware of the program, instruction and training being taught, requirements of the shooting discipline, the risks involved, and potential dangers if safety is not followed.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

4-H Shooting Sports Member Signature

Date

**YELLOWSTONE COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS
EQUIPMENT AGREEMENT AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FORM**

Yellowstone County 4-H shooting sports equipment (YC Equipment) is lent to the parent/guardian of an enrolled 4-H member who meets the requirements for the project. The equipment is to be used under the direct supervision of the Yellowstone County certified 4-H leader listed below. If the member wishes to shoot under a different leader during the year this agreement must be updated. YC Equipment may not be used when a certified leader is not present; this includes home practice, non-4-H shoots, etc. If at any time the certified leader feels that the YC Equipment is being misused it will stay with the leader and not be allowed to go home with the 4-H member. Further review by Yellowstone County 4-H will determine if other action is taken including but not limited to loss of participation.

YC Equipment must be turned in at the end of the 4H year for inventory and inspection. If that 4-H member would like to continue to use the equipment the following year it can be checked out again after enrollment is complete. All YC Equipment repairs and modifications shall be performed or overseen by the certified 4-H leader. If repairs are a result of misuse, the member/guardian will be responsible for the cost.

Yellowstone County 4-H, its leaders, volunteers, or affiliates are not liable or responsible for any misuse of the equipment once it leaves the certified leaders supervision. By signing this agreement you take full responsibility for the YC Equipment in your possession. This includes but not limited to damage to the equipment or other property, or injury caused by the equipment while not under supervision of a certified leader. You are responsible for keeping the equipment safe and locked away from anyone who may come in contact with the equipment. All county shooting sports equipment is to stay in its provided case while not in use under the supervision of the certified leader. If anyone other than the responsible adult is transporting the 4-H member and their equipment please make sure your leader is aware. If at any time during the year the equipment is no longer needed it must be turned in to the leader or the county representative as soon as possible.

EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

Description:	Identification #	Overall Condition:

SIGNATURES

Parent/Legal Guardian Name (Print)	Parent/Legal Guardian Signature	Date
4-H Shooting Sports Member Name (Print)	4-H Shooting Sports Member Signature	Date
4-H Member Club	4-H Member Phone Number	
Certified Shooting Sports Leader Name (Print)	Certified Shooting Sports Leader Signature	Date