

Kalamazoo County 4-H

Shooting Sports Project Guidelines

Project Leader: Mike George - arch3rynut1@comcast.net (Archery only)

Project Social Media: N/A

Project Objectives & Life Skills*

- Learn basic fundamentals of archery and range safety.
 - Learn archery/shooting sports terminology and steps to shooting a bow or firearm.
 - Increase general knowledge and care of different types of bows and firearms.
 - Increase skills and performance through participating in 4-H archery practices and competitions under the direct supervision of a certified 4-H archery/shooting sports instructor and leader/volunteer.
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|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ● Head | ● Hands |
| ○ Goal setting | ○ Leadership |
| ○ Critical thinking | ○ Responsible citizenship |
| ○ Decision making | ○ Marketable skills |
| ○ Learning to learn | ○ Contributions to group effort |
| ● Heart | ● Health |
| ○ Communication | ○ Personal Safety |
| ○ Social skills | ○ Disease prevention |
| ○ Concern for others | ○ Self-discipline |
| ○ Nurturing relationships | ○ Self-responsibility |

**note these life skills are just some examples of what 4-H members will learn in this project*

Additional Resources:

[4-H Shooting Sports Project Snapshot](#)
[Michigan State University Extension 4-H Shooting Sports](#)
[Archery Projects Target Archery 3-D Archery](#)
[Ultimate Beginners Guide to Archery](#)

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Shooting sports

Guidelines:

- **No firearms are allowed on the fairgrounds. Educational projects can show your shooting sports equipment by picture or video, but bows, firearms or other shooting sports equipment must be left at home.**
- Notebooks are required to exhibit in Sections V or W. Notebooks can be combined if showing in both sections. Notebooks should be a cumulative project sharing the knowledge of shooting sports and archery that the 4-H'er has learned.
- **Practice and competitions must be done under the direct supervision of a certified 4-H archery/shooting sports instructor and leader/volunteer.**
- Recommended learning activities
 - **Required:** learn **safe and responsible** shooting practices
 - Develop an appreciation of nature through outdoor recreation activities.
 - Develop favorable conservation attitudes.
 - Learn a lifetime skill.
 - Learn to keep good records as to what was learned, how it was learned, leadership roles, expenses, property inventory and other essential facts.
 - Learn the parts of the equipment and what equipment is needed.
 - Learn how to select and buy equipment.
 - **Required:** learn proper shooting techniques and fundamentals.
 - **Required:** learn the proper way to aim, shoot and follow through.
 - Learn to identify various kinds of arms and ammunition.
 - Learn new skills each year.
- Age requirements as taken from MSU Policies and Procedures For Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports

Age 5-7	Cloverbud-age youth, ages 5-7, will not be allowed to participate in any 4-H shooting sports activities that include the handling or live-fire of any air-guns, firearms or archery equipment. Currently, the Hunting & Wildlife discipline MAY be taught without live fire. If done in this manner, there are many activities that might be suitable for Cloverbuds. This includes activities such as wildlife identification (scat, skulls, fur, calls, etc.), plant identification, habitats, animal tracks, winter wildlife, basic outdoor skills, safety in the outdoors, nature scavenger hunts, ecology, predator-prey relationships, camouflage coloration, safety, and more.
Age 8	BB gun and archery are appropriate for young people age 8 with one-on-one direct, adult supervision, at the discretion and authorization of a certified shooting sports instructor; also hunting & wildlife.
Age 9	Air rifle, BB, archery, hunting & wildlife
Age 12 +	Air pistol and gunpowder disciplines (22, shotgun, muzzle loader), air rifle, BB, archery, hunting & wildlife

[Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Policies and Procedures, 2021.11](#)

Section V–Gun and Hunter Safety

- Members can participate in any of the following areas: B B Gun, Air Rifle, Shotgun or Rifle.
- Firearms safety, marksmanship & types of guns
 - Beginner (1st and 2nd year)
 - Project can be a notebook (different from the notebook already exhibited in this project), a poster, or 3-D object.
 - The exhibition should share gained knowledge about firearm safety or hunter safety.
 - Intermediate (3rd and 4th year)
 - Project can be a notebook (different from the notebook already exhibited in this project), a poster, video or 3-D object.
 - Exhibit should share gained knowledge about tournaments and what makes a tournament competitor more effective
 - Advanced (5th year and beyond)
 - Project can be a notebook (different from the notebook already exhibited in this project), a poster, 3-D display, video or a demonstration. All demonstrations should be entered into the demonstrations project in Department 73, section A. **Reminder no firearms, or other shooting sports equipment shall be brought to the fairgrounds at any point.**
 - Exhibit should share gained knowledge in the shooting sports project not previously exhibited on such as
 - Techniques for shooting.
 - Safety poster.
 - Safe carrying of a firearm.
 - Shooting positions.
 - How to clean a gun.
 - Rules of Firearm Safety.
 - Teen Leaders: teaching younger members how to use a B B gun or coaching marksmanship.
 - Wildlife hunting.
 - Parts of a gun or bow.
 - How to fletch arrows.
 - How to clean and cook wildlife.
 - How to load a muzzleloader.
 - Reloading of ammunition
- Upgrade marksmanship
 - 1st year–3 targets from a prone position.
 - 2nd year–3 targets from each of the four shooting positions.
 - 3rd year-3 targets of your choice
 - 4th year and beyond–3 targets of your choice marksmanship should continue to improve over the project years.
- Notebook
 - Notebook must include a title page with member’s name, 4-H age, years in project and short personal story describing the member’s shooting sports experiences and/or project related goals for the current year.
 - Notebooks are cumulative and must be organized and separated by year with a divider or tab.
 - Notebooks should have pictures of 4-H’er participating/demonstrating each of the shooting positions, displayed targets from current and previous years along with the below information for the current project year’s notebook
 - 1st Year and 2nd year
 - 1st year position–prone position
 - 2nd year positions–sitting, kneeling and standing positions.
 - Explain how to score targets using examples from targets you’ve used.
 - Firearm safety, marksmanship and types of guns.
 - Show a diagram/photograph of your firearm, labeling all the parts.

- 3rd Year
 - Attend and complete the Department of Natural Resources Hunter Safety Program. A schedule of classes can be found at this link. [Hunter safety certificates](#)
 - Write at least a paragraph (5-6 full sentences) up to a maximum of one page about what you learned in the hunter safety course.
 - Continue training in marksmanship in the four positions.
 - Compete in 4-H State Rifle Tournament, Michigan Youth Hunter Education Challenge or skills contests.
 - Give a brief summary on the tournament/challenge/contest that you were involved with, what you learned from this event and what you will do differently next time you attend one of these types of events.
- 4th Year and beyond
 - Continue improvement in marksmanship in four positions.
 - Continue competing in 4-H State Rifle Tournament, Michigan Youth Hunter Education Challenge or skills contests.
 - Give a summary of the tournament/challenge/contest that you were involved with, what you learned from this event and what you will do differently next time you attend one of these types of events.
 - Choose a topic with your shooting sports instructor and learn and focus on that through the year (examples: a new firearm, new shooting position, or interview someone who works at the range or is in the shooting sports livelihood and write up a synopsis of what you learned during your interview.)

Section W–Archery

- Cloverbuds are not required to do a notebook, but it is recommended to do an educational project.
- Educational Exhibit
 - Project can be a notebook (different from the notebook already exhibited in this project), a poster, or 3-D object, unless specified otherwise.
 - Cloverbud Years 1-4: (Choose One – Complete a Different Project from List Below Per Cloverbud Year.)
 - Create a poster including your name, 4-H age (as of January 1st), and a short personal story summarizing your archery experiences during the year. Be sure to include pictures of you from practices/fundraisers/etc.
 - Create a poster including name, 4-H age (as of January 1st), and list a minimum of 5 things you've learned about archery this year. Be sure to include pictures of you from practices that relate to what you've learned.
 - Create a poster including your name, 4-H age (as of January 1st) that relates to one of the objectives listed below under “First Year”
 - Design and make a simple arrow quiver out of craft or recycled materials found in your home. (Ex: mailing tubes, cardboard, duct tape, string, fabric, paint, patterned paper, rhinestones, glitter, beads, keychain rings/clamps, etc...)
 - Beginner (1st and 2nd year) Choose one
 - Educational projects must be different from the previous year
 - 10 safety tips at the range.
 - Steps to shooting according to national archery association (NAA)
 - “Nine steps of the ten rings” according to the NAA
 - Definition of at least 10 archery terms
 - Intermediate (3rd and 4th year) Choose one
 - Educational projects must be different from previous years
 - Bow tuning
 - What are the different arrows and how are they used
 - What are different bows used for and why?

- Any other related chapter on archery that interests you.
- Advanced (5th year and beyond)
 - Educational projects must be different from previous years
 - An educational project may be a video or demonstration. Demonstrations should be entered into Department 73, Section A. No bows, arrows or other equipment is allowed on the fairgrounds.
 - By design (speed versus accuracy)
 - Layout for tournaments indoors and outdoors
 - What are different string materials and how are they used?
 - Any other related chapter of archery that interests you.
- Notebook
 - The notebook must include a title page with member's name, 4-H age (as of January 1st), year in project, and short personal story describing the member's archery experiences and/or related project goal/s for that year.
 - Notebooks must include content related to all the objectives listed under each year's requirements (unless otherwise approved by 4-H Instructor/Leader).
 - Notebooks must be cumulative with members adding info year-to-year, but must be organized and separated by year with a divider or tab.
 - Unoriginal illustrations or information used by members should be referenced or cited within their notebook by including the book/article title, author's name, and/or website address.
 - Members are encouraged to make their notebook creative and personal.
 - A notebook could be a 3-ring binder or scrapbook style presentation book. Members may choose to decorate the cover.
 - Pictures or illustrations are encouraged if they are related to the objectives or content requirements. Personal pictures of members (not related to objectives/content) should be very limited, with only 1 or 2 personal pictures being included in the member's personal story or title page.
 - First Year:
 - Personal story including your archery experience and/or goals.
 - Label parts of a bow for both compound and recurve.
 - Summarize arrow types (material used) and basic parts of an arrow.
 - List safety and shooting equipment (arm guards, gloves, trigger releases...) and describe what each is used for.
 - Explain or list what different whistle commands are used by the instructor on the shooting range and their meaning.
 - Second Year:
 - Updated personal story
 - List 10 safety tips for procedures at the shooting range or 3-D course.
 - Describe and list the steps to shooting from start to finish.
 - Summarize and/or illustrate proper "T" shooting form and describe common form errors an archer may exhibit.
 - Anchor point what is it and why is it so important.
 - Third Year:
 - Updated personal story
 - Describe what you do to care for and legally store/transport your bow and arrows.
 - Summarize tools used and basic setup of your bow type (compound or recurve).
 - Compare and contrast compound and recurve bows, summarize or list how they are alike and different.
 - Summarize the different classes and related bow or equipment requirements for 4-H Open Class, Sighted Class, and Unsighted Class.

- Fourth Year:
 - Updated personal story
 - Summarize or illustrate through a timeline the history or evolution of archery.
 - Research and summarize arrow design and characteristics (speed VS accuracy).
 - What are the different bow string materials and how they are used.
 - Summarize the process and equipment/materials used to replace arrow fletching's or vanes.
 - Summarize different arrow points/tips, grains, and their different uses.
- Fifth Year:
 - Updated personal story
 - Select and write a summary about a local, state, or national archery association (not 4-H).
 - Explain the science of archery (ballistics).
 - Keep a record of your archery target or 3-D score/s for at least one month. (make sure to shoot and score the same number of arrows per practice) Then create a table or graph/chart to organize the data you collected. Write a short summary based on your data, is there a pattern, are there other factors (form errors, equipment issues, etc.) that may have influenced your scores to be random or up/down, etc.
- Sixth Year and beyond:
 - An independent project must be related to archery and must be requested in writing by members and pre- approved (signed) by instructor/leader.
 - Member's written request shall include their name, current year in project, and summary of independent project being requested. This written request and instructor/leader approval signature to complete an independent project should be retained by the member and be present in the notebook.
 - Unoriginal illustrations or information used by members should be referenced or cited within their independent project or project record form by including the book/article title, author's name, and/or website address.
 - Examples of an Independent Project May Include:
 - 3D targets re-filling/repair/painting, making your own bow stand/arrow quiver/arrows, putting together an archery equipment box with repair tools and replacement materials, conducting an archery related experiment including collection and reporting of data, hunter/archery safety project, etc.