

❖ Montana State 4-H Shooting Sports Competition: Airgun and Smallbore General Rules

AIRGUN EVENTS

- Check rule book for new rule changes this year
- Eye protection is mandatory by state rules and ear protection is recommended. Clubs requiring such protection in their instruction and local competitions should make their own decisions regarding their competitors.
- **No boots or high top shoes – ankle bone cannot be supported, no socks only or bare feet at all (must wear shoes at all times)**
- Ammunition will be .177 match grade (flat-face) pellets.
- Air rifles and air pistols shall be .177 with iron sights.
- ALL AIR GUNS MANUFACTURED WITH SAFETIES MUST BE INTACT AT STATE MATCH.
- Clear Barrel or Open Bolt Indicators are required – if you don't have one, they will be available at registration.
- 2016-2018 National Standard Air Rifle Rules (<http://thecmp.org/wp-content/uploads/Rules.pdf>) will apply
- All decisions made by the Chief Range Officer will be considered final.
- **Precision shooters are strongly encouraged and allowed to wear shooting gear (coat, pants and shoes) verses Sporter shooters who can only wear everyday clothing**

Air Pistol:

- The air pistol match consists of 40 shots fired at 10 meters.
- Target height will be 55" for all positions
- Ages 9-12, two hands sitting table rest with support allowed (hand or butt of pistol allowed on rest, barrel may not be on rest. Elbows are allowed on table).
- Ages 13-14, one hand standing with T-Stand or unsupported
http://www.usashooting.org/library/Youth_Development/Z_PPP_Counterbalance_T_Stand.pdf
- Ages 15-18, one hand.
- Shooters are allowed 1 ½ minutes per shot. A spotting scope, scope stand, and binoculars are allowed.
- We will use USA Shooting NRA Progressive Position Air Pistol Rules (1-31-14) see link
https://www.usashooting.org/library/Youth_Development/PPP/PPP_Rules_Final_2016.pdf
- Ranking of scores will be done by age groups. If a competitor chooses to shoot in a position that is more advanced, they will still be scored in the appropriate age group.

Sporter and Precision Air Rifle-Three Position:

- 10 shots Prone, 10 shots Standing, 10 shots Kneeling at 10 meters.
- **New timing is as follows:**
 - Prone: 8 minute sighters, 10 minute record shots, 5 minute changeover
 - Standing: 5 minute sighters, 15 minute record shots, 5 minute changeover
 - Kneeling: 5 minute sighters, 10 minute record shots
- The 10-Bull NRA AR-5/10 Target will be used.
- Web slings are allowed in prone and kneeling.
- Shooting gloves are allowed.
- Shooters must bring their own shooting mats and kneeling rolls.
- A spotting scope, scope stand, or binoculars are allowed.

Sporter Air Rifle-Prone

- **New timing:** 8 minute sighters first target, no changeover time, 5 minute sighters, 10 minute record shots remaining targets
- Open to all age groups
- 40 Shots Prone at 10 meters.
- Equipment allowed is the same as 3 position

Sporter and Precision Air Rifle-Standing:

- **New timing:** see Standing under Three Position, with 8 minute sight in, no changeover time
- 40 Shots Standing at 10 meters
- A spotting scope, scope stand, and binoculars are allowed.

All airgun questions should be directed to Lee Nelson – rlittle33@msn.com – 406-579-0612.

Rapid Fire Air Pistol – will only be offered if there is a full relay.

- Equipment will not be provided for Rapid Fire Air Pistol.
- Pistol is the same as slow fire, metallic sights only.
- 20 seconds to load, 3 seconds to shoot – 40 seconds total
- NRA rules will apply.

Silhouette Events

- Equipment will be provided.

Silhouette questions should be directed to **Lee Nelson** – rlittle33@msn.com – 406-579-0612

Smallbore Rifle Event– Greenway Range, Gallatin County Fairgrounds:

- Firearms to be used will be target rifles with metallic sights only. Firearms will be inspected prior to firing
- Course of fire will be a total of 60 shots: 20 Prone, 20 Standing, 20 Kneeling at 50 feet.
- Time for shots will be: Prone-1 minute per shot, Standing-2 minutes per shot, Kneeling-1 ½ minute per shot
- Shooters must have their own eye and ear protection, standard velocity ammunition and other required equipment. Equipment should be supplied by the competitor and will be checked prior to shooting.
- Competitors must be 10 years old or older to participate.
- Age categories for competition will be 10-12 yrs, 13-14 yrs, 15+ yrs.
- Competition is limited to the first 40 registered competitors. The competitor is allowed to enter the event only once.
- Event will not be an NRA sanctioned match, though NRA rules will apply

Smallbore Pistol Event – Greenway Range, Gallatin County Fairgrounds:

-  **Must have signed approval form from parents and present to Range Officer prior to shooting.**

The Youth Safety Handgun Act (http://www.atf.gov/pub/fire-explo_pub/i53002.pdf) as included in the Gun Control Act of 1968 puts restrictions on the use and possession of handguns by youth under 18 years of age. Event officials will require “the prior written consent of the juvenile’s parent or guardian who is not prohibited by Federal, State, or local law from possessing a firearm.” This written permission must be in possession of the youth – even if a parent/guardian is present. Failure to have this document will require us to disqualify the shooter to avoid violation of federal law.

- All smallbore pistols are required to use an CBI (Clear Barrel Indicator) when the handgun is uncased.
- Cased pistols will be the last equipment to be brought to the range and the first to be removed from it.
- All events are “single pistol” matches, meaning participants are to shoot the entire course of fire, with the same pistol.
- No pistol changes will be allowed between stages, and only one pistol per shooter is allowed on the line. Pistols may be replaced only if they are disabled or malfunctioning.
- Target – NRA B-2 & B-3
- Distance – 50 feet
- Course of Fire: 90 shot match: Gallery course of 30 shots slow fire, 30 timed fire and 30 rapid fire
- Time Limit: Slow fire: 5 minutes (10 shot string), Timed fire: 20 seconds per 5 shot string, Rapid fire: 10 seconds per 5 shot string
- Position: One-hand standing
- Rules – NRA Conventional Pistol Rules CP 16650

Equipment:

Rule 3.1.3 Standard Smallbore Pistol .22 caliber rim fire – The pistol may be any .22 rimfire pistol, either semi-automatic or revolver. The pistol may have orthopedic or specially shaped grips. Sights are restricted to open sights (service pistol rules) with adjustable rear sights. The pistol must have a trigger pull of at least two (2) pounds.

Service pistol (and therefore a qualifying pistol for this event) has “Open sights only with a non-adjustable front sight. The rear sight may be adjustable and must have an open “u” or rectangular notch. [NRA Conventional Pistol - General Service Pistol Specifications 3.1 A (3)]

All other questions should be directed to Scott Francis @ 406-581-6845 or Tom Everett @ 406-570-8878.