

### A 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteer Is...

- Interested in youth and their development
- Interested in a shooting discipline
- Willing to learn how to effectively teach shooting to youth
- Willing to be helpful, open, and supportive
- Interested in challenges with rewards
- Enthusiastic, positive, and energetic
- Honest, self-disciplined, and kind

Shooting ability is not essential, but a willingness to learn coaching skills and work with your county 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator is required.

NOTE: training is required for certified volunteer 4-H Shooting Sports instructors.

### Volunteer Responsibilities

- Learn, practice, and teach the highest standards of safety
- Learn and practice cooperative coaching techniques
- Learn and practice 4-H teaching techniques
- Invest your time, energy, and commitment to the Shooting Sports program
- Focus on helping youth develop and learn
- Be a positive role model for youth and adults
- Work closely with the County 4-H Youth Extension Educator and the 4-H Shooting Sports instructor team

### *For More Information*

Contact the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Office in your county.



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## Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports Volunteers



***Interested in teaching youth safe, responsible shooting skills?***

***Read on...***

## Why Shooting Sports?

Exposure to **safe and responsible handling** of firearms and archery equipment is vital to preventing accidents. Shooting together offers youth, parents, grandparents, and other family members a lifelong activity to share.

### 4-H Shooting Sports Disciplines

(Note: specific disciplines offered in each county are dependent upon local resources.)

- Archery
- Muzzleloading
- Outdoor Skills
- Pistol
- Rifle
- Shotgun

Each discipline teaches safety, ethics, concentration, self-discipline, self-confidence, goal-setting, decision-making, and courtesy. 4-H members learn basic skills and build toward more advanced activities. Older youth are encouraged to assist with teaching and become mentors to younger members. Youth may concentrate on one shooting discipline or learn about multiple disciplines during their tenure in 4-H Shooting Sports.

### Objectives:

#### 4-H Shooting Sports provides...

- Personal growth and development of participating youth.
- An introduction to the safe and responsible use of firearms or archery equipment.

### Program Goals

The 4-H Shooting Sports program promotes positive youth development using the member's interest in a shooting discipline. The essential elements of positive youth development include: a feeling of **belonging**; the opportunity for **mastery**; gaining **independence**; and learning **generosity**. These are addressed in the 4-H Shooting Sports program as described on the following pages.

**Belonging:** feeling a part of a supportive community

- A positive relationship with a caring adult – to enhance the development of a 4-H member's self-concept, character, and personal growth
- An inclusive environment – the program is open to all 4-H members and free of judgments, bullying, or other exclusions
- A safe environment – every aspect of the program (classroom and range) is conducted modeling the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior

**Mastery:** having opportunities for success, leading to enhanced self-esteem

- Engagement in Learning –
  - Learning safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment
  - Promoting the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior
  - Participation in educational and socially acceptable shooting activities
- Opportunity for Mastery – improving the member's skills in one or more shooting disciplines; enabling the member to reach personal goals

**Independence:** learning self-sufficiency and responsibility

- Opportunity to see oneself as an active participant in the future – exposure to the broad array of vocations and lifelong hobbies related to shooting sports; teaching sound decision-making, self-discipline and concentration
- Opportunity for self-determination – encouraging choice and personal goal setting based on personal interests in shooting, hunting, and natural resources

**Generosity:** gaining a feeling of purpose and usefulness

- Opportunity to value and practice service for others – demonstrating the importance of giving back to the community; learning to serve others and strengthen families through shared recreational activities

### Participants Gain...

Confidence & concentration

Decision-making skills

Ethical standards

Exposure to shooting-related careers

Friendship

Leadership skills

Lifetime sport

Personal responsibility

Opportunities to earn awards

Opportunities to set & achieve goals

Poise

Reasoning skills

Respect

Safe shooting practices

Self-discipline & self-esteem

Sportsmanship

Useful knowledge & skills

Contact your county 4-H Extension Educator for more information about the program or about becoming a certified county instructor.

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