

Rules for the Southeast District 9 4-H Air Pistol Contest

April 24, 2021

Fort Bend County Extension Education Bldg., Rosenberg

ELIGIBILITY: All bona fide, active, 4-H Shooting Sports members are eligible to compete in the District 4-H Air Pistol Contest, subject to the rules for active membership instituted by the county or local club.

TEAMS: Multiple teams consisting of three (3) or four (4) members each in Junior, Intermediate, and Senior age divisions may be entered by each county in the Southeast Extension District. If a county does not have a complete team in a given age division, shooters may compete as an individual. No shooter may be a member of more than one team or represent more than one county.

INDIVIDUALS: If a county has additional participants after the age division teams have been designated, shooters may compete as an individual.

AGE DIVISIONS:

- Junior: Grades 3rd – 5th
- Intermediate: Grades 6th – 8th
- Seniors: Grades: 9th – 12th

Within limitations, shooters may elect to move up one age division for the District Air Pistol Contest.

SAFETY: All firearms must be unloaded from the case at the firing line and with ACTIONS OPEN at all times unless on the firing line under command of the Range Officer or during firearm safety inspection under supervision of check-in personnel. Empty Chamber Indicators (ECIs) are required. All shooters and other persons on or in the immediate vicinity of the firing line, including coaches, range officials and any spectators must wear adequate eye protection (glasses and/or goggles). The equipment must protect both eyes. Ear protection is not required for air pistol shooters, but either plugs or earmuffs may be worn by shooters at their option.

TARGETS: All shooters will use the Orion 1 Bull Air Pistol Target. 10 meter air pistol 1 bull target

SHOOTING RULES: The Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Program uses the National Standard Position Air Pistol Rules with some modifications to meet the objectives of the program Or to increase the success rates of young people participating in the program. In 4-H events, 4-H rules and regulations supersede all others where differences exist. <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/projects/shooting-sports/>

POSITIONS:

- 1) Seniors - The pistol must be supported with one hand only with the other hand providing no support for the pistol. All parts of the shooter's clothing, body and gun must be clear of artificial support. No part of the shooter's body may touch the ground in advance of the firing line.
- 2) Intermediates - Intermediate shooters may use a two-handed firing position. All parts of their clothing, bodies and firearm must be free from artificial support, and no part of their body may touch the ground in advance of the firing line.
- 3) Juniors - Junior shooters may fire from a seated position without their elbows supported on the surface of the firing point and their hand may be resting on a sandbag or similar support. Junior shooters will be grouped together to fire in the same relay.
- 4) No shooting gloves/ wrist braces/ support allowed???

COURSE OF FIRE:

Seniors - Senior shooters will fire a 30 shot course of fire (**5 shots per record bull**) from the one-handed standing position with one (1) minute per record shot or 30 minutes total running time.

Intermediates - Intermediate shooters will fire a 20 shot course of fire (**5 shots per record bull**) from a two-handed standing position with one (1) minutes per record shot or 20 minutes total running time.

Juniors - Junior shooters will fire a 10 shot course of fire (**5 shots per record bull**) from a supported, two hand position while seated at the firing points. They will be permitted one (1) minutes per record shot or 10 minutes total running time.

Unlimited sighting shots may be fired only before the beginning of each position. Once the first record shot has been fired, no additional sighting shots may be fired in that position. A two-point penalty will be assessed for each sighting shot fired after the first record shot except as authorized by range officials.

SHOOTING TIME:

Competitors will be allowed a 3 minute preparation period to take their places at the firing point and prepare to fire.

TEAM SCORING:

The three highest individual scores will be added for the composite team score. The low score is dropped. For teams with only 3 firing members, all individual scores will be added for the team score. Ties will be broken in accordance with established rules.

CHALLENGE & REVIEW:

Only contestants will be given the opportunity to challenge the scoring of targets upon deposit of \$5 per challenge. **Intermediate and senior competitors may accompany a junior competitor to submit his or her challenge.** Intermediate and senior competitors must challenge him/ or herself. Challenge fees will be returned if the challenge is upheld by the Chief of Scoring and the Contest Superintendent. Monies collected from challenges that are not upheld will be deposited into the Southeast District 4-H Fund.

Only contestants may examine any challenged targets. Coaches will have 30 minutes after scores are posted for competitors from their county to report scoring errors to the

Statistical Officer. Any challenges must be made within that period. Challenges will be made to the Statistical Officer who will provide the challenged target(s) to the Chief of Scoring and the Contest Superintendent for resolution of the challenge in the presence of the challenging contestant prior to results being finalized.

FIREARMS:

Any factory available air pistol or revolver firing .177 caliber lead (or similar soft material) pellets and using metallic (open) sights only may be used. Adjustable grips may be used as long as they do not exceed specifications when adjusted to their maximum. A trigger pull of at least 17.6 ounces. No release triggers may be used.

AMMUNITION:

Only .177 caliber lead or similar soft material pellets may be used. No pointed pellets will be allowed.

MISCELLANEOUS:

All spectators in the firing range must wear eye protection.

Please make sure that everyone understands the rules in order that youngsters and coaches will have a positive experience on the firing line.

COACHES:

Only one coach per shooter will be allowed. Verbal and physical coaching will be allowed during preparation period only. Once record firing begins, no verbal instructions are allowed. Junior competitors may have assistance from a coach.

Only one shooter per assigned lane per gun per relay will be allowed. If equipment needs to be shared, then coaches should assign shooters to separate relays to allow for equipment sharing. Remember that shoot times will be scheduled based on age category within the discipline so plan accordingly with youth who need to share equipment.