

RULES FOR SOUTHEAST DISTRICT 9 4-H AIR RIFLE 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 Rifle 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
- Senior: Grades 9th – 12th

Within limitations, shooters may elect to move up one age division for the District Air Rifle 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 rifle shooters, but either plugs or earmuffs may be worn by shooters at their discretion.

TARGETS: All shooters will use the Orion 12 Bull Air Rifle Target.

SHOOTING RULES: The Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Program uses the National Standard Three-Position Air Rifle 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: Junior competitors will fire three prone positions. Intermediate and senior competitors will fire prone, standing, and kneeling positions in that order. Ten shots (10) for record will be fired on each target, and all targets will be posted at one time and fired in succession during the relay.

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. Junior competitors will be given 30 minutes to sight and fire shots. Intermediate and Senior competitors will be given 45 minutes to sight in and fire shots for record.

TEAM SCORING: The top three individual scores will be added for the composite team score. The low score will be dropped on four person teams and all three scores will be used on the three person teams. Ties will be broken in accordance with NRA rules 15.7.d, f, h, and i (not using centershots).

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: **Sporter Air Rifle** - Any factory available .177 caliber air rifle that is conventional in appearance, powered by compressed air or CO₂, and meeting the following restrictions may be used. The air rifle used must meet the National Air Rifle Rules.

a. Caliber - Only 4.5 mm or .177 caliber air rifles may be used.

b. Trigger - Trigger pull must be a minimum 1 and half pounds or 645 grams.

c. Stock - The stock must be of conventional design and symmetrically shaped for use by either left- or right-handed shooters. It may be adjustable for length. The cheek piece may be adjustable for height, but no stock changes may be made during the competition. The stock may be rough, checkered or scored to provide a non-slip surface; and it may be painted or refinished; but other modifications are prohibited.

d. Internal modifications - Functioning internal parts may be smoothed or improved, but only factory manufactured parts designed for that specific model and functioning as they were originally intended to function may be used.

e. Other prohibited modifications - Thumb holes, thumb rests, palm rests, heel rests, hooked butt plate, grip material and barrel extension tubes are prohibited. No attached bipod or rifle rest is allowed while shooting.

f. Sling swivel/hand stop -A sling swivel or hand stop that is attached to a rail in the fore-end may be used (except in the standing position). The depth of the sling swivel or hand stop with the sling swivel folded flat, may not exceed 25 mm (approximately 1 inch).

g. Sights - Only sights manufactured for and sold with sporter air rifles are permitted. A blinder may be attached to the rifle or the rear sight. Corrective lenses may be worn by the shooter, but may not be incorporated into the sights. Telescopic sights are permitted only in those matches so designated in the match bulletin.

h. Weight - Weights may be added either internally to the fore-end or stock or externally as concentric barrel weights, so long as the total weight of the rifle does not exceed 7 2 pounds (3.375kg).

i. Approved rifles -Sporter air rifles officially approved in these competitions include the Daisy Models 753, 853, & 953 (pneumatic), Daisy Model 887 & 888 (CO₂), Daisy Model XSV40 (compressed air), and Crossman Model 2000, S2000, & T200 (CO₂). Any rifle that complies with the spirit and intent of these rules restricting Sporter Air Rifle competition to low cost, entry-level rifles without specialized modifications may also be used. Check the www.odcmp.com website for a complete listing of sporter air rifles.

AMMUNITION: Only .177 caliber lead pellets may be used. No pointed pellets will be allowed.

MISCELLANEOUS: **All spectators in the firing range must wear eye protection.**

Although ground covers will be available, competitors are encouraged to bring their own ground covers. To be fully prepared for the contest, please pay close attention to the pertinent items listed next: (1) slings cannot be used in the standing position, (2) butt plates must conform to specific specifications, (3) kneeling rolls must be of a particular size, (4) foam or similar type mattresses are not acceptable as ground cloths, etc. Please make sure that everyone understands the rules in order that youngsters and coaches will have a positive experience on the firing line. Chairs or a comparable item should be provided by each competitor to use in the standing position.

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.