

Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports Program Rules for Participation

While the Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports program is open to all individuals who meet the required age qualifications, their use of firearms and archery equipment is subject to the joint approval of the Taylor County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development, the Certified Discipline Instructors/Coaches and the Certified County Coordinator. This approval is based on the youth's ability to follow directions and instructions, adhere to all safety rules, the Kentucky 4-H Shooting Sports Essential Standards for Youth Participants, the 4-H Code of Conduct, the Kentucky 4-H State Shooting Sports Education Program Rules, and follow the Rules for Participation as detailed below. If a youth does not follow the rules and procedures mentioned above, their approval to use firearms/archery equipment can be revoked at any time by the Taylor County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development, or by the joint approval of all the Certified Discipline Instructors/Coaches and the Certified County Coordinator.

1. All Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports members **MUST** be **9 to 18** years of age as of **January 1, 2025**. Anyone under the age of 9 as of January 1, 2025, is **NOT** permitted to participate in the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. **This is a National and KY State 4-H rule. No exceptions can be made under any circumstances.**
2. **Absolutely NO HORSEPLAY OR INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT of any kind will be tolerated.**
3. All directions/instructions by coaches and apprentice coaches **MUST** be followed. When the attention group is called for, all members must listen and follow the certified instructors/coaches and certified apprentice coaches' specific directions/instructions. Participants' full attention is expected throughout practice while coaches and apprentice coaches are speaking/teaching. No rudeness or bullying will be tolerated.
4. Youth cell phones, electronic earpieces/headphones (such as ear buds, Air Pods or Beats), radios (Walkie Talkies), smart watches, or other electronic communication devices may **NOT** be used by youth members on or in the immediate vicinity of the range during practice or competitions.
5. All participants must provide their own safety equipment and are required to always wear it when on the range. This includes hearing and eye protection for all firearms. Eye protection is recommended for archery but is not required. The club owned safety equipment is available upon need or request.
6. All equipment is to be brought to the range and remain unloaded, (firearms with action open, CBI in place, arrows in quiver) and enclosed in some type of casing until members are instructed otherwise by the instructors/coaches and or range officials.
7. All equipment and ammunition must be approved by the corresponding instructors/coaches of that discipline.
8. Only those members who participate in **at least 6** of scheduled range practices under the instruction of a certified 4-H instructor/coach will be eligible to compete in the Kentucky State 4-H Shooting Sports Competition.

9. All members **ages 9-18** (4-H age) must complete a minimum participation of **1 year** in the air rifle discipline before being allowed to participate in .22 rifle and/or shotgun discipline.
10. All members **ages 9-18** (4-H age) must complete a minimum participation of **1 year** in the air pistol discipline **AND** be at least **12 years of age** (4-H age) before being allowed to participate in the .22 pistol discipline.
11. **Dress Code** – Youth are expected to dress appropriately for the ALL 4-H events in which they are taking part in. Both youth and adults should wear attire appropriate for the weather while remaining modest. Specific guidelines include:
 - a. Shorts should be a modest length. A good length is about mid-thigh. No cut-off shorts are permitted.
 - b. All shirts **must** have sleeves. Spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, bare midriffs, low necklines, or otherwise revealing clothing will not be allowed.
 - c. No clothing with alcohol, tobacco, vulgar language, or sexual reference will be permitted. If a violation is found, the individual will have the opportunity to correct the issue before further action is taken.
12. **Shoes/Footwear** – Youth participants are required to wear shoes that completely cover the foot, including soles, during practices and competitions. **Examples of footwear NOT acceptable include sandals, clogs, Croc™ style shoes, slippers, house shoes, flip-flops and bare feet.** If a violation is found, the individual will have the opportunity to correct the issue before further action is taken.

I understand it is my responsibility as the parent/guardian of my youth to read, review and explain these rules and the KY 4-H Shooting Sports Education Program Rules to my child. We certify that by signing this form we both understand and will adhere to these rules. We also understand that consequences may occur if these rules are broken, including but not limited to, my youth’s immediate dismissal from the Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports Program.

By signing this document, I grant permission for my youth to participate in the Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports Education Program.

Taylor County Youth 4-H Member Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date





Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports Program
Permission & Waiver of Liability

It is the policy of the Taylor County Extension Office, Taylor County 4-H Program for Youth Development, Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports, University of Kentucky, Kentucky 4-H and the Kentucky 4-H Shooting Sports program to encourage and accept youth participants ages 9-18 (4-H age) without regard to race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental ability.

Parents/Guardians of participants who have medical conditions or other disabilities requiring special attention should alert the Taylor County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development, and/or the Certified County Coordinator to ensure proper accommodations are provided. If the participant requires one on one assistance or a level of attention not available by the Certified Discipline Instructors/Coaches, the parent/guardian may be asked to provide an adult chaperone that will go through the Client Protection Process (Approved Adult Volunteer Support Leader) to assist the participant during live fire activities (practice and competitions).

I _____, as parent/guardian of _____, grant permission for my youth to be enrolled and participate in the Taylor County 4-H Archery & Shooting Sports Program, and approve the use of firearms, live ammunition, and/or archery equipment by my youth under the direct supervision of a trained, screened, and Certified KY 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor/Coach. I also grant permission for my youth to transport, handle, and discharge firearms and archery equipment during approved practices and competitions in a safe and lawful manner under the direct supervision of a trained, screened, and Certified KY 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor/Coach. I understand that ALL safety procedures will be strictly adhered to and that my youth could be immediately expelled without recourse from the program as a result of horseplay, inappropriate conduct, violation of safety rules, and/or failure to follow the Certified KY 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor, Range Officer, Approved Adult Support Volunteer Leader, Apprentice Coach or Extension Staff's directions and instructions.

I understand that archery and shooting sports activities are potentially hazardous activities and certain risks are involved with the activity. These potential hazards/risks include but are not limited to firearms and/or archery related wounds and can result in paralysis, loss of limb, vision or life.



By signing below, I understand that participation by my youth in this program is entirely voluntary and I agree not to hold any of the following parties liable/responsible in the event of accidental injury, illness or death:

- University of Kentucky
- University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service or any of its employees
- United States Department of Agriculture
- Taylor County Extension Board, any officer or member
- Taylor County Extension Council, any officer or member
- Taylor County 4-H Council, any officer or member
- Taylor County 4-H Youth Development Agent or 4-H Program Assistant
- 4-H Volunteer Leaders for Youth Development (Certified Discipline Instructors/Coaches & Coordinator, Certified Youth Apprentice Coaches, Approved Adult Volunteer Support Leaders)
- Bluegrass Sportsman's League
- KY Wildlife Management Center

Taylor County Youth 4-H Member Name _____

Parent/ Legal Guardian Name Printed _____

Parent/ Legal Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

