

# Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports Update Amid Covid-19

**Range time MUST NOT be completed during this Covid-19 Crisis!**

## **General Information:**

Many of the ranges across Ohio are currently closed and as you know, 4-H clubs are currently restricted from meeting in person through July 6, 2020. This date may be extended. Due to the likelihood that most all of our Ohio 4-H enrolled Shooting Sports members will not have a 4-H trained/certified parent or a safe range available, **members MUST NOT be encouraged to practice on their own or complete project range time expectations.**

## **Club Activity:**

Many of our Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports clubs are meeting virtually to complete club business and some are providing shooting sports related learning opportunities. Examples will be provided on our next planned Shooting Sports Zoom (see below for details). Volunteers should use extra care when conducting virtual demonstrations. Camera angles can distort the visual picture seen by participants that may jeopardize safe handling practices. It may be 100% safe but the perspective of the camera may make it appear that it is not.

When helping youth select their “SMART Goals” for this year, encourage them to focus on goals that are not tied to the range. An example could be: learn all the parts of a revolver and teach them to someone else. For learning experiences, recommend things that can be done without going places, such as prepare an illustrated talk and present it to the club or completing STEM activities related to trajectory. For additional ideas for club meetings and activity suggestions review the Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports website (<https://go.osu.edu/smart-goals>)

## **State Fair:**

Ohio State Fair Shooting Sports judging has been discussed and determined that no state-level judging will occur for the 700 level projects regardless of the outcome for other 4-H project areas. This decision is based solely on the desire to

maintain a safe shooting environment for our members and volunteers while maintaining the state and national integrity of our program's safety record. We recognize that many clubs have not been able to complete safety and range time expectations due to the Covid-19 crisis. Additionally, our Ohio 4-H clubs are not permitted to meet in person until at least after July 6<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, it is unknown when ranges will reopen, if they will be available for our 4-H program or what size in number will be allowed to gather for training, etc.

This decision will allow counties to consider extending their 4-H Shooting Sports season so that clubs can possibly schedule in-person meetings after the height of the crisis has passed. We are suggesting that county judging for these projects not occur until after the clubs have had the opportunity to complete appropriate in-person meetings including range time (Please discuss this with your county shooting sports coordinator{s} to determine an appropriate judging schedule). Counties that conduct shooting sports judging prior to reasonable range time availability must judge the projects without regard to completed range time.

### **Volunteer Training:**

Ohio 4-H has secured funding to cover the cost of all Ohio 4-H shooting sports instructors completing the National Shooting Sports e-learning modules. We will soon be providing county Educators with a coupon code that can be shared with current and new 4-H Shooting Sports volunteers to allow them free access to the course. We will also share a Power Point screen by screen help guide to walk volunteers through the profile completion and course registration at that time. Those counties that responded to the Qualtrics survey have had their county administrator added to the e-learning site.

We are encouraging all Ohio 4-H Shooting Sports volunteers to create a profile and complete the e-learning modules. Once complete, this training will be valid for 5 years (as long as there is not a break in service), unless there is a program change that necessitates an update.