Please Share the Information in this newsletter with your county shooting sports instructor team.

New Youth Manual: 4-H 950

A new 4-H manual for youth in the shooting sports project is available through your county extension office. It includes basic safety information, an introduction to the shooting sports disciplines, discipline activities (labeling parts, word search, project ideas, and games and activities suggestions). The projects, games, and activities are given as ideas only, to be completed with the assistance of a certified shooting sports instructor. Answers to the youth activities are on the Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports Leader website: www.four-h.purdue.edu/shooting_sports. Note that this manual is intended to be introductory. For advanced students please consider the NRA discipline manuals.

Cost: Package of 10 for $12.00

Topics (28 pages total)
- Safety
- Discipline descriptions
- Archery
- Hunting
- Muzzleloading
- Pistol
- Rifle
- Shotgun
- Ammunition
- Resources
- Record Sheets
- Glossary

Example pages:

Thanks to everyone who helped develop and review this manual. We must have done something right as it has already been purchased by 19 different programs in 10 states outside Indiana.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Website: www.four-h.purdue.edu/shooting_sports

- Action Demonstration guidelines and checklist
- Answers to identification and word find in youth manuals (4-H 950)
- Exhibit Guidelines
- Experiential Learning and Youth Development Stages
- Exploring 4-H
- Hunter Education (IDNR)
- Ideas for Review & Evaluation (Archery, Hunting, Muzzleloading, Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun)
- Introduction to 4-H Shooting Sports Education
- Range Safety Rules
- Suggestions for additional activities
- Working with young 4-H members

4-H Shooting Sports Participation

Department of 4-H/Youth Development © Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service
Brassards and discipline patches
The 4-H Shooting Sports Education brassard, shown to the left, is available from Purdue's Media Distribution Center (phone: (888) 398-4636) in packages of 10 for $15.00. You may purchase them or ask your county educator about ordering them. You may also purchase discipline bars. Please consider using these patches as a way to identify certified instructors.

Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports Education Position Statement
I am often asked why Indiana 4-H offers shooting sports education project. I know that county educators and volunteers also get this question from time to time. We have written the Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports Education Position Statement to address these questions. – Natalie Carroll

Why does Indiana 4-H have a shooting sports program?
• The shooting sports education program teaches self-confidence, personal discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and sportsmanship.
• The shooting sports education program appeals to youth that may not be interested in other 4-H offerings, especially males (85% of shooting sports education participants are males).
• The 4-H shooting sports education programs teach safe and ethical use of firearms.

Isn’t it dangerous to teach kids about guns?
• Our society allows its citizens to possess firearms. Therefore, citizens should be provided adequate training to ensure safe, ethical, and responsible use of firearms.
• Having and using firearms does not lead to violence. Violence is a symptom of larger societal issues. The Commission for the Prevention of Youth Violence listed the following risk factors in its report: alcohol and other drugs, child maltreatment (physical and emotional), gang involvement, gun availability, media violence, violence among intimates and peers. Youth and Violence, Medicine, Nursing, and Public Health: Connecting the Dots to Prevent Violence: (American Medical Association, December 2000).

Shooting Sports Education Certified Coordinator Training - The Shooting Sports Education Coordinator training will be conducted Friday and Saturday, November 7th & 8th, 2003. This training will be held in conjunction with the Indiana 4-H Volunteer Forum.

Fall 4-H Shooting Sports Education Certification Workshop – September 5-7, 2003 at Ross Camp in Tippecanoe County. Registration deadline is August 22. Your county educator can get the registration form from the 4-H website. Last summer we sent a survey with the 4-H Shooting Sports newsletter. Many thanks to the people who took the time to complete this survey. Respondents had an average of 6.4 years of involvement in the 4-H shooting sports program and indicated that the certification workshop teaches them many things. They reported the following increases in knowledge, on a scale of 0 (low) to 5 (high):
• Discipline knowledge – from 4.3 to 4.7
• Youth development knowledge – from 3.8 to 4.5
• Knowledge of risk management: from 2.9 to 4.6
• Knowledge of local Extension: from 3.0 to 4.3

Respondents reported a general value of 4.6 for the preparation for working
The Impact of 4-H Shooting Sports Education

Last year 5,306 Indiana youth participated in the 4-H Shooting Sports project, including 937 girls (about 18%). The number of participants and the year in the project are: 2,902 (year 1), 956 (year 2), 529 (year 3), 300 (year 4), 197 (year 5), 113 (year 6), 65 (year 7), 63 (year 8), 19 (year 9), and 18 (year 10). An additional 144 youth participated through special interest, school enrichment, or individual study. Participation falls off after the first few years for many reasons but the county shooting sports team should discuss ways to involve the older 4-H youth in instruction and other areas where they can take responsibility for the program. A great way to include youth is to encourage them (especially the older youth) to help with teaching, set-up, special events, inviting speakers, serve on committees, and help in making decisions. Remember that this is a program for youth - include them!

We sent a survey in the 2002 4-H Shooting Sports newsletter (mentioned on the previous page) to determine what impact this project is having on Indiana youth. Thanks to all who participated and sent back their thoughts. When asked, “In your opinion, has this program had any impact (positive or negative) on the youth you work with (in SSE)? If so, explain the impact,” responses included:

- Yes, more responsible youth.
- Our youth are a lot more aware of gun safety and strict discipline.
- Positive impact – generates interest in shooting sports and safety; it makes them feel more assure of themselves around other hunters; some of the kids did not know how to use the guns; teaches safe gun handling and respect for others.
- Teaches safe gun handling and marksmanship.
- The impact has been very positive, they have learned more respect for firearm and archery equipment and everything else in the world.
- Yes. Have seen the “light of understanding” come into several young faces. Some of what they learned may save them, or friends and family from a tragic accident or wayward behavior. Have heard positive feedback from adults about what their kids got out of SSE.
- Had a very positive impact on our youth and adults on safety, etc in firearms, wildlife, etc.
- Positive- yes, once involved they just seem to want to learn more, and some want to go and have gone on to shoot competition.

Congratulations to the Purdue Trap and Skeet shooting team!

- International Intercollegiate Clay Target Championships – Won the Overall Team title (1,479 of 1,600 clay targets) and team championships in American skeet, American trap, and International skeet; Individual championships in American trap (George Gray), International skeet (Todd Coble), and five-stand (George Gray); coached by Arch Alexander.
- The Purdue Trap and Skeet team has won 18 consecutive Grand American World Trapshooting Championships (since 1985). The Boilermakers will go for No. 19 from August 7-16 at Vandalia, Ohio.
The Latest from the Child Trends DataBank
Did YOU know?
Teen homicide and firearm deaths have dropped by more than half since 1993. For more, including recently released 2000 estimates, see the new teen homicide, suicide, and firearm death indicator at www.childtrendsdatabank.org

** Make a real effort to include all youth in your programs and planning. You may get the opportunity to make a real difference in someone's life - and this is more apt to happen with kids on the "fringes." The experience is one of the great rewards of volunteering....knowing that you have made a positive impact.

Reporting child abuse
We all have a moral and civic responsibility to help prevent child abuse. Also, Indiana law requires that ANYONE with knowledge about child abuse report it to the authorities. 4-H staff and volunteers have an additional duty to report it to their immediate supervisor. You can find out more at www.four-h.purdue.edu/volunteer_training/index.html (Module 5) or by asking your county extension educator for more information.

Copying NRA (or other) information
The NRA manuals are copyrighted. You may NOT copy any of the NRA materials for use in your 4-H programs. (Note: All published materials are considered copyrighted and may not be copied, except under very specific conditions. It is no longer required to have the copyright symbol to be copyrighted.)

---

**Event Opportunities**

4-H Shooting Sports Extravaganza
The Randolph County 4-H Shooting Sports Club would like to invite you and all of your 4-H Shooting Sports participants to attend the 12th annual 4-H Shooting Sports Extravaganza. The event will be held June 28, 2003 at the Farmland Conservation Club. The Club is a 188 acre facility located between Farmland and Winchester, 1 1/4 miles North of State Road 32 on County Road 500 West. Each 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator should have received additional information and a registration form. If you should have any questions, please contact Paul Bunner, (765) 468-8054, Dwight Shelton, (765) 468-7214, Keith Snyder (765) 584-0556 or the Randolph County Extension Office at (765) 584-2271 or 584-8005.

Other Shooting Opportunities (not 4-H)
Reminder - the following event is not covered by Purdue accident and liability policies so youth should not go as part of a 4-H club activity. We ask that you let the youth know about non-4-H shooting opportunities (as appropriate) and leave it up to their parents to take them if they wish.

Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC): The YHEC event (with prizes for winners) will be held again this fall at Friendship, IN (in Ripley Co, north of Madison). Camping and food will be available. Youth should bring their own sporting arms, eye and ear protection. Registration packets will be sent to each county. Pre-registration (with copies of each youth's birth certificate and HE card) is requested. Contact Lisé Maddox at mmaddox@aclass.com or (765) 583-4670 for more information.