Ron Turpin, Extension Youth Educator in Elkhart County, surveyed Extension Educators across the state about their 4-H Shooting Sports programs and got some interesting information. He shared the following information.

1. **How is your local program funded?**
   **Dues:** (note – amount listed above, number of counties reporting below)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>$5</th>
<th>$6*</th>
<th>$10</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>$12</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$15 &amp; $25</td>
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   **Council Funds:** (what council pays for above, number of counties reporting below)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>all</th>
<th>awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>targets, etc.</td>
<td>some support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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   **Club Funds:** 22 counties, **Fairboard:** 1 county, **Donors:** 2 counties * plus fundraising

2. **How many disciplines do you offer?** (note – number listed above, number of counties reporting below)

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<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>4</td>
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</table>

3. **Who pays for leader training (certification workshop)?**
   - Council pays registration fee – 22 counties
   - Leaders attending – 3 counties
   - Leader reimbursed: after 1 year – 2 counties: after 2 years – 1 county; after 3 years – 1 county
   - Council pays transportation only – 1 county
   - Fairboard – 1 county
   - Donors – 1 county
   - Booster club – 1 county
   - Club – 1 county
   - Council pays ½-1; 2/3 – 1 county
   - Council pays most – 2 counties
   - $300 set aside – 1 county

   Ron: Thanks for compiling and sharing this information!

Please note the evaluation sheet that is enclosed with this newsletter. Please help us assess the program impact and suggest things we could improve. Please make copies of the form and share them with youth, parents, and instructors who have been involved with the 4-H Shooting Sports program. Completed evaluation forms should be returned to the State 4-H Department by May 31, 1998. (Mailing address is on the form). Thank you for your help!
***Q&A***

Q: I received certification 15 years ago and have been active in our county program since that time (with just a few years off). My county team suggested that I attend a certification workshop but it is difficult for me to get the time off work. Am I required to attend a certification workshop?

A: We strongly recommend that you try to make the time to attend a workshop since many things have changed since you were certified. Your attendance is not mandatory at this point but recertification will be required in the future.

Perhaps you could co-teach with another recently certified, instructor. The experience that you have gained over the years of your leadership is of great value to your club and we hope that continues. The general recommendation at this point, for others in this situation, is to attend the Certification Workshop if you were certified before 1990.

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A: You must include Special Needs Youth as is reasonable and safe for the other shooters and instructors. In many cases it would be appropriate to ask the parents for extra help or to suggest someone to give extra assistance if it is required. Sometimes there are teachers or aides that work with these youth in school who might be willing to help. Another option is to find some additional help from shooting sports instructors from other disciplines or from another county. It would be appropriate/reasonable in some “Special Needs Cases” to request the parent or guardian to be present and involved with the student during meetings.

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***County Program News***

Fun Shoot Invitational, sponsored by the Southern Indiana 4-H Counties will be held Saturday, June 6, at the Campbell Township Conservation Club in Warrick County.

Indiana State Junior Rifle Championships, sponsored by Purdue ROTC and Concordia JROTC: March 14&15, 1998. Call Tom Lorenzen (219/494-2245, day, or 219/482-1435, night) for more information.

Postal Shoot Reminder!!!

Don’t forget to sign interested youth up for the Indiana Postal Shoot. If you did not receive, or have misplaced your registration form call Willis Bahnsen at 812/372-5484 (home) or 812/377-8173 (work). Youth can compete in air rifle, .22 rifle, and air pistol. The cost is $5 per shooter, per match. New shooters could watch older/seasoned shooters compete in this activity. Watching the competition can be a great way to show new members the difficulty in shooting from different positions and the control is required.

**Registration deadline:** March 15, 1998  
**Completion deadline:** May 20, 1998  
(targets must be returned by May 20)

**Q:** One of the youth in our 4-H shooting sports club attempted suicide last winter. Luckily he did not succeed. His parents and the school are working to get him the extra help that he needs. Our shooting sports instructor team is concerned, however, about the maturity and stability of this young man and concerned about the negative implications to the program if he were to try suicide again.

**A:** This issue highlights another type of Special Needs Youth than we were discussing in the previous question. Generally these young people are at great risk and can really benefit from the ongoing contact with a responsible, caring adult. You need to pay extra attention, however, to make sure this youth is not endangering himself or anyone else. Note – it is imperative that he is following all established rules for safe firearm handling. Also you might request that one of his parents is present while the student is participating in your class. The parent’s relationship with the youth and the youth’s medical doctor and/or psychologist will play a key role in this situation. You should ask the parents what the youth’s health care specialist advises. Your local County Extension Office has various references that may give you additional information (New 4-H Health Curriculum: Level C – Teens Talk, Activities 4A & 5C which address depression and suicide. Other publications: 4-H 694: Helping Friends in Trouble: Stress, Depression, and Suicide; 4-H 695: Supporting Distressed Young People; 4-H 691: Teens on the Go!)

**Q:** A friend who recently attended a certification workshop showed me a manual he got called “Guidelines”. How can I get a copy?

**A.** You saw “4-H 854, Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports Guidelines” a 123 page manual that offers a compilation of information about the Indiana 4-H Shooting Sports program and is given to a new shooting sports instructors. This manual was introduced at the Spring, 1997, workshop and includes sections on Extension Educator Responsibilities, Objectives of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program, General resources for the shooting sports program, and information about the Indiana 4-H program. You can obtain a copy by writing Natalie Carroll, Program Coordinator (see return address on this newsletter), and enclosing $5 to cover printing costs.

**Shooting Sports Workshop News**  
1998 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Certification Workshop dates:

March 27 - 29, 1998 (due March 13)  
September 18 – 20, 1998 (due Sept. 4)

Contact your County Cooperative Extension Service Youth Educator for more information. Workshops will be held at Ross Camp in Tippecanoe County. The cost is $145 for first time participants. Returning participant cost is $135.
Coordinators, please note: This newsletter is being delivered to certified coordinators that are listed as county contacts and extension Youth Educators, only. Please share to share the information with your instructors. I hope that you find this newsletter useful.

Sincerely,

Natalie Carroll, Program Coordinator

4-H Shooting Sports State Instructors

Elaine Anderson, R  Ron Hoffman, A
Bob Allen, H&W  Jerry Keller, R
Tim Beck, A  Mike Maddox, R
Ed Boeglin, A  James Peter, S
Jerry Boyle, M  Mark Pochon, H&W
Lois Boyle, M  Brian Ress, P
Ed Camomile, A  John Rickelman, S
Doug Chapman, M  Rocky Rigsby, P
Chris Clark, C  Ralph Shamp, P
Glen Fromme, C  Sheri Shamp, YA, P
Jeff Hash, S  Alan Shourds, M
Richard Hacker, S  Dirk Studebaker, H&W

Key to State Certification:
A – Archery
C – Coordinators
H&W – Hunting & Wildlife
M – Muzzleloading
P – Pistol
S - Shotgun

Natalie Carroll, Ph.D.
4-H Shooting Sports Program Coordinator
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Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN  47907-1161