



MICHIGAN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS MAIL-IN MATCH

General Mail-In Match Rules

Please be sure to review Event Rules in addition to these General Mail-In Match Rules.
All Match rules are available at https://www.canr.msu.edu/shooting_sports/tournaments.
To maintain a safe and fun atmosphere, failure to follow rules will result in disqualification.

Registration The contestant **must** complete the following items to be considered registered for the tournament:

1. All participants must be fully registered 4-H members.
 - a. Michigan 4-H waived Participation Fees for both program years (This contest may bridge 2 program years; register free for both years when applicable).
 - b. 4Honline will be locked for updates between Sept 1-15, 2021. Complete enrollment prior to August 30. Michigan 4-H Youth Code of Conduct/Acknowledgement Form and Health Forms must be completed in 4Honline. (This rule applies for all 4-H events and club meetings.)
2. Contestants register online at the time of score report by Match deadline of September 26, 2021. Entries may be reported when the registration system opens in August 19. Scores may not be re-shot once submitted and entries are considered final at that time. All scores collected from August 1 - September 26 may be included, so long as it meets tournament regulations.
3. Complete the registration form using the information provided by county instructor(s).
4. There is no registration fee. However, local clubs/counties may charge a supply fee for ammunition, targets, range lease space, etc. as appropriate.
5. Event rules & registration is at https://www.canr.msu.edu/shooting_sports/tournaments

There is a no maximum number of youth a county can enter in any EVENT OR DIVISION.

Contestants may participate in multiple events and divisions, provided a certified instructor is present in the discipline being shot. Clubs/counties may shoot together to achieve this goal.

Volunteers A shooting sports instructor certified in the discipline being shot, who is an active GOLD volunteer, must be present at the time of all practices and contest. Volunteers are reminded of the 1:5 ratio required at the shooting line. The certified instructor will sign the target/score card and be listed on the entry at time of score reporting. Volunteers should reach out to county staff to inform them of their intent to participate.

A **Risk Management Plan must** be on file with county staff for practice and competition locations; the club's standard risk management plan is suitable if the competition is held at the club meeting site, so long as all information is current.

Eligibility Contestants may participate in multiple events in the match, provided a certified instructor is present at time of 4-H practices and contests. See the information



MICHIGAN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS MAIL-IN MATCH

General Mail-In Match Rules

provided by instructor(s), division information, general rules, and event specific rules for details on event and division eligibility.

1. Individual scores only; no team competition for this event.
2. Contestants must be currently enrolled in a 4-H Shooting Sports Club, which is supervised by a Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor holding current certification.
3. This is an entry level organized competitive shooting event; there is no pre-requisite for prior participation in a competition.
4. Shooters are required to understand the procedures and skills needed to safely compete in an event.
5. Range officers who determine a contestant is not safely participating in a discipline will ask the contestant to discontinue their participation. Shooting Sports Instructors who enter youth in events without having sufficient local event experience are subject to losing their certification credentials. *Safety first.*

Range Safety and Equipment Policies

1. All contestants will use their own sporting arms and ammunition, or follow rules and expectations of the local 4-H club. The range officer at each tournament event site will inspect and has the authority to reject equipment from the competition due to safety problems, rule violations, etc.
2. Transportation: According to state law, firearms and bows must be broken down or enclosed in a case or carried in the locked trunk of an automobile when being transported to and from the tournament site.
3. All firearms and bows will be transported/moved on the event site in a case.
 - a. Cases must be designed for that purpose, and be capable of being secured with snap(s), string, zipper or catches. Firearms or bows wrapped in towels or blankets do not meet this requirement.
 - b. No firearms or bows will be removed from the case until participants are directed to do so by the range officer immediately prior to participation in an event. Contestants will not uncase firearms or bows elsewhere on the tournament site.
 - c. Range officers or their authorized assistants will inspect the firearm or bow and direct its placement. Upon completion of the event the range officer or his authorized assistant will inspect the firearm and direct the firearm to be cased. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in disqualification.

This rule is predicated on safety and liability issues, and is in no way a reflection on the ability or capabilities of the contestants.

4. Eye and Ear Protection Requirement – For all firearm events, eye and ear protection is required. All participants 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 or goggles) and ear protection.



MICHIGAN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS MAIL-IN MATCH

General Mail-In Match Rules

- a. The equipment must protect both eyes and meet or exceed ANSI standard Z87.1-2003.
 - b. For air events, only eye protection is required.
 - c. Eye protection is strongly recommended but not required for archery events.
 - d. Shooters are required to provide their own eye and ear protection so that they have used it in practice, are familiar with it in competition, and are satisfied with its quality. None will be provided at the event, unless previously arranged with the 4-H club.
6. Footwear/Apparel Policy – All participants are required to wear shoes that completely cover their feet at all shooting sports activities. Examples of unacceptable footwear include, but not limited to: sandals, clogs, crocs, flip-flops, and bare feet. No loose fitting tops, no dangling earrings or necklaces will be allowed on the firing line.
7. Non-Military Training – The use of tactical equipment and/or apparel or “look-alikes” is not appropriate for 4-H shooting sports activities.
8. No practice will be allowed on tournament grounds during tournament day.

Special Considerations The state 4-H Shooting Sports Mail-In Match is planned and conducted by the Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory Board, which is composed of 4-H staff members, volunteer leaders and teens. This committee makes the following requests in order that participants and organizers have an enjoyable tournament experience:

1. As a sanctioned 4-H activity, all 4-H Code of Conduct rules apply to spectators, volunteers and members. No smoking, tobacco use, or alcohol use is permitted during 4-H youth development activities.
2. Spectator cell phones, two-way radios and walkie-talkies must be on vibrate or low volume, and should not be heard by competitors, range officers, or tournament staff on or near the firing line during competition.
3. Practice shooting on unused areas is not allowed.
4. Host site rules:
 - a. Spectators must wear eye and ear protection near firearm ranges.
 - b. Visitors should be mindful of site rules if/when shooting away from their home facility.
5. The range officers and/or State 4-H Shooting Sports Program Committee reserve the right to make exceptions to the rules when necessary for safety reasons or for achieving the goals of the 4-H Mail-In Match or program.
6. Sportsmanship: Because all of our range officers and target scorers are volunteers (many with their own county programs), courtesy and patience on the part of



MICHIGAN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS MAIL-IN MATCH

General Mail-In Match Rules

contestants, coaches and parents are essential. Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and will result in elimination of participants.

7. Accommodations: Counties are encouraged to send 4-H members with disabilities to participate in this shoot. These members must shoot under all existing standards, and the county must determine that the members can participate in the shoot without endangering themselves or others. Please specify any adaptive equipment or accommodations during online registration, and present at onsite equipment check in. Contact the state office with any questions, concerns, or special considerations.
8. MSU Extension will not, individually or collectively, be responsible for loss, damage, or injury to persons or property incurred in connection with the shoot, and only upon these conditions are entries accepted.

Coach and Parent Responsibilities

1. Coaches and Parents must conduct themselves in a quiet, supportive and cooperative manner at all times.
2. Coaching is not permitted during events at any time, except at the direct instruction of the range officer.
3. Coaches may be requested by the range officer to assist a shooter with a situation on the firing line.
4. A coach may provide replacement or additional equipment as needed after obtaining permission from the range officer.
5. Range staff, County 4-H Program Coordinator, or the 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator may remove a coach from the vicinity of the firing line if the coach violates rules, distracts other shooters, or appears to distract his/her own shooters. In the event that a coach is removed, a replacement may be permitted at the discretion of the range officer.
Continued disruption is cause for disqualification of the individual and/or club competing.

Conduct Policies The spirit of 4-H sportsmanship as well as safe, appropriate behavior is expected of all shooters, coaches, and spectators at 4-H Shooting Sports events at all times.

1. Shooters and coaches are responsible for understanding the procedures used in each event and complying with the rules and standards of the event.
2. Learning the rules of the events is part of the educational process for shooting sports participants; the intent is to aid shooters rather than entrap them. Ignorance of the rules



MICHIGAN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS MAIL-IN MATCH

General Mail-In Match Rules

is not a valid excuse.

3. Questions from competitors are encouraged to clarify any areas of misunderstanding or confusion. Any questions concerning the match must come from the competitors and only the competitor. Questions from coaches and parents will NOT be accepted.
4. Disorderly, disruptive or unsafe conduct has no place on the shooting range and is not permitted. Poor conduct by a participant, coach, spectator or volunteer at the tournament will be grounds for immediate disqualification and/or ejection by the range officer, the Tournament Director, Board of Directors and/or the 4-H State Shooting Sports Educator. This includes, but is not limited to, disruptive behavior, poor sportsmanship, inappropriate language, inappropriate attire (including tactical), and confrontations with any 4-H Shooting Sports Tournament Staff, host facility staff, contestants or spectators.
 - a. Staff Discretion – All authorized range staff carry the discretionary responsibility to enforce behavioral guidelines.
 - b. Warning – Any contestant, coach, or spectator displaying disorderly, destructive or abusive conduct will be warned only once.
 - c. Penalties – Further instances of such conduct may result in one or more of the following: disqualification of the shooter, ejection from the tournament grounds, disqualification of all competitors in that event from the county.

Upon review of the offense, the 4-H State Shooting Sports Board of Directors and event coordinators may render the competitor, the instructor, and/or the county ineligible to compete in future state shooting sports events. In addition, the certification of the shooting sports instructor of record may be suspended or permanently revoked.

5. The decisions of the State 4-H Shooting Sports Staff, Head Range Officer, the Tournament Director, the 4-H Shooting Sports Advisory Board, and the scorers are final.
6. Communication between spectators, parents, or coaches and the shooters while on the shooting line during events is prohibited.
7. Anyone participating in a state sponsored 4-H activity who is involved in any illegal, unethical or unacceptable activities will immediately be sent home at his/her own expense and may be turned over to the proper authorities.

Results and Awards

1. Score confirmation: All competitors will confirm their scores and initial their score sheets at the completion of their rounds.
2. The certified discipline instructor and one additional club member will also sign the score sheets to signify all are in agreement with the score.



MICHIGAN 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS MAIL-IN MATCH

General Mail-In Match Rules

3. Clubs must retain score sheets and targets for one-week after scores are posted online by MSU Extension/Michigan 4-H Shooting Sports. Youth members are expected to contest any reporting error within that time to Laura Quist, quistla1@msu.edu
4. Final scores and standings will be posted online after the event. Certificates will be awarded at a virtual ceremony approximately 1 week after the event. A registration link will be posted on the Match website in August.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Jeff Dwyer, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.