



4-H Shooting Sports

Learn By Doing

Shooting Sports Information

We frequently receive requests for information on the Iowa State Shooting Sports Program. Since the program is in its infancy, it's hard to know exactly what information you need. So I've come to the realization that the best way to handle this is to give those requesting information my e-mail address and phone number, and to give the web address for National Shooting Sports, Missouri, and our Iowa site address too—even though it doesn't have much on it, YET.

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National 4-H Shooting Sports <http://www.4-hshootingsports.org/>

Iowa Shooting Sports http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/pgm_info.html

Missouri Web Site <http://4h.missouri.edu/go/shootingsports/ssindex.htm>

What is Shooting Sports?

- Shooting sports is an active program, attractive to youth and adult audiences. The curriculum is designed to assist young people in personal development, establish a personal environmental ethic and explore life-long vocational and avocational activities. The program uses experiential learning and positive interaction with youth and adult role models to help young people develop self-concept, self-assurance and a positive self-image.
- The content provides a framework of knowledge and skills for lifetime participation in recreation, hobbies and careers related to shooting sports and wildlife. Core concepts stress safety, ethical development, personal responsibility and life-time recreational skills. The program promotes responsibility, decision-making, and identifying realistic, personal goals. Participants may elect to compete at a level appropriate for their abilities or pursue other objectives. Participants have shown high achievement in the field, shop or classroom and on the target range, but personal development for young people and leaders is the real objective. The program strives to make “every kid a winner” and to “make the best better.”
- Like other 4-H projects, shooting sports has a subject matter base. It has strong links to natural resources, wildlife, outdoor recreation and safety. The content is drawn from sports medicine, psychology, education, biological and physical sciences, engineering, mathematics, technology, as well as American traditions, folklore and history.

Why does 4-H have a shooting sports program?

- 4-H uses shooting sports to teach youth development. Our programs are a valuable means for helping young people develop self confidence, personal discipline, responsibility, teamwork, self-esteem and sportsmanship. The discipline and self-control required for responsible firearms use carries over into many other aspects of life.
- Hunting and shooting are rich American traditions. 4-H shooting sports programs help continue this tradition through involvement.