4-H Shooting Sports

Leader Certification Workshop
May 1-3, 2015

Iowa 4-H Center
Madrid, Iowa

“Taking Aim at Youth Development”

4-H Shooting Sports is a youth development educational program that uses the skills and disciplines of shooting to assist young people and their leaders in obtaining knowledge and developing skills. Development of skills within the shooting disciplines as well as “Life Skills” is implicit in the program curriculum. Shooting sports appeals to young people and volunteers from a wide range of urban and rural backgrounds.

This workshop is not about increasing the personal shooting skills of adult volunteers. It is about helping adult volunteers be successful in leading a youth shooting program.

**Adults will learn:**
- About 4-H
- About kids
- About a shooting discipline
- How to teach basic shooting or wildlife skills to kids
- How to focus on youth

Shooting Sports is one of the fastest growing 4-H programs in many states with an estimated 300,000 youth participating nationally. Shooting sports programs have proved effective in retaining older youth in 4-H and in helping correct the gender “gap.” There are myriad opportunities within the 4-H program as well as other venues at the local, state, and national level.

A participant in the workshop will spend the entire weekend training within one discipline. Disciplines offered are:
- Coordinator
- Archery
- Shotgun
- Rifle (small bore and/or air)
- Muzzleloading
- Wildlife Skills

The 4-H Shooting Sports program does not recognize the certification from other governing bodies **because of the youth development** component built into the 4-H training program.

For adult volunteers who care for both youth and the shooting/hunting heritage, this workshop is a great opportunity to get involved in the best youth shooting program in the country. If we are to have an Iowa 4-H Shooting Sports program, Iowa 4-H needs **YOU!**

**Make it a priority to attend!**

Check our website at: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/shootingsports](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/shootingsports)

*County Extension Councils are encouraged to assist volunteer leaders attending the Certification Workshop by providing partial or complete sponsorship of the fee.*
What is the workshop all about?
The workshop will be composed of 18 hours of training. Twelve hours of that time will be for a specific discipline with the 4-H Shooting Sports project area. Training will cover the curriculum and lesson plans from the National 4-H Shooting Sports program, opportunities to teach to your peer group, or youth and a range practicum. The philosophy and principles of working with 4-H youth is a critical part of the training.

Requirements
A certified leader (instructor) must be at least 21 years of age. A certified leader may not have any felony convictions or any fish and game law violations within the past two years. All attendees must have completed all 4 parts of the Iowa 4-H Child Protection Screening Process (DOT, DCI, Child Abuse, and Sex Abuse Registry) to be eligible to attend. The State 4-H Office maintains a database with the results of the first three screenings, but not the Sex Abuse Registry, which is county specific. Screening takes up to six weeks to complete.

Registration Cost
Earlybird registration - $250 (deadline March 31, 2015)
Late registration - $275 (April 1-10, 2015)
No registration after April 10, 2015.

Options
A participant must select only ONE of the following disciplines in which to receive training. It is suggested that leaders from a county coordinate efforts and cover as many different disciplines as possible. If a county doesn’t currently have a coordinator and wants to participate in this training, at least one of its leaders must attend the Coordinator discipline. Discipline choices are:

- Coordinator {registration minimum of 6 to hold the discipline training}  
  (http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/SESS/Documents/SESSCoordinatorJobDescription.pdf)
- Rifle (.22, BB, pellet) {registration minimum of 6 to hold the discipline training}  
  (http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/SESS/Documents/SESSDisciplineInstructorJobDescription.pdf)
- Archery {registration minimum of 6 to hold the discipline training}
- Shotgun {registration minimum of 7 to hold the discipline training}
- Muzzleloading {registration minimum of 5 to hold the discipline training}
- Wildlife Skills {registration minimum of 10 to hold the discipline training}

Think County Programs
Suggested guidelines recommend that programs be “county club” programs. One reason involves leader recruitment. The best programs are run as county programs which allow leaders to specialize in a discipline rather than having to cross certify in several disciplines in order to meet the needs of 4-H members. County programs also allow for coordination of resource development - cash or equipment. Instructors in county-wide programs are also less likely to “burn out.” In addition, a county program relies on several leaders and is therefore more easily maintained from year to year.

Get your registrations in early as some disciplines may fill. Total registration limited to no more than 20 people in any discipline.

Lodging Notes
Iowa 4-H Center is a rustic residential youth camp. Please bring sleeping bag, pillow, towel, toiletries, soap, and flashlight. All meals and lodging are provided.