

Brown County 4-H Shooting Sports “Hot Shots” Club

Frequently Asked Questions

Updated October 24, 2010

All shooting sports members must have their forms turned in and \$10 fee paid by February 28. You must also have attended at least one practice by this date. No members will be allowed to start after this date.

How do I join 4-H Shooting Sports? Any 4-H member in Brown County can sign up for the shooting sports projects. We are a county wide project. You can sign up to be a member of any 4-H club or you can join the 4-H Shooting Sports Club. Remember, the 4-H Shooting Sports Club only does the shooting projects, if you are interested in other 4-H projects, you should join one of the other 4-H Community clubs. To join 4-H, you need to fill out the “Wisconsin 4-H Member Enrollment Form” and the “Brown County 4-H Youth Agreement form”. The fee to join 4-H is \$3.50. Of that, \$2.50 is a registration fee and \$1.00 is an insurance fee. For help filling out the 4-H enrollment forms, please call Christy Hettmann at 920-864-2915.

What do I need to do before I can start participating in shooting sports practices? First you need to be enrolled in 4-H and you must be at least 8 years old and in 3rd grade as of January 1st. If you are a new member you are required to attend a new member orientation. All members annually must complete the “Medical Care & Treatment Form”, and the “Waiver & Code of Conduct Form”

Why does every member have to attend a new member orientation? Every participant in the 4-H shooting sports program is required to attend a new member orientation. That is a decision that was made by the National 4-H Board to fulfill the need of the insurance policy through 4-H. You only need to attend the new member orientation once. This orientation is usually held in the beginning of January.

What are the shooting sports fees? Each member must pay a **\$10 annual fee** prior to participating in any practices. This annual fee helps to cover the costs for replacing and maintaining equipment and accessories, ammunition, targets, arrows, educational materials, CO2 for rifles, training costs for certified instructors/coaches, and wildlife supplies/activities.

For each practice that is attended, the member must pay a **\$3 range fee**. This fee is forwarded directly to the DePere Sportsmen’s Club for use of their range/ facility and some of their equipment and supplies. Remember, you only pay this \$3 fee for the practices you attend.

Where are the practices held? DePere Sportsmen’s Club, 3623 Club Drive, DePere, WI 54115.

When are practices held? Practices will start in January and usually run thru May. They are held on selected Saturday mornings. Members are provided a schedule of the practices at the beginning of the year. Practices are also published in the 4-H newsletter and also on the County 4-H website.

What kind of training are the instructors/coaches required to attend? The instructors/coaches are required to attend the 4-H protection course at the Brown County Extension Office. They are also required to attend a 12-hour certification course--these certification courses are offered at various locations throughout the state. We are required to have at least one instructor/coach for each discipline that we are instructing at each practice. With the size of our organization, we typically have two to three instructors/coaches in the range area to make sure everyone is following safe shooting procedures. As you can imagine, our instructors/coaches are making a huge commitment to keep our program running, but conflicts do arise in people’s schedules; so this is why we really need adult parents, friends, or relatives who are willing to help out with our program. Please take the opportunity to ask how you can obtain the proper certifications to help continue to provide this incredible program to Brown County’s kids.

Are there separate meetings from the practices? No, not typically. If we do have any that come up, we will let everyone know about them. During the practices, we also provide educational and craft activities with the kids that are not on the line shooting.

Must a parent stay during the practices? It is highly recommended that parents stay and get involved in the program because we really do need extra help. Also, 4-H is a family program. However, if you need to run an errand, we understand, but remember we are not a babysitting service.

Brown County 4-H Shooting Sports “Hot Shots” Club

Frequently Asked Questions

How are the practices ran? Starting in 2011, in order to be more efficient in the training effort, the day will start with air rifle practice. We will have 2 relays (relay = 12 shooters at a time shooting the three shooting positions) of air rifle, then we will switch the range over to archery practice. After the archery practice we will have 2 or 3 more relays of air rifle. This later session of air rifle is a great opportunity for older shooters to get additional practice time. We will have sign up sheets for each relay to help us plan the training better and insure an orderly process of entering and exiting the training area. We will also have sign up sheet for the next training session (usually two weeks ahead) to help you plan your day and our staff needs. We are in the process of finalizing this process and will update this question in the near future.

If we are going to miss a practice, do we need to call someone? You only need to call or e-mail if you had signed up for a relay and can't make it. If you are not previously signed up for a relay that day, you do not need to call.

How much fundraising does the club do? Shooting sports is an expensive sport to participate in and since the equipment is provided by the club, we are continually fund raising. We try very hard to keep our costs as low as possible, so we try to obtain grants and donations. We typically have one or two brat fry stands as well as other fundraising events each year. Everyone's help is appreciated and if there is an opportunity to raise funds for the program, please contact one of the leaders.

Why does shooting sports work the 4-H food stand at the Brown County Fair? Since shooting sports is a Brown County club, we are required to work one of the time slots for the 4-H food stand at the Brown County Fair. We know that many members are involved in other clubs, so we try to pick a day when the most members are available to work for the shooting sports time slot. Everyone's help is appreciated.

Are members required to participate in shooting competitions? No, they are optional. You can check out our club equipment to use for a shooting event, but you are responsible for your own fees associated with the event and your ride to/from the event. Contact one of the coaches/instructors for more information.

Does a member have to shoot all disciplines, or can they just participate in one if that is all they are interested in? No, members have a choice to participate in as many or as few shooting disciplines as they feel comfortable with, but we do encourage everyone to at least try each discipline at least once.

How do we communicate with club members? Most communication will be done through e-mail. The coordinator will also try to do a newsletter that will be distributed at practices. Please check your email regularly for changes or updates.

If the weather is bad, will you contact us about whether there will be practice? We have never cancelled a practice, but use your best judgment about attending. If you don't feel you can make it safely, don't risk it. If we did feel that the weather was too bad and that we needed to cancel, we would send out an e-mail.

Can I use my own equipment for shooting? Yes, you can use your own equipment for shooting, but you need to have the equipment safety checked by one of the instructors/coaches prior to using it on the premises. Also be aware that if you take your equipment to a shooting competition, it will be inspected by the officials of that event. It is very important that it be in proper working order for your safety and for the safety of those around you. Things like having a frayed bow string or a safety on a rifle that does not work may not seem like a big issue, but you will not be allowed to compete or practice with equipment that is not safe.