



# *St. Charles Parish* **4-H Shooting Sports Handbook** **2018-2019**



It is the policy of the LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age or disability. If you have a disability which requires special assistance for your participation in any aforementioned activity, please contact the St. Charles 4-H office at 985-785-4473.

# Welcome

Dear Parents and Students:

Thank you for your participation in the St. Charles Parish 4-H Program Shooting Sports Program. I am looking forward to the current club year and the continued growth and success of all of our club members. Members will have the opportunity to participate and achieve at various levels and to reach their individual and group goals.

This handbook is designed as a guide for both parents and members to give specific details concerning all aspects of the 4-H shooting sports program. For any further information, please feel free to contact me at the LSU AgCenter (4-H) Office at 985-785-4473 or via e-mail at [kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu).

In addition to having youth actively participate in the program, there are also opportunities for adults to become involved through volunteering. We are always in need of adult volunteers to work events, build/repair equipment, assist with club activities, etc. If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering with the 4-H Shooting Sports Program, or any aspect of the 4-H program, please contact me.

Together, we can make our best even better through practice, participation, and partnerships between youth and caring adults. I hope that you look forward to a year of learning, growing, and changing through the 4-H youth development program.

Sincerely,



Kali B. Zammit  
4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator  
Extension Agent  
4-H Youth Development  
St. Charles Parish  
[kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu)



## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the St. Charles Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Program is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes so that they may become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society.

The program is designed to:

- Assist youth to learn safe and responsible use of shooting equipment.
- Promote the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and ethical behavior.
- Enhance self-confidence, self-concept, decision making, character, personal development, responsibility, and sportsmanship.
- Develop leadership and citizenship within 4-H parameters for youth and adults.
- Expand 4-H membership and involve more volunteer adult leaders.
- Strengthen families through participation in life-long recreational activities.
- Create an appreciation and understanding of natural resources.
- Encourage participation in natural resources and related natural science programs by exposing participants to the content through hunting and related activities.
- Develop an understanding of the principles of wildlife management.
- Complement and enhance the impact of existing safety, shooting, and hunter educational programs.

## **Discipline Opportunities**

Parents and youth are asked to review each discipline as the participant's responsibility for appropriate supplies and expenses before registering. Youth may participate in more than one discipline but are limited to three disciplines at competition. It is the responsibility of the participant to attend practice and pay for additional expenses that may occur.

### **Shotgun:**

- Clays will be provided during scheduled club practices only
- Shells must be provided by student
- Eye and ear protection will be provided during scheduled club practices only (must be provided by student at competitions and outside of club events)
- Personal firearm (must be approved by instructor; must be provided by student)
- Copy of Hunter's Education Card must be provided prior to attending practices

### **Air Rifle, .22 Rifle, BB Gun:**

- Targets available for use during scheduled club practices only (no firearms)
- Eye and ear protection will be provided during scheduled club practices only (must be provided by student at competitions and outside of club events)
- Ammunition (must be provided by student)
- Personal equipment (must be approved by instructor; must be provided by student)
- Copy of Hunter's Education Card must be provided prior to attending practices

### **Archery:**

- Equipment and targets available for use during scheduled club practices only
- Eye and ear protection will be provided during scheduled club practices only (must be provided by student at competitions and outside of club events); Eye protection optional for archery.

- Personal equipment (Student must provide their own arrows and bows and personal equipment; must be approved by instructor)
- Copy of Hunter's Education Card must be provided prior to attending practices

\*Note: Parish equipment cannot be taken home. Youth are responsible for attending additional practices on their own if needed. Participation in additional practices on own is at the participant's expense and liability.

### **Event Opportunities**

On a parish level, our goal is to set up regular practices, fun days, competitions, and Hunter Education Certification Classes (if resources allow). In order for us to meet our goals and have a successful program, we will need parents to volunteer at practices, special events, meetings, and competitions. We also strongly encourage those interested to become certified instructors in a discipline. Participants that have successfully completed the discipline requirements as described below may compete at the Regional and State events as outlined in the State handbook. (Requirements are subject to change pending approval of the State handbook.)

#### **To be eligible for the Regional Match, the participant must have:**

- Successfully completed the Louisiana Hunter Safety Course (youth 10 years or older)
- Completed a minimum of 8 hours of training with a 4-H certified instructor in each discipline in which the participant is competing
- Achieved the proper skill level for advancement based on advisement from 4-H certified instructors

Participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and will be responsible for their own transportation and accommodations. In the event of specific circumstances, your personal situation may be discussed with the 4-H Agent.

## **4-H SHOOTING SPORTS CLUB RULES**

### **Safety Rules:**

Safety is the highest priority for range staff, participants, coaches, and spectators. Standard accepted safety rules will be followed at all times. Special safety considerations will be announced at each practice. The coordinator, range officers, or other event staff may dismiss anyone from the range for unsafe behavior.

Safety is EXTREMELY important in this program. If any participant has a safety violation, the following action will be taken: **(NOTE: These are standard procedures. However, the 4-H Agent reserves the right to amend these disciplinary actions based on each situation.)**

- For 1<sup>st</sup> Year Members:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> safety violation: A warning will be given and the participant and participant's guardian will be required to attend a meeting with the club Agent, Coordinator, and Discipline Instructor prior to returning to practices.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: The participant will be asked to leave the range. At this point, a meeting will be held with the Agent, Coordinator, and Instructor to determine the participant's status in the 4-H Shooting Sports Club. Once a decision is made, the participant's guardian will be notified by the Agent.
- For Returning Members:
  - Safety violations will not be tolerated. Participants will be asked to leave the range, and they will not be allowed to continue in the Shooting Sports Club for that year. In order to return to the club in the future, a meeting must be held with the Agent, Coordinator, and Discipline Instructor of violation to determine participant returning to the Shooting Sports Club.

**It is the responsibility of the participants and their guardians to know and abide by all rules stated in the handbook and discussed at trainings and events.**

Other basic safety rules that will continue to be reinforced are as follows:

1. No running, horseplay, or trespassing in restricted areas is allowed at the range.
2. Everyone on the range needs to stay in designated areas ONLY unless given a specific duty, in which a new designated area will be specified.
3. **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. The equipment must protect both eyes. For air events, only eye protection is required; eye protection is strongly recommended but not required for archery events.
4. Everyone at the range must sign in and sign out with the range officer AND the 4-H Instructor or Coordinator.

5. The St. Charles Parish 4-H program carries accidental insurance on ONLY 4-H members, 4-H trained instructors, and registered volunteers specifically participating in 4-H program scheduled events ONLY. Anyone else is liable and/or responsible for his/her self. Practices not scheduled through the 4-H program or practices in which a 4-H trained instructor is not present are NOT covered by 4-H insurance.
6. **Parent Involvement** – At least one parent must remain onsite for the duration of each practice session. Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children at all times. (Only participants 18 years of age or older with a valid Driver's license and licensed individual driving capability can attend practices without a parent provided they have submitted the Participant Driving Permission Slip in which a parent is still responsible for the child and the child is expected to obey all club and event rules.)
7. While we are at the range, we are ALL representing the St. Charles Parish 4-H program. Everyone is expected to model the six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship, and must abide by the rules set by the 4-H staff and facility.
8. Everyone is expected to listen to instructions and follow all rules stated as well as rules listed in the 4-H Code of Conduct and the 4-H Shooting Sports handbook.

#### **Shooting/Archery Rules and Reminders:**

1. **Equipment check-in:** All participants will check-in equipment at the appropriate check-in station for their disciplines. Equipment will be checked to ensure it conforms to regulations, safety rules, and equipment classifications. Instructors will discuss procedure for checking in equipment and ammunition at practices.
2. All firearms and archery equipment must be cased or carried in a safe manner while being transported to and from the vehicle to designated areas on the range. Firearms should be transported with bolt or action open. ALL FIREARMS must remain on the range until completion of meeting/training.
3. All air rifles must have the action opened when out of the case and/or not in use. The use of a Clear Barrel Indicator (CBI) is mandatory for air rifles. This may be purchased or made from a piece of colored weed-eater filament or similar material.
4. Arrows will not be nocked until directed by the instructor. The use of a hip or ground quiver is required. Archers must obey verbal or whistle range commands.
5. All firearms will be pointed and bows drawn in a safe direction at all times.
6. Shooters must obey all range commands.
7. Rifles must be single loaded, except where safety would be better served and the range officer or instructor dictates. Coaches must certify when each firearm is clear.
8. Participants must wear adequate eye protection while on the firing line.
9. Participants are responsible for providing their own ammunition. Ammunition must be stored separate from the firearm so as not to be readily accessible except on the firing line with your name labeled on the box of ammunition.

### **Chain of Command:**

1. If you have a concern during the training of a discipline, call "Cease Fire" and talk to the 4-H trained instructor about the situation.
2. If the 4-H trained instructor or coordinator has a question, he/she should direct all questions to the 4-H staff.
3. All concerns/questions should be directed to a 4-H trained instructor, coordinator, or 4-H staff ONLY.
4. Any questions for the range officer should be directed to the 4-H instructors, coordinators, or staff.

### **Plan of Action:**

1. Safety is EXTREMELY important in this program. If any participant has a safety violation, the following action will be taken: **(NOTE: These are standard procedures. However, the 4-H Agent reserves the right to amend these disciplinary actions based on each situation.)**
  - For 1<sup>st</sup> Year Members:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> safety violation: A warning will be given and the participant and participant's guardian will be required to attend a meeting with the club Agent, Coordinator, and Discipline Instructor prior to returning to practices.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: The participant will be asked to leave the range. At this point, a meeting will be held with the Agent, Coordinator, and Instructor to determine the participant's status in the 4-H Shooting Sports Club. Once a decision is made, the participant's guardian will be notified by the Agent.
  - For Returning Members:
    - Safety violations will not be tolerated. Participants will be asked to leave the range, and they will not be allowed to continue in the Shooting Sports Club for that year. In order to return to the club in the future, a meeting must be held with the Agent, Coordinator, and Discipline Instructor of violation to determine participant returning to the Shooting Sports Club.
  - Spectators are also subject to removal based on noncompliance to rules and instructions.
2. If anyone (participant or spectator of any age) is found on a range in a restricted area (i.e. on berms, behind berms, behind targets, past the firing lines, etc.), that person will be told to leave the event immediately.
3. If you have concerns, questions, or discrepancies, contact a 4-H staff member at 985-785-4473 during office hours (Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM; 1:00 PM – 4:30 PM) or via e-mail. We encourage feedback and can always schedule a meeting to discuss further details.

## **Fundamental Safety Rules**

1. ALWAYS keep the gun or arrows pointed in a SAFE DIRECTION.

This is the primary rule of gun and archery SAFETY. A SAFE DIRECTION means that the gun or arrow is pointed so that even if it were to go off or be accidentally released it would not cause injury or damage. The key to this rule is to control where the muzzle, front end of the barrel, or arrow is pointed at all times. Common sense dictates the safest direction, depending on different circumstances.

2. ALWAYS keep your finger off the gun's trigger or archery release until ready to shoot.

When holding a gun, rest your finger on the trigger guard or along the side of the gun. Until you are actually ready to fire, do not touch the trigger.

Archers, in order to avoid accidental firing, once given the command to shoot and you have attached your release, keep your finger off and away from the release trigger until ready to fire at your target. Also, do not nock an arrow until range commands are given to do so.

3. ALWAYS keep the gun unloaded until ready to use and pointed in a safe direction.

Whenever you pick up a gun, immediately engage the safety device if possible, and, if the gun has a magazine, REMOVE it before opening the action and looking into the chamber which should be CLEAR OF AMMUNITION.

If you have a new firearm that you are not familiar with using, please contact a 4-H instructor before use.

If you do not know how to OPEN the action or inspect the chamber OR if you have NEVER USED THE FIREARM BEFORE, leave the gun alone and get help from the instructor.

## **Gun Range Rules**

### **1. Review: three safety rules.**

- a. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- b. Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- c. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to shoot.

### **2. Review: range safety rules**

- a. "Cease fire!" may be shouted by anyone for a safety issue.
- b. Eye and ear protection is mandatory for everyone on the range.
- c. Misfires must be flagged and cleared in position on the range.
- d. Cleaning hands and face after a shooting session is mandatory.

### **3. Identify range safety officer (orange hat).**

### **4. Prepare target area (set targets or throw sighting clays).**

### **5. Prepare firearms for shooting (safe handling protocol).**

### **6. Place firearms at shooting stations (safe handling protocol).**

### **7. Set up ammunition table (adult supervised until stored).**

### **8. Begin live fire exercise.**

- a. Call – shooters to the line (stand behind shooting stations).
- b. Call – shooters in position (all muzzles must be in a line).
- c. Call – remove open chamber indicator (flag).
- d. Call – load first round
- e. For rifle: call – take aim, fire when ready, (state the course of fire). [course of fire: 5 shoots for sighting, 15 for a fun target (one block), or 30 (two blocks) for marksmanship target.]For shotgun: call – ready on the line (the first of three stations may then call for a clay – pull!, secondary may fire after the first, and tertiary may only track). [course of fire: usually 5 shots then rotate.]
- f. Call – cease fire (when a course of fire is complete).
- g. Call – open chamber remove round if loaded, insert open chamber indicator, ground your firearm, shooters off the line.
- h. Retrieve targets and set new, or end session (absolutely no handling of firearms when anyone is forward of the firing line).

**9. All ammunition is gathered and stored.**

**10. Firearms are gathered and stored.**

**Archery Range Rules**

**1. Review: three safety rules.**

- a. Always keep arrows pointing down range.
- b. Do not nock an arrow until the 4-H instructor instructs you to do so.
- c. Only shoot at the target assigned to you.

**2. Review: range safety rules**

- a. "Cease fire!" may be shouted by anyone for a safety issue.
- b. Safety equipment (i.e., arm guard) is mandatory.
- c. NEVER DRY FIRE A BOW.**
- d. If an arrow is accidentally fired or falls in front of the firing line, DO NOT attempt to retrieve it. Once the other archers have completed the shoot, the 4-H instructor will allow retrieval and finishing your shoot.

**3. Identify the Range Officer (orange hat or vest – will be giving the verbal or whistle commands).**

**4. Prepare range – targets, measuring shooting line distances, range boundaries, etc.**

**5. Discuss safe handling of bow, arrows, transporting arrows upon retrieval, etc.**

**6. Begin live fire exercise.**

- a. Verbal command "Archers proceed carefully to the shooting line with your bow" (2 whistle blast)
  - i. One foot on each side of the shooting line
  - ii. Keep arrows in quiver
- b. Verbal command "Archers commence firing" (1 whistle blast)
  - i. For practice and competition, at each distance you will start with a practice round (fire 2 arrows), followed by two rounds (fire 6 arrows each round)
  - ii. Remove arrows from the quiver, one at a time, nock the arrow, aim, and shoot at your target
- c. Once all arrows are fired for each round, step behind the firing line and place bow on rack or ground, wait for further commands.

- d. Verbal command "Archers walk carefully to your target and retrieve your arrows" (3 whistle blast)
  - i. Safe carry of arrows
- e. Verbal command "CEASE FIRE!" (4 whistle blast)
  - i. Anyone can shout this
  - ii. Represents dangerous condition
  - iii. Stop shooting, even if ready to release and step back from the firing line
  - iv. Place arrow back in quiver
  - v. Wait for signal to resume shooting

**10. Equipment and Targets are collected and stored.**

**PARISH INFORMATION**

**Project Leaders / Volunteers:**

If you have any questions regarding the 4-H Shooting Sports Program, please feel free to contact one of the 4-H Organizational Leaders listed below:

**Archery:**

1. Mr. Chris Beckemeyer, Archery Instructor - [chrisbeckemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbeckemeyer@gmail.com)
2. Ms. Niki Tastet-Beckemeyer, Archery Instructor – [nat2978@gmail.com](mailto:nat2978@gmail.com)

**Rifle/BB/Air Rifle:**

1. Ms. Amanda Brickhaus, Rifle Instructor – [a.brickhaus@yahoo.com](mailto:a.brickhaus@yahoo.com)
2. Mr. Jamie Wilson, Rifle Instructor - [jamie.wilson.0311@gmail.com](mailto:jamie.wilson.0311@gmail.com)

**Shotgun:**

1. Mr. Chris Beckemeyer, Shotgun Instructor - [chrisbeckemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbeckemeyer@gmail.com)
2. Mr. Peter Kramer, Shotgun Instructor - [krmr\\_ptr@yahoo.com](mailto:krmr_ptr@yahoo.com)
3. Mr. Randy Gros, Shotgun Instructor – [randallpaulgros@yahoo.com](mailto:randallpaulgros@yahoo.com)

**Coordinators:**

1. Mrs. Niki Tastet-Beckemeyer, Coordinator (Range, Competitions, Hours, Events) – [nat2978@gmail.com](mailto:nat2978@gmail.com)
2. Mrs. Kali Zammit, Coordinator (Risk Management & Programming) – [kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu)

**4-H Agent:**

Ms. Kali Zammit, [kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:kzammit@agcenter.lsu.edu)

St. Charles Parish LSU AgCenter (4-H) Office

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Office Phone: 985-785-4473

Office Fax: 985-785-4475

**Club Registration**

To participate in the club as a member, you must meet the following criteria by **October 15:**

- Complete and submit the following documents to the 4-H Office:
  - Registration Form
  - Parental Permission Form
  - Participation Agreement Form

- 4-H Enrollment Form (3 pages + optional 4-H t-shirt order form)
- Code of Conduct Form
- Health Form (3 pages)
- Range Waiver (Release, Waiver, Indemnification, & Hold Harmless Agreement)
- \$20.00 club dues (Checks should be made payable to: **St. Charles 4-H**)
- Copy of Hunter's Certification Card (if the participant has already completed the course)
- Copy of Driver's License (for members completing Participant Driving Permission Slip portion of the Registration Form)
- Membership – Members must be 10 years of age by January 1 of the current school year **AND** must obtain a Hunter Safety Certification card to participate in practices and trainings. This training is available through the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries at [www.wlf.state.la.us/hunting/education](http://www.wlf.state.la.us/hunting/education) or contact Chris Beckemeyer.
- Members must be in good standing and comply with all event and program rules.

Note: The LSU AgCenter and 4-H Shooting Sports Program reserves the right to adjust the Handbook and Program as needed. Membership will be informed of changes if applicable.

**Equipment Specification:**

Equipment specifications are subject to change. If you do not already have the required equipment, we do not suggest that you purchase equipment until the current Louisiana State 4-H Shooting Sports Handbook has been released.

The following equipment will be provided by the St. Charles Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Program participants for field practices:

- Safety glasses
- Pellets / BBs
- Arm guards
- Hearing protection
- Targets

**COMPETITION SCHEDULE**

Members meeting the requirements for competition will be eligible to compete in Regional and State competitions. The dates for this year's competitions are as follows:

**Southern Regional Match**

Dates: March 5-10, 2019

Location: West Baton Rouge / Ascension Parish

**State Match**

Dates: April 15-20, 2019

Location: DeSoto Parish / Caddo Parish

A parish-wide competition may be scheduled in the spring prior to the regional and state competitions based on range and instructor availability. National and State Competitions are invitational matches. Parish and Regional Matches are open to all that wish to compete provided they meet the requirements.

## **STATE HANDBOOK**

More details regarding each discipline will be provided to all St. Charles Parish 4-H Shooting Sports members via e-mail once the Louisiana State 4-H Shooting Sports Handbook has been approved and released for distribution.

### **STATE GENERAL RULES**

#### **PARTICIPATION**

**4-H membership** – All 4-H Shooting Sports members in good standing are eligible to compete in 4-H shooting sports events. Official 4-H enrollment is required by 4-H enrollment card/online enrollment.

**Age Requirement** – 4-H Club members must be 9 years of age before January 1 of the current club year and must not have passed their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday on January 1. Juniors will be shooters ages 9-13 as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. Seniors will be shooters ages 14-19 as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. (BB Gun rules are a little different and will be specified in the State Handbook.) \*NOTE: The age requirements for the St. Charles Parish 4-H Shooting Sports Program is as follows based on range requirements:

- Membership – Members must be 10 years of age by January 1 of the current school year **AND** must obtain a Hunter Safety Certification card to participate in practices and trainings. This training is available through the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries at [www.wlf.state.la.us/hunting/education](http://www.wlf.state.la.us/hunting/education) or contact Chris Beckemeyer.

**Training** – a) Participants are required to have completed 8 hours of 4-H Shooting Sports discipline training each year in each discipline in which they want to compete. A 4-H Shooting Sports certified discipline instructor will verify workshop completion and competition on individual registration forms. b) 4-H Members who have passed their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current school year **MUST** have completed a certified Hunter Education Course in order to compete at the regional or state level. *This training is available through the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries at [www.wlf.state.la.us/hunting/education](http://www.wlf.state.la.us/hunting/education).*

**Event Participation** –Participants are expected to compete in the required state events within the discipline in order to qualify for Nationals.

#### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**Health & Code of Conduct Forms** - It is the responsibility of each parish coordinator to have the appropriate health and code of conduct forms for each participant. An adult supervisor or coach should be present at the event site, with immediate access to the forms anytime their youth are participating in an event. These forms may be obtained through local/state 4-H offices.

**Safety** – Safety is the highest priority for range staff, participants, coaches, and spectators. Standard accepted safety rules will be followed at all times, special safety considerations will be announced at each venue. The Match Director, Range officers, or other event staff may dismiss

anyone from the range for unsafe behavior. The score may be forfeited, participant disqualified, or spectators barred at the discretion of the Louisiana 4-H Shooting Sports staff.

**Equipment** – Equipment check in will be at the discretion of the discipline range master and/or state shooting sports coordinator. Equipment should meet the requirements that are specified in the Louisiana 4-H Shooting Sport rules.

**St. Charles Parish 4-H Equipment check-in procedure:** All participants will check-in equipment at the appropriate check-in station for their disciplines. Equipment will be checked to ensure it conforms to regulations, safety rules, and equipment classifications. Instructors will discuss procedure for checking in equipment and ammunition at practices.

**Cell Phones – The use of cell phones or other electronic devices are not permitted during practices and competitive events** at Parish, Regional, and State 4-H Shooting Sports Events by participants or coaches unless permission is requested and granted from the range officer.

**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. The equipment must protect both eyes. For air events, only eye protection is required; and eye protection is strongly recommended but not required for archery events.

## **MATCHES**

**Southern Region Match**-Parishes include: Beauregard, Allen, Evangeline, St. Landry, Calcasieu, Jeff Davis, Acadia, Lafayette, Cameron, Vermilion, Pointe Coupee, West Baton Rouge, St. Martin, Iberville, Iberia, St. Mary, Ascension, Assumption, St. James, St. John, St. Charles, Orleans, St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Tammany, Washington, Tangipahoa, St. Helena, East Baton Rouge, West Feliciana, East Feliciana and Livingston.

**Northern Region Match**- Parishes include: Caddo, Bossier, Claiborne, Webster, Union, West Carroll, East Carroll, Madison, Richland, Ouachita, Morehouse, Lincoln, Jackson, Bienville, Desoto, Red River, Winn, Caldwell, Franklin, Tensas, Concordia, Catahoula, LaSalle, Grant, Natchitoches, Sabine, Vernon, Rapides and Avoyelles.

**State Match** - The state match is made up of participants from the northern and southern matches who have qualified to compete on a state level.

## **CONDUCT**

**Dress Code** - Participants are expected to dress appropriately for the events in which they will participate. Team uniforms or shirts are encouraged but not required. Range officials have the final word concerning the dress code and may announce or address specific cases.

**Behavior and Sportsmanship** - All participants, coaches, and spectators are expected to demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship, supporting the objectives and ideals promoted by the 4-H program in general and the 4-H Shooting Sports Program in particular. Participants or coaches will render aid and/or testimony if asked to do so by any match official. All participants, coaches, and observers are expected to conform to appropriate state 4-H Code of Conduct expectations or volunteer agreements, not only to the letter, but to the intent.

**Knowledge of Rules and Procedures** –It is the responsibility of each participant and coach to read the rulebook, understand the procedures used in each event, and comply with the rules and standards of the events. Questions are encouraged to clarify any areas of misunderstanding or lack of knowledge. Ignorance of the rules in any event does not obviate their existence. Participants are responsible for knowing the rules of their event and staying within them. Learning the rules of the events is part of the educational process for shooting sports participants.