

**AIR PISTOL RULES**  
**MISSOURI 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM**

SPECIAL NOTE: Missouri 4-H will be transitioning to a one-hand support sling for the Intermediate age group. Beginning in 2017, the two-handed grip/stance is no longer an option for Intermediate Division; only the one-handed, standing, with support sling will be permitted. See this link for description of one model of the Air Pistol Support Sling (counterbalance & pulley T-stand):

[https://www.usashooting.org/library/Youth\\_Development/Z\\_PPP\\_Counterbalance\\_T\\_Stand.pdf](https://www.usashooting.org/library/Youth_Development/Z_PPP_Counterbalance_T_Stand.pdf)

1. Only 4-H members receiving a minimum of 10 hours of direct instruction during the current year from a properly enrolled and 4-H pistol-certified volunteer are eligible to compete.
2. Competition will be held in all age divisions. **Course of Fire:**
  - a. Junior (age 8-10) 40 rounds, any of the 4 basic supported positions, as appropriate for age and experience: seated at a table and sand bags or other supporting material; or seated, using the air pistol support sling. (see above). 5 shots per bull (see positions below)
  - b. Intermediate (age 11-13) 40 rounds total, standing position. All rounds must be shot one-handed, standing with Support Sling (see above). 5 shots per bull. Shooter choice. (In 2017 only one-handed with support sling will be permitted).
  - c. Senior (age 14-18) 40 rounds total, standing position. All rounds shot one-handed, unsupported; 5 shots per bull.

In supported positions I, II, and III the shooter is seated. Shooter may use supporting material, such as boxes, duffel bags, bean bags, or sand bags, on the table or bench. The competitor's shooting arm must be fully extended, with the sights at eye level. The non-firing hand may provide support for the firing hand or the butt of the pistol. **Note: Elbows are not allowed to rest on the table in any of the supported positions.** The table is not considered "supporting material". Differences noted below.

Supported position IV: Youth division will be seated and may shoot one-hand or two handed with the support sling. Intermediate division will shoot one-handed, standing - if using the support sling.

**Basic Supported – I**

The shooter may rest any part of either or both hands and forearms and the pistol, including the barrel, on the supporting material.

**Supported -II**

Shooter may rest the butt of the pistol on the supporting material.

**Advanced Supported -III**

The shooter may rest his or her forearm(s) on the supporting material, but no portion of the pistol.

**Support Sling – IV** (see special note & link above)

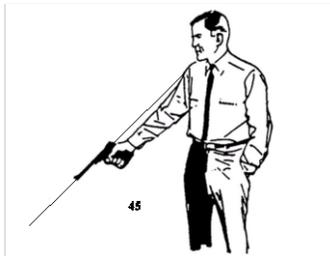
The shooter uses a counterbalance and pulley system that will reduce the effective weight of the pistol for a younger shooter, and yet allow the Intermediate Division shooter to use one-handed International Pistol stance/form. This better prepares the young shooter for more advanced competition. **Please note that shooters must bring their own support stand!!** The stand may be utilized from anywhere between the elbow to the tip of the muzzle.

3. **Pistol:** Any 4.5 mm (.177 cal) type of pneumatic, compressed air or CO<sub>2</sub> pistol or revolver meeting the following requirements may be used.
  - a. The weight of the pistol or revolver with all accessories must not exceed 3.3 lbs.
  - b. The trigger pull must be at least 500 grams (17.6 oz), measured with the barrel vertical.
  - c. No part of the grip or accessories may encircle the hand. The heel rest must extend at a right angle not less than 90 degrees to the grip. Any upward curvature of the heel and/or thumb rests and/or downward curvature of the side opposite the thumb is prohibited. The thumb support must allow free upward movement of the thumb. However, curved surfaces on the grips or frame, including the heel and/or thumb rest in the longitudinal direction of the pistol are permitted.

- d. Overall size of pistol is limited to those dimensions that will permit the pistol to be enclosed completely in a rectangular box having the dimensions of 420mm x 200mm x 63mm (approx 16.53" x 7.87" x 2.50").
  - e. Sights: Only open sights are allowed. Optics, mirror, telescopic, laser beam, electronically projected dots, etc are prohibited.
  - f. The Range Officer is authorized to inspect each firearm for safety and function.
4. Shooting distance will be at ten (10) meters (33 feet).
  5. Official targets will be the B-40/4, a 4 bull target OR the equivalent Orion Scoring System target (single bull) **Target placement** will be as follows: Junior division targets will be placed 36 inches (+/-4") from ground to center of target; Senior division targets will be placed 55 inches (+/- 4") from ground to center of target.
  6. Shooters will be required to load and fire one round at a time.
  7. Ammunition: **No pellets are provided, each shooter will be required to bring their own pellets. Ammunition must be .177 caliber, lead wadcutter.** No hollow points, domed, pointed, semi-wadcutter or other specialty pellets are permitted – **only true wadcutter pellets. Pellets will be approved at check-in and also inspected when the shooter arrives on the firing line.** CO 2 cartridges will not be provided - shooters must supply their own, if needed.  
  
**\*\*Please note that if you use pointed pellet ammunition you will be disqualified.**
  8. Time allotted:
    - a. Sighting shots will be permitted and may only be fired before the beginning of the match. Two single-bull B/40 targets will be allowed for sight-in; unlimited shots within a 15 minute time limit.
    - b. Match Shots will be fired in strings of 10. 1 minute per shot (10 minutes per string) is allowed.
    - c. Each shooter is to start and finish the round within the allotted time limit, except in the case of equipment failure. A shooter whose equipment has failed must notify the Range Officer **Immediately** and may be allowed up to 20 minutes to repair equipment-at the discretion of the RO.
    - d. A maximum of two (2) alibis are allowed per shooter.
  9. Scoring:
    - a. Each bull has 50 points possible – 5 shots at 10 points each.
    - b. A shot is given the score of the highest value scoring ring that is touched by the shot hole.
    - c. An inner ten (X) is a shot that touches the smaller ring inside the ten ring. For this competition only, the highest number of Inner ten shots (X's) will be used to break ties, if a tie still exist then highest number of 10's then 9's and continuing down until tie is broken.
    - d. Crossovers (shooting at another's target): The person crossing over will lose the score on that round. The target crossed over onto, will be scored using the highest point value. Shooters should notify range officers immediately upon noticing a cross over shot.
  10. Eye protection is required at all times for shooters or any coaches or assistants when on the firing line and must be provided by the individual.
  11. Each shooter may bring his/her own spotting equipment.
  12. **Parent/coach responsibility: Junior Division: A parent/coach must accompany the shooter to the firing line and must load and charge the pistol for the youth. Intermediate:** parent/coach to be on the line- and may help charge pistol. **Senior:** coach/parent should be available in close proximity but must stay behind the firing line, regardless of weather conditions.

13. Team recognition will be awarded on the basis of county teams. Teams will be composed of the top 4 scores with the age group and county. Counties with fewer than four shooters per age group will not be eligible for team recognition. However, their shooters will be eligible for individual awards. Shooters can compete only in their appropriate age division. Shooters cannot advance to complete a team.
14. For SAFETY considerations, all participants will abide by the range rules (including the CBI requirement) and the directions from the Range Officer or they will be disqualified. Enforcement of these rules is the responsibility of the Range Officer. The Range officer has absolute control of the range and may excuse or disqualify any participant, coach, or parent as he/she sees fit.
15. NRA International Pistol rule book (CI 16500) will address rules not covered by the Missouri 4-H Shooting Sports rules.

**No awards will be presented the day of competition. All awards will be sent to the county extension office**



#### One-handed Hold

**5.12** The shooter must stand free, without support, completely within the firing point. The complete firearm must be held and fired with one hand only. The wrist must be visibly free of support. Bracelets, wristbands or similar items which might provide support are prohibited on the hand and arm which hold the firearm.

