

MUZZLELOADING RULES
MISSOURI 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM

NOTE: Muzzleloading event will take place on Sunday of the September weekend at Prairie Grove

NO SMOKING! on or within 50 feet of the loading tables or firing line!!!!

1. Each shooter must be accompanied to the loading table with a "coach" whose job is to monitor loading and safety procedures of the participant during competition.
2. Each shooter will shoot from standing position only. See copy of the Standing Position Rule included.
 - a. Legal position would be same as Air Rifle and .22 Rifle.
 - b. Slings or Shooting Sticks (Rests) are not allowed.
3. Competition will be in one event with two (2) age classes.
 - a. Intermediate (11-13 Years of Age)
 - b. Senior (14-18 Years of Age)
4. Course of Fire: **20 shots, paper bulls-eye at 50 yards.** Juniors and Seniors both:
 - a. Unlimited sighting shots allowed
 - b. Followed by twenty (**20**) shots for score. (200 points)
5. Target: NMLRA (National Muzzle Loading Rifle Assoc) TG2406 -100 yard, 8 ring black <http://www.nmlra.org/store.asp?CatID=5>
6. **EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES**
 - a. Rifle:
 - Caliber -.54 maximum and .32 minimum calibers permitted.
 - Ignition - may be by No. 11 percussion cap, musket cap, or 209 primer. No flintlock.
 - Traditional or in-line rifles. "Set" or "double" triggers are permissible.
 - Sights - Open iron, aperture and fiber optic sights will be permitted. No optical, telescopic or electronic sights.
 - b. Shooting Supplies – All loading supplies and equipment must be supplied by the shooter; this includes powder, patch, ball, caps AND short starters, range rods, capper, powder measure, etc.
 - Powder limit will be a maximum of 60 grains.
 - Powders: Pyrodex RS, Triple Seven, or other equivalent black powder substitute OR 3f black powder. Bring powder in original container and show to range officials for approval before dispensing into a powder flask/horn.
 - No. 11 caps, musket caps, or 209 primers are permitted.
 - Caps/capper and powder must be checked-in with the range officer when you arrive on the range.
 - c. Round ball only. (supplied by shooter) All round balls must be soft lead in composition.

NOTE →

7. **PROCEDURE:**
- a. All loading will be done at loading table by the shooter under the supervision of a coach, leader, or parent. The powder container must be capped immediately after filling the powder measure. No loading directly from the powder container to the rifle is permitted.
 - b. After loading, wait until the Range Officer gives the command to approach the firing line.
 - a. Do not cap the rifle until range officer authorizes.
 - b. After firing the shooter will return to the loading table and insert the range rod. Then he/she may begin preparation for loading. No blowing down the barrel!
8. **Hang Fire:** Notify range officer immediately. Keep rifle pointed down range a minimum of 2 minutes. Range Officer will take charge of clearing round from the chamber with silent ball discharge. This will not be considered an equipment failure. A dirty, un-fireable firearm will be considered equipment failure after the second attempt to fire. The firearm will not be cleaned by the Range Officer. The 20 minute time limit would begin after the second attempt is cleared by the Range Officer. A roped-off, safe area will be provided and can be used as a pre-shoot cleaning and preparation area.
9. **Time limit is 80 minutes to shoot 20 rounds.** Time begins after the two fouling shots. (little less than 4 minute per shot)
- a. Each shooter will start and finish within the given amount of time, except in the case of equipment failure. A shooter whose equipment has failed must notify the chief range officer and will be allotted 20 minutes to repair equipment.
 - b. All shots fired before equipment failure will count toward a score. If equipment is not repaired within the allotted time, participant must take the score before equipment failed.
10. **Scoring:**
- a. Point values: 10 points for center ring and X-ring, next outward ring is worth 9 points, with each outward ring worth 1 less point.
 - b. Ball must touch the scoring ring to count the higher point value.
 - c. Crossovers (shooting at another person's target). Person crossing over will lose 1 point for that shot. For whomever the shot crossed-over-to, the shot does not count. The shooter must still take the shot.
 - d. Point value for all 20 shots will be totaled to arrive at final score and placement.
11. **Tie-breaker.** Ties will be broken by:
- a. Number of "Xs"
 - b. If still tied, then by number of shots in the 10 ring, then 9 ring, etc...until broken.
12. **Safety:**
- **No wooden Ramrods will be allowed for loading or cleaning**
 - All shooters, coaches or spotters must provide their own eye and ear protection and are required to use them at all times while on the range.
 - The muzzle must be pointed "up" or pointed down-range at all times.
 - The range rod or ramrod will serve as an empty barrel indicator and must be in the barrel whenever removed from the case except when: advancing to firing line, returning to the loading table after firing, during the cleaning, swabbing, or loading process, or when loaded.
 - No smoking allowed by any party anywhere near the Muzzleloading area.
 - A roped-off, safe area will be provided and will be used as a pre-shoot cleaning and preparation area. Shooters must not handle their firearms unless in the prep area or on the

line.

All participants will abide by range rules or will be disqualified. Enforcement of these rules is the sole responsibility of the range master.

13. For awards purposes, teams will be selected from the top three (3) scores from one county and within the same age group.
 - a. Shooters may not advance to next age group to fill a team.
 - b. Counties with fewer than three shooters and not eligible for team awards, but are eligible for individual awards.

14. Rules not addressed will be covered by National Rifle Association Muzzle loading Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun Rules #CB16380.

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

Standing: Erect on both feet, no other portion of the body touching the ground or any supporting surface. The sling cannot be used. The rifle will be supported by both hands and one shoulder only. The elbow or upper arm may be placed against the body or rested on the hip.

