



# Shooting Sports

University of Scouting  
Sam Houston Area Council





# Agenda

- Introduction to Shooting Sports
- Shooting Sport Programs
  - Cub Scouts
    - National Standards
    - Youth Opportunities
  - Boy Scouts and Venturing
    - National Standards
    - Youth Opportunities
    - Adult Training
    - Planning a Shooting Event
- References





# Shooting Sports - Introduction

- Shooting Sports is the #1 program activity in Scouting
  - It is often cited as one of the biggest draws for prospective Scouts
- Teaches
  - Responsibility
  - Sportsmanship
  - Self-Discipline, Control, Reliance
  - Logic
  - Concentration
  - Safe Habits and Attitudes





# Cub Scouts

- Shooting Sports are not an approved part of the unit level Cub Scout program
  - Exceptions are at Council approved Cub Day Camps, Resident Camps, Family Camps, or Council sponsored activities where there are properly trained supervisors and all standards are enforced.
- Event equipment must meet the BSA Standards
  - Only Council supplied and approved equipment may be used at Cub events
    - Order/reserve equipment via SHAC web page
- Archery and BB Shooting belt loops and sports pins may not be earned at the pack, den or individual level.





# Cub Scouts

- National Standards
  - Supervision
    - BSA BB Gun Range Master
      - Eighteen years of age or older and trained by a National Camping School shooting sports director or National Rifle Association rifle instructor, or NRA/USA Shooting/CMP certified rifle coach
      - Is in charge of the firing line at any time it is in operation
      - must be renewed every two years
      - must have and present a current Training Course Certificate, No. 33767
      - A currently certified NRA rifle instructor or NRA/USA Shooting/CMP certified rifle coach is qualified to serve as a BB range master.





# Cub Scouts

- National Standards
  - Supervision
    - BSA Archery Range Master
      - Eighteen years of age or older and trained by a National Camping School shooting sports director or USA Archery/NFAA Level archery instructor to set up and operate a safe archery range for a Cub Scout or Boy Scout archery program
      - Is in charge of the firing line at any time it is in operation
      - must be renewed every two years,
      - must have and present a current Training Course Certificate, No. 33767.
      - A currently certified USA Archery/NFAA basic archery instructor or National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) basic archery instructor may serve as the archery range master for Cub Scout archery activities.





# Cub Scouts

- National Standards
  - Equipment
    - BB Guns
      - Only a smoothbore, spring-type air gun propelling a coated steel ball projectile commonly known as a “BB” may be used.
      - See Shooting Sports Manual for complete requirements
    - Archery - bows
      - light-draw-weight (15- to 20-pound), 54-inch, takedown, recurve bow is recommended
      - The bow should be equipped with an arrow, a proper-length, well-served, 10-strand string, with a properly placed nock locator.
      - See Shooting Sports Manual for complete requirements
  - Safety Equipment
    - Safety Glasses
    - Finger and arm protection for archery





# Cub Scouts

- National Standards
  - Ranges
    - BB Gun and Archery Ranges are created, configured, operated, and controlled by the Lead Range Master per the requirements of the BSA

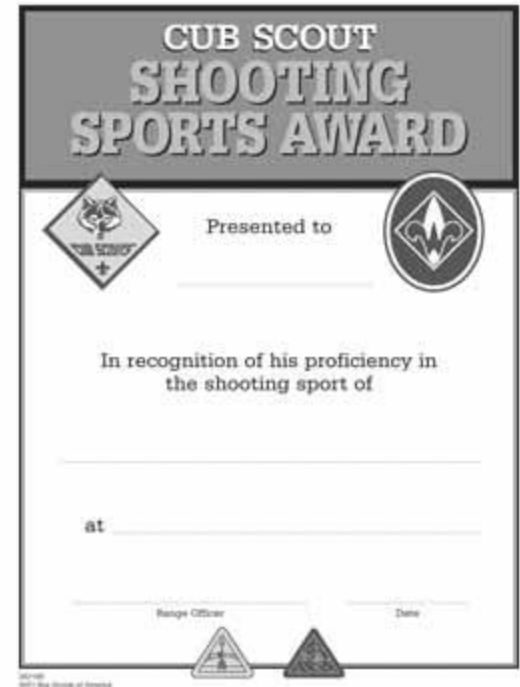






# Cub Scouts

- Opportunities
  - **Cub Scout Shooting Sports Award.**
    - May be awarded to a boy upon achievement of a level of marksmanship or excellence.
    - Usually awarded upon a decision by the range master and other event leaders, when a unique award may be appropriate.
    - The award might be given for proficiency in shooting, best sportsmanship, or other appropriate achievement.
    - The award is available from the National Distribution Center. Award, No. 34216,





# Cub Scouts

## – Belt loops and sports pins.

- Archery and BB Shooting belt loops and sports pins may be earned only through council- or district-sponsored programs.
- A quality program will offer archery shooting and BB gun shooting programs that provide the opportunity for earning belt loops
- Multi-day events should offer opportunities for the Archery and BB Shooting sports pins and the belt loops.





# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

- Boy Scout Shooting Sports
  - Five levels of firearm activities
    - Level 1 – Air Powered Shooting Experience (not Shotgun)
      - » recruiting program for those external to Scouting or higher programs
      - » Air Pistol limited to 14 and older Scouts
    - Level 2 – Open Shooting Experience
      - » Used to recruit Scouts into Shooting Sports with shooting for ‘fun’
      - » external awards programs
        - NRA, Winchester, NSSF, Brownells, etc.
      - » Cartridge firing pistols for Venturing and Sea Scouts only
      - » Centerfire rifles for Venturing and Sea Scouts only
    - Level 3 – Ongoing Shooting Sports Program
      - » Advancement program
        - Merit Badges and Venturing Ranger Award
      - » Cartridge pistols for Venturing and Sea Scouts only





# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

- Level 4 – Competitive Level
  - » External to BSA
  - » Cartridge Pistols for Venturing and Sea Scouts only
  - » Centerfire rifles for Venturing and Sea Scouts only
- Level 5 – Apprentice, Assistant Instructor, or Assistant Coach
  - » Promotes youth leadership with the unit
- Equipment, Instruction, Safety, and other limitations are imposed depending upon the event shooting level and other factors
  - See BSA National Shooting Sports Manual for details





# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

- Special Notes about Shooting Events
  - Rifle and Archery events
    - must be supervised by a currently NRA certified Rifle Instructor / NAA Archery Instructor and when on the range, must be supervised by a currently NRA-certified Range Safety Officer (RSO).
    - **A 1:8 ratio (instructor to active shooter) is mandatory**
    - Instructor and RSO are separate persons





# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

- Merit Badge Instruction

- Merit Badge instructors for Rifle and Shotgun Merit Badges must be certified Instructors

- Shotgun

- In teaching the Shotgun Shooting merit badge, the counselor/instructor must:

- Follow the NRA FIRST Steps Shotgun Orientation Lesson Plans, adding the BSA merit badge requirements as noted. This outline applies ONLY to Merit Badge Option A—Modern Shotshell Type.

Reference BOTH the BSA Shotgun Shooting merit badge pamphlet and the NRA FIRST Steps Shotgun Orientation Lesson Plans to complete the Training Counselor Workshop eligibility requirement.





# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

## – Rifle

- In teaching the Rifle Shooting merit badge, the counselor/instructor must:
  - Follow the NRA FIRST Steps Rifle Orientation Lesson Plans, adding the BSA merit badge requirements as noted. This outline applies ONLY to Merit Badge Option A—Modern cartridge type.
  - Reference BOTH the BSA *Rifle Shooting* merit badge pamphlet and the NRA FIRST Steps Rifle Orientation Lesson Plans to complete the Training Counselor Workshop eligibility requirement.





# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

- Pistol, Shotgun and Muzzle loading events
  - must be supervised by a currently NRA certified Pistol, Shotgun / Muzzle Loading Instructor and when on the range, must be supervised by a currently NRA-certified Range Safety Officer (RSO).
  - **A 1:1 (instructor to student) ratio is mandatory.**
  - Instructor and RSO are separate persons
  - NRA Basic Pistol Instruction is mandatory for all Venture Scouts wanting to shoot pistol.
  - NRA Basic Pistol Instruction certification consists of both classroom and range (practical) sessions.
  - Participants must have current Venture registration or current dual (troop-crew) registration.





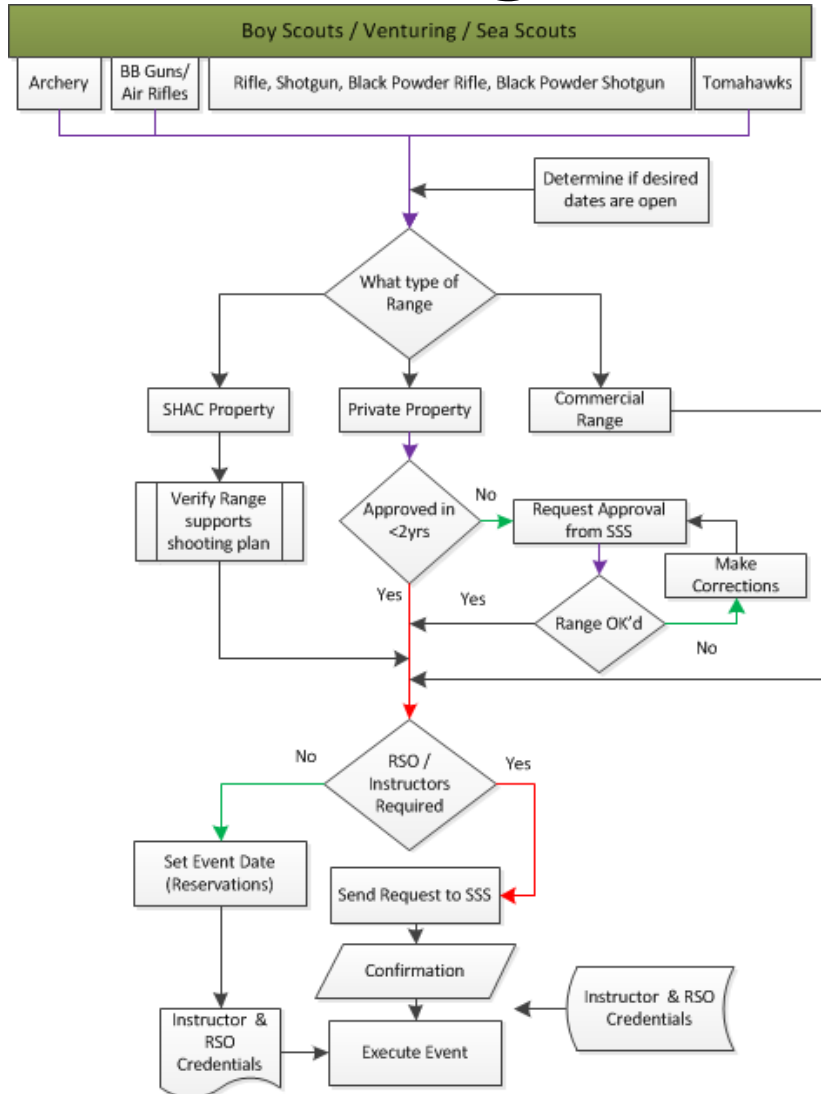


# Boy Scouts, Venturing, Sea Scouts

- Shooting Ranges
  - Council Property
    - All ranges on SHAC properties are approved for shooting activities
      - Some activities may be restricted due to range designs
      - No range pre-approval is required for events on SHAC property
      - Private firearms/ammo only when not provided by SHAC
  - Public / Commercial Ranges
    - The rules and policies of the range must be adhered to
    - If the range does not supply RSOs, the event must do so.
    - NRA Instructors are still required
  - Private Ranges
    - Must be approved by a Chief RSO from the SHAC shooting sports committee using BSA forms
    - Approvals last 2 years



# Planning a Shooting Event



- Note: Initial reservations must be made as early as possible to reserve space
- Planning process should start a minimum of 2 months in advance
- Request assistance from Shooting Sports Committee if needed for resources
  - RSO
  - Instructors
  - Private Range Approvals





# Training

- Adult Supervisory (NRA Instructor) Training
  - Instructor
    - Attend a pre-course interview
      - Complete Basic Instructor Training (BIT)
        - » Required one time only
      - Satisfactorily complete pre-course qualification
      - Complete instructor course(s)
        - » Different classes depending on type of shooting
          - Rifle
          - Shotgun
          - Pistol
      - Be approved by NRA Training Counselors conducting the course(s).
    - Range Safety Officer
      - Single day training session





# Training

- Training Opportunities
  - SHAC Shooting Sports Committee periodically offers NRA Instructor level training
    - Typically in Spring and Fall
    - Rifle, Shotgun
    - Occasionally pistol and black powder
  - Other opportunities can be found at
    - <http://nrainstructors.org/searchcourse.aspx>
  - Filtering for specific training
    - Select the box marked BSA courses
    - Select Texas
    - This will list classes specifically for BSA Leaders.





# Training

## — Archery Instructor

- National Archery Association Level 1 is the minimum training level to qualify as an instructor
- consists of 8-12 hours of instruction for certification.





# General Information

- Unit owned equipment
  - Some manufacturers offer discounts to units/individuals wishing to purchase firearms for Scouting use.
    - Savage offers discounts and is the same rimfire rifle at use at SHAC camps
    - Federal laws apply to purchase
  - Grants are available to units for purchases
    - typically require a 501c-3 organization for payment
  - NRA member Liability Insurance policies cover individuals that loan personal firearms to unit/district events





# Extracurricular Activities

- External Award Sponsors and Competitions for Scouts
  - Civilian Marksmanship Program - <http://thecmp.org/competitions/>
  - Daisy BB Gun Competition - <http://www.daisy.com/daisynationals>
  - Air Rifle Competitions at bayou rifles range  
[http://www.southernsilhouetteshooters.com/?page\\_id=385](http://www.southernsilhouetteshooters.com/?page_id=385)
  - Texas State Rifle Association - <http://www.tsra.com/events/matches/>
  - USA Shooting Association - <http://www.usashooting.org>
  - National Shooting Sports Federation - [http://www.nssf.org/Rimfire/find\\_event.cfm](http://www.nssf.org/Rimfire/find_event.cfm)
  - Texas Muzzleloading Rifle Association - <http://www.tmlrassociation.com/>
  - Texas Parks and Wildlife - <http://tpwd.texas.gov/education/hunter-education/shooting-sports-opportunities>





# Suggested Reading

- Guide to Safe Scouting
- National BSA Shooting Sports Manual
- Sam Houston Area Council Standard Operating Procedures
- Sam Houston Area Council Web Page







# Contact Info

- Shooting Sports Chairman
  - [shooting.chairman@gmail.com](mailto:shooting.chairman@gmail.com)
- Adult Training
  - [raengler@eagle.org](mailto:raengler@eagle.org)
- Private Range Approvals
  - [paul@tylick.net](mailto:paul@tylick.net)
- Shooting Sports Staff Advisor
  - [Brett.Lee@scouting.org](mailto:Brett.Lee@scouting.org)

