

Shooting Sports ***“Range and Target Activities”*** Program Updates

National Outdoor Programs and Properties
Subcommittee

Panel

- Dan Segersin, National Chair Outdoor Programs and Properties Subcommittee
- Bruce Hassy, Outdoor Programs and Properties Team – Range & Target Activities Staff Adviser
- Brian Gray, Outdoor Programs and Properties Team & NCAP Adviser
- Tom Pendleton, Outdoor Programs and Properties Team & National Director of the Jamboree and Outdoor Events
- Andrea Watson, National Director of Outdoor Programs and Properties

Range & Target Activities

Why do we have these programs in Scouting?

- Safe Habits and Attitude towards Firearms
- Responsibility
- Self-Discipline
- Concentration and Mental Discipline
- Self-Control, including Physical, Mechanical and Mental
- Self-Reliance
- Self-Esteem
- Problem-Solving
- Sportsmanship
- Lifelong Skills and Hobby Interest



Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

The following program adjustments aim to simplify range and target activities focusing on safe and quality program, thus enhancing the overall experience for Scouts and Scouters alike.



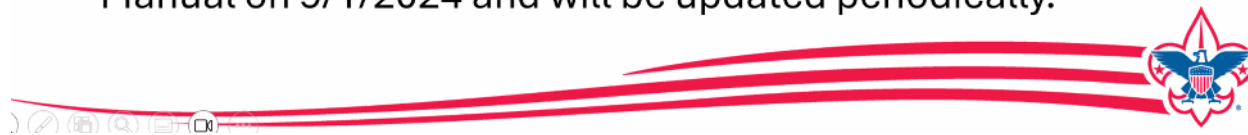
Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Note: These programmatic adjustments are best understood with an understanding of the current program guidelines.



Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

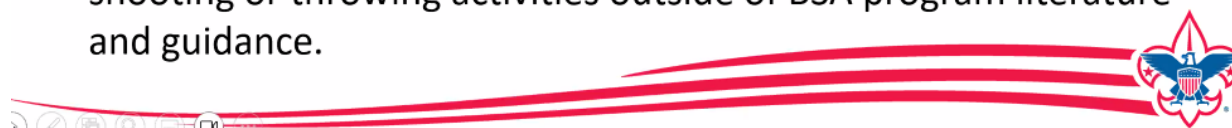
- Effective September 1, 2024, the following changes will be implemented in BSA's Shooting Sports programs.
- All other current BSA shooting sports policies as indicated in the BSA Shooting Sports Manual remain unchanged and must be followed.
- These changes will be reflected in the BSA's Shooting Sports Manual on 9/1/2024 and will be updated periodically.



Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

- Reference policies related to Boy Scouts of America youth programs. Additional conversations will take place related to Learning for Life and Exploring.
- Do not address adult participation at council sponsored fundraisers events that may include shooting sports programs, such as sporting clays tournaments etc.
- Do not change the organization's current prohibition for any shooting or throwing activities outside of BSA program literature and guidance.



What are the changes?

Scouting Wide



Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Effective September 1, 2024, Scouting's Shooting Sports programs within all programs including Cub Scouting, Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting will be referred to as *Range & Target Activities*.



Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

- The use of personal firearms and personal ammunition is prohibited in all Scouting programs at nationally authorized camp properties.
- Personal firearms and personal ammunition may be used at a commercial firearm range, subject to restrictions regarding caliber, gauge, and action as described in the National Shooting Sports Manual and herein.



Personal = not owned by the council

Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Q: What about hosting NRA training courses?

A: Personal firearms may be used for classroom demonstration purposes only during NRA training programs at nationally authorized camp properties **but may not be used for live fire.**

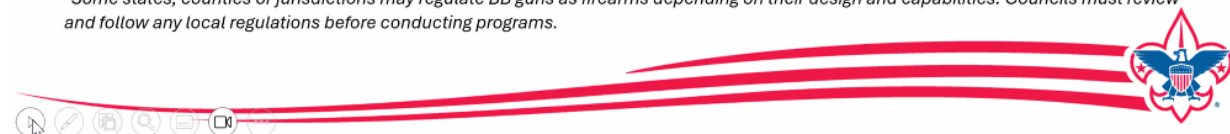


Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

- Firearm programs may only take place on a nationally authorized camp property's range(s) or at a commercial firearm range. This does not apply to district or council programs that utilize BB devices*, but applies to pellet rifles, airsoft (any type), rifles, pistols, shotguns, and muzzle loading rifles and shotguns.

*Some states, counties or jurisdictions may regulate BB guns as firearms depending on their design and capabilities. Councils must review and follow any local regulations before conducting programs.



Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Q: What is a commercial firearm range?

A: A commercial firearm range is a facility that offers a controlled environment for safe firearm practice. It will provide shooting lanes, targets, and may offer equipment rentals and training in safe firearm handling and marksmanship. Standard operating procedures are required for each firearm type used on-site. BSA range and target activities must follow all BSA range and target activities policies or range standard operating procedures that are equivalently stringent, including no variation from BSA limitations on firearms used. These ranges may be operated by a licensed business, a government entity or non-profit.



Range & Target Activities

Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

- At a minimum, all Scouts BSA troops, Venturing crews, and Sea Scout ships who provide unit-level sponsored/planned range and target activities must have at least one registered unit leader 21+ years of age take the Range Activity SAFETY online training.
- This trained adult leader must be present at the range. The training is recommended for all unit leaders in Scouts BSA, Venturing and Sea Scouting. Note this training does not replace the requirements for certified NRA firearms instructors and range safety officers. This training will be available beginning 9/1/2024.



What are the changes?

Cub Scout Program



Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Cub Scout Range & Target Activities Changes

Effective September 1, 2024, Scouting's Shooting Sports programs within all programs, including Cub Scouting, will be referred to as *Range and Target Activities*.

Note: As a reminder, the updated Cub Scout program effective June 1, 2024 includes elective adventures versus awards for Cub Scouts.



Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Scouts BSA Range & Target Activities Changes

- The Scouting Pistol Safety and Marksmanship program is retired effective September 1, 2024.
- Effective September 1, 2024, Scouts BSA older Scouts** pistol program is the NRA FIRST Steps Pistol Orientation.
- Scouts BSA older Scouts** can only participate in the NRA FIRST Steps Pistol Orientation at an accredited camp program (day camp, short-term camp, long-term camp) or a council organized one day event. Note there is no change to the use of pistols within Cowboy Action Programs.

***Older Scouts BSA youth are age 13 and have completed eighth grade or 14 years old and up.*



No Open Pistol shooting

Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Venturing and Sea Scout Program Range & Target Activities Changes

- Venturing and Sea Scouting rifle use is limited to the following types. (All other rifle or caliber types are prohibited.)
 - .177 caliber air rifle, min 2.5 lbs. trigger pull (open, scope or dot sights);
 - air, CO2, or pre-charged pneumatic rifle,
 - .22 caliber rimfire^ long rifle or short rifle (breech-loading, single shot, bolt action or repeater bolt action with box magazine), min 3 lbs. trigger pull.
 - Muzzle loading rifle
 - Lever action rifles as part of an approved Cowboy Action Program at an accredited camp program (day camp, short-term camp, long-term camp) or a council organized one day event.

^Tubular not allowed and higher capacity magazines may not be loaded with more than 5 rounds.



22 magazine can load no more than 5 into a mag with no more than 10 round capacity.

Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Venturing and Sea Scout Program Range & Target Activities Changes

- Hunting is no longer part of the Venturing program. Venturing youth may continue to take part in Hunters Education courses.



Can still use game targets and 3d archery targets

Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Venturing and Sea Scout Program Range & Target Activities Changes

- Unit-level sponsored/planned Venturing and Sea Scouting pistol programs are prohibited.
- Venturing and Sea Scouting may no longer use muzzle loading pistols anywhere within Scouting.



Pistol shooting is a council level & first steps only this simplifies the program.

Marty Sprick on the call. Basic pistol is not part of the program.

Working on a BSA CO-OP mz shotgun program.

Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Venturing and Sea Scout Program Range & Target Activities Changes

- Effective September 1, 2024, the Venturing and Sea Scouting pistol program is the NRA FIRST Steps Pistol Orientation.
- Venturers and Sea Scouts can only participate in the NRA FIRST Steps Pistol Orientation at an accredited camp program (day camp, short-term camp, long-term camp) or a council organized one day event. Note there is no change to the use of pistols within Cowboy Action Programs.



NO AR style rifles in Air Soft

Range & Target Activities Program Updates – Effective 9/1/2024

Camps

- Rare exceptions to the changes indicated may be granted to council camps as part of the NCAP variance process. Camps are defined in NCAP standard SA-001.



Only pertain to camp programs, not unit level program

Exceptions are rare – must have a need. NCAP Process. Will take a while.