



New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports

An Action Packed Natural Resource Program
for Youth and Adults



2005 New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports Annual Report (condensed)

Program Accomplishments

Youth development is the primary goal of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program. 4-H Shooting Sports provide an outstanding vehicle for providing human growth and development in the life skills identified by the National 4-H Program. We teach safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment at home, on the shooting range, or in the field, including sound decision making, self discipline, and concentration.

New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports continued to experience an unprecedented growth in the past year. There was a slight increase in the number of 4-H Shooting sports clubs in New Jersey and a large jump in the number of children in clubs after September 2005. To summarize the shooting sports program...

- 9 clubs were functioning by the end of 2005. The clubs are located in Atlantic, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Ocean, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Union Counties (2 clubs). Four more clubs are due to begin accepting members once they secure ranges for their activities. Every club has at least one certified 4-H Instructor.
- Before September of 2005, 122 children (83 boys and 39 girls) participated in a range of curriculums in the clubs, including Archery, Air Rifle and Shotgun programs. After fall registration approximately **213 children** were enrolled and participate in 4-H Shooting Sports clubs (a 75% increase!)
- 268 Boys and 234 Girls were involved in day camp / weekend camp archery programs throughout the state.
- In addition to the day camp programs, 298 Boys and 226 Girls were involved in archery and air rifle 4-H shooting sports classes at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp last summer. The camp also offered classes in 3-D Archery and Muzzle loading curriculums for teens.
- 580 people participated in fair demonstrations in archery, and 637 in rifle throughout the state. 4-H club members and instructors provided over 60 hours of demonstrations at 5 county fairs last summer. More demonstrations with the beam hit laser trainer would have been offered if the equipment had functioned properly.
- New Jersey has 42 active club instructors who have volunteered over 282 hours with clubs and contributed 462 hours of training and instruction in other activities, such as camp programs, fair demonstrations and shooting sports clinics.
- Of the 42 instructors, 15 are cross trained in multiple course areas.

Training Programs

On April 29th, 2005, in the rich tradition of quality trainings, New Jersey 4-H Shootings Sports in cooperation with the NY State 4-H Shooting Sports program presented the annual NJ instructor training program. An intensive “no Frills” Archery and Rifle training was offered December 17th – 18th at Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp. The program provides training to volunteers who in turn facilitate safe programs for youth throughout the State of New Jersey. The experienced instructors facilitated trainings in the Archery, Rifle and Muzzleloader curriculums. Some of the highlights of the training were...

<http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/shootingsports.htm>



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- 32 people were trained as instructors; 12 received instruction in Rifle, 15 were trained in Archery and 5 were trained in Muzzle Loaders
- 13 of the trainees were women, 19 were men and 3 youth were trained as assistant instructors.
- 28 of the trainees were from New Jersey, 4 from New York

As a result of the training, new clubs have started in New Jersey and in New York. Atlantic, Union, and Sussex counties now have multiple instructors for their clubs as a result of the training. By June of 2006, a total of 12 clubs should be functioning in the State of New Jersey. Currently there are 41 certified volunteers working with youth in 4-H Shooting Sports in New Jersey. The cost of the training was offset by the gracious donation from Federal Cartridge.

Programs

On May 7th, 2005, 75 friends, family and 4-Hers attended New Jersey's First annual Recognition Banquet and Auction. The event was created to recognize the hard work and lasting support for the New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports Program. The banquet raised \$1300 with silent auctions, cup drops, card games and a live auction. Proceeds from the auction will go toward instructional resources and training fees for 2005.

The Second Annual New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports Event, held at the 4-H camp in Stokes Forest on May 7th, 2005, was a great experience for everyone that attended, parents included. The beautiful weather provided 4-H club members with opportunities to show off the skills they have learned throughout the year. Teams from Middlesex, Ocean, Sussex and Union Counties participated in the event. The three challenges at the invitational were Field Archery, Air Rifle, and 3-D Archery. Trophies were given for the highest scoring team in each challenge.

Advisory Council

This year marked an important turning point in New Jersey Shooting Sports. The advisory council met for the first time on the Cook College campus in New Brunswick. Atlantic, Sussex, Hunterdon, Union and Somerset Counties and the State 4-H Camp were represented at the meeting. The Constitution and By-Laws were reviewed, and tentative meeting dates were set for the future. Election of Officers and ratification of the constitution will occur early in 2006, along with the selection of committees and the planning of the state event and annual banquet.

Budget for FY 2005

Revenue		Expenses	
Spring Training Revenue	\$ 920.00	Spring Training Expenses	\$1,911.00
Federal Cartridge	\$ 400.00		
Fall Training Revenue	\$ 228.00	Fall Training Expenses	\$ 418.00
Spring Auction	\$1,275.00	Banquet expenses	\$1,989.00
Spring Banquet	\$ 825.00		
Spring Training Auction	\$ 670.00		
Total Revenue	\$4,318.00	Total Expenses	\$4,318.00

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The Future

The state program continues to grow. As a result, we are looking at more opportunities to train volunteers to work with children. Partnerships with surrounding states and regional training programs will offer more opportunities to get individuals trained. New Jersey has partnered with New York to provide a regional training in Archery, Coordinator, Muzzle Loader, Rifle, Shotgun and potentially Living History. A specialized training in Archery will be held on two Saturdays in Late February in Union county to help more volunteers. An additional training will be held in the Fall of 2006 and the surrounding states have numerous training opportunities.

We also anticipate Morris, Essex and Warren counties will find ranges and get their programs off the ground. A second club focused on Living History has been gaining interest in Sussex County. And two other counties have expressed an interest in having demonstrations at their fairs to recruit members for clubs. 4-H Shooting Sports has provided a positive example of youth development in New Jersey.

Wish List

The following items are a list of things that would help the state program to grow. We are looking for supporters for some or all of the following items including auction items and donations to the State program.

Range improvements: We need volunteers to help widen the ranges at the state 4-H camp to help it become a better location for training and invitational events. We currently need heavy equipment to widen the ranges and volunteers to help clear stones and obstructions. Once the ranges are widened, we will need volunteers and materials to make the ranges usable in all weather. Please contact the camp director for details.

Feather light trailer. Fully outfitted with 2 beam hit targets, two .177 cal air rifles with CO2 tank attachments, 2 10'X20' canopies, 48 feet of ballistic cloth, 48 feet of arrow backstop material, 3 Genesis bows, 36 arrows, Laptop computer, printer, Caution tape and orange flagging tape, Honda Generator, extension cords, lights.

360 Beamhit System with 4 TR-900 Computerized Targets, 4 Daisy Chain Cable BL- 650 (9 ft), 1 Target Cable BL-640 (108 ft), 1 CB440-USB Control Box, 4 LT-100 Transmitters, (at a cost of \$8500) 4 .177 cal Transmitter Rods (\$180), 7 sets of 357 batteries (3 packs) (\$28.00) , shipping (\$60.00), Laptop Computer with Windows XP (\$1000 or donation), HP Deskjet or similar printer (\$250). Total cost for a 4 target Beam hit range system - \$10,000

If you would like, or you know someone who would like to donate or volunteer, please contact the state coordinator.

**For a detailed report please visit the New Jersey Shooting Sports Website at
<http://www.nj4hcamp.rutgers.edu/shootingsports.htm>**

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Measuring Impact

We are often faced with the daunting task of measuring the impact of what we do. It is easy to give club numbers and tell how many people we have shown shooting sports to. But what really matters is how and what we teach the children in our clubs. Below is a testimonial from a parent that speaks volumes of the positive impact NJ4H Shooting Sports has had on the youth of New Jersey.

“Last summer I was house hunting with Jeffrey (my 14 year old who is a member of Sharpshooters). We were walking through a very nice house that was owned by shooting enthusiasts/hunters. The finished basement was very rustic with some trophy-type antlers and a beautiful gun case with guns. Resting on the OUTSIDE of the gun case was a shotgun. The real estate agent had not been in this particular house before and was admiring the rustic look. She walked over to the gun case and appeared to be ready to touch the gun. Jeffrey was standing next to her, and practically tackled her to get her away from that area. We were startled, and he walked us back over and pointed out that the safety was not on the gun. He then proceeded to explain to the realtor the danger and carelessness of that situation. The realtor thanked him, and notified her agency to contact the owner immediately to take care of this. This story points to the obvious, that there was the potential for tragedy with this scenario. But, as important to me, was Jeffrey's educated reaction due to his Sharpshooters training. Jeffrey would have been as naive as the realtor just a year and a half early. Worse, he would have been impetuous and excited and would possibly have picked the gun up. The 4-H program truly works as an education tool, and the kids have a great time, too.” Parent of a Middlesex Club Member

Thank You

We would like to thank Tom Story, Jack Mazur, Katie Osterhout, Gary Osterhout, Kenyon Simpson, and Wes Hurd from the New York 4-H Shooting Sports Program and Owen Peters from Virginia for their help and enthusiasm in teaching our volunteers. We also would like to thank Ellen and Dominic Di Iorio for volunteering their time and expertise in training Archery. And we would like to thank Joan Daly and Jonelle Sisson for their efforts with the kitchen and logistics at the Spring training. Without their help, our program would not be successful.

We would also like to thank Peggy Bodner of the ANJRPC for her continued support of NJ4-H Shooting Sports. We are also grateful to Federal Cartridge and Bill Stevens support of our training programs, with both funding and ammunition. And we would like to thank local businesses and individuals throughout the state that continuously support youth development in New Jersey.

And we would like to thank all of the Instructors, leaders, volunteers and parents that have helped to make 4-H Shooting Sports the fastest growing 4-H clubs in New Jersey!

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