

# OPEN RIFLE & PISTOL COMPETITIVE SHOOTING EXPERIENCE FOR VENTURING PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The Boy Scouts of America is proud to partner with the Scholastic Action Shooting Program (SASP) to provide a competitive rifle and pistol shooting experience for Venturing. This program uses the standard SASP competition procedures for the senior and collegiate rimfire and centerfire divisions. This guide is intended to provide a starting point to help districts and councils organize crews with a competitive shooting sports program. The information contained within this document must be adhered to and cannot be modified. This is an Open Shooting Rifle and Pistol Competitive Shooting Sports Program, all requirements for Open Shooting Rifle and Pistol Competitive Shooting Sports Program should be followed.

## YOUTH TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Youth members shall have completed either the NRA FIRST Steps (three hours) or NRA Basics of Rifle Shooting Course or the Pistol Shooting Course (eight hours) before or upon becoming a member of the crew. Venturers may not practice with the crew nor enter any competitive matches with their unit until this training is complete. This course must be taught by an NRA Certified Rifle or Pistol Instructor depending upon the discipline the Venturer wishes to compete in.

Sea Scouts wishing to participate may join a Venture Crew.





## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

The standard operating procedures (SOPs) of the range should also be reviewed by NRA Range Safety Officer before delivering this program. All firearms must be approved for use by the NRA Range Safety Officer.

### THE RANGE

An approved range can include:

- BSA Range
- Public Range
- Private Range
- Commercial range
- Private Property Range.

Public, private property or commercial ranges must be certified using the application found here:

[Click here](#)

or

type this address in browser

[https://www.scouting.org/  
filestore/  
Outdoor%20Program/  
Shooting%20Sports/  
430-065\\_WB.pdf](https://www.scouting.org/filestore/Outdoor%20Program/Shooting%20Sports/430-065_WB.pdf)

## ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS

BSA Youth Protection policies for two-deep leadership must be maintained at all times.

The BSA registered adult serving as the SASP head coach must:

- ✳ Become a registered Venturing Advisor or leader.
- ✳ Register as the head coach with SASP.
- ✳ Hold a current certification as an NRA Rifle and Pistol instructor OR an NRA/USA Shooting/Civilian Marksmanship Program pistol coach.

The BSA registered adult serving as a SASP assistant coach must:

- ✳ Follow all rules related to age and training required to be a Venturing Associate Advisor.
- ✳ Register as the assistant coach/adult volunteer with SASP.
- ✳ Hold a current certification as an NRA Rifle and Pistol instructor.

An NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) must also be present during all team practices and competitions. Any adult with a current BSA registration and current NRA Range Safety Officer credentials can act as the RSO.

### APPLICABLE LAWS

BSA safety policies generally run parallel to or go beyond legal mandates. However, it is the camp or activity supervisor's responsibility to confirm and ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations or statutes related to youth handling and using a firearm.



# BUILDING A COMPETITIVE SHOOTING TEAM WITHIN THE CREW STRUCTURE

Venturing crews should be youth led and adult mentored. The SASP competitive team is no different. By taking into consideration the ALPS model, found in the Handbook for Venturers, the team allows for programming that includes adventure, leadership, personal growth, and service. SASP activities can also lead to earning Venturing awards, such as the Ranger Award or the Shooting Sports Outstanding Achievement Award. To learn more about these awards, go to [www.scouting.org/venturing](http://www.scouting.org/venturing)

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Youth leadership roles are also important for a properly functioning team. The crew should have a:

- ✱ Crew president serves as the team captain.
- ✱ Vice president of administration serves as the team recruiter.
- ✱ Vice president of program who helps coordinate service and competition opportunities for the team.
- ✱ Vice president of communications serves as the team communication coordinator.
- ✱ Treasurer who will maintain financial records and coordinate fundraising efforts for the team.

## UNIFORM

Each crew will have a uniform to wear at competitive meets and while doing service projects to form a group identity and help others easily identify them as a team. The uniform is the choice of the team members. Teams can adopt the forest green Venturing shirt and gray shorts or pants available through [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org) and local Scout shops. This uniform is will be worn at competitions to provide program identity. Crews can design their own uniform. The only requirements are that it include the Venturing logo and crew number on the shirt. The style and images on the uniform must be consistent with the values of the Boy Scouts of America.

## RANGE INSPECTION CHECKLIST

Inspected by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

√ = Yes

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| _____ Controlled access/fencing/gates closed | _____ |
| _____ Flags or signs displayed               | _____ |
| _____ Range limits identified                | _____ |
| _____ Backstop/impact area inspected         | _____ |
| _____ Ready line/area marked                 | _____ |
| _____ Spectator area designated              | _____ |
| _____ Supplies available                     | _____ |
| _____ First-aid kit filled/accessible        | _____ |
| _____ Range rules posted                     | _____ |
| _____ Bulletin board available               | _____ |
| _____ Pistol racks available                 | _____ |
| _____ Empty trash receptacles available      | _____ |
| _____ Lockable storage                       | _____ |
| _____ Eye and ear protection available       | _____ |
| _____ Hand washing Station Available         | _____ |
| _____ Emergency communications & plan        | _____ |

### RANGE SAFETY BRIEFING

Note: This briefing is best done within viewing site of the shooting range. When firearms are used during the briefing, the NRA RSO must follow the NRA gun safety rules.

Have participants read the NRA "Range Safety Rules" poster.

Review the NRA's three "Fundamental Rules for Safe Gun Handling" (verbatim), and discuss general range rules (see below). Ask questions for reinforced learning.



## Range Safety Briefing - Rifle

- No LIVE Ammunition in the classroom!
- To provide beginning shooters with Knowledge, Skill and Attitude (KSA) necessary to shoot a Rifle safely under supervision of a certified instructor.
- 3 Rules of Gun Safety
  - o Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction
  - o Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot
  - o Always keep your gun unloaded until ready to us.
- Parts of a Rifle
- Demonstrate Rifle operation
  - o Loading dummy rounds
  - o Cocking
  - o Dry Fire
  - o Unloading
- Shooting Fundamentals
  - Dominant Eye
  - Position
  - Shooting Fundamentals
    1. Aiming
    2. Hold Control
    3. Breath Control
    4. Trigger Control
    5. Follow-through
- Range Layout
  - o Ready Area
  - o Firing Line
  - o Target Area
  - o Back Stop

- Other Safety Rules
  - o Know your target and what is beyond
  - o Eye and Ear Protection
  - o No alcohol or drugs
  - o Proper hygiene
  - o Clean up after shooting
- Range Commands
  - "Eye and ear protection on"
  - "Shooters to the ready line."
  - "Shooters to the firing line"
  - "Is the line ready?"
  - "Load."
  - "Ready on the firing line."
  - "Commence firing."
  - "Cease fire."
  - "Remove magazines"

Before running a program check out the Shooting Sports Webpage for updates to this program guide and find other resources.

Download the Rifle Briefing by [clicking here](#)

or

typing this address in your browser  
[https://www.scouting.org/Home/OutdoorProgram/  
ShootingSports.aspx](https://www.scouting.org/Home/OutdoorProgram/ShootingSports.aspx)

## BSA PISTOL SAFETY BRIEFING

- No **LIVE** Ammunition in the classroom!
- To provide beginning shooters with Knowledge Skills and Attitude necessary to shoot a pistol safely under direct supervision of a certified instructor.
- 3 Rules of Gun Safety
  - o Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction
  - o Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot
  - o Always keep your gun unloaded until ready to us.
- Parts of a pistol
  - o Loading dummy rounds
  - o Cocking
  - o Dry Fire
  - o Unloading
- Demonstrate pistol operation
- Benchrest or Standing Positions
  - o Shooting Fundamentals
    - ♣ Determine Eye Dominance
    - ♣ Aiming
    - ♣ Breath Control
    - ♣ Hold Control
    - ♣ Trigger Control
    - ♣ Follow through
  - o The most important - Aiming and Trigger Control
- Range Layout
  - o Ready Area

- o Firing Line
  - o Target Area
  - o Back Stop
- Other Safety Rules
  - o Know your target and what is beyond
  - o Eye and Ear Protection
  - o No alcohol or drugs
- Range Commands
  - ♣ "Eye and ear protection on"
  - ♣ "Shooters to the ready line."
  - ♣ "Shooters to the firing line"
  - ♣ "Is the line ready?"
  - ♣ "Load."
  - ♣ "Ready on the firing line."
  - ♣ "Commence firing."
  - ♣ "Cease fire."

Download the Pistol Briefing by [clicking here](#)

or

typing this address in your browser  
[https://www.scouting.org/Home/OutdoorProgram/  
ShootingSports.aspx](https://www.scouting.org/Home/OutdoorProgram/ShootingSports.aspx)

## SAMPLE PERMISSION FORM

### Scouting Participation and Hold-Harmless Agreement

\_\_\_\_\_ (Unit, District or Council) is conducting a shooting sports program. Scouts will be instructed how to handle, maintain, and shoot a Rifle and Pistol safely and be provided instruction to increase their shooting skills. Scouts will have classroom instruction and range instruction in which they will fire a Pistol under the supervision of a trained NRA Range Safety Officer and NRA certified Pistol Instructor.

Scouts will be required to wear eye protection and hearing protection always while on the range. Scouts are expected to abide by all safety rules and the instructions of the NRA Range Safety Officer(s) and Pistol Instructor(s).

I, the undersigned, give my child, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to participate in this program. I understand that participation in the activity involves a certain degree of risk.

I have carefully considered the risk involved and have given consent for my child to participate in the activity. I understand that participation in the activity is entirely voluntary and requires participants to abide by the rules and standards of conduct. I release the Boy Scouts of America, the local council, the activity coordinators, and all employees, volunteers, related parties, or other organizations associated with the activity from all claims or liability arising out of this participation.

For safety, my child and I agree that he/she will do the following or he/she will be removed from the program. I understand that any additional cost associated with participation in this program will not be refunded if my child is removed due to behavioral problems.

1. Complete the training offered as part of the program.
2. Wear all safety gear always while on the range.
3. Follow all safety rules provided in the training class.
4. Follow the instructions of the NRA Range Safety Officer(s) and NRA Rifle or Pistol Instructor(s).
5. Do not handle any Pistols until instructed to do so by the Pistol Instructor(s).
6. Follow the instructions of the NRA Range Safety Officer(s) always.
7. Is a registered Venturer

Participant signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian printed name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_



ONE-TIME STARTUP COSTS			
Description	Price	Qty	Total Cost
<b>GUNS</b>			
Rimfire Pistols	\$350	2	\$700
Rimfire Rifle	\$350	2	\$700
Centerfire	\$400	2	\$800
<b>EXTRA MAGAZINES</b>			
Rimfire	\$25	6	\$150
Centerfire	\$25	6	\$150
<b>TIMERS</b>	\$100	3	\$300
<b>EYE PROTECTION</b>	\$6	12	\$72
<b>EAR PROTECTION (BASIC EARMUFFS)</b>	\$15	12	\$180
<b>REQUIRED TRAINING FOR COACHES/ VENTURING ADVISORS (Rifle &amp; Pistol)</b>			
NRA Rifle & Pistol Instructor	\$200	2	\$400
NRA Safety Officer Training	\$40	2	\$80
<b>TOTAL ONE-TIME COSTS</b>			<b>\$3,532</b>

YEARLY ESTIMATED COSTS			
Description	Price	Qty	Total Cost
<b>BSA REGISTRATION FEES</b>	\$33	15	\$495
<b>INSURANCE FEES (VARIES)</b>	\$1	15	\$15
<b>CHARTER FEE</b>	\$40	1	\$40
<b>SASP MEMBERSHIP FEES</b>			\$0
Youth	\$20	10	\$200
Adult	\$30	2	\$60
<b>SASP BACKGROUND CHECK FEES</b>	\$30	2	\$60
<b>OFFICIAL MATCHES (STATE LEVEL)</b>	\$20	10	\$800
<b>—4 PER YEAR</b>			
<b>REGIONAL MATCHES—2 PER YEAR</b>	\$30	10	\$600
<b>AMMO FOR MATCHES</b>			
5 rimfire athletes; 200 rounds per match for 6 matches; \$6 per 200 rounds of .22lr			\$180
5 centerfire athletes; 200 rounds per match for 6 matches; \$44 per 200 rounds of 9mm			\$1,320
<b>AMMO FOR PRACTICES</b>			
6 practices required, 12 (minimum) recommended; 150 rounds per athlete			
5 rimfire x 12 practices x 150 rounds			\$270
5 centerfire x 12 practices x 150 rounds			\$1,980
<b>REQUIRED TRAINING FOR VENTURING YOUTH TO COMPETE*</b>			
NRA FIRST Steps (assumes BSA discount)	\$15	10	\$150
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED YEARLY COSTS</b>			<b>\$6,170</b>
* Assumes additional new youth will join team each year and will need required training.			

# SCHOLASTIC ACTION SHOOTING PROGRAM (SASP) STANDARD PROCEDURES

## RUNNING A SASP TEAM

A SASP team should be run using the rules and regulations found in the SASP Official Handbook for the season. The handbook can be downloaded from <http://sssfonline.org/scholastic-pistol-program-spp/spp-downloads/>.

However, note the following differences that BSA teams must follow:

All youth members taking part in a competitive team are registered as Venturing members of the BSA.

- Senior Division — (grades 9-12)
- Collegiate Division — open to all students enrolled in a post-secondary school as a full-time student and under 21 years of age.

## FUNDING A UNIT

Ammunition, range time, and competition fees are some of the expenses that each team will need to plan to cover. How the team covers these expenses is up to the team. Teams should consider participating in council product sales as this will both raise money for the unit and give back to the council for its continued support of the program.

Several organizations that are interested in increasing youth participation in shooting sports provide grants to groups that apply. Some of these organizations are listed below:

✳ Friends of NRA: [www.friendsofnra.org/National.aspx?cid=9](http://www.friendsofnra.org/National.aspx?cid=9)

✳ Midway USA Foundation: [www.midwayusafoundation.org/](http://www.midwayusafoundation.org/)

✳ Youth Shooting Sports Alliance: [www.youthshootingssa.com/](http://www.youthshootingssa.com/)

Additionally, the Scholastic Action Shooting Program has negotiated substantial discounts for SASP teams through many major vendors, including firearms manufacturers. For a complete list of discounts and how to receive them, please contact Rick Leach, SASP national director, at [RLeach@sssfonline.com](mailto:RLeach@sssfonline.com).

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS  
OR WOULD LIKE  
ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION, CONTACT,  
AT

[shooting.sports@scouting.org](mailto:shooting.sports@scouting.org)  
[venturing@scouting.org](mailto:venturing@scouting.org)