

# FOLSOM SHOOTING CLUB YOUTH SHOOTING PROGRAM

## OBJECTIVES

The Folsom Shooting Club Youth Shooting Program was established to teach young people firearm safety and basic rifle marksmanship skills. Children participating in the program will build marksmanship skills and earn recognition awards through the Winchester/NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program.

Your child will be learning skills that will serve him or her in many areas of life that have nothing to do with shooting. These life skills include patience, self-discipline, sportsmanship, responsibility, self-respect and leadership.

## REQUIREMENTS

There is no fee to participate in the program. All rifles, ammunition, targets and awards are provided by Folsom Shooting Club. There are some rules that must be followed to allow the program to proceed as safely and smoothly as possible.

- Parent or legal guardian must be present with child at all times. If the parent or guardian leaves the range the child must go with them. We cannot watch your child for you.
- The parent or legal guardian will be required to sign a liability release at the beginning of every meet before the child may be permitted on the range.
- There is no set age limit, however the shooter must be physically able to safely hold, aim and fire a smallbore (.22 caliber) rifle. All shooting will occur from a prone supported or unsupported position based on the shooters ability to safely handle the rifle.
  - The shooter must be mature enough to listen to and follow range instructions exactly and in a timely manner.
  - Generally speaking 8-10 years of age is the youngest shooter that will meet these requirements. That said we have children as young as 4 on the line.
  - We will at times expose children to other shooting disciplines including muzzle loaders, handguns, shotguns and large bore rifles. Children are encouraged to shoot whatever they are comfortable with, but are NEVER required to shoot anything you or they are not ready for.
- The parent/guardian of the shooter must assist with maintaining behavior and attitude that promotes safety, respect for the coaches and other shooters and a positive learning environment.
- We understand that not every shooter will be able to make every meet, however your child may be dropped if his/her absences are excessive. There are limited funds and even more limited ammunition available and we want to use them to the greatest benefit possible. Our coaches and safety officers are all volunteers; if you know that you will be unable to attend please be respectful of our volunteers time and call the range office to inform us as soon as possible.

## SCHEDULE

Meets are scheduled on the second Saturday of the month. The meet will begin at 08:00 and end at 12:00. Please be on time so that we can get the kids on the line and be done in time to have them off the line in time for lunch.

## EQUIPMENT

Folsom Shooting Club will provide rifles, ammunition, targets, rests and safety gear for all shooters. There is no need for you to purchase any of this equipment, but you are welcome to do so. There are some items that you may wish to provide yourself.

You may bring your own rifle as long as it is modern, in safe operating condition; specifically chambered for .22 Long Rifle and you are familiar with its operation. Single shot and bolt action rifles are preferred. If you will be bringing a semiautomatic rifle you should also plan on supplying a brass catcher so that the neighboring shooter will not suffer brass burns.

.22 magnum and other rim fire calibers are not permitted. Only .22 Long Rifle ammunition will be permitted on the firing line.

Eye and ear protection is required for everyone on the range. There are loaner safety glasses and hearing protection available. Each shooter may want to purchase his/her own safety gear. This will ensure that the fit and comfort is best for the shooter, and it is more hygienic. Inexpensive foam ear plugs can be purchased from any online shooting supplier, home improvement stores, or the range office depending on availability. Earmuff type protection can sometimes be ill fitting on smaller shooters, but it is generally better tolerated.

Clothing should be appropriate to the weather. Closed toe shoes with good support suitable for use on uneven, rocky ground are suggested. Loose/deep cut collars are brass magnets and newly fired brass is HOT. We will be shooting under shade covers, but hats and sunscreen are still a good idea as some activities are in full sun.

Drinks and snacks are available in the range office, but bring plenty of extra water to drink especially in the hot summer months. Camp chairs are a good idea as seat space may be limited if we have a full range. It is good to have a small cooler to keep your snacks and maybe a lunch close by. There are some tables and chairs by our private pond that may be used for after meet picnic lunches. The nearest restaurants are in Rancho Murrieta or Lone, either are about 15 minutes away from the range.

## AWARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS

The Winchester/NRA Marksmanship Qualification program will be used. The program allows for shooters of any age and experience to advance their skill in a self-paced manner. As your child achieves higher rankings the courses of fire will become progressively more difficult. By the time your child achieves the nationally recognized Distinguished Expert rating he/she will have developed the skill paralleling that of a competitively classified Sharpshooter.

All awards and ratings are earned by your child. Performance is measured against par scores. Any shooter that meets or exceeds those scores will have earned that rating. Certificates and patches will be given for each rating attained. Your child is shooting and competing against themselves. There may be

some novelty shoots that will use teams to keep things interesting; however these will not count towards ratings achievement.

## SIGN UP AND YOUTH SKILL SURVEY

This program is open to children of any experience level. We would like to know a little bit about your child so that we will be better prepared to provide him or her the safest, best possible experience. We are requesting information about you and your child that will be used solely by and for the youth shooting program staff. Contact information will help us in case we need to mail your child's awards, contact you in case of a meet cancellation, or for other similar purposes.

Please provide the following information. You may either print this page out and mail it to the range or email it to Jim Bass, [smallbore@sacvalley.org](mailto:smallbore@sacvalley.org). The range postal address is PO Box 1407 Sloughouse, CA 95683.

Parent/Guardian Name

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Child(ren) Name(s)

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Address

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Phone Number

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Email Address

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Emergency Contact Name

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Emergency Contact Phone

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Will you provide your own rifle for your child to use?

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