



ARCHERY

2024



**4-H SAFE ALABAMA
STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

ALABAMA EXTENSION





2024 INTRODUCTION & GENERAL RULES

2024 Championship Schedule

April 13: Archery

April 26–28: Shotgun

June 23–28: National 4-H Championships

State 4-H Shooting Sports (SAFE) Program

Specific Matches Information

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Introduction

Applies to all 2024 championship events unless otherwise noted in specific rules

The 4-H Shooting Sports Project is designed to teach life skills and encourage essential elements of belonging, independence, generosity, and mastery through experiential learning. 4-H Shooting Sports competitive events are conducted for the purpose of positive youth development and education.

Competition is but one way to celebrate the 4-H experience and should not be the main objective of any 4-H activity. 4-H coaches are expected to value, teach, promote, and demonstrate safety and education above awards, recognition, and winning.

Alabama 4-H complies with the National 4-H No Repeat Rule. Once a youth demonstrates mastery of a project by attending its terminal event, he or she may not return as a competitor in that event but is welcome to explore a new project or activity.

Conduct

(from National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships rules. Applicable to all 4-H state and national Shooting Sports programs)

- Tobacco and alcohol: The use of tobacco/nicotine products and alcoholic beverages by minors at any 4-H event is not permitted. Violation of this policy is grounds for disqualification and dismissal from the 4-H event. Adults may not use tobacco in the presence of youth, and alcohol is strictly forbidden.
- Footwear: All participants are required to wear shoes that completely cover their feet while on the shooting line or when shooting in any 4-H event. Examples of unacceptable footwear include, but are not limited to, flip-flops, sandals, clogs, and bare feet.
- Behavior and sportsmanship: All participants, coaches, and spectators are expected to demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship, supporting the objectives and ideals promoted by the 4-H program in general and the 4-H Shooting Sports program in particular. Coaches, youth, Extension staff, and spectators are expected to conform, as applicable, to the 4-H youth state code of conduct, Alabama 4-H volunteer behavioral guidelines, volunteer agreements, and the national 4-H Shooting Sports program code of conduct.
- Knowledge of rules and procedures: Where possible, Alabama SAFE events are associated with the appropriate national governing body (NGB). Exceptions to any NGB rule are noted in the synopsis of that particular championship. It is the responsibility of each coach and participant to read the championship rules, understand the procedures used in each event, and comply with the rules and standards of each event. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to seek clarification. Ignorance of the rules does not eliminate the existence of the rules. Learning the rules of an event is part of the educational process for 4-H members.

2024 4-H SAFE Championships

Senior first-place teams with corresponding National 4-H Championship events may have the option to represent Alabama 4-H.

- Archery: Saturday, April 13, 4-H Center, 892 4-H Road, Columbiana, Alabama
- Shotgun: Friday, April 26 to Sunday, April 28, Selwood Farm, Alpine, Alabama, and Red Eagle Skeet & Trap Club, Childersburg, Alabama

4-H SAFE Opportunities

2024 National 4-H Championships: June 23–28, Grand Island, Nebraska. All disciplines (shotgun, archery) except Western Heritage. Participants attend at invitation of state 4-H office based on championship results. Youth and coaches must be outstanding ambassadors for Alabama 4-H at the local and state levels and observe code of conduct and adult behavioral guidelines to maintain eligibility to represent Alabama 4-H. Details are available at <https://4h.unl.edu/shooting-sports/national>.



General Rules

Applies to all 2024 championship events unless otherwise noted in specific rules

Registration

All 2024 SAFE championships, including state-level postal matches, must register through 4HOnline. Registration fees are nonrefundable at match director's discretion. Each championship registration opens approximately 6 to 8 weeks before and closes no earlier than 3 weeks before the date of the championship.

At least one coach from each team must register through 4HOnline. This will be the contact person concerning the specifics for the matches.

Cost

Cost varies per discipline and includes participant fees and an event t-shirt. Late registrants are not guaranteed a shirt.

Eligibility

4-H events are open to active members of a chartered Alabama 4-H club that has experiential learning in regularly scheduled and planned meetings. For the state championships, membership must be in a discipline-specific 4-H club. Participation is limited to members who are enrolled in the 4-H program and have been a member for a minimum of 90 days. Enrollment dates are verified through 4HOnline. The Alabama 4-H club year begins on August 1 and ends on July 31. Age eligibility is determined by how old the youth is before January 1 of the Alabama 4-H club year. Check www.aces.edu/blog/topics/about-4-h/alabama-4-h-eligibility/ to determine the division for 4-H membership. Seniors are participants born from 2003 to 2007. Juniors are participants born from 2008 to 2012.

Teams

Teams consist of a minimum of three and a maximum of four or five participants from the same age division, based on the event of participation. Juniors are 9 to 13 as of January 1, 2023. Seniors are 14 to 18 as of January 1, 2023. Counties may bring more than one junior and senior team as long as they are from separate clubs. To qualify as separate clubs, the clubs must meet and practice at different times, in different places, and be led by different volunteers or coaches.

The top scores determine the team as indicated in the discipline's rules. A 4-H'er may decide not to compete for team awards and only participate individually. This must be determined at on-site check-in.

Any individual who participates in the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships may not participate in that discipline at the State 4-H Championships in subsequent years.

Individuals

Individuals may participate in all State 4-H SAFE Championships as long as they meet the eligibility rules.

If the winning senior team chooses not to attend the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships, the age-eligible members of that team may compete in that discipline's State 4-H SAFE Championships in the future.

2024 National 4-H Shooting Sports National Competitive Championships

June 23–28, 2024. Limited funding up to \$2,000 is provided by the state 4-H office for teams who opt to go. Winning teams are responsible for the balance of their expenses and encouraged to engage in fundraising. Funds raised in the name of 4-H can be used only for the 4-H team members and one designated coach per team. Per 4-H policy, all fundraisers must be approved by the Extension coordinator of the county in which the team is located. Funds must not be solicited outside the county without permission of that county's Extension coordinator.

Safety

All competitors, coaches, and spectators (including small children) must wear eye and ear protection when forward of the ready line. No eye or ear protection is required for archery, only finger protection. Any individual may be asked to leave the range at the request of the match director, state 4-H SAFE program coordinator, that team's coach, or range officers for exhibiting unsafe actions, attitudes, or behaviors. All decisions are final and not subject to protest. This removal is a disqualification.

No unauthorized electronic devices are allowed on the competition ranges. Use may result in immediate disqualification.

Coaching

Once a team has entered the range or field for competition, only team members, range officers, and scorers/judges are allowed on the range. Range officers are appointed by the match directors. Coaches must remain behind the range. No one, including coaches and spectators, can coach, advise, or assist participants once competition has begun, unless rules otherwise allow. Unauthorized coaching from behind the range can result in disqualification. Coaches must ensure that their competitors are familiar with the range, range procedures, and championship rules. Ignorance of range procedures or championship rules is not a basis for protest.

Awards

First-, second-, and third-place team awards are given in each age division. Individual awards are given to the first-, second-, and third-place finishers in each class and age division. Awards are announced at the end of the respective championships.

Code of Conduct

All participants are expected to follow the 4-H Code of Conduct.

Dress Code

All participants are expected to follow the 4-H dress code.

Protests/Challenges

Only 4-H competitors are allowed to protest/challenge their targets. All protest/challenge monies not returned go to the state 4-H SAFE program. Protest fees vary by championship and are listed in the specific championship rules.

2024 Postal Matches

If a team or individual has a compelling reason why they cannot attend a respective discipline's state championship at the designated venue on the designated dates, team members can shoot what is called a postal match. A postal match is a means by which the scores of absentee 4-H archery teams or individuals may be emailed in and counted toward state 4-H championships. All postal match participants and one coach must register for the event through 4HOnline. All eligibility rules apply to postal matches. Shotgun is excluded from postal match participation.

Team members or individuals shoot rounds, strictly following the 4-H rules, under the supervision of an adult range owner or officer who has no affiliation with the 4-H club (cannot be a relative, close friend, or the 4-Her's coach). Teams must submit requests for postal match participation in writing, by email, to the state 4-H SAFE program coordinator and appropriate discipline lead for the particular championship 45 days before the date of the event. Submission must be completed by the relevant 4-H Foundation regional Extension agent and contain the following information:

1. Subject line: Postal Match Request
2. Reason for not attending respective discipline championship
3. Date and location of postal match
4. Name and contact information of unbiased third-party scorekeeper

The person requesting a postal match receives permission or denial by email within 7 business days after the request is made. More information may be requested so that an informed decision can be made concerning participation.

Teams or individuals who opt for a postal match in lieu of attending a State 4-H SAFE Championship are responsible for their own target, ammo, and range fees. The fee to submit scores is double the registration fee per person for that championship.

Postal Match Rules

- Each discipline postal match strictly follows the course of fire for that discipline. For scores to count as team scores, all members must shoot together at the same time and location.
- Postal match scores must be supervised and certified by an unbiased third-party scorekeeper. The team's 4-H coach and anyone associated with the team is not approved to certify postal match scores.
- The scorekeeper must be approved in advance by the state coordinator and discipline lead. Scores must be recorded on standard scorecards, which are provided. The scorekeeper must legibly sign each submitted scorecard and include the following information:
 - name
 - address
 - phone
 - email
 - date of postal match
 - start and end times of postal match
 - location of postal match
- In the event of a tie between an on-site team or individual and a postal match team, the on-site participants have preference over postal match entries.
- Postal match scores must be submitted by email to the state 4-H SAFE program coordinator and respective championship discipline lead 2 weeks before the date of the respective championship. Include the subject line: Postal Match Scores.



Archery

2024 State 4-H SAFE Championship

Match Contacts

Sarah Butterworth, Archery Discipline Lead/Match Director, sfb0010@aces.edu, (334) 703-6777

Refer to additional information in the Competitive Events Introductions and General Championship Rules.

Date

Saturday, April 13, 2024

Time

8:00 a.m. (on-site check-in from 8:00 to 8:45 a.m.)

Location

Alabama 4-H Center, 892 Four H Road, Columbiana, Alabama 35051

Age Divisions

Juniors 9 to 13 (as of January 1, 2024)

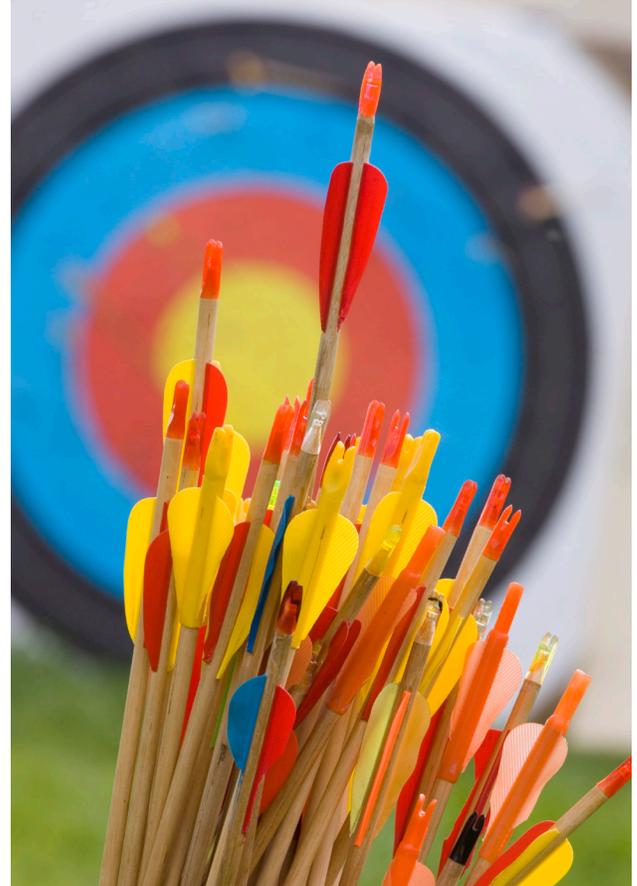
Seniors 14 to 18 (as of January 1, 2024)

FITA Competitive Classes

- Junior Compound without sights (10 and 20 meters)
- Junior Recurve without sights (10 and 20 meters)
- Senior Recurve without sights (10 and 20 meters)
- Senior Compound without sights (10 and 20 meters)
- Junior Compound with sights (10 and 20 meters)
- Junior Recurve with sights (10 and 20 meters)
- Senior Recurve with sights (40, 50, and 60 meters)
- Senior Compound with sights (40, 50, and 60 meters)

3-D Competitive Classes

- Junior Compound without sights (shots from 5 to 25 yards)
- Junior Recurve without sights (shots from 5 to 25 yards)
- Senior Recurve without sights (shots from 5 to 25 yards)



- Senior Compound without sights (shots from 5 to 25 yards)
- Junior Compound with sights (shots from 5 to 25 yards)
- Junior Recurve with sights (shots from 5 to 25 yards)
- Senior Recurve with sights (shots from 5 to 40 yards)
- Senior Compound with sights (shots from 5 to 40 yards)

Cost

\$30 per shooter includes one FITA and one 3-D class (nonrefundable)

Awards are given for FITA classes and 3-D classes separately plus overall. Teams must participate in both FITA and 3-D competitions to be eligible for the national event.

Registration

All teams and individuals must register through v2.4honline.com. Registration opens by February 13 and closes March 28. Please read all rules.

Safety

Bows may be drawn only on approved ranges with permission of a designated range officer. Sky-drawing is not permitted on the firing line. It is the responsibility of the 4-H'er to know the rules and abide by them. Learning the rules of the event is part of the educational process for 4-H Shooting Sports.

There is a mandatory safety meeting with all participants on the shooting field 15 minutes before each flight begins.

Match Equipment

Teams and individuals must furnish all their own equipment. All equipment is inspected at check-in. All questions must be asked to the match directors. Participants should bring 8 arrows to equipment check-in. It is desirable that shooters not share equipment. If sharing is necessary, indicate this at on-site registration. Archers should mark their arrows so they can be identified quickly.

- Arrows: For compound bows with sights, arrows up to 27/64 can be used. Arrows must meet AMO minimum weight standard of 5 grains arrow weight per pound of peak bow draw weight.
- Bows: For bows without sights, Easton 1820 arrows can be used. Bows must be 60 pounds or less in draw weight.
 - Recurve bows: Kisser buttons, clickers, adjustable sight pins, and multiple hunting-style sight pins may be used. String peeps, mechanical release aids, and torque compensators cannot be used.
 - Compound bows with sights: Release aids, optical sights, clarifiers, or spirit levels are permitted. Overdraws may not place the arrow rest farther than 6 centimeters from the pivot point of the bow. Battery lights on sight aids can be used. No sight aid with a built-in range finder is allowed.
 - Compound bows without sights should be unmodified Original Genesis bows or similar. Prior approval can be requested from the match director to use bows other than Genesis.
 - All archers must have finger protection either on the bow string or on their fingers unless using a mechanical release aid. All shooters must use ground quivers (provided) during the FITA competition. All shooters must have a side or hip quiver during the 3-D competition.
 - Binoculars are allowed on the 3-D course. The presence or use of range finders by youth/parents/spectators at the 3-D course results in immediate disqualification for any individual involved.
 - Youth are not allowed to have a cell phone on the range or while waiting during the 3-D round. Any youth seen with one is disqualified. Parents are allowed to have cellular devices but must keep them on silent or vibrate. Only in emergency situations may they be used in the immediate vicinity of the competitive ranges during active competition.

Replacement of Equipment

A 4-H coach may provide replacement or additional equipment as needed after obtaining permission from the match director. Coaches may be requested to assist a 4-H'er with a situation on the firing line by the match director. Twenty minutes are given for equipment failure. A 4-H shooter is allowed to shoot all shots after the equipment is fixed.

Range Commands

Control over the range is through whistle commands.

- Two whistle blasts: Archers to the shooting line. Shooters should not touch arrows.
- One whistle blast: Begin shooting.
- Three whistle blasts: Walk forward to score and retrieve your arrows.
- Four or more whistle blasts: Stop shooting immediately and put your arrows in your quiver.

FITA Target & Course of Fire

80 centimeter faces, 5 colors

- Juniors without and with sights: 6 ends of 3 arrows from 10 and 20 meters (36 arrows)
- Seniors without sights: 6 ends of 3 arrows from 10 and 20 meters (36 arrows)
- Seniors with sights: 3 ends of 6 arrows from 60, 50, and 40 meters (54 arrows)

Shooters have a total of 4 minutes to shoot six arrows and 2 minutes to shoot three arrows. Archers are scored by other youth in their group. Adult volunteers oversee scoring and help only when requested by 4-H'ers. Any disagreement in scoring must be settled by the range official before the arrow is pulled. Shooters must sign their scorecard at the end of the match before leaving the range.

3-D Target & Course of Fire

- Junior and senior without sights and junior with sights: 10 to 20 targets; shots from 5 to 25 yards
- Junior with sights: 10 to 20 targets; shots from 5 to 25 yards
- Senior with sights: 10 to 20 targets; shots from 5 to 40 yards

Three to five youth are assigned to a group for the 3-D round. They proceed to rotate as a group through all ten to twenty targets in the round. The amount of targets are determined after registration. Each archer in the group is allowed to shoot one arrow per target. All shots made are at an unknown distance. The maximum distance is based on the age of the youth (junior or senior) and the type of bow (compound with sights, compound without sights, and recurve).

Scoring

- +11 points (center circle inside 10 ring); +10 points (10 ring); +8 points (8 ring); +5 points (any body part shot outside the 8 ring); X (misses, glancing shots, not touching body color [hitting horns, rocks, logs, etc.; hooves considered body color])
- Ties are broken by the highest number of 11s, then 10s, 8s, etc.
- Bounce-outs are scored as an X (no points). The youth is not allowed to shoot the arrow again.
- Archers are scored by other youth in their assigned groups. All arrows are to be scored within the group before any arrows are pulled. An arrow cannot be scored once it is pulled.
- Any disagreement in scoring is settled by the range official before the arrow is pulled.
- If an arrow is robin-hooded, both arrows are scored and receive the same amount of points.

Required Score Volunteers

Every team must have a minimum of one adult per four archers to assist with scoring. All adults helping with scoring are required to stay the entire match. No adult is allowed to score a participant from their own county. No coaching or talking by parents and coaches to youth is allowed during the match. No parent, coach, or other spectator is to be on the range during the match. No one is to go down range to take a picture during shooting.

Protests

All protests must be made to the state 4-H archery discipline lead with a \$10 (cash only) protest fee (potentially refundable). Protests must be made by 4-H youth for committee review. Protest forms are available on-site.

Directions

From Birmingham/I-65

Take I-65 South to Exit 238 (Alabaster-Columbiana). Turn left onto Hwy. 31. Go 6.3 miles to Hwy. 70 and turn left. Follow Hwy. 70 to Columbiana. Go through two traffic lights. Travel 0.3 mile past the second light and take the right fork by Shelby County High School onto Shelby County Hwy. 28. Follow Hwy. 28 for 4.8 miles to Hwy. 145. Go straight across Hwy. 145 for 1.7 miles and turn left at 4-H sign. Follow this road to the lodge.

From Birmingham/Hwy. 280

Take Hwy. 280 to Chelsea, turning right onto Hwy. 47. Go 12.8 miles to Columbiana. Go straight through traffic light into downtown Columbiana. At the next traffic light in the center of town, turn left. Travel 0.3 mile and take the right fork by Shelby County High School onto Shelby County Hwy. 28. Follow Hwy. 28 for 4.8 miles to Hwy. 145. Go straight across Hwy. 145 for 1.7 miles and turn left at 4-H sign. Follow this road to the lodge.

From Montgomery

Take I-65 North toward Birmingham. Get off at Exit 212 (Clanton-Lay Dam) turning right onto Hwy. 145. Go 20.6 miles and turn right onto Shelby County Hwy. 28. Go 1.7 miles and turn left at 4-H sign. Follow this road to the lodge.

From Atlanta

Take I-20 West toward Birmingham. Take exit 158 at Pell City, Alabama, on Hwy. 231 South. From Pell City go straight through Vincent and Harpersville to Wilsonville. (Note: Hwy. 231 changes to Hwy. 25.) In Wilsonville, turn left at the traffic light onto Hwy. 61 South. Travel 2.7 miles to Hwy. 145. Hwy. 145 forks to the left. Travel 3.1 miles on Hwy. 145 to Hwy. 28. Turn left onto Hwy. 28. Go 1.7 miles and turn left at 4-H sign. Follow this road to the lodge.

From Auburn

Take Hwy. 280 to Childersburg. Go over river bridge outside Childersburg and turn left onto Hwy. 76. Follow Hwy. 76 for 5 miles to Hwy. 25. Turn left onto Hwy. 25 and travel 4.4 miles to Wilsonville. Follow directions above from Wilsonville to the 4-H Center.

From Tuscaloosa

Take I-459 from Tuscaloosa to Birmingham. Take I-65 South off I-459. Travel on I-65 South to Exit 238 (Alabaster-Columbiana). Follow directions above from Birmingham/I-65 to 4-H Center.

Lodging

There are multiple lodging options within driving distance of the 4-H Center. The Alabama 4-H Center also has hotel rooms and cabins. For information call (205) 669-4241.



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