
Air Rifle Project



The air rifle discipline is a good fit for youth wanting to continue in shooting sports, but who are maturing past competitive BB gun age. Air Rifle is divided into two divisions: sporter and precision.

Sporter air rifle is unique in that it utilizes lower priced rifles without all the physical adjustments available on a precision air rifle. The majority of the sporter air rifles used by club members are Air Arms Model or Champion's Choice T200, but other air rifles fall into this division, such as the Air Force Edge and Crosman Challenger. These are top of the line sporter air rifles utilizing compressed air. In the sporter air rifle class, the shooter cannot wear any special shooting clothing other than a shooting glove. Much of the equipment used in the BB gun project, can continue to be used in the air rifle project.

Precision air rifle is the next step beyond sporter air rifle. If you have watched Olympic air rifle competition, you have seen precision air rifles. Precision air rifle is just as it sounds. The rifle costs upwards of \$1500 to \$3000 and has many adjustments available to the shooter to precisely fit the gun to the shooter in an attempt to make the perfect or "precision" shot. Shooters also wear shooting coats, pants, shoes, etc.

Montgomery County 4-H Shooting Sports (MC4HSS) has primarily a sporter air rifle project. Members can enter competitions as individuals if there aren't enough team members attending a match. Many air rifle matches require the family to travel. MC4HSS air rifle members (both sporter and precision) typically compete in upwards of three matches per year and have the option to attend specialized air rifle junior summer camps for high school aged youth hosted by the Civilian Marksmanship Program. Some shooters who wish to advance to collegiate level competition with eventually an eye on possible Olympic glory have moved on to the precision air rifle discipline. Both divisions shoot the same ammunition and shoot at the same type of targets. They also shoot from the same positions: prone, standing and kneeling.

