

The American Legion, Department of Missouri

Appendix _____

March 4, 2018

American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program

1. **PURPOSE:** To establish and govern the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program for the Department of Missouri.
 - a. To provide a gun safety education and marksmanship program that encompasses the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment and competition.
 - b. Shooters will use the .177 caliber air rifle.
 - c. Both males and females may participate, through Legion sponsorship.
 - d. Disabled youth are encouraged to join, as competitive shooting is a sport that creates an equal playing field for all competitors.
 - e. To provide education on management and operations of target shooting ranges and competitions.
 - f. To promote the concepts of hunting and conservation.
 - g. To develop leadership, loyalty, cooperation, and good sportsmanship essential to good citizenship.
2. **SCOPE:** This SOP applies to the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program (JSSP), and should be used as necessary when performing the functions of this program. The Chairman of the JSSP is responsible for maintaining and up-dating this SOP when needed.
3. **AUTHORITY:** The American Legion, Department of Missouri
4. **REFERENCES:**

As listed.
5. **MEMBERSHIP:**
 - a. The Junior Shooting Sports Program has a base membership of six (6) members including the chairman. As Districts add the JSSP to their activities, membership will be expanded to include a District representative for each District that has a Post Junior Shooting Sports Program.
 - b. Members of the committee are appointed by the Department Commander, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee (DEC), to serve three (3) year terms with and minimum two of member's appointments expiring each year.
 - c. The Department Commander shall recommend to the DEC one member to serve as Committee Chairman. This recommendation may be based on an election of a chairmen by the District Representatives and shall be for a term of three (3) years.

- d. Each year, the Department Commander may recommend to the DEC either the reappointment of committee member(s) whose membership(s) is expiring, or the appointment of a new committee member(s) to replace a member(s) whose membership is expiring.
- e. All participants of this program shall have an annual background check conducted through the American Legion Department of Missouri.

6. MEETINGS:

- a. Department Convention
 - 1. To conduct the State Tournament Match at a location near the site of the State Convention.
 - 2. All competitors participating in the State Tournament Match come to the Convention for the JSSP Awards presentations based on the State competition.
 - 3. The MO State Highway Patrol may work with you and allow the competition to take place at their ranges. This is where our past state competition were held.
- b. Department Spring Conference. (This is an open meeting to all Legionnaires)
 - a. The Chair calls a meeting to discuss any changes to the JSSP, conduct training open to all Legionnaires, and to insure that the JSSP materials are current or to discuss changes to them.
 - b.
- c. Department Fall Conference. (This is an open meeting to all Legionnaires)
 - a. The Chair calls a meeting to discuss any changes to the JSSP, conduct training open to all Legionnaires, and to insure that the JSSP materials are current or to discuss changes to them.
- d. Other meetings may be called by the Chair. At these meetings, One-third of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

7. PROCEDURES:

- a. Responsibilities of the Chairman
 - a. The Chair will conduct all meetings in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order."
 - b. The Chair is responsible for maintaining this SOP to reflect any and all changes and guidance needed.
 - c. The Chair will insure the committee provides updated guidance to the Districts so the Post Junior Shooting Programs may compete in regional, state and national competitions.
 - d. The Chair will work with the committee to set all competition/tournament dates and sites for State Championship Matches.
 - e. The Chair is responsible for insuring that all JSSP teams are notified in sufficient time as to when State Competition Matches are to be held.

- f. The Chair will maintain a list of sites appropriate for use in State Tournament Matches.
- g. The Chair is responsible for coordinating with a site to be used for the State Tournament Matches.
 - 1. Matches include State Championship Individual and Team Tournament Postal Matches.
 - 2. State Championship Matches will be the Junior Shooting Sports Official Match Program (OMP) for the year of competition.
- h. The Chair will order the awards to be awarded at the State Convention.
- i. The Chair writes and submits to the Department Adjutant, an article pertaining to the JSSP, for publication in each issue of the "Missouri Legionnaire."
- j. Other duties as required.

b. **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.**

- a. District representatives of the JSSP are recommended to the Department Commander by the District Commander.
- b. District representatives will provide information on Postal Matches in the District and provide a schedule of the State Championship Tournament Matches.
- c. District representatives will insure competitors in the District and State Postal Matches meet eligibility requirements as stated in the OMP for the current competition year.
 - 1. A Postal Match is a match in which competitor's fire on their home ranges using targets which have been marked for identification.
 - 2. The fired targets are then sent to the American Legion for scoring and ranking for awards. Postal Matches may include Individual and Team Tournaments.
- d. District representatives may check credentials of Coaches of the JSSP. See section on Shooting Sports Coach Development.
- e. District representatives may sponsor Coaching Clinics and Coaching Certification Programs.
- f. Other duties assigned or required.

8. LOCAL JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAMS.

- a. May be managed by the local American Legion Post, Sons of the American Legion Squadron or the local Auxiliary Unit.
- b. Coach certification is the responsibility of the local Junior Shooting Sports Program administrators.
- c. The local JSSP administrators will maintain all records to include:
 - a. The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Junior Membership Application (See page 3 of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Adult Leader Manual)
 - b. The American Legion JSSP Medical History Questionnaire (See page 4 of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Adult Leader Manual).

- c. The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Liability and Medical Release (See page 6 of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Adult Leader Manual) and a copy of a Birth Certificate for each participant.
- d. The local JSSP is responsible for the creation and maintenance of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Junior Club By-Laws (See example, page 7 of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Adult Leader Manual)
- e. The local Legion post, Sons of the American Legion squadron or Auxiliary unit is responsible for publicity.
- f. The local Legion post, Sons of the American Legion squadron or Auxiliary unit is responsible for ordering Junior Shooting Sports Program publications and products from The American Legion's National Emblem Sales.
- g. The local Legion post, Sons of the American Legion squadron or Auxiliary unit is responsible for insuring the organization has proper liability coverage (See page 19 of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Adult Leader Manual).
- h. The local Legion post, Sons of the American Legion squadron, Auxiliary unit is responsible for obtaining equipment and selection facilities.
- i. The local Legion post, Sons of the American Legion squadron, Auxiliary unit is responsible for all transportation to and from all District and State Matches that the local Junior Shooting Sports Program member qualifies in.

9. COACHES:

- a. Are responsible for the day-to-day operation of The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Junior Club to include:
 - a. Local training programs
 - b. Training schedules
 - c. Local matches
 - d. Member standings
 - e. Maintenance of all current club records unless so stated in The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Junior Club By-Laws.
Coaches are responsible for their own certification through one of the following (See Appendix B for descriptions):
 - f. The NRA Coach Education Program
 - g. Civilian Marksmanship Program
 - h. American Sports Education Program
 - i. Other Certified Coaching Programs
- b. Are responsible for maintenance of all equipment and facilities.
- c. Will insure that eligibility and supervisor training programs for Junior Shooting Sports Program Club members is conducted.
- d. Are responsible for conducting the Basic Marksmanship Course (BMC) as the fundamentals of marksmanship training for all American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Junior Club members. (see The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Adult Leader Manual section, The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program Basic Marksmanship Course).
- e. May recruit assistant coaches.

Appendix B

SHOOTING SPORTS COACH DEVELOPMENT/CERTIFICATION:

Coaches at all levels of the Junior Shooting Sports Program are responsible for their own certification through one of the following:

- a. The NRA Coach Education Program
- b. Civilian Marksmanship Program
- c. American Sports Education Program
- d. Other Certified Coaching Programs

A. The NRA Coach Education Program offers multi-level training for coaches of the competitive shooting sports in partnership with USA Shooting, the Civilian Marksmanship Program, the Amateur Trapshooting Association, the National Skeet Shooting Association and the National Sporting Clays Association. Separate coach training courses are available for rifle, shotgun, pistol and high-power rifle.

b. The NRA Coach Education Program trains individuals to coach shooting athletes from beginner to advanced levels. Beginning shooters need a good fundamental background in the skills required to participate in competitive shooting sports. Advanced shooters require assistance with training and techniques, along with a continuous reinforcement of the fundamentals, to perform at a higher level. The Level 1 coach school is two days of sports-specific lessons and practical coaching exercises designed to reach the coach candidate the basics of coaching beginning and intermediate shooters. The following general subjects are taught:

1. Introduction to the Coaching Program
2. Safety and Risk Management
3. Competition Events
4. Rulebook use and shooting etiquette
5. Equipment and Facilities
6. Fundamentals of Shooting
7. Coaching Ethics
8. Coaching Methodology
9. Mental Training
10. Training Planning
11. Building Quality Programs
12. How to Conduct Tournaments

- a. **Junior Trainer:** The Junior Trainer provides support to the coach, helping younger shooters learn safety and helps the coach at team activities. The Junior Trainer is recognized only to work under the direct supervision of a Coach (Level 1), Certified Coach (Level 2), or Advanced Certified Coach (Level 3). This level of the NRA Coach Education Program is designed for young people, age 15-17, who show leadership in shooting programs. The junior Trainer must successfully complete the discipline-specific Level 1 Coach School and obtain the recommendations of a parent and a coach.

- b. **Coach (Level 1):** The Coach (Level 1) is the entry level for all NRA coaches and are trained to coach beginning and intermediate shooters. The Level 1 Coach candidate must be at least 18 years old and successfully complete the discipline-specific Level 1 Coach School. The Level 1 Coach is trained to coach beginning and intermediate athletes in a two-day school consisting of both classroom instruction and on-the-range practical coaching exercises. Those desiring to attain a Level 2 or Level 3 Coach credential must become a Level 1 Coach and complete specific additional training.
 - c. **Certified Coach (Level 2):** The Certified Coach (Level 2) is certified by the NRA and its coach education partners and meets the additional education and experience requirements that have been established for certification. The Certified Coach is recognized to coach at the national level.
 - d. **Advanced Certified Coach (Level 3):** The Advanced Certified Coach (Level 3) is the highest level coach certified by the NRA and its coach education partners. The coach has received advanced training and meets the highest requirements that the NRA and its coach education partners have established for certification. The Advanced Certified Coach Level 3) is recognized to coach advanced athletes and is eligible to work at the international level in Junior Olympic Shooting Camps and other USA Shooting sponsored international shooting programs.
- B. The American Sport Education Program (ASEP) helps improve the sport experience for youths by providing the highest quality development courses for coaches, administrators and parents to positively influence amateur sports, resulting in safer, more enjoyable and valuable sport experience for all young athletes. This program challenges them to consider a healthier, athlete-centered philosophy and then provides the necessary tools to help put that philosophy work in their local sports programs. Many secondary school systems in the United States require ASEP certification for their athletic team coaches. We encourage all coaches or prospective coaches to begin the ASEP program as soon as possible. A Level 1 credential is not necessary to begin the online ASEP course.
- f. Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Rifle marksmanship clinics are offered by CMP-affiliated organizations so individuals in their areas can fulfill the CMP marksmanship participation requirements to be eligible to purchase CMP rifles, to prepare clinic participants for target shooting events like Garand, Springfield Vintage Military Rifle and Rimfire Sporter Matches to introduce new shooters to high-power service rifle competition. Many of these clinics, in fact, are called “Garand Clinics.” These local or club clinics provide firearm safety training and an introduction to target and range firing. The CMP sanctions these clinics when sponsoring clubs submit an application and a \$20.00 sanctioning fee.