

**NRA YOUTH
SHOOTING
DEVELOPMENT
SEMINAR**

HANDBOOK FOR INSTRUCTOR



(Slide 1) The World of Shooting Sports

Speaker: I would like to welcome each of you to the NRA Youth Shooting Development Seminar. My name is _____ . This is _____. I'm (We are) here today because I (We) are concerned about the future of our shooting sports -- just like you!

I (We) will serve as the moderator of today's program, however, the success of this seminar will depend on your involvement and enthusiasm!

I (We) encourage you all -- at any time -- to stop me (us) and ask questions or make suggestions. We will take breaks throughout the day, and of course serve you lunch.

(Slide 2) Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program

(Distribute Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program booklet to each attendee.)

Speaker: The "Developing your Youth Shooting Sports Program" booklet I'm handing out is the basis of how this program evolved and will serve as a guide for today's seminar and can be used for years to come.

Throughout the day, we will be completing exercises found in the book. These simple exercises -- when completed -- will provide you with the knowledge, skills and attitude to either create a new youth shooting program, or strengthen an already-existing one.

(Slide 3) Why offer a Youth Program?

Speaker: *Young people are the future of the shooting sports.*

By fostering an interest in shooting among our children, we help to sustain our sporting traditions for future generations. In 1999 there were over 15 million hunting licenses sold in the United States. Folks, these hunters learned to *shoot* long before they became hunters. Programs such as this are critical to help ensure a large "crop" of future hunters.

Not only do youth shooting sports programs teach life skills such as responsibility and self-discipline through shooting, but they also educate our nation's future leaders about shooting sports traditions and the importance of our Second Amendment heritage.

(Slide 4) Benefits of the Shooting Sports

Speaker: *Shooting is a skill sport.* Shooting safely and accurately takes practice. Skill is attained by mastering the fundamentals and techniques. Shooting tests how well one can control his or her own body in using a firearm to hit a target. As a matter of fact, it takes a lot of skill to hit a target the size of a dime from half a football field away or hit a clay target flying past you at 50 miles per hour!

- *Shooting enhances life skills that are very valuable in other facets of life.* Learning to be a safe shooter teaches responsibility. Learning to hit a difficult target teaches discipline and self-control. Learning to hold the firearm, maintain a sight picture, control breathing, and firing the shot takes concentration. Because the ultimate responsibility for performance is the shooter's alone, shooting teaches self-reliance, self-confidence and enhances self-esteem.

- ***Shooting is a safe sport.*** Shooting is safe because of the strict code of safety that all shooters follow. Safe gun handling practices are intrinsic in all forms of shooting. The firearm safety training associated with shooting is of lasting value, even if the participants do not develop an ongoing interest in the shooting sports.
- ***Shooting has no boundaries to participation.*** Practically anyone can participate in shooting because it does not place emphasis on size, gender, strength, speed, endurance or physical ability. Boys and girls of various sizes, ages and physical abilities can participate together on a relatively equal basis. No one has to sit on the sidelines and watch.
- ***Shooting is a lifetime sport.*** People of all ages participate successfully in shooting. By teaching young people the fun of shooting you provide them with a sport they can enjoy their whole life. And the rewards of shooting can be realized at any age. For instance, in the 1996 Olympics, Kim Rhode won the gold medal in Women's Double Trap at the age of 17, while Herb Hollister became the Senior National Champion at Camp Perry when he was 83 years old.
- ***SHOOTING IS FUN!*** Personal accomplishment provides a great deal of satisfaction and fulfillment. There's a special thrill in hitting a bullseye or breaking a clay target. It is a personal, individual accomplishment that begs to be attained again and again. Shooting can also be a fulfilling, team-oriented sport inspiring camaraderie, sportsmanship and teamwork.

Speaker: *Now we're going to spend a few minutes to become better acquainted with each other. We'd like each person to introduce themselves and name the club or organization you might be representing, and tell us briefly how you got started in the shooting sports.*

Personally, I became involved.. (*explain your personal story and then encourage the audience to introduce themselves and continue with their own story*)

(Slide 5) The Six Basic Elements to Running a Successful Youth Shooting Sports Program are...

(Speaker Suggestion: *call on people in the audience to read each element, then continue reading the paragraph*)

- ***A safe place to shoot.*** This is the first and one of the most essential elements. Care must be given in locating a safe, clean and well-maintained range that is convenient and affordable.
- ***Appropriate shooting equipment.*** Equipment doesn't have to be new or expensive, but it should be well maintained and appropriate for the program type and age level of the participants.
- ***Willing, capable leaders.*** A very important element. Without dedicated, committed and caring adult leaders no shooting sports program can succeed. We will discuss volunteer recruitment and retention later in the presentation.

- ***Interested young people.*** You are here today because you would like to recruit young people with an interest in the shooting sports into an organized program. Perhaps we should add one word to this need: *responsible* young people. It is up to you as the leader to recruit youngsters who not only have an interest in the shooting sports, but are also mature and responsible enough to take part in them.
- ***A program to follow*** -- Whether recreational, instructional, and/or competitive, for a shooting sports program to be successful you must determine the interests of the youth involved-not just your personal interest. It will be very difficult to start a trap-shooting program if all of your kids are interested in smallbore and vice versa. Determine the interest and let the program flow in that direction.
- ***Recognition for participants.*** Everyone enjoys being recognized for their achievements. In our increasingly competitive world, youth are no different. Elaborate and expensive forms of recognition are not a requirement however; it is more important that some form of appropriate recognition be given in a *timely manner* to promote a feeling of belonging and worth in a shooting sports program.

(Slide 6) Getting Started

Speaker: Organizing a youth shooting program takes planning and forethought. During this session, we will take some of the guesswork out of the planning process by offering information, tips and ideas.

(Slide 7) Eight Interactive Idea Sections

Speaker: The NRA will help ensure your program runs smoothly. The following sections will allow you to plan each step of your program. Once these ideas are learned, you will have a good concept of how to fully implement and plan your program.

(Slide 8) Set Your Program Goals

Speaker: Youth shooting programs should be designed to satisfy specific goals which help keep leaders and participants focused and working toward the same goal. Some examples of program goals include: **(Suggestion: have various people in the audience read the following goals)**

- Teach firearm safety and basic marksmanship
- Build marksmanship skills and earn recognition awards through the NRA's Marksmanship Qualification Program.
- Develop a successful competitive shooting team
- Offer a recreational shooting sports program
- Provide a variety of shooting sports activities
- Improve hunting knowledge and safety skills
- Use the shooting sports as a vehicle to help young people develop life skills such as discipline, sportsmanship, responsibility and leadership

(Slide 9) PRACTICAL EXERCISE

PAGE 13 - Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program booklet

PRACTICAL EXERCISE #1

Refer to **page 13** of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program* booklet. Divide the participants into small groups of 3-5. Encourage the groups to write their proposed program goal(s) in the Planning Section (allow 10 minutes). **Direct attendees to page 12 for examples.** Once completed, ask each groups to share their goal statements with their fellow participants. (allow 10-12 minutes)

(Slide 10) Determine Your Program's Focus

Speaker: Decide what type of shooting program you will offer...this will be your program's focus. The basic types of Shooting Sports programs are:

- * **Air Gun Programs**
- * **Rifle Programs**
- * **Shotgun Programs**
- * **Pistol Programs**
- * **Black Powder Programs**

(Slide 11) Determine Your Program's Focus (Cont.)

Speaker: The type of program involves several factors...

- Shooting facilities available
- Your interests, training, or experience
- Other factors include:
 - Resources
 - Equipment
 - Volunteers
 - Instructor support
 - Funding
 - The number of participants
 - Type of activities offered

(Slide 12) *Youth Air Gun Programs*

(Distribute "NRA Neighborhood Airgun Program" book)

Speaker: Perhaps the easiest shooting sports program to initiate is with air rifles. (Have participants read bullets, then continue reading the paragraph)

- **Easy and versatile to conduct.** There are a variety of qualification courses of fire, formal competitions, training support materials and fun reactive targets you can use.
- **An air gun range can be set up practically anywhere**, for instance, in a classroom, gymnasium, basement, garage, club house or in your back yard (all subject to local ordinances).

- **Air gun programs are inexpensive.** Air gun programs enable you to have an effective program with only a nominal monetary investment, either for you, your club, or the participants.

⇐(Refer **BACK TO SLIDE # 10**)

Speaker: While airgun programs can be the easiest to create, you may decide to start another form of program such as:

RIFLE PROGRAMS

Rifle programs are perhaps the most popular type of shooting sport. There are a variety of disciplines fired with rifles, such as: smallbore, high-power, and silhouette. Each of these rifle disciplines has well-established infrastructures in which you may become involved--such as marksmanship qualification courses, informal and formal competitions, championships, and of course, the basic rifle training program. Your rifle program may be recreational in nature, geared toward competitive shooting or hunting, or it may be a combination of such things.

SHOTGUN PROGRAMS

Shotgun shooting sports offer a variety of exciting, fast-paced disciplines, recreational activities, and competitive shooting opportunities, such as trap, skeet, and sporting clays. Because of the reactive nature of clay targets, participants immediately see the results of the shots they have fired. And, by using various types of clay targets (standard, mini, battue, rocket, and rabbit) and target sequences (singles, doubles, report pairs, following pairs and simultaneous pairs), various hunting scenarios can be simulated, offering exciting games or providing hunters with realistic skill-developing exercises.

PISTOL PROGRAMS

Pistol shooting programs can encompass a variety of ammunition sizes and firearm types. Pistol activities are easy to conduct, especially because the equipment needs are very minimal -- ammunition, ear and eye protection, and the pistol are all that are really needed. More accessories are available should the shooter become more serious about the sport.

From recreational plinking to formal competition, NRA has basic pistol training courses and shooting opportunities readily available to program leaders. There are a variety of fun targets available through various target manufacturers that can provide your participants with exciting games to play. The NRA Marksmanship Qualification program also offers challenging, skill-developing courses of fire in which participants can earn awards as they progress through the skill levels.

BLACK POWDER PROGRAMS

Shooting black powder firearms is fun! The indistinguishable white, puffy clouds of smoke and the smells that accompany black powder shooting add lots of enjoyment and embraces traditional American values. Young shooters are instantly attracted to this unique shooting sport and we encourage you to locate muzzleloading clubs in your area who may assist with your junior shooting endeavors. There are competitive shooting opportunities through the NRA for muzzleloading rifle, musket, pistol, revolver, shotgun, silhouette, and long-range rifle. NRA offers sanctioned matches and championships each year including the NRA National Muzzleloading Rifle & Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio.

(Slide 13) Practical Exercise pages 13 – 19 Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program booklet

Practical Exercise #2

Refer to pages 13-19 of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program* booklet. Have participants review the information on starting a shooting sports program and start the "Planning Section" on "Your Program's Focus" on page 19.

(Allow 10-15 minutes).

Have participants share the type of programs they will conduct. (allow 5-8 minutes) and encourage them to complete this exercise when they return home.

(Slide 14) Choose Program Components and Activities

(Distribute a copy of the *NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program* booklet, the *NRA Basic Firearm Training Program* brochure and the *NRA Coaching Code of Ethics* to all attendees.

- *The NRA Basic Firearm Training Program (hold up brochure)* teaches you the principles of safe firearm handling and shooting which help you develop the attitude, knowledge and skills for the safe and legal use of firearms.

- ***NRA Marksmanship Qualification Shooting*** (*hold up brochure*) is an informal, year-round recreational activity for both individuals and groups. The program offers numerous courses of fire that accommodate BB and pellet guns, rifles, shotguns, pistols and muzzleloaders. Qualification shooting is an ideal way to build shooting skills. The courses of fire establish par scores that provide an increasing challenge to beginning and experienced shooters. The courses of fire have corresponding recognition awards, such as attractive discipline patches and rockers, pins, medals and certificates that recognize the shooters level of achievement.

- ***Fun Shoots and Novelty Matches*** can serve several different functions for your club or program. They can help you keep your participants interested by providing a refreshing break from training or from the discipline they usually shoot, as well as offer a new challenge from the standard course of fire. By offering your participants an exciting shoot or match , you can ease them into competitive shooting without the pressures of regular competition. Pages 21- 24 of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program* book offer a variety of fun shoots and novelty matches.

- ***Postal Matches*** are competitive shooting programs in which participants shoot the course of fire on their home ranges with witnesses present, and then mail (hence their name postal matches) the certified scores to the NRA for comparison with other scores sent in from around the country. In the comfortable atmosphere of the home range, participants broaden their skills, gain the experience of friendly competition, and learn sportsmanship and teamwork by competing in postal matches. The NRA Competitions Division (703-267-1482) administers postal matches, including ones for NRA affiliated clubs, Boy

Scouts, DeMolay, Venturing, 4-H and many others.

Speaker: *Adult programs offered by the NRA that will aid in supporting a youth shooting sports program include the...*

NRA Instructor Training Program. Since 1871, one of NRA's major objectives has been to provide basic training in the safe handling and proper use of firearms. Today, over 36,000 NRA Certified Instructors throughout the United States continue this fine tradition of public service by conducting NRA Basic Firearm Training Courses. They provide an opportunity for adult leaders to become an NRA Basic Firearm Instructor in their programs discipline and serve as a vital resource for all junior shooters. Courses are offered in the following disciplines: Home Firearm Safety, Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun, Personal Protection, Muzzleloading Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun, Range Safety Officer, Metallic Cartridge Reloading, and Shotshell Reloading.

Coach Certification Program is designed to give adult junior shooting program leaders the skills to successfully operate a youth competitive shooting sports program. THE NRA/USA Shooting Code of Ethics (*hold up brochure*) serves as the blueprint for all certified coaches conduct with juniors. It is intended to provide both general principals and the decision rules to cover most situations encountered by coaches. It has as its primary goal the welfare and protection of individuals and groups with whom the coaches work. It is the individual responsibility of each trainer to aspire to the highest possible standards of conduct. Coaches respect and protect human civil rights, and do not knowingly participate in or condone unfair discriminatory practices.

*****10 MINUTE BREAK PERIOD*****

IMPORTANT NOTE: SLIDE # 15 (Shooting Exercise) HAS BEEN MOVED TO THE END OF THE PACK—PLEASE CONTINUE AFTER BREAK WITH SLIDE # 16. The Shooting Exercise is optional as feedback from previous seminars considered it rather time consuming.

**(Slide 16) Practical Exercise PAGE 28
"Developing" booklet**

Practical Exercise #4

Have groups complete the "Planning Section" on "Your Program Components and Activities" on **page 28** of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program* booklet. (allow 10-15 minutes)

Then allow 5-8 min. for discussion.

(Slide 17) Outline Program Specifications

Speaker: Now you need to establish your operational specifications since you have set your program's goals and decided the focus.

(Slide 18) Outline Program Specifications (Cont') Specific Considerations include:

- Program duration
- Meeting dates and times
- Age limits or requirements
- Any fees, dues, or costs associated with participation
- Prerequisite education or participation requirements (e.g., Basic Firearms Training)

Other administrative matters to consider include insurance, parental permission forms, release waivers, participant medical information and emergency contact names and telephone numbers.

(Slide 19) Exercise, Page 29 "Developing booklet"

Practical Exercise #6

Request groups to complete the "Planning Section" on "Your Youth Program Specifications" on **page 29 of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program*** booklet. (allow 10-15 minutes) Have groups share their ideas (allow 5-8 minutes)

(Slide 20) Obtain Volunteer and Instructor Support

Speaker: Volunteers are essential for conducting an effective youth Shooting Seminar.

- **Volunteer resources depends on your program.** If you plan to offer a loosely-structured, informal program, your needs will be different from a more formal program, such as a smallbore rifle league offered by an organized shooting or sportsmen's club. Support may come from parents of participants or from club members.
- **NRA can help with lists of Instructors/Coaches.** To obtain a list of the instructors in your community contact the NRA Training Department's automated system at 703-267-1430. Simply follow the automated prompts and you will be mailed a list of the instructors for the discipline you have requested in 3-4 weeks. To obtain a list of coaches contact the NRA National Coach Trainer at 703-267-1401.

(Slide 21) Practical exercise Page 32 Developing Book

Practical exercise #7

Request groups to complete the "Planning Section" on "Your Program Volunteers and Instructors" on **page 32 of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program*** booklet. (allow 10-15 minutes) Have participants share their ideas. (allow 10-12 minutes)

(Slide 22) Plan a Budget & Raise Funds

- **Size of your program effects your budget** -- The type and complexity of your program will affect your budget needs. An informal airgun program conducted for the kids in your neighborhood may require little or no budget.
- **Who pays** for the program and materials-parents, club, individual participants?

(Slide 23) When planning a budget, take the following into consideration:

- Program materials & training aids
- Equipment and supplies
- Awards
- Range fees
- Affiliation fees
- Insurance
- Transportation costs
- League or tournament fees

(Slide 24) Plan a Budget And Raise Funds (Cont')

- **Sources of Funds and Equipment**
(Distribute NRA Foundation brochure)

Speaker: Sources of funds and equipment from the NRA include...

- **The NRA Foundation State Fund Grants**, which can provide funding for range development and improvement, firearms, training aids and much more. Grants are awarded for programs that offer *educational* opportunities to youth and *teach safety and responsibility* related to firearms and other activities.

- **The NRA Recruiter Program.** Enrolling in this program can produce the best of both worlds---more NRA members AND thousands of dollars in your club's bank account! How? Very simple; NRA will pay you a \$10 commission for every new NRA member you recruit (\$25 or greater membership). Just renewing a person's NRA membership will earn a \$5 commission. NRA will furnish you with no-cost recruiting materials and instruct you on how best to recruit large volumes of NRA members by setting up "recruiting stations" at local gun and sport shows, gun shops, and other popular venues which attract sportsmen and women. To enroll, contact NRA's Recruiter Programs department at (703) 267-3759.

- **NRA Range Grant Program.** This relatively new program replaces the NRA Range loan program. It was established by a resolution by the NRA Board of Directors. Clubs having 100% NRA membership (all club members belong to NRA) can apply for grants of up to \$5,000 per year. Range grant funds are made available at the NRA's sole discretion to qualifying NRA-affiliated clubs by approval of the NRA Range Development Committee. The Range Grant Subcommittee reviews grant applications and submits recommendations to the Range Development Committee for approval.

Grants are awarded to qualifying affiliates to assist with acquisition, development and improvement of shooting facilities. Grants are also awarded to assist with projects designed to improve community relations and to address environmental issues related to range operations.

(Slide 25) Practical Exercise Page 34— Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports booklet

Practical Exercise #5

Encourage attendees to complete the Planning Section on "Obtaining Donations and Raising Funds" on **page 34 of the** "*Developing*" booklet after the session.

Have participants share their ideas on budgeting and fundraising (allow 10-15 minutes).

(Slide 26) Obtain Equipment & Supplies

Speaker: All equipment does not have to be expensive. You can easily make some shooting accessories such as...

Shooting Mat -- A piece of carpet or carpet padding, 2 - 2 1/2 feet wide and long enough to reach past the shooter's knees when in the prone position works great.

Kneeling Roll – Used by rifle shooters--A cylinder-shaped sack ½” to ¾”-filled with loose stuffing, or a rolled and bound piece of carpeting or a rolled and bound towel secured with Duct tape.

Shooting Jacket - A shooting jacket can greatly increase the stability of a shooter's positions. Any jacket or heavy shirt that fits well across the shoulders and is long enough to reach below the hips can be used for this purpose. The material should be a sturdy, stiff non-stretch fabric that buttons the full length of the front. Denim or canvas works well.

*(Demonstrate how to make shooting accessories and equipment based on ideas presented on pages 35-36 in the **Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program** booklet, i.e., kneeling roll, benchrest, etc..)*

Speaker: Some ways that you can ensure that your program has the necessary equipment:

- **Daisy (Avanti) "Club in a Box"** Contains everything your organization needs to attract new members to the shooting sports. Three kits are offered and all come in a weatherproof container that provides convenient storage and protection for all of your guns and accessories. Their introduction kit contains 12 starter rifles, eye protection for twelve, 1000 targets, 12 boxes of pellets and safety brochures all for \$550 plus shipping. Call Daisy at (800) 643-3458 to order.
- **Participants' Equipment** -- Many young people may already have their own equipment, or their parents may have equipment they can use.

- **Leaders' Personal Equipment** -- Program leaders or club members may choose to make some of their equipment available to the shooters.
- **Loans** -- NRA State Associations may loan guns and equipment to affiliated clubs. Gun manufacturers may be willing to loan equipment for youth shooting programs too.

(Slide 27) Discussion and Practical Exercise Pages 35 – 36 Developing book

Practical Exercise #8

Request groups to complete the "Planning Section" on "Equipment and Supplies" on **page 36 of the *Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program* booklet.** (allow 10 minutes)

Have groups share their ideas.
(allow 5-8 minutes)

(Slide 28) Promote The Program

Speaker: It is up to you to Find the kids!

- Consider your audience, i.e., what age of kids, what discipline, income level, etc.
- Assess promotional outlets in your area

(Slide 29) Promote the Program (Cont')

Speaker: Promotional assets include...

- Posters and Flyers – Create and distribute these at local clubs and shooting ranges. Ask your local schools for permission to post a flyer.
- Ads on TV, radio, newspapers (remember the funds earned through the NRA recruiting??), and local community calendars -- plus, have a mailing sent out to all club members -- not only your own club, but neighboring clubs.
- Conduct an event or open house at your club (e.g., Youth SportsFest or Youth Hunter Education Challenge)"

(Distribute the NRA Shooting Sports Camp brochure and the NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge flyer and the "Smart & Safe" brochure)

(SLIDE 30) Youth Sportfest & Y.H.E.C.

The **Youth SportsFest** is perhaps the premiere program to introduce youth to the shooting sports and generate interest in starting a program or club. SportsFests are only open to youth with a focus on generating a positive and lasting shooting experience. The NRA provides free safety information (hold up Smart & Safe brochure), complimentary 6-month NRA Junior Memberships and T-shirts to all attendees and volunteers at these camps. (Show T-shirt)

Speaker: "NRA Shooting Sports Camps are designed for discovery. They provide exposure to the many different types of shooting activities that are available and an opportunity for participants to try them in a safe, supervised environment. The camps are centered around one of six themes: Safety and Firearm Education; Basic Camp; Hunters Camp; Competition Camp; Youth SportsFest; Special Interest.

The **Youth Hunter Education Challenge (or YHEC)** is a program exclusively for hunter education graduates from North America up to 19 years of age. The program provides them with an opportunity to test their skills at a variety of hunting techniques. YHEC provides the best test of a young hunters skills short of an actual situation afield. This training ensures the future of the American hunting tradition as a safe, viable recreational activity the entire family can enjoy.

(Slide 31) Practical Exercise – Page 37 Developing booklet

Practical exercise #9

Request groups to complete the "Planning Section" on "Promoting Your Program" on **page 37 of the Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program** booklet. (allow 10 minutes)
Have groups share their ideas. (allow 8-10 minutes)

(Slide 32) Affiliate Your Club With NRA

(Distribute NRA Youth Clubs booklet, NRA YOUTH 2000 brochure, and NRA Outstanding Achievement Youth Award application)

Speaker: Affiliating your new youth club or shooting program with the NRA means you join the ranks of some 10,000 other affiliates who share membership in the strongest shooting sports team the world has ever known. NRA Clubs are eligible for insurance benefits and NRA program materials at little or no cost--many like you're receiving here today—plus will receive a quarterly newsletter and monthly magazine to help keep you informed on NRA General Operations' programs and other clubs' success stories and suggestions.

Benefits of NRA affiliation include:

1. Access to NRA Club support material and information.
2. Eligibility to receive NRA funding
3. Subscription to NRA monthly magazine
4. Quarterly **NRA Club Connection** newsletter
5. Toll-free “800” number for assistance
6. Range improvement grants for 100% clubs
7. Discounted subscription to **Shooting Sports USA**

8. Range Technical Team Advisor (RTTA) discounts
9. Eligibility to purchase NRA endorsed insurance
10. Free listing of your club events on NRA website

Thanks to the NRA YOUTH 2000 Program (reference handout) FREE 1-YEAR NRA affiliations for new junior shooting clubs are available on a limited basis

The NRA Outstanding Achievement Youth Award (reference application handout) was created in 2000 to encourage and recognize those junior NRA members who take an active part in the shooting sports through individual participation, educational pursuits and accomplishments. This award is designed to promote a greater appreciation of the programs the NRA has to offer and to increase awareness of the shooting and sporting activities in which youth can participate. Recipients of the award receive a distinctive medal and certificate in recognition of their achievement and are eligible for special prizes if selected as the national winners. (Show medal and certificate)

(Slide 32) Program Leaders' Planning Worksheet – Page 55 Developing booklet

Speaker: All of the exercises you've completed today have one objective in mind: to give you the tools, resources and knowledge to create, or strengthen a youth shooting sports program at your club or organization.

Now, we will ask you to bring together the information that you have garnered from these exercises and when you return to your club or home complete the Program Leaders' Planning Worksheet found on page 55 of your Developing book.

When you have completed this worksheet, you will own a completed presentation with which you can start a youth shooting sports program.

(Slide 34) Youth Program Summary

As we wind down today's seminar, let's recap some of the topics which we've discussed:

- **Benefits**

- Shooting is a skill sport
- Shooting enhances life skills
- Shooting is a safe sport
- Shooting has no boundaries to participation
- Shooting is a lifetime sport

- **Six Basic elements needed**

- A safe place to shoot
- Appropriate shooting equipment
- Willing and capable leaders
- Interested (and responsible) young people
- A program to follow
- Recognition for participants

▪ **Eight Interactive Ideas**

- Set your program goals
- Determine your program's focus
- Choose program components and activities
- Outline Program specifications
- Planning your budget and raising funds
- Obtain volunteer and instructor support
- Obtain equipment and supplies
- Promote the program

▪ **Program Resources**

- NRA Developing Your Youth Shooting Sports Program
- NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program
- NRA Neighborhood Airgun Program
- Assorted pamphlets and brochures
- State Fund Grants
- Shoot For the Future Program
- NRA Affiliation

▪ **Promotion**

- Posters and flyers
- Advertisements on TV, Radio, newspapers, club mailings, community calendars, etc.

Contact Your NRA Field Rep. at _____ or the NRA Youth Programs Department at 703-267-1505 or by E-mail at youth_programs@nrahq.org for help at any time.

Closing Remarks: The fact that you've come here today is an excellent sign that you have what it takes to make a difference in the future of the shooting sports. I cannot overstate the importance of bringing more young shooters into our sport. You only need to look at the age of the average shooter at a trap or skeet tournament, or perhaps a bullseye pistol league, to see that something **MUST** be done.

If you're like me, you don't want to see our children miss out on the opportunities afforded to each of us sitting here today. Yes, this will take some sacrifice and commitment. However, along with those sacrifices will come some of the greatest rewards imaginable. The smiles on the faces of your students as they break their first clay bird, or punch the center out of a ten-ring are rewards that will last a lifetime.

Thank you in advance for making this commitment. Thank you for understanding the importance of what the NRA tries to accomplish each and every day. Please keep in touch with the people you've met here today--who also share this dream. Good luck.

(Slide 15) Optional Exercise (This exercise may or may not be used at the discretion of the NRA Field representative)

Speaker: *Now we will conduct an actual shooting exercise involving an airgun. We will shoot an NRA Air Rifle Qualification course as found on Page 16 of your NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program book. First, however, we will need to construct target backstops. For the air rifles we will be using, we can construct simple pellet traps as found on page 7 of the NRA Neighborhood Air Gun Program booklet.*

Practical Exercise - Shooting Exercise

Conduct an applicable **Air rifle qualification shoot** with all attendees. **Inexpensive traps should be constructed by the attendees** following the directions found on **Page 7** of the **NRA Neighborhood Air Gun Program booklet**. For each trap you will need a medium to large size cardboard box, newspapers, used magazines and/or telephone books.

NOTE TO INSTRUCTOR: Due to the variances in airguns and the velocity of the pellets and or BB's, it is very important to ensure that the trap effectively stops the projectiles. Plus, as you continue to shoot in a certain area on the target, your pellets or BB's will start to chew deeper into the paper inside the box. If this is left unchecked, eventually your shots may bore a "tunnel" completely through your box! Consequently, it may be necessary to add additional crumpled newspaper, or whatever medium you are using to catch the projectiles as the duration of your shooting increases.

Turn to page 16 of the NRA Marksmanship Qualifications Program booklet. Have all attendees shoot the "*American Rifleman Qualification*" qualification course. NOTE: **Familiarize yourself with this course of fire prior to the seminar** to ensure a smooth operation. (Allow 1.5-2 hours; provide eye protection, targets, pellets, and air rifles) Discussion should be made on the ratio of instructors/adult volunteers to youth shooters. It is recommended that a minimum of 1 adult work with each 2 students.

*****TIP: SERVE LUNCH DURING THE SHOOTING EXERCISE TO PREVENT ATTENDEES FROM HAVING AN EXCESSIVE WAIT TO SHOOT. FOR EXAMPLE, BREAK THE CLASS UP AND HAVE HALF OF THE CLASS EAT WHILE THE OTHER HALF SHOOTS.**

Speaker: As an example of how the NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program works, we have for each of you today an award for your shooting achievement. For simplicity sake, all awards handed out here today are "Pro-Marksman."

This display will show you the various levels of achievement and the corresponding pin or patch.

I strongly encourage each of you to use the NRA Marksmanship Qualification Program as an active part of your Shooting Seminar program. Whether it's hunting, recreational shooting or competition, this program lends itself very well to your objectives.

Present awards for recognition (note: awards will be sent to the NRA Field Representative/speaker prior to the seminar) All attendees will be earning their Pro-Marksman rating.

