They want to Cut Something, Shoot something, and Burn something!!!

**CUB SCOUT SHOOTING SPORTS:**

BSA GUIDELINES PERMIT BB GUN & ARCHERY SHOOTING, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF TRAINED & CURRENTLY CERTIFIED RANGE OFFICERS, ONLY AT COUNCIL SPONSORED EVENTS (day camp, family encampments, res. camp).

CUB SCOUT RANGE OFFICERS ARE TRAINED & CERTIFIED BY COUNCIL APPROVED NATIONAL CAMPING SCHOOL CERTIFIED SHOOTING SPORTS DIRECTORS.

CUB SCOUT RANGE OFFICER CERTIFICATION IS GRANTED FOR 2 YEARS & MAY BE REVOKED IF THE RANGE OFFICER DOES NOT FOLLOW COUNCIL & BSA SHOOTING GUIDELINES.

**RANGE SUPERVISION:**

The Range Officer must be alert to conditions which may be dangerous to participants and take action.

The Range Officer must be focused on the shooters AT ALL TIMES while the range is open. This isn't the place for idle conversation.

The Range Officer is the ultimate authority on the range.

The Range Officer controls all entrances. Permission the boys in, Permission them out... (as a group).
**Common Safety Rules:**

- ALWAYS GET PERMISSION FROM YOUR PARENT OR GUARDIAN
- ALWAYS HAVE AN ADULT PRESENT WHEN YOU USE A GUN OR BOW
- KNOW HOW THE GUN OR BOW WORKS & HOW TO USE IT
- ALWAYS BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET & WHAT IS BEYOND THE TARGET
- ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION
- NEVER REUSE BBs, NEVER USE DAMAGED ARROWS

**BB Gun Safety Rules:**

- **ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION!**
- **ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT!**
- **ALWAYS KEEP THE ACTION OPEN & THE GUN UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE!**
- **KNOW HOW TO USE THE GUN SAFELY**
- **BE SURE THE GUN IS SAFE TO OPERATE**
- **USE ONLY THE CORRECT AMMUNITION FOR THE GUN**
- **ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION**
- **USE THE GUN'S SAFETY, BUT DON'T DEPEND UPON IT**
- **ALWAYS STORE THE GUN, UNLOADED & UNACCESSIBLE TO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS**

**Equipment:**

- **Range**
  - 50’ RANGE (FIRING POINTS ARE 15’ FROM FIRING LINE TO TARGETS)
  - NO MORE THAN 8 FIRING STATIONS PER RANGE OFFICER
  - RED RANGE FLAG IS RAISED WHEN RANGE IS IN OPERATION (SIGNALS NO ENTRANCE WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE RANGE OFFICER)
- **Must Have:**
  - Safe Area
  - Safe Distance
  - Safe Backstop (No hard surface or water downrange that could cause a ricochet)
  - Barrier around range to hinder unauthorized entrance
  - Secured storage when not in use

- **BB Guns**
  - Use council provided spring action BB guns
    - Review how gun works
    - Review Parts
      - Bolt
      - Stock
      - Cocking lever
      - Trigger
      - Trigger Guard
      - Rear Sight
      - Front Sight
      - Barrel
      - Forearm
      - Muzzle
  - Ammo
    - Use only BBs (do not use pellets, lead balls, darts or bolts)
    - Coated steel to prevent rust
RANGE LAYOUT:

RANGE OPERATION SAFETY RULES:

WHEN OPERATING THE RANGE THESE RULES MUST BE ADHERED TO:

• Fly a red range flag when the range is in use. Before entry, ALL PERSONS must ask permission of the Range Officer before entering the range.
• Prior to opening the range, the RO inspects the range to assure all is as it should be & that there is no possibility of anyone inadvertently walking in front of or behind the targets. [WRO must fill out OpenRange form].
• All participants must review posted Range safety rules under the guidance of the range safety officer.
• Guns must be left racked except when the shooter is in position on the firing line & has been given the command to handle and load.
• Immediately, upon hearing the command to “CEASE FIRE,” guns must be placed on the mat with muzzles pointing toward the target (or racked/holstered if this is provided).
• RO must be last person to leave Range - only after equipment is secured [WRO CloseRange form must be completed].

RANGE OPERATION SHOOTING RULES:

• ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION!
• ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT!
• ALWAYS KEEP THE ACTION OPEN & THE GUN UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE!
• THIS RANGE MAY BE OPENED ONLY BY A CERTIFIED BB RANGE OFFICER.
• ALL COMMANDS ISSUED BY THE RANGE OFFICER MUST BE OBEYED IMMEDIATELY.
• STAY BEHIND THE FIRING LINE. DO NOT STRADDLE THE FIRING LINE.
• DO NOT PICK UP A GUN UNLESS TOLD TO BY THE RANGE OFFICER.
• ABSOLUTELY NO RUNNING ON THE RANGE.
• NO HORSEPLAY OR UNNECESSARY TALKING ON THE RANGE.
• EYE PROTECTION IS REQUIRED BY EVERYONE ON THE RANGE.
RANGE COMMANDS:

When ready to start the shooting process, the Range Officer commands:

"YOU MAY ENTER"
Shooters (& coaches) enter the range

"SHOOTERS TO THE LINE"
Immediately, each shooter (& coach) takes assigned placed at the firing point.

"YOU MAY PICK UP YOUR GUN"
Shooters check gun and prepares to fire, BUT DOES NOT LOAD & KEEPS FINGER OFF
THE TRIGGER. The RO checks the location of each shooter to ensure correct firing
point & target number. The RO makes sure the range is clear, then asks:

"IS THE LINE READY?"
If there is any shooter who is not ready or whose target is in bad order, that
shooter immediately raises his arm & calls:

"THE LINE IS NOT READY"
The RO will investigate the difficulty & assist in correcting it.

RANGE COMMANDS (CONT):

When resolved, the RO calls:

"IS THE LINE READY?"
If all is ready, the RO calls:

"THE LINE IS READY"
The RO calls:

"LOAD (or COCK)"
Shooters load the gun chambers, then the RO calls:

"READY ON THE FIRING LINE"
"COMMENCE FIRING"
After firing, the RO commands:

"CEASE FIRING – STOP FIRING"
All guns are racked and shooters step back. RO will check all BB guns by
pulling the trigger while racked. Shooters now switch places with their
coach or leave the firing line (depending upon the RO’s instruction.)

RANGE COMMANDS (CONT):

Repeat the above steps for all succeeding flights of shooters.

The RO will immediately command:

"CEASE FIRE / STOP FIRING"
If any incident occurs that could result in possible injury should firing
continue.

"AS YOU WERE"
Means to disregard the command just given.

"CARRY ON"
Means to proceed with whatever was being done before the interruption

"EXIT THE RANGE"
Shooters & coaches leave the range

TRAINING CUBS:

The objective is to teach Cubs how to use a BB gun safely, to teach basic
BB gun shooting skills, and to have FUN.

TEACHING TIPS:
The coach/pupil method is very effective in shooting sports. To put this method into
practice:

• Put the gun in the Cubs hand as soon as possible so he can understand the BB gun
  while the basics are explained.
• Group participants into pairs (cub/Adult with tigers, or cub/cub if older cubs)
• The instructor demonstrates the activity to be followed before the whole group.
  The inst. then circulates among the pairs to assure participants grasp the concept.
• The boy practices while the parent coaches. Let Scouts shoot the first round, then
  reverse roles. Participants learn by observing, doing, coaching.
• Use a positive approach. Use praise sincerely. Before making a correction,
  question to find the cause. Show them how to do it correctly.
• Avoid long discussions on parts of the gun. Teach just enough so they know how
  to safely use the equipment.
• Allow each boy the satisfaction of hitting a target, as quickly as possible.
BB GUN SHOOTING BASICS:

EYE DOMINANCE EXERCISE
Just as people are right or left handed, one eye is more dominant than the other.
The dominant hand does not determine the dominant eye!
The dominant eye determines which side the gun is held.
(conduct the exercise ... note young cubs MAY NOT yet have an eye dominance!)

SHOOTING SHOULDER
Right eye dominant shooters should place the butt of the gun against their right
shoulder & left eye dominant shooters use their left shoulder.

BREATHING
Before firing, relax & get comfortable. Take a breath, exhale half-way & stop breathing
while you pull the trigger. Do not stop breathing longer than 8-10 seconds.

BB GUN SHOOTING BASICS (cont):

TRIGGER SQUEEZE
When ready to fire, the index finger should be located on the trigger so that the
trigger is halfway between the tip of the finger & the first joint.
The trigger should be squeezed straight back in a smooth, continuous manner.
This is a gradual, steady application of pressure & does not alter the sight alignment.
Trigger squeeze & sight alignment are done simultaneously.

FOLLOW THROUGH
As you squeeze the trigger, continue aiming without moving, until the BB hits the
target. This will prevent movement of the gun while the BB is in the barrel.

BB GUN SHOOTING BASICS (cont):

SHOOTING POSITION
At Woodfield, we primarily use the FREE-ARM STANDING position and Prone position
— prone pads are available (prone is preferred for younger Cubs but slower).

FREE-ARM STANDING BODY
POSITION CHARACTERISTICS:
• Feet shoulder width apart with body weight distributed evenly.
• Body & head; comfortably erect.
• Right eye dominant: Left arm free from the body (not supported) & left hand under the fore-end of the rifle to support the weight of the rifle.
BB GUN SHOOTING BASICS (cont):

SHOOTING POSITION
At Cub Scout Day Camps and for young cubs, we primarily use the Prone position or Sitting position.

PRONE BODY POSITION CHARACTERISTICS:
• Lie on the ground, facing target and angled slightly to left.
• Slightly bend right knee and draw right leg up parallel to back.
• Extend left elbow forward and hold fore-end of rifle with left hand.
• Grasp the rifle grip with right hand and position rifle butt against the right shoulder so that the sights are at eye level.
• To correct aim left/right pivot around left elbow, to adjust up/down move left hand forward or backward to raise or lower rifle.

STEPS TO LEARN A SHOOTING POSITION:
• Study the position
• Practice the position without a gun
• Practice the position with a gun
• Align the position properly with the target
• Shoot from the position

HOW TO MOVE INTO POSITION:
• Keep the rifle pointed in a safe direction & the index finger off the trigger. Hold the rifle in both hands & move to the firing point.
• Turn the body so that the left side (right eye dominant) of the body is closest to the target.
• Raise the rifle to eye level & position it against the right shoulder.
• Align the body’s position with the target.
• To correct aim right or left, move the feet. To make vertical adjustments, raise or lower the rifle. To make horizontal adjustments, move the feet.

BASIC BB GUN SHOOTING PROCESS:
This process is recommended for 1st time/general CS shooting:
(Pair boys (or adults) as shooters/coaches)

1. Greet the participants & introduce yourself & other Range personnel.
2. Show Range Rules poster and cover posted rules.
3. Bring the participants onto the range as they are issued safety equipment. Stand behind the shooting line & explain shooters/coach concept.
4. Show the gun & say “This is a BB gun.”
5. Point to the barrel & say “This is the barrel.”
6. Point to the muzzle & say “This is the muzzle. It is the end the BB shoots out. ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION!”
7. Point to the action & say “This is the action. It has the trigger. You squeeze the trigger to shoot. ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT! The action also has the chamber where you put the BB to load the gun. ALWAYS KEEP THE GUN UNLOADED UNTIL READY TO USE!”
8. Say, “You will use the free-arm standing position like this.” Demonstrate the position.
9. Assign shooting pairs to firing points.
10. Then give the command, “YOU MAY PICK UP YOUR GUN.” keeping them pointed in a safe direction down range, but not cocked.
11. Have shooters assume the shooting position & look through the sights. Explain how sights are used. (GUNS ARE STILL UNLOCKED.)
12. Once all shooters know how to assume the shooting position & how to properly hold the gun, explain & demonstrate how to cock the gun.
13. Have shooterscock the gun, loading a BB into the chamber.
BASIC BB GUN SHOOTING PROCESS (cont):

14. Give the command "READY ON THE FIRING LINE?" (explain that they are to raise their hand, if not ready.)
15. When all shooters are ready, give the command "COMMENCE FIRING, SHOOT ALL YOUR 5 SHOTS. [or modify depending on what type of shooting]"
16. RO must watch for safety... Instructors help shooters as needed.
17. Give the command "CEASE FIRING." Everyone is to stop shooting, holster the guns immediately. And step back from the firing line. RO will then trigger each gun while in the rack to clear the gun before proceeding.
18. Give the command "CLEAR ALL GUNS." Have everyone fire last BB & place their guns in the holster. RO will then trigger each gun while in the rack to clear the gun before proceeding.
19. Explain & demonstrate how to make a gun safe. Explain how to ground or holster the gun for their position and range setup.
20. Have shooters & coaches retrieve/replace targets and switch positions.
21. Repeat from Step 10.

Groups may continue to rotate shooting or may exit the range

10 MINUTE BREAK

CUB SCOUT ARCHERY SAFETY GUIDELINES:

When training Cubs to shoot, be sure to have properly sized equipment, secure & safe ranges & clear safety instruction including:

- Always ask permission before entering the range. A red flag flying means the range is "LIVE."
- Shoot only with proper supervision.
- Always check your equipment before shooting. Return all cracked arrows to the Range Officer (he will discard them.)
- Know & obey the Range Commands.
- Bows & arrows should ONLY be used in places set aside for their use.
- Always keep your arrows pointed down or toward the target.
- Only release an arrow when you can see a clear path to the target.
- Shoot only at the target in front of you.

CUB SCOUT ARCHERY SAFETY GUIDELINES(cont):

- Do not handle arrows until everyone is on or behind the shooting line & the RO has indicated that you may begin shooting.
- Stand & shoot with your feet straddling the shooting / firing line.
- Stop shooting immediately upon hearing the command "CEASE FIRE" or if anyone crosses in front of the shooting line or in front or behind the targets.
- Use only arrows that are at least the shooters draw length.
- Always wear an arm guard (& finger tab or glove if needed).
- Always practice courtesy & good sportsmanship.
- Never run while on the range or while carrying arrows.
- On a target range, leave the bow at the firing line while retrieving arrows.
- Never dry fire a bow.
ONSC SOP GUIDELINES FOR ARCHERY:

1. Bows are restricted to a maximum of 25 pounds of pull for Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts and Boy Scouts & not more than 35 pounds of pull for Venturers (most Cub Scouts will use 12-15 lb pull).
2. Only field or target arrows may be used. Broadhead or other hunting tips are not allowed.
3. Proper safety equipment must be worn by all participants.
4. The Firing range must be supervised by a certified Archery instructor.
5. Crossbows are not allowed.
EQUIPMENT (cont):

CARE of BOWS:
• Never lay a bow on the ground
• Never stand a bow on end
• Always dry wet bows (bow wax can help preserve the finish)
• Store bows in boxes

CARE of ARROWS:
• Keep feathers dry. If they become wet, wipe dry & clean before storing.
• Separate wet arrows to allow feathers to dry.
• Discard arrows that have cracks or splinters.
• Store arrows in boxes or proper racks, separated by length.

RANGE LAYOUT:

RANGE OPERATION SAFETY RULES:

WHEN OPERATING THE RANGE THESE RULES MUST BE ADHERED TO:
• Fly a red range flag when the range is in use. Before entry, ALL PERSONS must ask permission of the Range Officer before entering the range.
• Prior to opening the range, the RO must inspect the range to assure all is as it should be & that there is no possibility of anyone inadvertently walking in front of or behind the targets. [WRO completes Open form].
• RO must check all equipment before using to assure safe condition.
• Be sure that all safety rules are understood & followed. All participants must review posted safety rules under guidance of RO.
• All spectators, boys & parents waiting to shoot must remain behind the waiting line.
• RO must be last person to leave Range - only after equipment is secured [WRO completes Close form].

RANGE OPERATION SAFETY RULES (cont):
• Archers must wear shoes on the range. No loose clothing, hair, or decorations that might become entangled or snagged.
• Archers must not talk or disturb other shooters. This also applies to spectators.
• Archers/Coaches stay on their shooting position until archer shoots their last arrow, & then both step back together.
• NO RUNNING WHILE ON THE RANGE!
RANGE OPERATION SHOOTING RULES:

Sample Range Rule Poster

- KNOW & OBEY ALL RANGE COMMANDS, IMMEDIATELY.
- DO NOT PICK UP YOUR BOW UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO.
- KEEP YOUR ARROWS IN YOUR QUIVER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO NOCK.
- ONLY USE THE ARROWS THE INSTRUCTOR GAVE YOU. REMEMBER WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE, WHEN YOU RECOVER YOUR ARROWS.
- ALWAYS KEEP YOUR ARROWS POINTED DOWN OR TOWARD THE TARGET.
- SHOOT ONLY AT YOUR TARGET.
- IF YOU DROP AN ARROW, LEAVE IT ON THE GROUND UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO GET YOUR ARROWS.
- ALWAYS WALK (NEVER RUN) ON THE ARCHERY RANGE.
- ALWAYS WEAR YOUR ARM GUARD and EYE PROTECTION.

Training Cubs:

The objective is to teach Cubs how to shoot a bow & arrow safely, and to have FUN.

TEACHING TIPS:
- Put the bow in the Cubs hand as soon as possible so he can understand the tool while the basics are explained.
- Group participants into pairs (boy & parent if tigers, cub/cub otherwise). Check for loose items on the bow side of the student that could interfere with his shooting.
- The instructor demonstrates the activity to be followed before the whole group. The inst. then circulates among the pairs to assure participants grasp the concept.
- Check the student’s finger tabs closely before he shoots. Watch for four fingers on the string or cramped fingers on the bowstring. Watch the thumb on the drawing hand. Check the string path, from behind.

Training Cubs (cont):

- The boy practices while the parent coaches. Let Scouts shoot the first arrow as soon as possible, even if the bow hand, anchor, draw, etc are not perfect.
- At the RO command, reverse roles. Participants learn by observing, doing, coaching.
- Use a positive approach. Use praise sincerely. Before making a correction, question to find the cause. Show them how to do it correctly. Never correct a student after spotting a fault on one arrow shot.
- Avoid long discussions on parts of equipment used. Teach just enough so they know how to safely use the equipment.
- Allow each boy the satisfaction of hitting a target, as quickly as possible. This might mean some extra assistance, closer target, additional arrow. Young archers can be assisted by a coach with alignment and two fingers on their draw elbow.

STANCE:

- Archers stay in the shooting box
- Feet should be shoulder-width apart
- Weight should be equally distributed between feet
- A line across the toes should run to center of target
NOCK THE ARROW:

- Have the boys "make a table" with the bow.
- Arrow goes on TOP of the table. ("Set the table")
- Nock arrow on string between knock locators
- *KEEP ARROW POINTED DOWN RANGE!*
- Index fletching is AWAY from bow

BOW HOLD:

(SETTING THE ARROW ON THE BOW)

- Set bow hand on grip
- Use only web & meaty part of thumb
- Set groove of first 3 fingers around bow string
- Use all 3 fingers under nock for young cubs

DRAW:

- Draw bow by rotating draw arm shoulder until its elbow is directly behind the arrow
- Continue looking at target and keep the string lined up with center of bow as you draw
- Maintain continuous motion throughout the shot

ANCHOR:

- Draw string to front of chin and firmly set string and hand against jaw.
  - Thumb along side of jaw
  - String touching center of chin
  - String just touching tip of nose
- Continue to draw bow slowly and smoothly by using back muscles (STRETCH!)
Aiming:

If the boys line up the tip of their arrow with the center of the target, the arrows will fly over the top of the target.

Have them line up the tip of their arrow with the bottom of the target. Bull’s-eye!

Targets & Scoring:

Targets have 5 concentric color zones. Each zone is divided by a thin line into 2 scoring zones. Each circle represents the following point values:

- Inner gold = 10 pts
- Outer gold = 9 pts
- Inner red = 8 pts
- Outer red = 7 pts
- Inner blue = 6 pts
- Outer blue = 5 pts
- Inner black = 4 pts
- Outer black = 3 pts
- Inner white = 2 pts
- Outer white = 1 pt

An “end” of 3 arrows is recommended.

Release:

- Continue to tighten back muscles and aim
- After holding “FOCUS-ON-TARGET” for at least one full second, open fingers of string hand and “pull through” to release string
- Release hand should travel to and remain by your shoulder.
- Continue to focus on target!

Targets – Pulling Your Arrows:

Two archers at a time for each target may go forward to retrieve their arrows after the RO is on the safety line [First stopping at the SAFETY LINE].

Stand to the side of the target. Place one hand against the target and grasp arrow with other hand close to the target and pull straight out.

GRAB THE ARROW AS CLOSE TO THE TARGET AS POSSIBLE & PULL STRAIGHT OUT. DROP THE ARROW ON THE GROUND BESIDE YOU, WITH THE ARROWS POINTING THE SAME DIRECTION.

AFTER YOU HAVE PULLED ALL OF YOUR ARROWS, BEND DOWN & COLLECT THE ARROWS (ALL POINTED THE SAME WAY) & HOLDING THEM IN BOTH HANDS, RETURN THEM TO YOUR GROUND QUIVER & THEN RETURN TO THE WAITING LINE.
ARCHERY RANGE COMMANDS:

“YOU MAY ENTER THE RANGE”

“SHOOTERS TO THE LINE”

“YOU MAY PICK-UP YOUR BOW”

“READY POSITION” .... “IS THE LINE READY?”

“YOU MAY NOCK YOUR ARROW”

“COMMENCE FIRING”

“CEASE FIRING – Stop Firing”

“HANG YOUR BOW & STEP BACK FROM THE LINE”

BASIC ARCHERY SHOOTING PROCESS:

This process is recommended for 1st time/general CS shooting:
(Pair boys as shooters/coaches – [tigers use cub/parent pairs])

1. Greet the participants & introduce yourself & other Range personnel.
2. Show Range Rules poster and cover posted rules, issue safety equipment.
3. Bring the participants onto the range. Stand behind the shooting line & explain shooters/coach concept.
4. Show types of bows (recurve bow & compound bow). Never dry fire them.
5. Show arrow and explain point, nock, fletching, index feather.
6. Explain shooting position, straddle firing line but inside shooting box.
7. Show proper way to hold bow. Explain arrow shelf and arrow rest.
8. Demonstrate nocking an arrow, always pointing at ground or target.
9. Demonstrate finger position to hold arrow.
10. Demonstrate proper stance, proper draw, point of aim, and release.
11. After shooting, demonstrate arrow retrieval procedure.