

VIII. Sports and Activities

Shooting Sports

The Boy Scouts of America adheres to its longstanding policy of teaching its youth and adult members the safe, responsible, and intelligent handling, care, and use of firearms, air rifles, BB guns, and archery equipment in planned, carefully managed, and supervised programs.

Except for law enforcement officers required to carry firearms within their jurisdiction, firearms shall not be brought on camping, hiking, backpacking, or other Scouting activities except those specifically planned for target shooting under the supervision of a currently certified BSA national shooting sports director or National Rifle Association firearms instructor.

All shooting sports activities held during a council resident camp will follow the current NCAP standards. All shooting sports activities held outside of a council's resident camp will follow the program as outlined in the BSA National Shooting Sports Manual, No. 430-938, or other shooting sports guides. The BSA manual can be downloaded at www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/Shooting-Sports/.

The BSA National Shooting Sports Manual includes all of the information you will need pertaining to appropriate guns used at each level of Scouting, the required range supervision, and training that youth need to safely participate in the shooting sports program.

References: National Camp Standards, No. 430-056,
and BSA National Shooting Sports Manual, No. 430-938

Cannons and Large-Bore Artillery

Units are not authorized, under any circumstances, to use a cannon or any other large-bore artillery device. See www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/alerts/cannons/ for further information.

Knife and Tomahawk Throwing

These are age-appropriate activities for Scouts BSA members and Venturers following the Sweet 16 of BSA Safety.

Reference: BSA National Shooting Sports Manual, No. 430-938