**Required Range Activity SAFEty Online Training**

ScoutingU has launched the new**“Range Activity SAFEty”** online training, which is now also accessible on mobile devices.

The primary goal of Scouting America’s range and target activities is first and foremost centered around teaching safety. This new Range Activity SAFEty online  
training equips adult leaders with the knowledge to help support SAFE range and target activities at the unit level for Scouts BSA troops, Venturing crews, and  
Sea Scout ships. It’s important to note that Cub Scout packs are not permitted to lead unit-level range and target activities. This training is not required  
for district or council led range and target activities. This training is also not a replacement for certified instructors who must be present to operate the ranges.  
To access the updated training, log onto [my.Scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org/) and search the catalog in the BSA Learn Center  
for “Range Activity SAFEty.” For additional information regarding Scouting’s Range and Target Activities, please refer to  
the [Guide to Safe Scouting](https://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/) and the [National Range and Target Activities Manual](https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/range-activities/).

**FAQs**

Q. Who must take Range Activity SAFEty online training?

A. At a minimum, all Scouts BSA troops, Venturing crews, and Sea Scout ships who provide unit-level sponsored/planned range and target activities must have  
at least one registered unit leader 21+ years  of age take the Range Activity SAFEty online training at my.Scouting. This individual must be present at the  
range during the activity. This training is not required for district or council led range and target activities.

Q. Does Range Activity SAFEty online training have to be renewed?

A. Yes, each unit must have at least one adult 21+ years of age present at the activity who has taken the training within the previous two years.

Q. Is Range Activity SAFEty training available to take in person?

A. No, Range Activity SAFEty training is only available online. It is also mobile compatible.

[**https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/range-activities/range-activities-faq/**](https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/range-activities/range-activities-faq/)

**Range & Target Activities FAQs**

**FAQs Regarding Program Updates 9/1/24**

**Q: Why are range and target activities (shooting sports) part of Scouting’s programs?**

A: Range and target activities provide Scouting the opportunity to instruct critical safe firearm handling to all age groups while also providing an opportunity for a Scout to learn self-discipline, concentration, mental discipline, self-reliance, self-esteem, problem-solving and responsibility. Teaching safe firearm handling includes conversations such as “What happens when you see a gun? Never touch the gun, leave it where it is, and tell an adult right away.” Scouting is committed to teaching youth how to be safe around firearms, whether at home, in their neighborhoods, or around the community.

**Q: Why is Scouting updating its range and target activities (shooting sports programs) effective 9/1/2024?**

A: With a focus on safety and delivery of a quality program, these program adjustments aim to simplify and further standardize range and target activities, thus enhancing the overall experience for Scouts and Scouters alike.

**Q: Why is the name of shooting sports programs changing to Range & Target Activities?**

A: This new name reflects both where these activities take place (on established ranges) and what these activities are.

**Q: What is a commercial firearm range?**

A: A commercial firearm range is a supervised facility that offers a controlled environment for safe firearm practice. It will provide shooting lanes, targets, and may offer equipment rentals and training in safe firearm handling and marksmanship. Standard operating procedures are required for each firearm type used on-site.  Scouting’s range and target activities must follow all of Scouting’s range and target activities policies or range standard operating procedures that are equivalently stringent, including no variation from Scouting’s limitations on firearms used. These ranges may be operated by a licensed business, a government entity or non-profit.

**Q: My Scouts BSA troop wants to conduct a weekend activity focused on the Rifle Shooting merit badge, can we still host this event after September 1, 2024?**

A: Yes. Scouts BSA troops can offer these activities with the required supervision certifications indicated in the BSA Shooting Sports Manual at either a nationally authorized camp property range(s) or at a commercial firearm range. Reminder- your unit must also have someone who has completed the online Range Activity SAFEty training. This trained adult leader must be present at the range. Note this training does not replace the requirements for certified NRA firearms instructors and range safety officers. This training will be available beginning 9/1/2024.

**Q: Our Venturing crew is interested in participating in a pistol program. Is it still possible for us to do so?**

A: Yes, Venturing crews participate in the NRA FIRST Steps Pistol Orientation at an accredited camp program (day camp, short-term camp, long-term camp) or a council organized one day event. Reminder, effective 9/1/2024, unit-level sponsored/planned Venturing and Sea Scouting pistol programs are prohibited.

**Q: What is a nationally authorized camp property?**

A: A national authorized camp property is defined by the [National Camp Accreditation Program standards](https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2024-NCAP-Standards-430-056-Final-web-v2.pdf) in SA-001. This definition is “A camp property includes any property over which a BSA council exercises long-term control that is made available to BSA units or individuals for use in BSA-branded program activities.”  For full information on what is a nationally authorized camp property, please review the entire NCAP standard SA-001.

**Q: How does Scouting define “firearm”?**

A: Firearms include pellet rifles, airsoft (any type), rifles, pistols, shotguns, and muzzle loading rifles and shotguns. While Scouting does not define a BB gun or “BB device” as a firearm, some states, counties, or jurisdictions may regulate BB guns as firearms, depending on their design and capabilities. Councils must review and follow any local regulations before conducting programs.

**Q: What is personal ammunition?**

A. Personal ammunition is ammunition supplied by an individual. This does not include donations for use by a council. Any donations received should be appropriate for the firearms used by the council on its specific range(s) and must be donated in its original manufacturer’s packaging and should not be used past the shelf or storage life indicated by the manufacturer.

**Q: Can we use personal firearms at nationally authorized camp properties for demonstration purposes during NRA training courses?**

A: Yes, personal firearms may be used for classroom demonstration purposes only during NRA training programs at nationally authorized camp properties ***but may not be used for live fire.***