



**COMPETITIVE SHOTGUN
PROGRAM FOR
VENTURING**

GUIDELINES

**FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE
YOUTH TARGET FOUNDATION
(YTF)**



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



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2017 Printing

Introduction

The BSA is proud to partner with the Youth Target Foundation (YTF) to provide competitive shotgun shooting experiences for Venturing crews. This program uses the standard YTF competitive shotgun program. YTF currently has teams in the southern region of the country. In states that do not have YTF teams, YTF will partner the teams with other affiliates that provide competition meets for youth shotgun teams in that state.

This guidebook is intended to provide a starting point to help councils and Venturing Crews develop competitive shooting sports teams. The information contained within this document should be adhered to and cannot be modified. This is a Level 4 Shotgun Competitive Shooting Sports program as outlined in the Boy Scouts of America National Shooting Sports Manual, all requirements for a Level 4 Competitive Shooting Sports Program should be followed.

[BSA Shooting Sports Page](#)

Youth Training Requirements

Youth members shall have completed either NRA Basic Shotgun Course before or upon becoming a member of the shooting sports team. In addition, youth are required to take YTF team training on safe firearms handling and YTF rules. Youth may not practice with the team, nor enter any competitive matches with their unit until all training is complete.

Adult Supervision Requirements

BSA Youth Protection Policies for two deep leadership must be maintained at all times.

The BSA registered adult serving as the YTF Head Coach must:

- Follow all rules related to age and training required to be a Venturing Advisor.
- Register as the Head Coach with YTF.
- Hold a current certification as an NRA shotgun instructor.
- Attend YTF coach training.

The BSA registered adult serving as the YTF Assistant Coach must:

- Follow all rules related to age and training required to be an Venturing Associate Advisor.
- Register as the assistant coach/adult volunteer with YTF.
- Hold a current certification as an NRA shotgun instructor.
- Attend YTF coach training

An NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) must also be present during all team practices and competitions. Any adult with a current BSA registration and current NRA range safety officer credentials can act as the RSO.

Building a Competitive Shooting Crew Structure

Venturing Crews should be youth lead and adult mentored. Your YTF competitive team should be no different. Program planning should be done by the elected officers of the Venture Crew.

Venturing Crews will use the ALPS Model found in the Handbook for Venturers to plan your teams program. This includes programming for the team that includes **A**dventure Activities, **L**eadership, **P**ersonal Growth, and **S**ervice. In addition, activities in this program can lead to earning Venturing awards, such as the Ranger Award or the Venturing Shooting Sports Outstanding Achievement Award. To learn more about these awards go to the [Venturing Website](#)

Youth Leadership

Youth leadership roles are also important for your team functioning. In a Venturing Crew, leadership roles may be repurposed for the team as follows:

- Crew President who may act as Team Captain;
- Vice President of Administration who may be the team recruiter;
- Vice President of Program who can work in coordinating service and competition opportunities for the team;
- Vice President of Communications who may be the team communication coordinator; and
- Treasurer who will maintain financial records and coordinate fundraising efforts for the team.

Uniform

Each team should have a uniform to wear at competitive meets and during service projects to form a team identity and help others easily identify them as a team. The uniform is the choice of the team members. Your team can adopt official Venturing uniforms that are available through ScoutStuff.org or local Scout shops. To provide program identity at competitions, this uniform is recommended. However, your crew can design its own uniform to be worn at competitions. The only requirements are that it include the Venturing logo and crew number on the shirt, and that the style and images on the uniform be consistent with the values of the Boy Scouts of America.

Sample Team Budget

Sample Startup/One-Year Budget for an SPP-Based Venturing Crew of 10 youth and 5

One-Time Start Up Costs:		
Guns	12-gauge and 20-gauge shotguns	varies
Eye protection	12 at \$6.00 each	\$72.00
Ear protection	12 basic ear muffs at \$15.00 each	\$180.00
Required Training for Coaches/Venturing Advisors)	NRA Shotgun Instructor - \$100 per adult for two adults.	\$200.00
	NRA Safety Officer Training - \$40 per adult for two adults.	\$80.00
Total one-time Costs + Guns:		\$532.00
Yearly Estimated Costs:		
BSA Registration Fees	15 at \$24.00 each	\$360.00
Insurance Fees (varies)	15 at \$1.00 each	\$15.00
Charter Fee	1 at \$40	\$40.00
YTF Membership Fees	12 at \$35 each	\$420.00
Official Matches (State Level)	4 matches per year; 10 at \$20 each	\$800.00
Regional Matches	2 matches per year; 10 at \$30 each	\$600.00
Ammo for Matches	Approximately 6,000 rounds for matches – 10 youth	\$1,260.00
Ammo for Practices	Approx. 10,000 rounds for practice -10 youth	\$2,100.00
Gun cleaning supplies		\$50.00
Total Estimated Yearly Costs		\$5,645.00

registered adults (costs may vary by council)

YTF Program Standard Procedures

Running a YTF Team

An YTF team should be run using the rules and regulations found in the official **YTF Handbook** for the season. The handbook and rules and regulations can be downloaded from the following site - <https://youthtargetfoundation.website.siplay.com/>

However, all youth members taking part in a BSA competitive team must be in a Venturing program. This is not a sanctioned Cub Scout or Boy Scout program or activity.

Funding your Venturing Crew:

Ammunition and range time are some of the expenses that your team will need to plan to cover. How you cover these expenses and competition expenses are up to the team to decide. You should consider participating in council product sales as this will raise money for the unit and give back to the council for their continued support of the program. Other fundraisers may also be necessary to defray shooting costs and to fund an endowment to support the team and receive matching grants.

There are also several organizations interested at increasing youth participation in shooting sports which provide grants to organizations that apply. Some are listed below:

Friends of the NRA <http://www.friendsofnra.org/National.aspx?cid=9>

Midway USA Foundation <http://www.midwayusafoundation.org/>

Youth Shooting Sports Alliance <http://www.youthshootingssa.com/>

For Questions or Additional Information:

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