

RIFLE

(BOYS AND GIRLS • ALL CLASSIFICATIONS)

A. SEASON 2014-15

September 15, 2014 - First Date of Season
December 13, 2014 - Last Regular Season Contest

B. PRESEASON

No restrictions on students.

C. MINIMUM DAYS PRACTICE

Each participant must have a minimum of 10 different days of physical practice before his/her first day of competition.

D. INDIVIDUAL NON-SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

ASAA has no limitations on students participating on non-school rifle teams while they are members of a school rifle team.

E. RULES

Regional rules apply. No state rules have been adopted.

F. CONFERENCES

Rifle teams are not currently categorized into conferences. School who have had rifle programs in the past are:

ANCHORAGE

- Bartlett
- Chugiak
- Dimond
- Eagle River
- East Anchorage
- Service
- South Anchorage
- West Anchorage

OUTSIDE ANCHORAGE

- Colony
- Delta Junction
- Lathrop
- North Pole
- Palmer
- Tok
- Wasilla
- West Valley

G. MEET LIMITATIONS

ASAA has no limitations on total number of meets allowed for either teams or individuals.

H. STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

There is not currently a state championship for rifle. It is an emerging sport and does not meet the criteria for a state championship.

I. HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Firearm instructors and frequent shooters are inherently at increased risk for lead poisoning from lead dust and fumes generated at firing ranges.

Airborne lead dust in firing ranges is generated by:

- a. Erosion of the bullet base by propellant gases
- b. Friction from the lead bullet against the gun barrel
- c. Exploding lead syphnate primers

- d. Lead bullets fragmenting from hitting the bullet trap, walls, floors or range ceiling.
- e. Improper range-cleaning methods disturbing steeled lead dust
- f. Poor range ventilation found in both indoor and outdoor ranges

Health Effects

Lead is typically absorbed by breathing lead dust. After shooting, lead can also be ingested when drinking, eating and/or smoking without hand-washing. During shooting, lead dust can settle on hair and clothing, which can then be carried back to cars and homes — potentially to harm children. Lead absorbed by children under 6 years of age can cause permanent damage.

Lead is a toxin that affects the brain, nervous system, digestive and reproductive systems, kidneys, and the ability to make blood.

To determine lead exposure, a health professional can take a blood sample for analysis. An elevated blood lead level indicates that lead is building up in the body faster than it can be removed.

The State Environmental Public Health Center for Disease Control recommends that rifle shooters have pre- and post- season lead blood levels drawn each year.

Recommendations for firing range shooters who are concerned about lead

- a. Substitute jacketed or ammunition containing lead-free primers and bullets.
- b. Use the shoot range ventilation systems.
- c. Wash hands and face before eating, drinking, and before leaving the range.
- d. Wash and store firing range clothes separately from family clothing.
- e. Ask your physician to order a blood lead test.
- f. Never load bullets or melt lead in an unventilated area inside the home or anywhere children may frequent.