Every Tuesday throughout the year, the Villages Recreation Center and the Villages Air Gun Club sponsor an open shooting event for all Villagers and their guests 13 years and older. There are no reservations required. Each participant is provided with an air gun (pistol and/or rifle), pellets, targets and basic instruction by an air gun club member. These open shoots are a great way to familiarize yourself with the sport or just spend time with friends and family.

The air gun club shooting season runs from late July through the middle of April each year. The year is capped with a luncheon where the seasons best shooters are recognized.

To join the club, simply come to one of the competition shoots, complete the application, a Villages Liability Release, and pay the Treasurer $10. We do offer an easy payment plan. Pay the Treasurer $10 all at one time, it’s easy!

Club shoots are held every week during the season on Thursday and Friday. Rules for the competition are on the web site. The Thursday shoot is a standing pistol and rifle competition. Each competition is 20 shots broken up into two segments of 10 shots in 10 minutes.

The Friday competition is a sitting bench rest event. The shooter is allowed a single point rest with both pistol and rifle competitions just like the Thursday shoot.
Air Gun Shooting Tips

Trigger finger positioning

It is very important that every shooter checks the placement of their finger on the trigger. The finger should be placed in such a position that the shooter draws straight back. It is also very important that the shooter maintains the same position throughout their shooting. If the shooter moves their finger too far inward, they will be shooting more to the right. If they move their finger too far outward they will be shooting to the left.

Breathing

It is very important to control your rate of breathing when shooting. Holding your breath is not an option. By holding your breath you are performing an unnatural function which causes you to lose focus on your aim. When you are shooting you should be squeezing your shot off halfway through an exhale. It is always good to take 3 or 4 deep breaths before picking up your gun to shoot. If you run out of breath you will tend to shoot high. If you are inhaling you will tend to shoot low.

Shoes

It is very important that you wear the proper footwear to keep your feet in a comfortable lock position. House slippers or flip flops are not recommended. By placing your feet firmly in one position it keeps your body from wandering or swaying.

More tips to follow as soon as we figure out what they are!!

Why Buy an Adult Air Gun?

Air gun shooting is a fun enjoyable sport yet still teaches you firearm safety and marksmanship. Those skills are directly translatable to regular firearms.

As with many, if not most sports, the technology of air guns has dramatically advanced since your father’s Red Ryder BB gun. Today’s target weapons, like those used in the Olympics, are extremely accurate and precise. After all, the 10 meter bullseye is the size of the period that ended the last sentence!

Additionally modern air gun benefits are:

- Hunting
  “Magnum” air rifles lethal 30-50 yards
  Small Game - Varmints, rabbits, squirrels, birds

- Shooting Skill Improvements
  Handiness of air guns permit frequent & inexpensive practice. (approx 1 cent/shot)

- Air Gun Regulations
  Not subject to 1968 US GCA & most other gun laws - federal or state

Air Gun Options

- CO2 or Compressed air
  > No need to pump between shots - rapid fire
  > More expensive to operate

- Spring Piston
  > High Power - suitable for hunting
  > Hard to Cock - some recoil
  > Not best for target shooting competitions

- Pneumatic
  > Must hand pump (once) between shots
  > Generally the most accurate for competition
  > “Olympic” class air guns are pneumatics

Competitive choices for target shooting:

- Pistols
  > Daisy 747 - $150
  > Baikal M46 - $480
  > Steyr LP10 - $2,000

- Rifles
  > Daisy Avanti Elite 753 - $250 (club members)
  > Baikal MP 532 - $700
  > Feinwerkbau - $3,600

Baikal MP 532 Match Air Rifle