

# AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS NEWS RELEASE



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*For God and Country*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Arkansas Air Rifle Competition to be Held Saturday**

The 20th Annual Arkansas American Legion Junior Olympic Three-Position Air Rifle Championship will be held this Saturday, March 9, 2019, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Newport High School Gymnasium, 406 Wilkerson Drive, in Newport, Arkansas, and media representatives are encouraged to attend.

The championship was initiated in the fall of 1999 by the National Guard Marksmanship Training Center (located at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock), the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), Daisy/U.S. Jaycees Shooter Education Program, National 4-H Shooting Sports, The American Legion, and USA Shooting (the Olympic shooting governing body).

*"This is one of the largest groups of junior shooters we have ever had,"* says Match Director CW2 Stephanie Patterson. She adds, *"We will have approximately 31 shooters per relay from all four corners of the State of Arkansas...with registered participants from different organizations competing, and we're extremely proud to be doing this for the youth of Arkansas."*

Three-position sporter and precision air rifle shooting represents the fastest-growing and largest segment of youth sport shooting events in the U.S. today. The American Legion sponsors these programs of marksmanship and gun safety education for Arkansas youth. As part of the program, the tournament provides competitors an opportunity to test their marksmanship skills ability in competition with other junior competitors throughout the nation.

Based on the results of this match as well as CMP Scoring Criteria, some teams may be invited to attend the 2019 National Junior Olympic Three-Position Air Rifle Championships later this summer at Camp Perry, Ohio.

### **Eligibility:**

Any student currently enrolled in elementary, middle or high school or equivalent educational program such as home schooling is eligible.

Again, this event will be held Saturday, March 9, 2019, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Newport High School Gymnasium, 406 Wilkerson Drive, in Newport, Arkansas, and media representatives are encouraged to attend.

For more information, please contact the American Legion headquarters in Little Rock at (501) 375-1104, or Match Director CW2 Stephanie Patterson at (501) 247-7408. To get all the information about the program, visit: [http://www.arlegion.org/programs/jr\\_shooting.html](http://www.arlegion.org/programs/jr_shooting.html), or you can also visit the American Legion Department of Arkansas Web site for more information at: [www.arlegion.org](http://www.arlegion.org).

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