

MARKSMANSHIP CERTIFICATION

*(Print, complete and bring to hunt with valid Hunting License and appropriate tags or stamps when required.
Also bring proof of Hunter Education.)*

One of the primary goals of the Texas Youth Hunting Program is to ensure that interested hunters have the knowledge, tools, skills, values and desire to demonstrate to the public at large that responsible and humane hunting practices promote wildlife conservation. The responsible and humane pursuit of wild animals for food involves many ethical considerations including a desire for excellence in marksmanship.

Good sportsmanship requires:

- Being familiar with the firearm or bow to be used to ensure its safe and proper use.
- Being confident when using the firearm or bow to ensure an enjoyable hunt.
- Being able to place a one-shot kill to avoid the consequences of wounding an animal.
- Being willing to spend the time and effort to be a capable shooter.

TYHP has established the following rules to foster good sportsmanship and ethical hunting practices:

1. Each youth hunter selected for a TYHP youth hunt is required to practice with the firearm or bow intended to be used on the hunt within 14 days prior to the scheduled hunt. (Please consult with your Huntmaster as to the appropriate type of firearm or bow as well as proper ammunition for the hunt.) This requires, at a minimum, the following to be accomplished (practice may be accomplished at any range - private or public - and over a number of days):

- a.) **Rifle hunts** - using factory loaded ammunition, fire a minimum of 10 rounds, at a range of 100 yards, placing the last 3 shots within an 8 inch circle target and present the target with this completed form at the check-in for the hunt.
- b.) **Shotgun hunts for turkey** - a suitable pattern target (turkey head or 36 inch circle) fired on at 30 yards; in all cases, fire a minimum of 10 rounds with factory loaded ammunition of the proper size shot for the game to be hunted and present with this completed form at the check-in for the hunt.
- c.) **Bow hunts** - an archery target showing 10 arrows placed within an 8-inch circle from a range of 20 yards is to be presented with this completed form at the check-in for the hunt.

2. A marksmanship range will be set up and the youth hunters will be tested as soon as practical on each youth hunt. The youth hunter will be required to demonstrate proficiency and knowledge of their firearm or bow in order to be allowed to hunt. They will ensure that the firearm or bow is still properly sighted at the appropriate distance. Should the youth hunter lack proficiency or should the firearm or bow not be signed properly, the Huntmaster may exclude the participant from hunting. If the youth hunter's equipment is malfunctioning, an alternate firearm or bow may be located. Should targets and/or this form not be presented at check-in, the Huntmaster will have the option of excluding the participant from the hunt until proficiency has been demonstrated.

We certify that _____ (youth hunter)

did use a _____ (firearm or bow) fired

at _____ yards on _____ (date) and did

exhibit sufficient skills to be allowed to participate in a wild game youth hunt.

Range Coordinator/Witness _____
Signature

Parent/Guardian _____
Signature

Participant (youth hunter) _____
Signature

