



7th Epsom Scouts Shooting Club
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PISTOL SHOOTING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Air Pistol shooting is gaining in popularity and we are often asked what the requirements are for introducing Pistol to youngsters, especially within Scouting.

This sheet gives some answers to frequently asked questions on the subject:

Q: Does my NSRA YPS Air Rifle Tutor qualification permit me to run YPS Pistol courses?

A: No, the NSRA YPS Air Rifle Tutor qualification does NOT permit you to run the YPS Air Pistol course, there is a separate YPS Tutor course for that.

Q: As a NSRA YPS Air Rifle Tutor, can I introduce my Scouts to Air Pistol?

A: Yes, within Scouting, as a NSRA YPS Air Rifle Tutor, you are permitted to conduct Air Rifle or Air Pistol shooting, BUT, subject to some important caveats (see below).

Q: What considerations do I need to take into account when planning to introduce Air Pistol shooting with my Scouts?

A1: As a NSRA YPS Air Rifle Tutor you need to be aware of your own limitations and competences and take care to remain within them – remember YOU are responsible for the safety of everyone on the range!

A2: NEVER use, or try to teach use of, any firearm about which you personally do not have a complete knowledge to use, safely.

A3: If you (as RO) are not completely confident with Air Pistols and do not fully understand their very specific hazards (which are different to Air Rifle) then it is your responsibility to take steps to gain the required competences from someone who is qualified, BEFORE supervising others.

A4: Ensure that the specific hazards of Air Pistol shooting are included in your own risk assessment – this will demonstrate to others that you understand the differences and have taken appropriate steps to ensure they are covered.

A5: Air Pistol should only be introduced to Scouts as a progression, once they are familiar, safe and confident with Air Rifle shooting.