



**ELKS NATIONAL**  
**HOOP SHOOT**  
**FREE THROW**  
**PROGRAM**



## ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

HELPING ELKS BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Established in 1928, the Elks National Foundation is the charitable arm of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Our mission is to help Elks build stronger communities. We fulfill our pledge by:

- ▶ **Investing** in communities where Elks live and work.
- ▶ **Providing** tomorrow's leaders, our youth, with lifelong skills.
- ▶ **Meeting** the needs of today's veterans.
- ▶ **Helping** the state Elks associations accomplish their charitable objectives.
- ▶ **Funding** Lodge projects that improve the quality of life in local Elks communities.

For more information about the Elks National Foundation, visit [elks.org/enf](http://elks.org/enf).

### ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

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Elks  
National  
Foundation, Inc.

# ELKS NATIONAL HOOP SHOOT

## FREE THROW PROGRAM



COMPETE. CONNECT.  
SUCCEED.



## FAST FACTS

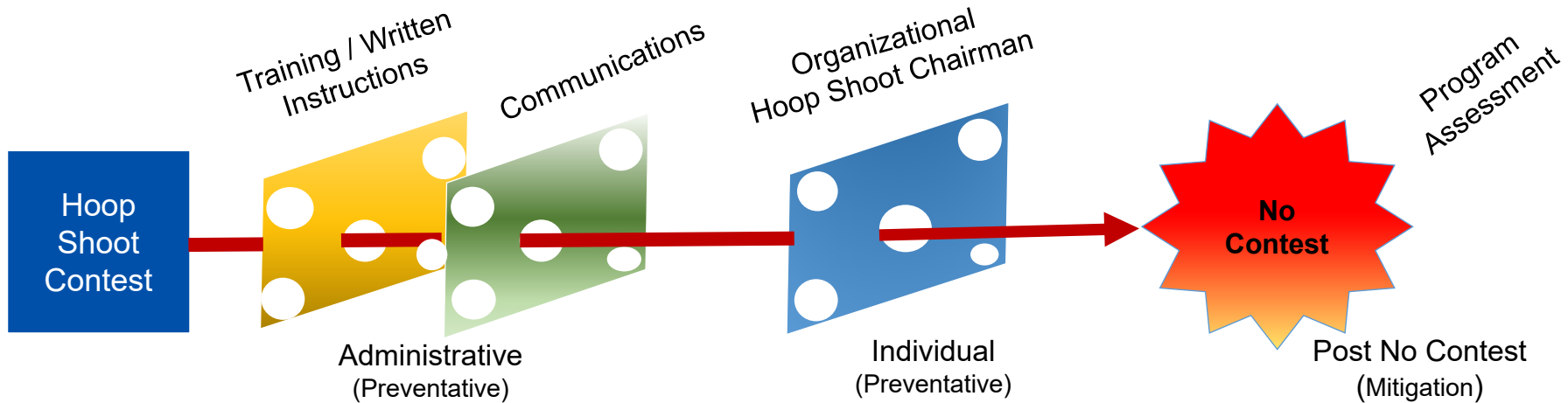
- ▶ The Elks National Hoop Shoot is a free throw contest for youth ages 8 to 13.
- ▶ Beginning at a local Elks Lodge, winning contestants advance through district, state, regional and national competitions.
- ▶ The program is **free to all contestants**. The Elks help sponsor contestants and their families at every level of competition.
- ▶ One boy and one girl from each division will **win a national title** at the National Finals and have their names inscribed in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.
- ▶ Two National Champions will receive the **Getty Powell Award** for most baskets made during the National Finals.
- ▶ To see a complete list of past Hoop Shoot winners visit [elkshoopshoot.org](http://elkshoopshoot.org).







# Barrier Model (Safeguards) Hoop Shoot Contests



- Procedures and Standards
- Hoop Shoot Pocket Manual
- Directors Dashboard
- Promotional Materials
- Videos
- Contest Material
- Online Training
- Communication at all levels
- Publicity
- Distribute fliers and posters to schools and community organizations
- Verification and Validation of Controls

- ER appoints chairman
- Chairman actively promotes the hoop shoot program
- Comprehends the materials available on the hoop shoot dashboard.
- Is accountable to implement program.
- Completes reports online
- The lodge supports the program.
- Leadership demonstrates support for program

- District Chairman evaluates why lodges did not participate in the hoop shoot program.
- A mitigation plan is developed to close gaps.
- Implement mitigation plan to close gaps.



# Appoint a Hoop Shoot Director

Hoop Shoot Directors should be appointed by each Lodge's Exalted Ruler.

**Lodge Secretary** - To help your Hoop Shoot Director manage the Lodge contest and move Lodge winners on to the next level of competition, a Hoop Shoot Coordinator position has been created in CLMS.

The Hoop Shoot Coordinator can access the Directors' Dashboard—an online dashboard—where they will manage all aspects of the contest, including entering winners' information and reporting participation. They are not allowed to perform any secretarial functions and cannot access CLMS. Ideally, the Hoop Shoot Coordinator should also be the Lodge Hoop Shoot Director. If you do not yet have a Lodge Hoop Shoot Director appointed, please do so. The coordinator must be a member of the Lodge, involved with the Hoop Shoot, and computer savvy.

## **Guidelines for Reporting Lodge Participation**

Every Lodge is required to fill out this online form, whether they do or do not host a contest. All states that have 100% of Lodges complete the Lodge Contest Report will receive an award.



# How to Appoint a Hoop Shoot Coordinator

1. The Lodge Secretary should login to CLMS.
2. From the homepage, click the CLMS2Web Staff tab at the top.
3. Click on the link labeled Appoint Hoop Shoot Coordinator. There will be a drop-down menu with all the members of your Lodge who currently have elks.org accounts. Select the name of the person you'd like to appoint, and then click the button labeled Appoint New Hoop Shoot Coordinator. If your Lodge Hoop Shoot Director is to also be the Hoop Shoot Coordinator and does not have an elks.org account, he or she will have to register so that you can assign Hoop Shoot Coordinator access.
4. The appointment will be immediate, and the new Hoop Shoot Coordinator Directors' Dashboard access privileges the next time he or she signs on using his or her elks.org user name and password.

**If you have any questions, email [hoopshoot@elks.org](mailto:hoopshoot@elks.org) or call 773/755-4758.**



# Available on the Directors Dashboard

## Promotional

- Hoop Shoot PSA video
- Hoop Shoot Griteos
- Hoop Shoot Logo
- Hoop Shoot Poster
- How to Host a Preliminary Contest
- Hoop Shoot Brochure
- News Release Tutorial
- News Release Generator

## Merchandise

- Contest Apparel, Basketballs, Trophies

## Contest Materials

- Participant Sign-In Sheets
- Registration Form
- Score Card
- Rules and Guidelines for Volunteers
- Certificate of Insurance
- Pocket Manual
- Floor Plan
- Keys to Success
- Solutions
- Hoop Shoot Coordinator Instructions
- Hoop Shoot Webinars
- Youth Protection Guide



# Publicity

In the Hoop Shoot Director's annual mailing, there are additional materials to help guide you in publicizing your contest. **note:** Hoop Shoot Directors at every level of the competition should work with the Public Relations Committee (if available) to contact available newspapers, radio and TV stations for media coverage. Provide the names of contestants, when they are available. Here are some additional tips to get your Hoop Shoot in the news:

1. Provide local schools and community organizations with program fliers and posters.
2. Begin publicizing the event at least three to four weeks before the contest and continue your publicity each week.
3. Enlist a photographer to take pictures of the contestants practicing and give them, along with a news release, to your local paper for more publicity.
4. Explain who the Elks are and provide more information about the mission and purpose of the organization.





HOST A PRELIMINARY  
**HOOP SHOOT**  
CONTEST



DEVELOPING GRITTY KIDS FOR 50 YEARS



# Hosting a Hoop Shoot Contest

Hosting a Hoop Shoot is easy—all you need is a gym, a basketball and contestants! Follow these steps and contact your local Elks Lodge with any questions.

## **STEPS FOR HOSTING YOUR PRELIMINARY CONTEST**

1. Choose a contest date and time. Work with your local Lodge's Hoop Shoot Director to ensure your contest occurs prior to the Lodge's contest. Invite students and youth in your community to participate.
2. A contestant may only enter one official Lodge Hoop Shoot contest. The Lodge sets rules for feeder/preliminary contests.
3. Organize your contestants by age (see Eligibility Guidelines below).
4. After the contest, complete the participation form. List the total number of participants in your contest and the names of your six winners. Forward your completed form to your local Lodge's Hoop Shoot Director.

Provide the six winners with the date and location of the local Lodge contest. The Lodge Hoop Shoot Director will provide this information.



# Hosting a Hoop Shoot Contest

## **CONTEST DATE AND ELIGIBILITY**

Contestants must be at least 8 and no older than 13 as of April 1, 2024, in order to participate.

Contests organized by schools or community organizations may be conducted during the regular school day, i.e. during P.E. classes, or after school. If possible, invite your local Lodge Hoop Shoot Director to attend. Schools and organizations should determine six winners, one from each division. The names of each winner should be recorded, and each winner should then move on to compete in the upcoming official Lodge contest.

## **AGE REQUIREMENTS**

The Elks Hoop Shoot is open to all children, ages 8 to 13. **Age groups are based on the contestant's age on April 1, 2024.**

1. If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2024, is too young to participate.
2. If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2024, is too old to participate.

There are six divisions: Boys 8-9 10-11 12-13 Girls 8-9 10-11 12-13

Be sure to accurately assign contestants to the correct age group. **Winners who do not shoot in their correct age group will be disqualified from participating in the next level of competition. No exceptions.**



# Elks National Hoop Shoot 2024 Age-Group Determination

Eligibility for the Elks Hoop Shoot is determined by the age that the contestant will be on :

## April 1, 2024

Visit [www.elks.org/hoopshoot](http://www.elks.org/hoopshoot) for an age-group

### ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2024, she/he is too young to participate.

If the contestant will be age 8 or 9 on April 1, 2024, she/he shoots in the 8 to 9 age-group.

If the contestant will be age 10 or 11 on April 1, 2024, she/he shoots in the 10 to 11 age-group.

If the contestant will be age 12 or 13 on April 1, 2024, she/he shoots in the 12 to 13 age-group.

If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2024, she/he is too old to participate.

**Contestants who shoot in the incorrect age-group will be disqualified. No exceptions.  
Please share this information with all Hoop Shoot volunteers and contestant's parents.**



# Secure a Gym

## **Suggested locations:**

Contests should be held during the day at the largest gymnasium available. When selecting a gym, please make sure that the sunlight is not on the floor or in the eyes of the contestant. Never try to conduct a contest during half-time of any basketball game.

Traditionally, school gymnasiums have been the most abundant and available facilities to Lodges. Contact your local school's after-school programs coordinator or athletic director to discuss using the school's facilities for your contest. Be organized and prepared to discuss any details and answer all questions they might have.

## **Other suggested locations:**

- Recreational/community centers
- Private schools
- YMCA
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Parks or outdoor regulation courts
- Other community organizations that have a regulation court



# Lodge Directors Checklist

1. Select a contest date and location. Ensure that the contest takes place at least two weeks prior to the district contest. Notify your District Director by October
2. Understand insurance liability requirement well in advance of contest.
3. Invite youth from area schools and community organizations to participate. Provide them with promotional materials and keep them informed of the date and time of your Lodge contest.
4. Start your publicity three to four weeks before the contest. Distribute posters and brochures throughout the community, at schools and other organizations.
5. Select volunteers to be officials, scorers and chaperones. Review their duties with them and ensure they have a clear understanding of the rules.
6. If possible, have a doctor or nurse or EMT present. The Lodge likely has a member who could volunteer.
7. Use the Age-Group Calculator on the Hoop Shoot website [elks.org/hoopshoot](http://elks.org/hoopshoot) and the date of birth provided to assign the contestant to an age group.
8. Distribute letters to each contest winner and family, indicating the date and time of the next contest. You should personally deliver these letters to each family immediately after the contest. Letters can be found online under Directors' Drills in the Lodge section at [www.elks.org/hoopshoot](http://www.elks.org/hoopshoot).



# Tips for Conducting a Successful Contest

## **BEFORE** your contest:

- A. **READ** and **UNDERSTAND** the rules. No guessing!
- B. **POST** a copy of the rules for public view.
- C. **ANNOUNCE** the age cut-off dates **before** placing contestants into age groups and beginning the contest. Do not wait until after contestants have participated to verify their ages.
- D. **REVIEW** the contest rules with contestants **before** they participate in the Hoop Shoot.
- E. **INSTRUCT** volunteers and chaperones on their duties and ensure that they have a clear understanding of Hoop Shoot Rules and Guidelines.
- F. **MAINTAIN** a quiet atmosphere with the audience seated.
- G. **NEVER** show or discuss your official scores with any parent or member of the audience for any reason.
- H. **NEVER** allow contestants to “re-shoot” for any reason.
- I. **MAKE IT FUN!** Keep your contestants engaged and provide a quality experience for everyone involved.
- J. **INFORM** your champions **in writing** of the date, time and location of the next contest.



# Eligibility Rules

1. A contestant may only enter **one** official Lodge Hoop Shoot contest. The Lodge sets the rules for feeder/preliminary contests.
2. Contestants must be at least 8 and no older than 13 as of April 1, 2024, in order to participate.
3. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the contestant competes in the correct age group. Use the Age-Group Calculator on the Hoop Shoot website **enf.elks.org/HSAC** to verify age-group assignments **before** your contestants compete. Contestants who shoot in the wrong age group will be disqualified.
4. As the Hoop Shoot tournament progresses, contestants may not switch divisions and may not skip levels of the competition. To advance to the next level of competition, a contestant must have **participated in and won** the previous level.





# Eligibility Rules

Contestants compete in one of six divisions:

Boys, ages 8-9, 10-11, 12-13

Girls, ages 8-9, 10-11, 12-13

If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2024, they are **too young** to participate.

If the contestant will be age 8 or 9 on April 1, 2024, they shoot in the 8 to 9 age group.

If the contestant will be age 10 or 11 on April 1, 2024, they shoot in the 10 to 11 age group.

If the contestant will be age 12 or 13 on April 1, 2024, they shoot in the 12 to 13 age group.

If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2024, they are **too old** to participate.



# Equipment and Attire

## **Boys:**

In the Boys 8-9 and 10-11 age divisions, the 28.5-inch basketball will be used. In the 12-13 age division, the basketball will be the regulation size 29.5-inch ball. All basketballs should:

- Have 7 to 9 lbs. of air pressure
- Have channels and/or seams not exceeding 1/4 inch in width
- Be made of leather or composite leather

## **GIRLS:**

In the Girls Division, all basketballs used should:

- Be regulation size (official) for girls/women – 28.5 inches
- Have 7 to 9 lbs. of air pressure
- Have channels and/or seams not exceeding 1/4 inch in width
- Be made of leather or composite leather



# Equipment and Attire

## ALL CONTESTANTS:

- Are required to wear gym shoes.
- Should wear a t-shirt and pants or gym shorts. Basketball uniforms are acceptable, but not required.

## Equipment Failure

- The Hoop Shoot Director is responsible for providing functioning equipment for a contest. During the contest, the Line Judge is responsible for maintaining the equipment. This includes making sure that the net is not tangled, that the basketball is fully functional, etc. **Should an equipment failure occur while a contestant is shooting for score, the Line Judge will stop the contest and consult with the Hoop Shoot Director to return everything to regulation.**



# Summary Contest Rules

1. Shooting times are set by the Hoop Shoot Director. All contestants must be present and ready to participate at their designated shooting time. No contestant may shoot before or after their designated time. Contestants who shoot before or after their designated time will be disqualified. No exceptions.
2. The 8-9 year old divisions shoot four feet in front of the regulation foul line. Use painter's tape or gym floor tape to mark the line. No other tape should be used.
3. All contestants should be allowed at least **10 minutes to warm up**. Should take place under the supervision of the contest officials.
4. To start the contest, boys 8 to 9 shoot at one end of the gym and girls 8 to 9 shoot at the opposite end of the gym at the same time.
5. Each contestant, in order of their draw, may have up to 5 warm-up shots (if desired) and will then shoot 10 shots for score.
6. Decisions by the Head Scorer, Line Judge and Hoop Shoot Director are final.  
**No spectators can change a decision made by a contest official.**



# Summary Contest Rules

7. Each free throw attempt shall be made within 10 seconds from the time a contestant is handed the ball. **The Line Judge should count 10 seconds, silently or with a 10 count out of the contestant's line of vision, for each free throw attempt.**
8. **Contestants must stay behind the foul line until the ball has touched the hoop, backboard or net.** If a line violation occurs, a penalty occurs, and the shot is void.
9. If a foul is committed, the Line Judge will indicate it by signaling a “T” with their hands, signifying that a technical foul has been committed. This should be done in clear view of the contestant and three scorers. Scorers should note a foul with a circled “T.”
10. Ties will be broken by taking five additional shots in the same shooting order as the regular contest.



# Expenses

**Lodge to District:** Lodge Directors should accompany winners and their parent/guardian to the District contest. Any reasonable expenses incurred should be the responsibility of the sponsoring Lodge.

**District to State:** District Directors should accompany winners and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to the State Contest. This could be an overnight trip. Any reasonable expenses incurred should be the responsibility of the state association.

**State to Regional:** State Directors must accompany winners and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to the Regional Contest. The ENF will cover the expenses of transportation, housing and food for all winners and their parent(s)/guardian(s). Details will be provided by the Regional Hoop Shoot Director.

**Date: February 24, 2024 in Boulder City Nevada**

**Regional to National:** The Elks Hoop Shoot National Office will coordinate and cover the expenses of transportation, housing, and food for winners and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to Chicago.

**Date: Chicago Illinois Wintrust Arena April 20, 2024**



# Awards

**Lodge Contests:** Certificates of Participation and Achievement are available to download from the Director's Dashboard online at [elks.org/hoopshoot](http://elks.org/hoopshoot). Any other awards are purchased at the expense of the sponsoring Lodge

**District Contests:** The ENF will provide firstplace and runner-up trophies for each division. Certificates of Achievement may be downloaded from the Director's Dashboard online at [elks.org/hoopshoot](http://elks.org/hoopshoot). Any other awards are purchased at the expense of the district or state association.

**State Association:** The National Office will provide first-, second- and third-place trophies for each division. Certificates of Achievement may be downloaded from the Director's Dashboard online at [elks.org/hoopshoot](http://elks.org/hoopshoot). Any other awards are purchased at the expense of the state Elks association.

**REMEMBER:** REMEMBER: You are not permitted to give any award of monetary value. Money, checks, bonds, gift certificates and scholarships are not allowed under any circumstances. Doing so would jeopardize the contestant's amateur status in the eyes of NCAA.

# Lodge Contest Report

Please complete this form after your Lodge Hoop Shoot contest.

## HOOP SHOOT DIRECTOR INFORMATION

Lodge Name	Chicago Northshore, IL	Lodge Number	1316
First Name	William	Last Name	Donnelly
Phone Number		Email Address	billyd@elks.org

## PRELIMINARY CONTEST PARTICIPATION

Did your Lodge partner with schools or community organizations to hold preliminary Hoop Shoot contests? This includes any contest that occurred prior to the Lodge Hoop Shoot. For example, a contest held by a school to advance contestants to the Lodge Hoop Shoot.  Yes  No

If yes, how many schools or community organizations hosted a preliminary Hoop Shoot contest?

In total, how many youth participated in your Lodge's preliminary Hoop Shoot contests?

## LODGE CONTEST PARTICIPATION

Did your Lodge hold a Local Lodge Hoop Shoot Competition this year?  Yes  No

Please record the total number of youth who participated in the official Lodge Hoop Shoot contest, completing 25 free throws. This total should only include the number of participants who attended and competed in the Lodge contest.

### Contest Information

Date (mm/dd/yyyy)	<input type="text"/>
Location	<input type="text"/>

Division/ Age-Group	Total
Boys 8-9	<input type="text"/>
Girls 8-9	<input type="text"/>
Boys 10-11	<input type="text"/>
Girls 10-11	<input type="text"/>
Boys 12-13	<input type="text"/>
Girls 12-13	<input type="text"/>
<b>Total Participants</b> (all age-groups)	<input type="text"/>

## VOLUNTEER PARTICIPATION

How many Elks members volunteered at your Lodge Hoop Shoot contest?

Did you invite Elks scholars to volunteer at your Hoop Shoot contest this year?  Yes  No

Did you invite any former Hoop Shoot contestants to volunteer at your contest?  Yes  No

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

Please select the activities below that your Lodge held or plans to hold for Hoop Shoot contestants, winners, or in conjunction with the Hoop Shoot contest this year.

- Lodge hosts a meal for Hoop Shoot contestants or contest winners.
- Lodge invites Hoop Shoot contestants or contest winners to participate in a Lodge service project. For example, Hoop Shoot contestants help prepare baskets for Christmas project, etc.
- Hoop Shoot contestants or contest winners attend an Elks-sponsored outing or event.
- Lodge hosts an awards banquet for Hoop Shoot contestants or contest winners.
- Other, please describe briefly and list date of activity.

Please describe any other ways your Lodge plans to stay involved with Hoop Shoot contestants and/or their families after the Lodge contest.

[Send to Elks National Foundation](#)