Individual Junior Shooter Safety Pledge

This Individual Junior Shooter Safety Pledge should be reviewed and affirmed by every junior shooter who uses an air rifle in youth marksmanship programs.

KEY WORDS	PERSONAL ACTIONS
1. Obeying Commands and Instructions	A Range Officer will be in charge of all range firing activities. I will listen to and immediately obey all commands and instructions given by the Range Officer.
2. Muzzle	Whenever I handle an air rifle, or guns of any kind, I will always maintain control of the muzzle so that it points in a safe direction. I will take special care to be sure I never point any gun muzzle at another person or myself.
3. Action	Whenever I handle an air rifle, or guns of any kind, I will immediately open the gun action (bolt or operating mechanism), or visually check to be sure the action is open with a safety flag (CBI) inserted. I will close a gun action only when I am on the firing line of a range and am authorized to do so by the Range Officer or instructor.
4. Trigger	Whenever I handle guns, I will do so without placing my finger on the trigger. I will place my finger on the trigger only when I am on the firing line, after I have placed my air rifle in a firing position and have begun to aim at the target.
5. Range Commands	I understand what the range commands LOAD, START, STOP and UNLOAD mean. I will respond to those commands whenever they are given.
6. Safe Loading	I will close the action of my air rifle or charge and load my air rifle only when I am on a designated firing point and have been given instructions or commands to do so. When I charge and load my air rifle I will take special care to keep the muzzle pointed upward or downrange towards the targets.
7. Target	When I am firing on a range, I will fire only at my designated targets. I will not fire at anyone else's targets or at any other objects on the range.
8. Malfunction	If, when I am on the firing line attempting to load or fire my air rifle, my air rifle fails to fire or malfunctions, I will keep the muzzle pointed downrange and raise my hand so the Range Officer can see it. I will wait for the Range Officer to give me instructions or clear the malfunction.

KEY WORDS	PERSONAL ACTIONS
9. Firing Completed	Whenever I have fired my last shot in a firing exercise, I will immediately open the action on my air rifle, ground the rifle and insert a CBI so the Range Officer can check it.
10. Loaded Air Rifle	If I still have a loaded air rifle after the command STOP is given, or even if I think there may still be a pellet or gas charge in my rifle, I will keep the muzzle pointed downrange, raise my hand so the Range Officer can see it and announce “Loaded Rifle.” I will wait for the Range Officer to give instructions for unloading the rifle.
11. Going Downrange	I understand that whenever anyone must go downrange to hang targets or for any other reason, that my air rifle action must be opened, my rifle must be grounded with a CBI inserted and I may not handle my air rifle while anyone is forward of the firing line.
12. Hygiene	I will protect my health by not bringing food or open drink containers to the range. I will always wash my hands immediately after I finish firing on the range.
13. Emergency Safety Officer	I am also responsible for making sure everyone around me handles guns safely. If I observe someone pointing a gun muzzle at another person, handling a gun with a closed action or handling a gun with their finger on the trigger, I will immediately advise or assist that person to safely control the muzzle, open the action or place the finger in a safe position.
14. Self-Discipline and Focus	I recognize that gun safety is possible only if I and my fellow shooters apply the self-discipline and focus to continually think safety every time we handle guns or shoot on the range.
15. Safety Goal	The safety goal for our junior shooting program is zero accidents. I want to be part of achieving that goal.

I understand and will follow each of these 15 personal commitments to gun safety. I accept full responsibility for making sure that my actions never cause a gun-related accident. I will always pay attention to safety when I handle guns and I will not tolerate unsafe gun handling actions by others.

_____ _____ _____

Name Signature Date