

Pete Kendzior  
Exalted Ruler

**Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks  
A Fraternal Organization  
Jackson Lodge No. 1713  
Chartered July 17th, 1947**



Fernando Escobedo, PER, PDDGER  
Secretary

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Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ALL JACKSON ELKS LODGE KIDS PLACE AT DISTRICT HOOP SHOOT® COMPETITION**

**Riverton, WY** – On January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Wyoming Elks Southwest District, made up of the Jackson, Lander, and Riverton Elks Lodges, held their annual Hoop Shoot® district competition. This district competition determines which three boys and which three girls will advance from the Wyoming Elks Southwest District to the state competition. Jackson Elks Lodge No. 1713 sent Austin Day (8 – 9 boys), Derringer Holding (10 – 11 boys), Sam Revill (12 – 13 boys), and Hayden Ackley (10 – 11 girls) to Riverton for the district competition and are proud to announce that all four athletes placed. Day, Holding, and Ackley placed first in their respective divisions, earning them a spot at the State Hoop Shoot® competition in Casper, WY on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Revill placed second in his division, making him an alternate to attend the State Finals should the first-place athlete not attend.

These athletes first competed at the local level at the Jackson Elks Lodge Hoop Shoot® on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 where they each won their age group. Competitors shot a series of 25 free throws at a standard basketball hoop under a strict set of rules to ensure a fair competition for all. These same rules are applied at each step of the competition from local, to district, to state, to regional, then finally the national competition. “It’s an incredible honor to send these kids to state,” says Jackson Elks Lodge Hoop Shoot Director Jessica Schiers, “I’m also encouraged to hear the competitors at every level saying they are going to practice and come back stronger next time. That’s what this competition is all about- perseverance and hard work.”

“Everyone at our Lodge has their fingers crossed for these kids as they move onto the state competition,” says Pete Kendzior, Jackson Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler. “We hope to be able to send them next to Colorado Springs for Regional Finals, then onto Chicago.”

Through the Hoop Shoot program, the Elks have been developing and reinforcing grit in our nation’s youth for more than 47 years—long before researchers and experts concluded that grit is so important for our children. The 2020 Hoop Shoot National Finals will take place on April 18<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. Winners of the Elks National Hoop Shoot® finals will have their names permanently inscribed in the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. Learn more about the Elks National Hoop Shoot® program at [www.elks.org/hoopshoot](http://www.elks.org/hoopshoot).

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*The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks was founded in 1868 to promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of Charity, Justice, Brotherly Love, and Fidelity; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship. Today the Elks are a fraternal order of nearly one million members with a network of more than 2,000 lodges in communities across the country. Annually the Order spends more than \$80,000,000 for benevolent, educational, and patriotic community-minded programs.*

**Elks Care - Elks Share**

**CHARITY • JUSTICE • BROTHERLY LOVE • FIDELITY**

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*Jackson Elks Lodge Southwest District Hoop Shoot® Winners L to R: Hayden Ackley, Austin Day, Derringer Holding, and Sam Revill*

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