ELKS HOOP SHOOT

HOST A PRELIMINARY HOOP SHOOT CONTEST

UNLEASHING GRITTY KIDS

THE ELKS INVITE YOU TO HOST A HOOP SHOOT

The Elks Hoop Shoot is a free throw contest for kids ages 8 to 13. The program is **free** to all contestants and provides youth an opportunity to compete, connect and succeed through hard work and healthy competition. The lessons learned at the Hoop Shoot help **kids unleash grit**. Everything you need to host a preliminary Hoop Shoot contest is included in this informational guide. While there can be many preliminary contests, a contestant may only enter one offical Lodge Hoop Shoot contest. The Lodge Director sets the rules for preliminary contests and will provide additional details on the Lodge contest.

LOCAL ELKS LODGE INFORMATION

Lodge Address	**Director Name**	
	Email	
	Phone	
Lodge Hoop Shoot Contest Date		
Lodge Hoop Shoot Contest Location		

Looking for more? Visit **elks.org/hoopshoot** for answers to frequently asked questions, features on current contestants and more!

Be sure to check out our Hoop Shoot films and Griteos (videos about Grit), available on the program's website and YouTube channel—they're perfect for passing along the benefits of the Hoop Shoot, recruiting contestants, and getting kids and families excited to participate in the program! Visit **enf.elks.org/Griteos** to watch.

2750 N. Lakeview Ave. | Chicago, IL 60614-2256 | 773/755-4758 | hoopshoot@elks.org | **elks.org/hoopshoot**

HOW TO HOST A HOOP SHOOT

Hosting a Hoop Shoot is easy—all you need is a court, a basketball and contestants! Follow these steps and contact your local Elks Lodge with any questions. To see a volunteer training video about hosting a hoop shoot preliminary contest, visit **enf.elks.org/HSVolunteerVideo**.

STEPS FOR HOSTING A PRELIMINARY CONTEST

1. Choose a contest date and time, then invite youth in your school or community. Work with the local Lodge's Hoop Shoot Director to ensure the contest occurs prior to the Lodge contest.
2. Assign a line judge, rebounder(s) and official scorers to each division.
3. Organize contestants by age (see Eligibility Guidelines below).
4. After the contest, complete the participation form located in this guide. List the total number of participants in the contest and the names of the six winners. Forward the completed form to the local Lodge Hoop Shoot Director.
5. Provide the six winners with the date and location of the official local Lodge contest.

CONTEST DATE AND ELIGIBILITY

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 the 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 compete in the upcoming official Lodge contest.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

1. The Elks Hoop Shoot is open to all children, ages 8 to 13. **The age group is based on the contestant age on April 1, 2027**.
2. If the contestant will be age 7 on April 1, 2027, they are too young to participate. If the contestant will be age 14 on April 1, 2027, they are too old to participate.
3. There are six divisions:

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

4. 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.**
5. Visit **enf.elks.org/HSAC** for an Age Group calculator to assign contestants to an age group.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ELKS

WHO ARE THE ELKS?

Elks are community. No matter where you go in the country, an Elks Lodge is right around the corner. With nearly 800,000 members and nearly 1,800 Lodges nationwide, Elks provide charitable services that help build stronger communities.

Elks Lodges are places where neighbors come together, families share meals, and children grow up. Elks invest in their communities through programs that help children stay healthy and drug-free, meet community needs, and serve our nation's veterans.

Join us in serving our community today! Visit **elks.org/who** to get involved.

ABOUT THE ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION

Established in 1928, the Elks National Foundation is the charitable arm of the Elks. The ENF helps Elks build stronger communities through programs that support youth (like the Hoop Shoot), serve veterans, and meet needs in areas where Elks live and work.

To learn more about Elks National Foundation youth programs, including the Elks Drug Awareness Program and ENF scholarships, visit **elks.org/enf** or contact your local Elks Lodge.

Elks National Foundation, Inc.

2750 N. Lakeview Ave. | Chicago, IL 60614-2256 | 773/755-4728 | enf@elks.org | **elks.org/enf**

ELKS HOOP SHOOT PRELIMINARY CONTEST PARTICIPATION FORM

Please complete and submit this form to your local Lodge Hoop Shoot Director.

Name of School/Organization						
Name of Contest Coordinator				**Phone**		
Email				**Prelim. Contest Date**		
Preliminary Contest Location						
Total Number of Participants	Girls 8-9		Girls 10-11		Girls 12-13	
	Boys 8-9		Boys 10-11		Boys 12-13	

Division	Winner's Name	Birthdate	Parent Name and Email
Girls 8-9			
Girls 10-11			
Girls 12-13			
Boys 8-9			
Boys 10-11			
Boys 12-13			

SHARE YOUR HOOP SHOOT JOURNEY ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Follow the Elks National Foundation on social media to see Hoop Shoot updates throughout the season. Visit **enf.elks.org/social** to find the ENF's Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and more! Share your own journey by tagging the ENF's accounts and using **#HoopShoot**.

CONTEST RULES

1. The 8-9 divisions shoot four feet in front of the regulation foul line.
2. The 12-13 boys division shoots with a 29.5” basketball. All other divisions shoot with a 28.5” basketball.
3. All contestants should be given an official opportunity to warm up. Ten minutes is recommended.
4. Each contestant should be given up to five warm-up shots, if desired, before shooting for score. The number of warm-up shots is at the discretion of the contest coordinator, but it is recommended that five shots are offered. Then, the contestant will shoot their first 10 shots for score, return to the end of the line, and shoot their final 15 shots without additional warm-up.
5. Once the ball is offered by the line judge, a contestant has up to 10 seconds to make a free throw attempt. If a contestant takes longer than 10 seconds to shoot, a penalty occurs and the shot is void. A free throw ends when the try is successful, when it is certain that the try will be unsuccessful, or when the ball becomes dead.
6. The contestant must stay behind the foul line until the ball has touched the hoop, backboard or net. If the line is touched before this happens, a penalty occurs and the shot is void.
7. Ties will be broken by taking five additional shots in the same shooting order until the winner is determined.

Visit **elks.org/hoopshoot/compete** for complete contest rules and equipment guidelines.

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