



CHAPTER 14:

NRA STATE ASSOCIATIONS

All 50 states are served by NRA State Associations. Their tasks of coordination and communication are quite different from those of local organizations. NRA State Association objectives are broader and their operations are more far reaching. They are the liaison between local clubs and the National Rifle Association. The NRA State Association is obliged to keep one eye on the specific interests of members and clubs at the local level, and the other eye on the myriad shooting events constantly taking place throughout the nation as well as the state.

Photo by Forrest MacCormack

Information is a prime product of any state rifle and pistol association. Shooters in one part of a state may have an interest in what shooters in other parts of the state are doing. Only NRA State Associations can supply this information. National publications do not have sufficient space to cover the news and personalities that are of interest to shooters solely in a particular state.

Firearm legislation must be continually followed for restrictions on the rights of citizens to own and use firearms. Such anti-firearm legislation often originates in the state legislature. NRA State Associations

can perform a valuable service in reporting such proposals to clubs. There are times when it is necessary to attend hearings, contact individual legislators, and furnish information to the various news media. The effective legwork being done by NRA State Associations assist local clubs in their information services to their club members.

State shooting championships are popular with competitive shooters everywhere. Most NRA State Associations conduct their rifle and pistol championships through local clubs, although a few completely manage their own shooting championships. NRA State Associations determine the location, choose the events, and promote the championships. Some of them approve match officials, furnish the awards, and publish the results. They also handle tryouts for the selection of team members. Many NRA State Associations sponsor Regional, Sectional, Registered, and Approved tournaments, as well as leagues and pistol matches. By coordinating all types of competitive shooting activities within the state, NRA State Associations can help bring about better scheduling of matches, more interesting programs, and improved ranges.

Meeting annually is another important function of NRA State Associations. It is beneficial to all shooters in a state to have its leading shooters and club officers meet to discuss problems and programs common to all. Officers and committees report on their activities, new programs are planned, and elections are held. The benefits to shooters statewide increases through these meetings.

NRA State Associations assist in the guidance of conducting club events, improving shooting facilities, and conducting training courses. They also help the club to locate and train instructors. Individual NRA State Association members are furnished to help locate and join gun clubs in the state.

For more information about your NRA State Association visit **<https://stateassociations.nra.org/>** or call **(800) NRA-CLUB**.