

Hello, I would like to introduce myself, I am Waylon Ricker and I am 14 years old. I am currently a Freshman at Scott Community High School in Scott City KS. I am involved in many activities in and outside of school. This year I am participating in cross country and I plan to participate in wrestling this winter. In the spring I will participate in track and our high schools Trap Team. In the summers, I participate in my favorite sport, the Scott City Stars Swim Team and 4-H Shotgun. I am hoping to go to college and swim after I graduate. I am an active 4H member of the Lake Wide Awake 4H Club and am currently the club Vice President. I participate in Cooking, Arts and Crafts, and Shooting Sports (archery and shotgun). My favorite project is that I have found that I love shotgun, maybe because I can out shoot my brother sometimes. I have qualified again this year to shoot at the state level in both skeet, trap, and sporting clays.

Hunting is something that I enjoy getting to do when I have time away from all the sports that I play. I enjoy getting to go to Webster with a group of cousins to hunt deer, quail, and pheasant. It is something that when we are at the farm, I enjoy taking my gun and going out and sitting on my bucket to hunt dove or walk the fields for pheasant. I have tried a couple of times to turkey hunt but my dad says I don't stay still and quiet long enough to ever get anything close enough. My goal this winter is to try and get another deer.

I am interested in the Kansas Governor's Ringneck Classic as it would be an opportunity for me to get to hunt, something that I enjoy getting to do. It would also be a time to meet new people and make new friendships and maybe be able to join others at other times to make memories. Hunting is part of the American heritage and has been something that has gone on since the stone age and before. To preserve this heritage, we must work hard to pass on to our children the respect and love of hunting and wildlife that was passed down to me.