



FLIGHT



Volume 2

JUNE, JULY, 1960

No. 7

TOURNAMENT RULES GOOD OR LACKING

Last month I posed this question to several archers around the state to try to get some helpful suggestions or constructive criticism. THE QUESTION: What new tournament rules would you like to see included in the VBA Tournament Procedure and/or the existing ones eliminated? The results:

Dear Gene:

In answer to the question you wrote and ask me, I think it should be made a rule, that all VBA Tournaments should be shot in this manner on the field round. Since all ranges will be double staked you should shoot two arrows from one stake, then switch and shoot two arrows from the other stake. I don't know if this is a VBA rule or not, but I think we should start shooting at all VBA Tournaments, promptly at 9:00 a.m. If this is a rule, I think it should be enforced.

Obra L. Keese, Jr.
Lynchburg.

Dear Gene:

As I understand it an archer is now able to have his classification changed downward after having shot four scores below his original classification average. This procedure, we feel, tends to promote sandbagging and is not consistent with a rule or requirement of the state tournament, i.e. "an archer will compete using his or her highest classification for the current year."

Logically, an archer competing for awards is not apt to purposely shoot a low score if his capability runs higher because everyone likes to win. I think the reverse is true when an archer shoots at his home range in a club affair. Let's put the squeeze on sandbagging and go back to the old rule of keeping the same classification for one year and then changing only on application to VBA.

R. M. (Bob) Herndon
Richmond, Va.

Dear Gene:

The VBA Tournament Rules are subject to very little criticism. The gripes focus on Rule 19 Classification which is obsolete at present due to the new NFAA Classification Rules. Present rules put the consistent archer at the mercy of a person who will shoot a high score, then drop back in a month or two, then repeat. The new NFAA rules make it easy to go up in class but difficult to drop back. The highest class attained carries over to the next year, etc. Since we have the administrative set-up modeled after the NFAA Field Governor system, it would be easy to follow the new NFAA Classification Rules and in view of the wording of Rule 19a it is difficult to see how we could do otherwise. I would also like to see a rule that would permit the target captain to enter the scores on the classification cards of the archers in his group.

Jim Livesay
Glasgow, Va.

Dear Gene:

In reply, I would like to say that I am like the "new bride and groom: that is, I'm happy about the whole thing." I have always been for minimizing rules and regulations, however, I realize that they sometimes become obsolete and must be replaced with new ones.

There is one thing that I feel very strongly about that would indirectly affect tournament procedures. It has always seemed to me that too much importance is placed on the animal round—giving sand-baggers that perfect food for survival. If we are to lick this situation we must either reduce the number of possible points to at least half or demand that all scores be entered on the classification cards. I have spoken to many who were in complete agreement with this. I do think though, that tournament procedures such as time of starting, ways of scoring, etc., should all be standardized.

Gene Hillyard
Harrisonburg, Va.

1960 N.F.A.A. Championship Tournament Winners

MEN: Fred Simmons, Texas 2771; Lon Stanton, Mo. 2712
James Palmer, N. Y. 2706
WOMEN: Faye Sconyers 2447
Joan Curran 2285; Marle Wimer 2144; Virginia Participants Placing Instinctive Women: 5th Place Mildred Hickson 2123; Int. Girls 5th Place Madeline Ford 1633

GENE LIMERICK

VBA FACTS AND FIGURES

There are many interesting facts and figures which are not generally known about VBA. Possibly some of these, which are picked at random, might surprise you. Did you know that . . .

The VBA had an income of \$8046.05 last year?

There are \$7879.83 worth of pins running around the state? (That's a lot of pins, probably about 75 quivers full.)

The VBA had 1861 members last year? VBA postage amounted to \$534.52 last year?

Somebody had to lick all those stamps?

Trophies for the state shoot amounted to \$74.24?

It cost \$471.50 for membership card issue last year?

Only four clubs have perfect attendance at VBA quarterly meetings since the 1957 reorganization?

Operational cost of the VBA last year was \$8538.84?

In a 28 target field round the average archer has pulled more than 2 tons in bow weight?

Must be why I get so tired?

Fourteenth Annual Virginia Bowhunters Association State Championship Tournament

Circle September 4 and 5, 1960 on your calendar, get your gang together, pack that bag and have it ready and waiting for that big event—the Fourteenth Annual Virginia Bowhunters Association State Championship Tournament. Again this year the Augusta Archers will be the host club for this big shoot and they are laying out the welcome mat for all shooters.

Our range is located between Staunton and Waynesboro off of U. S. Route 250 (2.6 miles east of Staunton City Limits Sign or 6.7 miles west of Waynesboro City Limits Sign). You turn off Rt. 250 at Arehart's Amoco Station on a dirt road and immediately after making this turn-off you will go under a railroad underpass. Clip out these directions and put them in your billfold so that you will be sure to know the way.

The registration for this shoot will commence at 4 P.M. on Saturday, September 3 and the DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION will be 8:30 A. M. Sunday, September 4. Bring your VBA membership card and all registration cards that have scores on them since the last state shoot. We wish to urge all to register as soon as possible upon arrival. Don't forget the 90 day ruling concerning tournament scores in order to participate in the State Shoot.

Registration fees will be same as last year which are as follows: Adults: \$5.00; Intermediates and Juniors: \$3.50. Maximum fee for any immediate family will be \$13.50.

Again this year we will have four 28-target courses to accommodate the crowd. There will be plenty of camping space and good cold well water. For those who wish other accommodations there is in this issue a Motel Reservation form to be mailed, not later than August 26, to the Allstate Motor Court whose address is given in the form.

On Sunday, Sept. 4, a dinner will be served by the Verona Volunteer Fire Co., Inc. Last year they served an excellent meal and have assured us of one equally as good.

Also Sunday night, the Tsungani Indian Dancers will perform ceremonial dances of the American Indians. This group is made up of members of the Boy Scout Troop 84 of Stuarts Draft, Va. All their dances are authentic as they have been taught by real Indians. Many of you saw them at last year's state shoot but this year's performance will be even better and bigger than last year's as they have learned many new dances and have become quite an experienced group because of their many public appearances. So for a real

treat, be sure and see this group perform.

Last year for the first time we had a free drawing and it went over so big that we have decided to have another one this year. Score cards from one of the rounds will be used as tickets and you must be present to win. This drawing will take place immediately before the presentation of awards on Monday. So far we haven't contacted the nationally known archery companies for donations, as we did last year, but will have by the time this issue reaches you, but already we have had the following articles donated by stores as listed below.

1 Wizard 3-cell flashlight from Western Auto Store, Waynesboro.

1 Tree Brand hunting knife from Corner Hardware Sports Center, Waynesboro.

1 Buckskin jacket from Freed's Taxidermy, Inc., Waynesboro.

1 dozen wooden hunting arrows, from Woody's Sport Shop, Waynesboro.

1 folding aluminum chair, from Standard Drug Co., Waynesboro.

1 Esterbrook fountain pen from Garst's Inc., Waynesboro.

½ dozen glass target arrows from Weddles Archery Shop, Christiansburg.

1 Ray-O-Vac flashlight (convertible 3 or 6 cells) from J. J. Newberry Co., Waynesboro.

1 Side quiver and 1 bow cover from Archery Specialty, Charlottesville.

1 \$5.00 Gift Certificate from The Sportsman, Staunton.

1 Camp Cooler from Roses 5-10-25c Store, Waynesboro.

By the time of the State Shoot, we plan to have many more prizes.

As you know we have two divisions in the State Shoot—Instinctive and Hunters. Those who plan to shoot in the Hunters Division, plan to have your arrows checked for weight.

Three rounds will be shot—field, hunters, and animal; two of which will be shot on the first day and one on the last. Trophies are awarded to the Man and Woman State Champions in the Instinctive and Hunters Divisions. There are 12 VBA medallions awarded in each class as follows: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for aggregate score; 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for field round; 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for hunters round; and 1st, 2nd and 3rd for animal round.

See you at the Big Shoot and in the meantime Good Shooting and twenties to you.

Doris L. Woods
Publicity, Augusta Archers.

FOR THE RECORD

1947

Pres. Joe Parker.

V. Pres. Bob Thompson

Sec./Treas. John Stone

Field Cap. Morris Walker

Lady Paramount: Lillian Parker

1st State tournament held in Portsmouth.

Champions: Men: John Stone; Women: Lillian Parker; Juniors: Bud Smith. 1947-48

Pres. Joe Parker

V. Pres. Jack Henley

Sec./Treas. John Stone

Field Cap. Bill Braswell

2nd State Tournament held in Roanoke.

Champions: Men: Chuck Arrington, Roanoke; Women: Mary Helvestein, Roanoke; Juniors: Norman Arrington, Roanoke.

1948-49

Pres. James Cassell

V. Pres. W. A. Johnson

Sec./Treas. John Stone

No Field Captain listed—anybody remember?

3rd State Tournament held at Hampton.

Champions: Men: Chuck Arrington, Roanoke; Women: Rae Cassell, Roanoke. Juniors: Who remembers whether it was Jerry Keyes or Norman Arrington?

1949-50

Pres. Robert Thompson

V. Pres.

Sec./Treas. Duke Hudson

4th State Tournament held at Clifton Forge.

Champions: Men: Women: Juniors. This was the year of the first bow season in the State—North River—3 days.

1950-51

Pres. Robert Terry. (This is from memory—if it is wrong somebody say so.)

V. Pres.

Sec./Treas.

5th State tournament held at

Champions: Men: Jerome Keys, Lincolnia; Women: Juniors:

1951-52

Pres. Jay Hill

V. Pres.

Sec./Treas. Robert Gillespie

6th State tournament held at Richmond (if this is wrong call me on it).

Champions: Men: Jerome Keys, Lincolnia; Women: Edna Gillespie, Colonial Heights; Juniors:

1952-53

Pres. James Oglethorpe

V. Pres.

Sec./Treas. Joe Vrable

7th State tournament held at Portsmouth and Norfolk—a two day shoot.

Champions: Men: Jerome Keys, Lincolnia; Women: Sally Stallard, Roanoke; Juniors: Norman Arrington, Roanoke.

This was the year that Flight was started.

The year that we joined the Va. Wildlife Federation.

After this year there are records etc. that this sort of information may be taken from.

FLIGHT

News and views of the Virginia Bowhunters Association, Inc.

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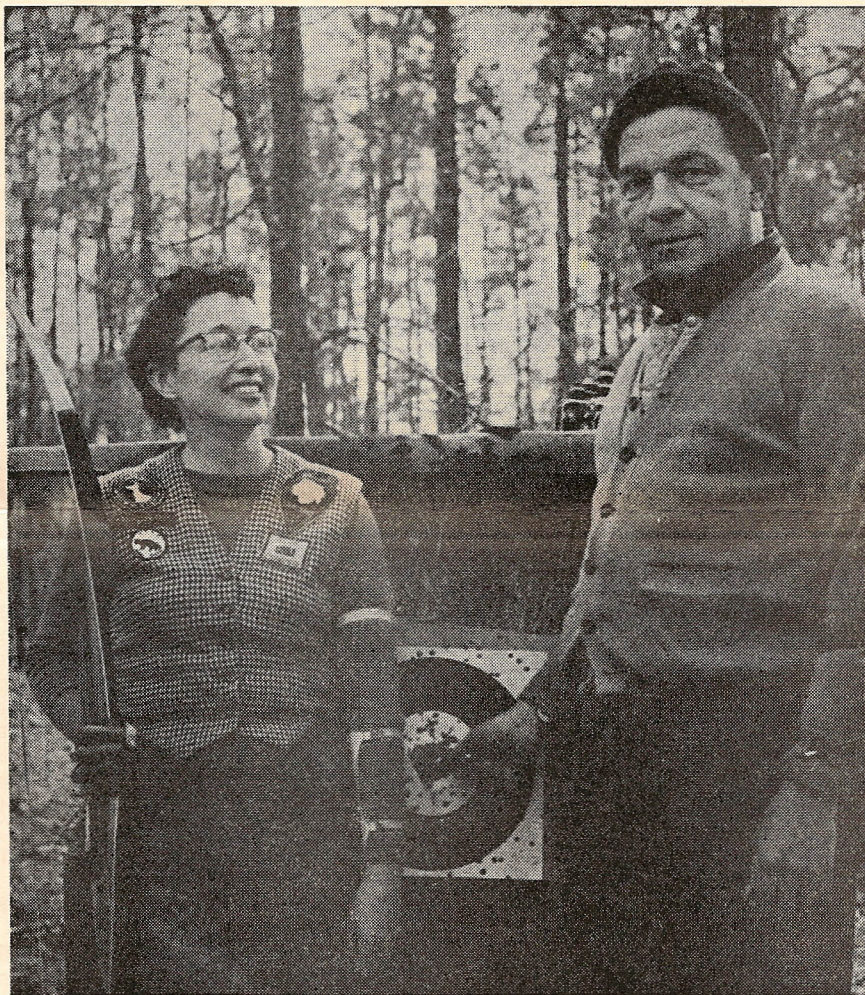
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Complete with aluminum reel, nylon line, Bearglas arrow, harpoon head, (without bow) only
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Edna and Bob Gillespie

As Editor of Flight and in my final edition I would like to single out two individuals from the many who have devoted so much time and energy for the sake of archery. Bob and Edna Gillespie, in my opinion, are representative of the high ideals, sportsmanship and devotion. The following is an interview conducted recently with Edna and Bob.

How long have you been participating in archery?

"We bought our first bows in 1939."

What got you interested in archery?

"We started out stump shooting, then, some months later, we met some target archers and were fascinated by their precision and technique. Then Bob was transferred out of the country for a period of 8 years. When we returned to Richmond in 1949 we joined the Richmond Archers and the Virginia Bowhunters Association."

Have you placed in State or National Tournaments?

Edna—"Dual target and field archery champion of the state of Virginia in 1951."

What was your greatest thrill concerning archery?

Bob—"Watching a deer escape—the perfect shot."

Edna—"Winning both Championships in the same year."

How would you compare archery today with when you started?

Edna—"1951 was the last year for target archery tournaments in Virginia that I remember. After that everything seemed to have switched over to field shooting. We used field archery primarily as practice for hunting."

What do you think is archery's biggest need?

Bob—"The fellowship and friendship we had in the beginning."

What are your predictions for its future?

"We believe that archery could be one of the greatest sports ever, but our procedure requires refining and a better organization on a National scale."

Club Requirements Too Low

It is with a feeling of alarm that I reviewed the action of the directors at the VBA April meeting in Lynchburg in reference to the proposed rules and regulations pertaining to the issuance of club charters. Specifically, the small number of members decided upon to form a club, completely defeats several of the major purposes of the club charter program.

There are several reasons for establishing club charters in VBA which might well be enumerated at this time to establish firmly in every member's mind some of the underlying purposes behind these charters.

Probably the first and foremost reason for club charters is the advantages that clubs can derive from being associated with the VBA. These are enumerated in the proposal. Secondly, we are faced with a problem of growth of new, small clubs that result not only in the fight for financial survival, but meeting the work requirements of club ranges and facilities. This can not be easily accomplished with a small group of archers. It might be pointed out here that it is not the purpose of the club charters to discourage the growth of new clubs, but rather establish a minimum set of requirements that would develop stronger clubs and thereby further the progress of archery in both interest and safety. Thirdly, the establishment of club charters eliminates the starting up of splinter archery groups without the necessary foresight and preparedness required of any new organization in order to stand the test of time. Lastly, the issuance of charters to the various archery organizations around the State, definitely gives VBA, the mother organization, some control and standardization along national levels.

In view of the above it is hoped that clubs will reconsider the action taken at the last VBA quarterly meeting and will come prepared to increase the minimum number of members required for charter issuance to a more reasonable number such as a compromise of 15 adult members at the next VBA meeting. With a multitude of small clubs now proposed with a minimum of only 8 members, the age-old problem of tournament scheduling becomes a major consideration. All clubs are requested to give this matter their immediate attention so that at the next VBA quarterly meeting a workable charter regulation can be initiated.

Respectfully,
Ted Grefe.

Editor's note: Ted was unable to attend the April VBA meeting because of major back surgery, and at present is recuperating at home in a full length body cast.

Open Letter to Bob Thompson

Dear Bob:

Your article on the history of Archery in Virginia was fine until you started on Field. I don't and neither do the other 12 people who were there remember it happening like that. Now I think that history is a fine thing but I also think that if we are going to the trouble of recording it at all, it should be accurate. Let us have fact not fiction—let's record it as it really happened, not as we might like for it to have happened! In the article in Flight you make the statement "We talked about reorganizing the Virginia Archery Association as to include field archery and hunting." May I say here that NO CLUB AND NO ASSOCIATION OF ANY KIND OR ANY PLACE was concerned with the formation of the Virginia Field Archery Association. Bob, you and Richmond may have fathered, fostered and nourished target archery for a long time, but those old clubs, the VAA and the old Portsmouth club of 1939 nor any other club had any bearing whatsoever on the idea, formation or founding of the VFAA. Now may I quote your own words from an article in the NFAA magazine of September 1947. "Field archers representing Norfolk, Portsmouth, Lawrenceville and Richmond met on the Portsmouth range, August 3rd for the purpose of getting better acquainted and to form a state organization.

"After shooting four times around the 14 target course, that included some very tricky shots, an informal meeting was held. Nominations for temporary officers were in order and the following

CLUB	DATE
Chesapeake Bowmen, Portsmouth	August 1947
Lincolnia Bowmen, Lincolnia (Alexandria)	October 1947
White Rovers Club, Clifton Forge	January 1948
Chesapeake Bowmen (second course)	August 1948
Richmond Archers, Richmond	November 1950
Oakwood Forest, Covington	July 1951
Princess Anne, Norfolk	January 1952
Sherwood Archery, Roanoke	October 1952

(Continued on page 5)

elected to serve until the state meet is held on October 5th: Joseph A. Parker, Jr., President from Portsmouth; Robert C. Thompson, Vice-President, from Richmond; John C. Stone, Secretary-Treasurer, from Norfolk; Morris Walker, Field Captain, from Churchland; Mrs. Joseph Parker, Lady Paramount, from Portsmouth.

"The name Virginia Field Archery Association was chosen for the NEW organization and annual dues were established at one dollar per member."

The above statement also brings up another point that I would like to make from your article in Flight—the clubs that were present at the birth of field archery in the state. You say—"On August 3rd, 1947, members from clubs in Roanoke, Waynesboro, Clifton Forge, Covington, Hilton Village, Portsmouth and Richmond, met at Portsmouth and organized the Virginia Field Archery Association." Now actually, the only clubs represented at the meeting were Portsmouth and Richmond. The Portsmouth club had one member from Norfolk and Richmond had four members from Lawrenceville. But as for the other clubs that you mention some of them were not even formed until 1950 or later. As a matter of record I have looked back through the old copies of Archery magazine since its beginning in 1944 and this is what I found regarding course approvals (at this time all new courses were published as soon as they were approved).

(Roanoke archers had a course in 1948—but it evidently was never approved. The second VFAA state championship tournament was held there in October 1948).

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Continued from page 4

OPEN LETTER TO BOB THOMPSON

Bob, I have the greatest respect for you and your knowledge of the sport that we both enjoy, and have enjoyed for so many years, and the only thing that I want is for the facts to be presented in an accurate fashion. Now at the risk of being driven from my happy home by an irate husband, I would like to tell the archers in this state who really got the ball rolling for field archery here. Joe has threatened to break all my arrows if I write this but it should be said. I, for one, am tired of seeing everybody and his brother get credit for doing things for the sport in the state and the one person, who in my opinion, deserve a little thanks being ignored. Of course I am prejudiced but there are many others, I am sure, that must feel the same way if they have even fair memories. Joe Parker was stationed in San Diego during part of 1944 and 1945 and we shot field archery there and thought that it would be a good thing to introduce to our friends who shot when we did get back to Portsmouth.

In 1946 Joe came back to Portsmouth and started to talk to archers that he had known here about this new archery. In October 1946 the Chesapeake Bowmen Club was formed and in the spring of 1947 the first field range in the state was built. Joe dreamed of a state organization that could work for bowhunting in Virginia and with that in mind we wrote to John Yount, the secretary of the Nationals and asked for a list of all NFAA members in the state. John sent us the list and Joe and I wrote personal letters to every archer on that list—you, Bob, were one of those persons. We invited them down to shoot on our range and to get acquainted. On the day set 7 men from Richmond showed up. There were also a number from our own club and together we decided to form the VFAA

as was stated in the article that was quoted earlier in this article, and 13 members paid dues on that day. For the information of those who may say that he has not kept up with the association let me say this—for the first ten years of this organization's life there were not many major tournaments that one or the other of us did not make. Since then, like a father when his child is grown, he has sat back and watched it grow with the satisfaction of knowing that his blood and sweat had at last paid off and that, with able officers, his brain-child would flourish. Like I said, this is being written without his blessing, (I talked with Joe just prior to this publication—at that time he had no knowledge of this article. Ed.) for he just is not the sort of person who would ever seek any reward for himself but as stated I am prejudiced having been married to the guy for all these years.

Now that this is off my chest, let me offer to help you Bob with the job of VBA historian by offering you the things that I remember. You already have all the physical trivia that Joe and I had accumulated during the years since 1947 concerning the association. Let's put down the years and the officers and the places where the state shoots were held and who the state champions were, etc. After all it is about time!

LILLIAN PARKER

EXHIBITION TEAMS

Does your club have an exhibition team? If not, there are many reasons why it should.

It stands to reason that archery can progress only as fast as the public becomes acquainted as to what archery, as a modern sport, consists of.

An exhibition team can't convey all of

what modern archery consists of and can offer, but it captures interest.

Many an expression of awe and disbelief has been heard from spectators at archery exhibitions who were amazed at the proficiency of archers today.

No amount of words in explanation of the proficiency of modern archers and equipment can substitute for the witnessing of a well-placed arrow.

What better method to educate the public than an exhibition team to prove the fact that archers are not a collection of idiots rattling shafts through the trees?

The appearance of neatly-uniformed, skilled-archers handling the beautifully fashioned bows of today does much to shatter the pre-conceived skeptical view of the general public.

Actually, it is each club's duty to sponsor an exhibition team. It owes it to its chosen sport.

If your club should decide to get up an exhibition team here are some tips for the new team.

1. Plan out your shots on paper then try them for effect and timing.

2. Do not choose shots that are too difficult; remember, the audience is not an expert archer, but they will appreciate good shots well performed.

3. In the beginning, start out with small shows such as scout meetings or club meetings, save the big ones until your team has had a chance to become good showmen.

4. The most important member of the team is the announcer. It helps if he is a clown along with his comments and facts about the shots and the sport.

5. Time your show for approximately 20 minutes. If it is too long the audience will become bored. Try to plan some of your shots so that the audience feels there is competition among the archers.

6. Above all else be safety conscious. Do not allow any archers or spectators near or in back of the target butts.

NEL-SON.

WAYNE GREENE

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Bear Bows — \$19.95 — \$85.00

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28 Hunters and 28 Field

3 trophies in each class.

Camping, Swimming, Picnic Tables, lunches and refreshments available.

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COURSE APPROVAL

Rule 17 of the Course Approval passed at the April Board of Directors' meeting states "All courses must be inspected during the 3rd quarter of each calendar year to be eligible for inclusion on the sanctioned tournament schedule for the succeeding calendar year."

Rule 23 states "It is the responsibility of the local club to make arrangements as to the date and time with the Inspector for the required annual inspection within the specified period."

This is to notify all clubs to contact their Inspector for this inspection.

ED

LEE'S LIMERICKS

There was a young man from Sinclair
Who went hunting with his bow for a
bear.

He saw one at last;
And made for home really fast.
Said, "Next time I'll go hunting for
hare!"

A young Bowman went shooting for
carp,
With arrows ever so sharp.
Hit a rock, so it glanced
And hit him in the pants;
And now he's playing a harp.

A young archer out shooting groundhogs
Hid himself behind a big log.
A mistake he did make;
And lay on a snake,
And he jumped like a frightened bull-
frog.

There was an old man from Shanghai,
Who saw a big bird in the sky.
He drew back his bow
And really let go;
And shot himself right in the thigh.

There was a young deer who would
bleat
That bowhunters were all obsolete
One day in the fall,
Some guy had the gall
To down him with an arrow so neat.

There was a young man from Troy,
Who set out with a black decoy
To shoot him a crow;
He brought along his bow
Got excited and shot his decoy.

Some are bad, some are worse
That's the price when you play with
verse!

—Shawnee Lee.

93 Win Big Game Awards

Final tabulation of the 1959 hunting
season, with regards to big game kills,
has shown that 93 Deer were killed
by members of the VBA in the state.
Of these kills 54 were Bucks and 39
Does with an average weight of 110½
lbs.

A review of the information given

on the application blanks revealed
many interesting facts. Only four arch-
ers used Aluminum shafts and only five
used arrows with glass shafts. Of the
remaining 84 kills all were wooden
with six being of the compressed wood
type. This is surprising since so many
archers in the state are using glass
shafts for tournament shooting. The
lack of Aluminum shafts is possibly
due to many archers being unaware of
the fact that it is legal to use an alu-
minum shaft equipped with a broadhead
for hunting.

Distance of kills was very revealing
with the average shot being 29 yards.
The shortest shot reported in the state
was 8 yards and the longest 75 yards.
A further breakdown shows that 8 kills
were registered at less than 20 yards
and 9 kills at more than 40 yards. It
may also surprise you to learn that 4
of the 8 less than 20 yard kills were
Does. Of the 9 kills of 40 plus yards the
breakdown shows 5 Bucks and 4 Does.
This should prove that all deer act
about the same, or does it?

Weights varied quite a bit with the
smallest deer being 40 lbs., a Buck, and
the largest being 220 lbs., also a Buck.
Of the kills reported 36 were less than
100 lbs., and 2 were over 200 lbs. While
on the subject of weights only 23 ap-
plicants gave bow weights and these
averaged 46 lbs.

Special note should be taken and
deserved praise given to Viola H. Booth
and Jane E. Made, the only two distaff
deer slayers. Needless to say neither of
their husbands managed to record a
kill and you can be sure this will have
much to do with who hunts next year.
Also of special note is the fact that
Jack Cantwell and John H. Still both
recorded double kills; this is really an
accomplishment.

To all who came home from the woods
with the elusive and wily White Tail
dragging behind them congratulations.
May you who did not have such success
this year not be of faint heart for we
are definitely in the majority.

RESERVATIONS FOR STATE SHOOT

Please reserve for
name

Address:

Number in Party:

Type of accommodations desired

Date of Arrival:

For nights
No.

FORM SHOULD BE MAILED BY AUGUST 26.

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