



1776 SEASON'S GREETINGS 1976

Archery Taught in Schools

1. HISTORY

The bow and arrow is one of man's oldest mechanical weapons and remains the weapon of many of our still existing aboriginal races and tribes in many parts of the earth. Archery was first used by primitive man for hunting. It was the chief weapon of the American Indians, both for hunting and war. It was used as a weapon of war by the Egyptians in overthrowing Persia, and used in many other successful wars.

With the discovery of powder and the use of the firearm in comparatively recent time, the bow was retired to the realm of sport. In the capacity it has sporadically interested groups in various parts of the civilized world, particularly England and the United States, but has not flourished to the extent of any other sports.

The earliest contest in archery was held in England in 1673, created by the "Ancient Searton Arrow." This tournament is still the oldest in existence today.

In the United States, the first club, known as the United Bowmen of Philadelphia, was organized in 1828. The first tournament was held in Chicago in 1879, and is still being continued to the present day.

Within recent years there has been a revival of interest in the sport of archery. Along with the revival of interest in all sports of the individual type, it is being used by a fast increasing number of men, women, and children.

Archery has a carry-over fascination for most people from childhood Indian-playing days. Archery is legendary. One need only be reminded of the adventurous glamor and charm of Robin Hood, William Tell, and Hiawatha.

Today, Archery as a sport thrives in its growth of interest for several reasons; first, the evolution of a new method of shooting which is easier to learn and is more accurate than the old; second, the development of more efficient bows and arrows; and third, the fascination many people find in the activity passable to the archer, ranging from target shooting, clout, roving, archer-golf, and novelty shoots to the actual hunting of small and large game.

11. SCORING

1. Six arrows (an end) are shot at a time. An arrow hitting the wrong target counts as a shot, but its score is forfeited. One may retrieve a loosened arrow if it can be reached from one's stance with the aid of the bow.

2. An arrow which cuts two colors is always given the higher value of the two, even though the greater part of the arrow is in the ring of lower value. An arrow which hits the target and bounces off is given a value of five points regardless of what part of the target face has been hit. An arrow which hits the target and passes completely through the scoring face is also given a value of five points. When an arrow hits the petticoat, it counts for neither score nor hit. Scores are always listed with the highest score first 9, 7, 5, 3, 1, 0 scored for the gold, the red, the blue, the black, and the white, respectively.

111. FOR SHOOTING IN GROUPS

Each archer shoots his end or flight of arrows and waits until the last arrow is shot. All archers then retrieve their arrows and no more shooting takes place until all arrows are retrieved and all archers have returned to the firing line. When this condition exists, a range supervisor will give the commence firing call.

IV. TOURNAMENT SHOOTING

Tournaments for men are conducted with archers being tested by shooting a

News and Views of the Virginia
Bowhunters Association, Inc.
V.B.A. OFFICERS

20 PIN WINNERS

Sept. - Oct. 1975

Our Fishing Bower

by Franklin Bennett

Hugh Darnell, President
Rt. 1, Box 215
Strasburg, Va. 22657 Phone 465-8796

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and Flight Editor
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Berryville, Va. 22611 Phone 955-1516

James W. Miller, Field Vice Pres.
Broyles Tr. Pk. Lot #30
Route 2
Tazewell, Va. 24630 703-326-1882

Roger L. Mock, Hunting Vice-Pres.
RFD #214D
Bluemont, Va. 22012 Phone 955-3258

C.J. Woods, Conservation Vice-Pres.
P.O. Box 1066
Waynesboro, Va. 22980 Phone 942-3801

Nancy Lee Western, Cor. Secretary
Rt. 2, Dogwood Lane
Vinton, Va. 24179 Phone 890-3072

Nina Enders, Recording Secretary
228 Hurdle Drive
Chesapeake, Va. 23220 804-482-1612

James A. Overfelt, Treasurer
550 Ellett Rd.
Christiansburg, Va. 24073

Murray A. Selby, V.B.A. Field Governor
7227 Auburn St.
Annandale, Va. 22003 Phone 941-2235

Wm. L. Enders, Field Vice Pres.
228 Hurdle Drive
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FIELD

John Brenner, Virginia Beach
John Lockwood, Falls Church
Franklin Bennett, Woodbridge

HUNTER

Franklin Bennett, Woodbridge
"PERFECT PIN" - FIELD
Dennis Gould, Roanoke

**Bowhunters
of
Rockingham**

The Bowhunters of Rockingham have had another successful season hunting for white tail Deer. The hunting bows have been dusted off and the bow season is over and according to the unbelievable tales going around about the one that got away, none of us would have to worry about the high price of meat. The following members are known to have shot deer during the 1975 hunting season with bow and arrow: Irvin Bodkin, Wayne Bowen, Dave Proctor, Gary Hodge, Richard Alexander, Larry Graber, Herman Helberg.

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All week long C.J. Smith and I had planned to go bow fishing on Saturday. We stowed all our gear and loaded the boat the night before so we could get an early start. At 5:30 the next morning we headed out looking forward to a beautiful day spent on the river.

Launching our boat from Pohick Bay Regional Park, we traveled up the river to the lily pads. We had fished the spot several times before and knew it was crammed full of carp and gar. As soon as we arrived we saw 2 gar headed right for us. I brought my bow up and shot. Out of the corner of my eye I saw C.J. let go.

I began pulling my line in. Gar are notorious for getting away. I was holding my breath the whole way. The gar was lying suspiciously quiet at the end of my line. Finally I got him to the side of the boat. He was enormous and as soon as I could get him in the boat he was mine! I reached down. Just as I touched him he gave a quick flip, broke the line and got away. There we were - 2 men in a boat with only 1 arrow between them. This wasn't the beginning of a good day.

Meanwhile C.J. had been slowly pulling his gar in. I began holding my breath again. Surely his arrow would not break. Our luck simply couldn't be that bad. I had no more thought this than his arrow broke. My thoughts approached desperation. Our day was ruined. Where in the world were we going to get 2 arrows at 6 a.m.?

While I was bemoaning our plight C.J. came up with the solution. We started the boat and went back to the pier. C.J. stayed with the boat while I rushed back to town.

Our solution laid with Mark Lawrence, the owner of Mel's Pro Shop. Mark is a fellow member of the Northern Virginia Archery Club. I never stopped to consider how Mark would feel about getting awakened so early. I just woke him up. I waited while Mark made up 2 arrows.

I rushed back to the pier thinking of how much fishing I had already missed. C.J. saw my gar while I was gone.

When we ended the day several hours later, we had 26 carp. We hadn't seen a single gar since my return. Believe me - next time we went fishing we took an extra arrow!

DEADLINE DATES

The Deadline Date for the Jan.-Feb. issue of "Flight" is Jan. 15. This issue should be in the hands of the members by the first week in February.

VOLUME 15 FLIGHT NO.3

Published Bi-Monthly
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Sports Afield

By Ted Kesting

"My personal education where deer hunting is concerned took a giant step forward, many years ago, as the result of one comment: 'He's reading his book.'" This statement was made by Grits Greshmean, Shooting Editor of Sports Afield, in the October issue of the magazine.

"The veteran hunter who made the remark was referring to a whitetail buck which had stopped in a thicket just before crossing an opening," Greshmean explained. "Since the man had almost half a century of deer hunting behind him, his remark got my attention."

If the philosophy behind the idea hasn't been a part of your mental deer-hunting preparation, try it. We promise you odds of success will soar.

"He's reading his book!"

Before crossing the opening where he would be more vulnerable, the buck was considering his options. He was flipping the pages in his book of experience.

Time? It means nothing to a deer. A buck may stand motionless for at least 30 minutes. . . reading his book. During that time he will not, as far as you can tell, move a foot or twitch an ear.

Deer are concerned with only one thing: survival! all other considerations are insignificant, with the sole exception of the rutting season. Survival means enough to eat and protection from elements and enemies...and the most important enemy is you.

This is a concept which is difficult for some hunters to grasp, yet it is vital to consistent success. Fix it firmly in your mind that the buck you're after has only one thing on his mind 24 hours a day and that is to survive.

With only survival on his mind, any deer has an advantage over any hunter. He (or she) isn't concerned about meeting a buddy up on the ridge at midmorning, about being back at camp at noon or by nightfall, or about being back in the office Monday morning.

They survive quite well, thank you. How well is documented by the well-publicized experiment of the Michigan Department of Conservation. Into a square mile (647 acres) fenced enclosure in Michigan's upper peninsula were placed 39 deer-7 bucks, 14 does and 18 fawns, most of which had never been fired at. Starting on a calm, clear day, with a light snow which made tracking conditions ideal, six good hunters entered the area to hunt. It took them four days to even see a buck.

Learn everything you can, of course, about the habits and life patterns of the deer species you're after...deer trails scrapes, rubs, migration routes, food and cover preferences and daily and seasonal movements. But, when hunting, weave that data into a mosaic which is dominated by the knowledge that a deer is always reading his book.

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Loudoun Bowhunters

Women's Lib finally made it at Loudoun Bowhunters when Kathy Cissel got the first deer ever for a woman in the club, and on top of that Darlene Frye got both a buck and a doe. Now that should really make some of you fellows start practicing.

Prince William Archers

14 Members of Prince William Archers got 16 deer:

John D. Harris - 32 inch Carp, Doe
George Hamlin - Doe
Harold Ross - Buck
James Wilson - Buck
Jerry Martin - Doe
Stewart Bradford - Doe
Bobby Novis - 2 bucks
Johnny Hottle - Doe
Larry Payne - Buck
Jim Sorrell - 2*10 pt. Bucks
Charlie Freeman - Doe
Paul Day - Buck
Billy Beach - Buck
Joe Keplinger - Doe

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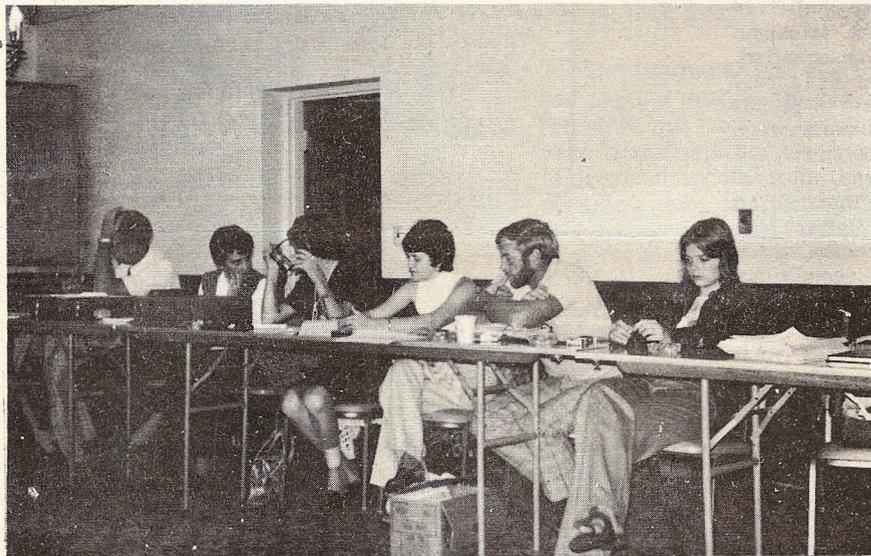
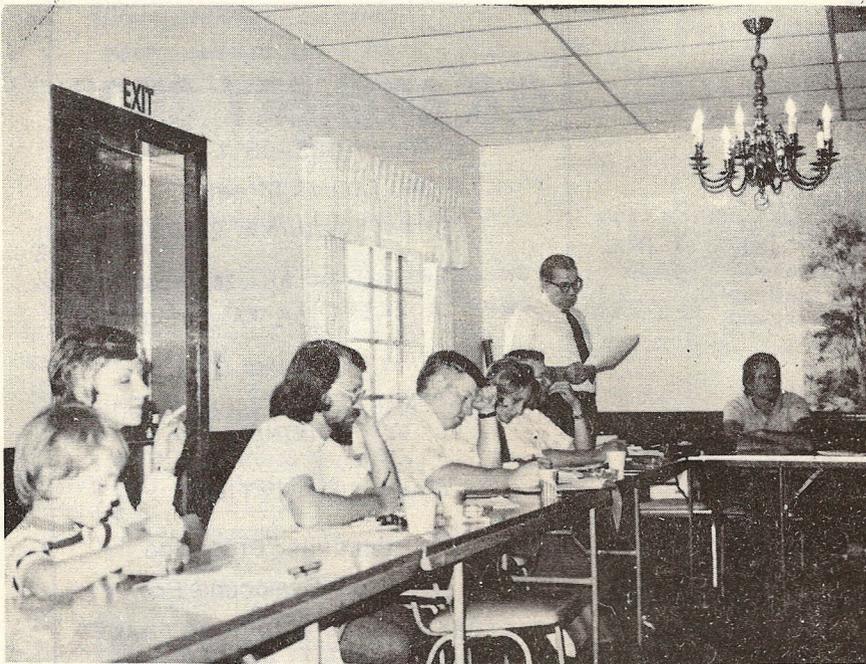
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V.B.A. Notes

* At the last V.B.A. meeting President Darnell discussed literature he had received from the NFAA pertaining to setting up a Bowhunter Education Program in Virginia. He asked for opinions on this program. It was the opinion of those present that this would be a worthwhile project.

President Darnell asked for volunteers to fill the various offices on this program. The following people volunteered to serve.

Webb Babcock - Area Chairman of the SouthWestern district.

Harold Street - Vice Chairman

Roger Mock - Area Chairman of the Northern Va. district.

Bill Enders - Area Chairman of the Tidewater Area.

* The next Quarterly Meeting will be held on January 3/4, 1976 at the Mt. Vernon Motel in Charlottesville, Va.

* Jimmy Miller, Field Vice President, reported at the last meeting that the State Championship Tournament went fairly well, but he felt that more assistance from the VBA Officers could have been used.

Jimmy stated that considering how many ties there were on the animal round, something should be done to make this round a little harder. He also feels that more recognition should be given to archers of all classes.

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ARCHERY TAUGHT IN SCHOOLS from pg. 1

prescribed number of arrows from various selected distances. These trial combinations are called "rounds."

1. The York Round consists of 72 arrows at 100 yards, 48 arrows at 80 yards, and 24 arrows at 60 yards.
2. The American Round consists of 30 arrows at 60, 50, and 40 yards.
3. The Metropolitan Round (same as the American Round).
4. Women usually shoot the Columbia Round. This is also most suitable for physical education classes. It consists of 24 arrows at 50, 40, and 30 yards.

Competition in a tournament usually consists of double rounds. Scores are taken after each six arrows, called an "end."

V. AIMING AND RELEASING

1. Point of aim method of aiming is the most satisfactory system for the beginner, although sights may be used. With any bow and arrow there is only one distance at which a person may shoot and hit the center of the target by aiming directly at it. This will vary with the weight of the bow and with the length and weight of the arrow. In order that the arrows may be grouped on the target at distances further or closer than this point blank range, the archer must use some auxiliary object in the back or foreground. This auxiliary object is known as the point of aim. At the completion of the draw, the point of the arrow should appear to be somewhere near the point of aim. The left hand is then moved slowly and steadily until the point of aim appears to be resting exactly on top of the point of the arrow.

2. At the instant the aim is adjusted to your satisfaction, the string is released by allowing the fingers to quit holding. But only the fingers are allowed to relax. The arm and shoulder and back must keep pushing against the bow until the arrow has left it.

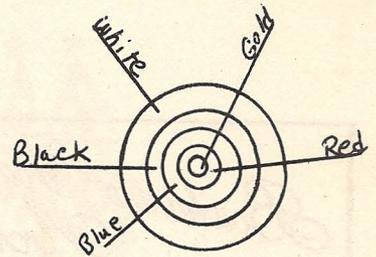
3. Note the location of the group formed by the arrows which were properly shot. If they are high on the target, the point of aim must be lowered or brought toward the archer. If they are low on the target, the point of aim must be raised or moved toward the target. If the point of aim is in proper line and they group to the right or scatter over the target, check for faults other than the point of aim.

POSSIBLE ERRORS

Creeping, relaxing both arms and shoulders at the moment of release, not actually coming to the point of aim before releasing, having the point of aim to the right or left of a line directly between the archer and the center of the target, aiming with the left eye, sighting with both eyes and choosing the "wrong arrow."

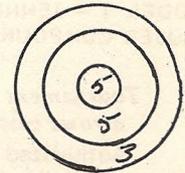
VI. DRAWING ARROWS FROM THE TARGET

The back of the left hand is placed against the target in such a way that the arrow comes between the first and second fingers. Grasp the arrow close to the target with the right hand and exert the same amount of pressure with the left hand that it requires to pull the arrow from the target. Care must be taken to draw the arrow straight out so that it will not be bent or kinked. After being drawn out, the arrows should be held near the point in the left hand with nock end toward the ground, leaving the right hand free for removing the remaining arrows. If an arrow penetrates until the feathers have entered the target, it must be drawn on through to prevent roughing or stripping off the feathers. If the arrow has penetrated one of the wooden legs of the wooden support of the target, it should be loosened with a pair of pliers before trying to remove it. The instructor should be prepared for such an emergency. At times, arrows which miss the target slither along the ground and into the surface grass roots. These must be pulled from the point end, much in the same manner as an arrow which has penetrated the target past the feathers. Important also in this connection is the fact that in looking for arrows which have missed the target, one must always keep his eyes on the ground in front of him as it is very easy to step on an arrow and break it.

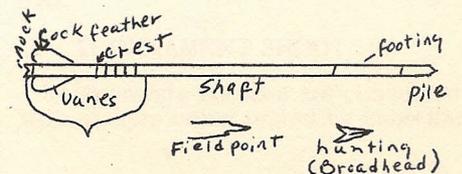
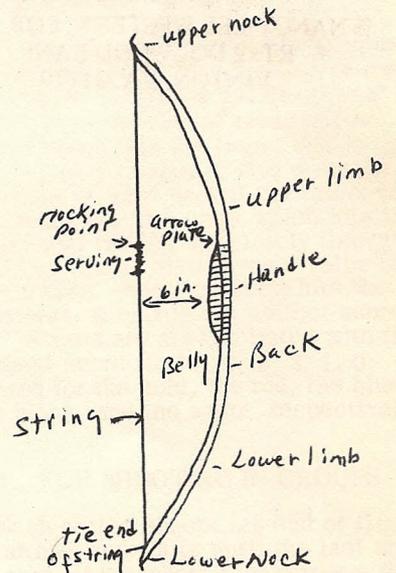
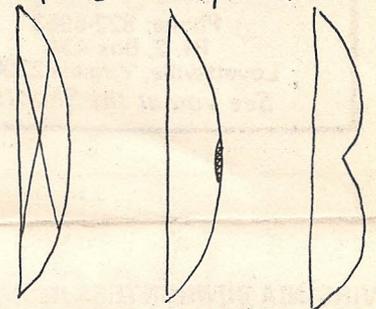


Gold - 9 points
Red - 7 points
Blue - 5 points
Black - 3 points
White - 1 point

Field target



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Northern Va. Sectional

Prince William Archers will host the 1st Northern Virginia Sectional Championship on May 29-30, 1976.

This will be a 2 day shoot with a field and animal round Saturday and the hunter round Sunday. All V.B.A. Rules will be in effect.

Due to the fact that we have only one range and can't accomodate everyone, we have designed this shoot for the northern Virginia Archery Clubs only.

Prince William Archers would appreciate all our local archers help in making this 1st sectional a success. We have plenty of camping space, good fishing and food, so bring the whole family and spend Memorial Day Weekend with Prince William.

As with all our get-together's "there should be a "whole lot of scratchin' going on".

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