

# SAMFORD VALLEY TARGET ARCHERS

Newsletter of the Samford Valley Target Archers

(ABN 63 639 289 573)

[www.samfordarchery.org](http://www.samfordarchery.org)

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Now, see here -



We now have a window in the kitchen, looking out onto the fields. The two halves can both be moved, but the member responsible for closing up must remember to close and lock the halves.

The idea is to keep rain out of the kitchen - and off the benches.

DON'T try to stick your head through a closed window!

Thanks - again - to **Patrick Barden** for the carpentry.

**Especially for the newer members. (And to whomever else it may apply!!)**

During the process of learning good archery technique, the Club's Coaches and Instructors encourage new archers to use the Oz Bow pathway to better shooting, and graduation out of the "Learner" group - although most of us remain as "learners" for a long time.

**Archery Australia phrases it as: -**

"This program has been developed along with the Archery Australia Medal and Award and Classification System to provide an introduction system which provides recognition and incentives to new archers.....The Oz Bow program provides continuing challenges, where members are rewarded for successfully completing a distance and to ensure they are competent to safely shoot before proceeding to the next distance. During this qualification period the Club's Instructors and Coaches will run short mini-seminars covering topics such as;

- Targets, scoring and scorecards
- Tournament rules and etiquette
- Personal equipment maintenance
- Equipment repairs and maintenance

The system allows for archers to achieve a score at a given distance. Once they have achieved the score, they are rewarded with a certificate.” (but our Club uses only medals - Ed.)

So, what does that really mean, for YOU, HERE?

Each week that you come to the Club to shoot, we would like to see you spend some time - probably with the guidance of an Instructor or Coach - practicing shooting and improving your archery technique - the “Warm Up period”, on what we are calling the “Intermediate Field”.

Then we’d encourage you, either shooting singly, or with other new archers, to shoot one or more “Oz Bow” rounds. They are easy shoots - 30 arrows, starting at as short as 10 metres, at the 122 cm ten-ring faces. If you achieve the “Qualifying Score” which is marked in the lower right corner of the scoresheets, you are then “qualified” to move to the next distance - usually an extra five metres - the next time you shoot. If you get the qualifying score at the particular distance, you can speak to an Instructor or Coach, show that you have qualified by presenting your correctly filled scoresheet, and receive a medal. We no longer use Oz Bow certificates.

Your first Oz Bow medal is free - each further one currently costs \$5.00.

Oz Bow is designed as a way to gauge your own progress and performance. You’re only trying to improve your own score. However, if everyone feels competitive, you could turn it into your own mini-tournament.

The next point of discussion is those “mini-seminars”. We don’t see those as

special occasions where you have to sit and just listen, but there are certain things which you should learn if you wish to progress in, and enjoy, the sport of archery.

### **Targets, scoring and scorecards**

With targets, at this point the target faces are easy - 122 cm diameter, ten-ring faces, scoring x,10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1 from the centre (the X = 10), and you can use that right out to the 70 metre range - mind you, qualifying at 70 metres is not exactly easy! The target butts are what you get out of the shed. If the target “round” seems to have any problems (particularly too soft in the centre) then talk to a more senior member.

Scoring is also pretty easy. With most of the target faces these days, the relevant score for each ring is marked on the target face, and you learned how to deal with “liners” during the Beginner Course.

The one that trips up a lot of archers - and some of those have been members for a longer period than ‘beginner’ - is “scorecards”. Archery scorecards have areas which need to be filled in, to indicate what you have scored, to indicate who scored, and to indicate just where the archers is positioned in gender, bow type, etc, etc.

The “Name” area needs to have first name and last name. In our Club, for instance, “Matt” could be about 4 people. The box for bow type tells you what your qualifying score will be. The male/female one can be pretty obvious, but when, and if, you get into more formal shooting it ensures that you are classed in the right group. The same applies to the “Adult” and “Junior” boxes because in the other scoresheets there is a greater number of Divisions of age.

The “Distance” box again indicates what score you are aiming for.

The diagram shows a typical archery scoresheet with the following labeled sections:

- Name box**: At the top left, for the archer's name.
- Date box**: Below the name box, for the date of the shoot.
- Distance box**: Below the date box, for the shooting distance.
- Bow type boxes**: At the top right, with checkboxes for Recurve, Compound, Junior, and Adult.
- Jnr/Adult boxes**: Below the bow type boxes, for junior or adult status.
- Each 3 arrow box**: Points to the columns for 3-arrow scores.
- Each 6-arrow box**: Points to the columns for 6-arrow scores.
- Running total box**: Points to the 'Prog. Total' column.
- Overall total box**: Points to the 'Total Score' box at the bottom right.
- Request medal box**: A checkbox at the bottom right for requesting a medal.
- Signature line**: A line at the bottom left for the archer's signature.

At the bottom of the scoresheet, there are two checkboxes: "I have qualified and would like a certificate" and "I have qualified and would like a medal".

Summing up, most importantly, ALL of the areas on a scoresheet which look as if they should have something written in them are for YOU, THE ARCHER to complete, completely.

Let's slip quietly over “addition”. Too many of us cannot add up properly. Errors are common, and since the paper scoresheet is taken to be the correct record of a shoot, they can seriously damage your ratings. Either shoot all tens (which are easy to add) or learn addition. BEFORE FINALISING, CHECK EVERYTHING!

If you seriously wish to move forward in archery, learning to properly fill in a scoresheet is IMPORTANT. When you start shooting the various rounds to establish your standing as an archer, a scoresheet which is submitted but not fully completed will almost certainly be ignored by the Club recorder. This could result in an unattributed record, or failure to receive some other recognition.

Tournaments and general calendar round shooting by more advanced members involves a program called “Archers Diary” which can be used on-line at the target. There is still the pre-eminent paper score sheet. At some time in the future you *may* be able to use Archers Diary to record Oz Bow scores, but the correct use of the paper scoresheet is still ABSOLUTELY PARAMOUNT.

With the score sheets for all of the other rounds, it is summed up fairly succinctly in the small print at the bottom of the scoresheet - “All unshaded areas *must* be completed prior to submitting scorecard, or the card will be rejected”

The ONLY section of a scorecard which does not have to be completed each time is the area of “Claims”. In fact, it is a shaded area. If you have ALREADY Got an “All-in-Gold” for a particular target face at a particular distance, DON'T tick it again. The same goes for the other boxes there. If you think you've shot a great score which might be a record, CHECK THE RECORDS INFORMATION BEFORE TICKING THE “Record” BOX.

### Tournament rules and etiquette

Much of this stuff you will pick up as you go along. The safety rules have been explained in Beginners Courses. Types of target faces, the composition of various rounds (distance, number of arrows, etc) will be explained when you need to know them.

Etiquette is a little different - you need to know now. On the shooting line you are allowed between 80 cm to 1 metre of space to stand when you are shooting. NONE of your equipment should intrude into the space allotted to the archer(s) next to you - when setting the arrow in the bow, when drawing, arrows in your quiver poking into another archer, or

whatever. Be quiet on the shooting line and at the waiting line while archers are shooting. Turn off that mobile phone during the shoot, or turn it to silent. In essence, avoid doing anything which might distract another archer who is trying to concentrate on shooting.

If you lose an arrow during a shoot, try not to hold up the rest of the archers while you look for it. Other archers will normally help search, but try for a minute of two between ends, then perhaps leave the search until shooting has finished.

If you are the last person using a target, take it back to the shed and park it properly.

Remove any rubbish from the field and place it in one of the bins provided.

Do not touch another archer's equipment without first asking *and receiving* permission to do so.

### **Personal equipment maintenance**

You may need to be ready to repair or replace finger slings, armguards, chest guards, and any or all of the other "stuff" archers use, which can get lost, or simply wear out. After a few months, if you feel that you would like to continue in archery, you need to discuss with one of the Coaches, just what you might require to continue to improve in the sport.

### **Equipment repairs and maintenance**

One of the things that the Club is attempting to introduce to new archers is how to fletch arrows. Setting points and nocks will come with time. The care of these arrows is important for future involvement in archery. Broken and damaged arrows - simply from bad shots

or bad usage - will have to be dealt with as these occur. Fletching is comparatively simple, and the correct equipment is available for use at the Club.

When and if you get your own equipment, then set-up and maintenance will be shown to you as necessary. Talk to one of the Coaches regarding equipment you might wish to buy. It might not be necessary to spend a lot of money on suitable equipment. Coaches will run workshops on how to set-up and tune bows and arrows. There will be time available to show you how to make a bowstring - buying one is easier, but more expensive. There are members of the Club who will even be able to show you how to make strings and cables for compound bows, should that be your choice.

As you journey down the archery pathway, you will meet many situations where you ask "Where to from here?"

Many other archers will be willing to try to help you if you ask. Coaches are the best people to ask.

**This is a repeat of a note which appeared in a Newsletter of "not-so-long-ago".**

**It seems that the repetition is necessary**

"Hopefully, you have all noticed that the shooting line has a series of plastic disks nailed on the ground. It is planned to keep the grass from obscuring these! The sequence, properly approached, is - one red disk, then two white disks, then another red disk. This marks out the three metres of space for one target



placement - and one metre for each archer.

Similarly, on all of the distances at which we shoot, yellow disks are lined up.

These mark the spot above which the centre of the target frame should be placed. They mark the direct line from the centre (1.5 metres) of each three metres on the shooting line, and place the targets 3 metres apart, as they should be.

Please observe this spacing.”

### **The provision of arrows to new archers appears to be progressing well.**

If you are a member who has recently joined, and have not yet lined up to be shown how to fletch arrows, keep a lookout for the tables set-up on Saturday mornings. As a recent member currently using Club arrows, you will be given a set of 6 arrows and taught the fletching process, so that you can look after them in future.



Archers should be aware that in the not-too-distant-future the Club arrows will ONLY be available to Beginner Courses. Other members will have to have their own arrows. If you have been in the Club for

some time and are still using Club arrows, please arrange to be supplied with your own (free) set of arrows, as soon as practicable.

### **The Monthly Club Handicap Tournament for May showed flashes of Oscar Awards fever.**

Mark Bradley made a bit of an error in his registration, and it was thought that Bronwyn Healing would be the handicap winner. However the stewards have been called in, Mark's paper score was correctly marked, and it seems he will be awarded the gong after all.

I wasn't there at the end so I'm going on the Archers Diary results, and later reports. Frans Roodt would have won on percentage of Grand Master Bowman rating, and Nick Horley and Scott Hagaman weren't that far behind (on GMB). However Frans, Nick and Scott actually shot lower than their normal rating and so couldn't win the handicap medal. Gee, it's tough at the top!

### **North Queenslanders think outside the box.**

This is a medal awarded at the Great Barrier Reef Masters Games in the last weekend in May, in Cairns.



It also works as (is) a bottle opener!

## The World Masters Games were held in Auckland, New Zealand recently.

Dennis Mycock had decided to go, so we sent cub reporter, Paul O'Brien, to accompany him and submit a report for this publication.

"On 20th April Dennis Mycock & myself went to Auckland for nine days to compete in the World Masters Games. Some of you would be familiar with the concept of Masters Games, with many archers from SVTA competing in archery at the Pan Pacific Masters Games on the Gold Coast every couple of years. It is an opportunity for older "athletes" (?) to compete in their sport of choice. You compete in age-bands, typically say 30-39 years, 40-49 years, etc.

The World Masters Games are held every four years, and are several orders of magnitude larger & funner than the Pan Pacs - believe me. There were over 28,000 participants across 28 sports. Auckland was jumping, with glorious weather for the entire 10 days.

There were reputedly over 200 archers competing. Australians & New Zealanders were well represented as you'd expect - but there were archers from USA, Germany, Belgium, Finland, UK, Ireland, Switzerland, Netherlands, Iceland, South Africa, Italy ...amongst others. Sadly no Koreans--- LOL. Archers were split into four groups and rotated through Indoor, Target, World Archery Field and IFAA Field over a total of five days. There were also some allocated practice days. It was an absolute hoot. What made it so, was that for the entire duration of the stay (for us, 9 days) it was total immersion in archery. If you weren't shooting in competition, you were practicing, watching events, supporting

other Aussie archers, or in cafes, bars & restaurants talking archery - or in our case, simultaneously diminishing the national stockpile of Otago pinots.

Dennis & I had an airbnb which was close to where the Swiss "team" were staying. They took us into their inner sanctum, and an evening ritual was to meet up with them - either at the start of an evening, or regrettably at the end. I have an enduring memory of Dennis demonstrating to/on a fair Swiss mädchen how to lock down your bow arm shoulder.

Competition started for us early on a Sunday morning at the WA Field event - shot at Massey Archery Club just outside of Auckland. I haven't shot much Field, but that course is extraordinary. I think we were both a bit stunned by it. For me, it was one of the highlights of the comp. Fantastic. Dense NZ fern forest, scrambling up banks, soaked, over/through fences (..with a 72" recurve bow...?). If nothing else I learned the value of a field quiver, as opposed to a target-style quiver. Arrival at the shooting peg (assuming you'd found it...) then required some gardening on your bow to first remove vegetation & perhaps a body part, then ascertain the possible vicinity of a target butt. Despite my score, I felt I shot quite well that day, ..... particularly if I was to leave aside the amazingly stupid things you do when shooting a field round.

I should point out that at this very early stage of the campaign, Dennis was fading under the influence of significant flu/cold symptoms. The pinot symptoms were yet to become established. Neither of us entered the IFAA Field round - as that was just a bridge too far. Apparently, blood was spilt in the IFAA

rounds shot by archers in our extended group.

The Target rounds held three days later consisted of a WA60/720 shot in the morning for ranking, followed by match-play in the afternoon. This was shot in Cornwall Park - which for those not familiar with Auckland is an expansive picturesque natural parkland near the heart of Auckland. Yep... it has got sheep & cattle just roaming around in there. After an appalling morning, I made it through two rounds of match-play, only to be (just!!) knocked out by the (Swiss!?! ) guy who took the silver medal. His bow arm was rock-solid. Dennis made it through further - only to be (just) beaten by fellow Aussie compatriot Ian Bessel.

The Indoor rounds were shot in the large ASB Convention Centre, also near Cornwall Park. A terrific venue for indoor archery. This competition was decided on the cumulative score of shooting 60 arrow each, for World Archery's 25m and 18m, all on 3-spot vertical target faces. This is where Dennis truly shone.

After battling with the demons of bow arm shoulders, flu symptoms, 2am wine tastings, Swiss mädchens, and Parnell restaurants, he nailed it. Shot an Australian record. From a field of (I think 22 archers) he took the gold medal, with Germany silver & Switzerland (...yep...!) bronze. To put this in some perspective, some of the top European archers in our group were ex-Olympian competitors and/or coaches who still actively shoot throughout Europe..... and they had just come out of their winter season (ie. only shooting indoors for the last few months). So, it was truly an international achievement. The medal ceremony was great, with all the Aussies going nuts.

Heidi was cheering the loudest(a Swiss mädchen? - Ed.).

So... I'd encourage all SVTA'ers to consider participating in a Masters Games at some point. The shared passion we have for our sport means that competition can be fierce, but the camaraderie is what truly makes it so very special. Otago pinot noir helps.

Some photos.....

“



Remind me again.... top left.... or is it bottom right...”



The current World Masters Games  
Champion - Veteran Indoor



Note: The next WMG is in Kansei, Japan in 2021. The Australian Masters Games are held every 2 years, with the next one being in NW Tasmania this October (Field, Target, Clout). Seeya at both.”

**Thanks for that Paul, I know who to nominate as the next Newsletter editor.**

**Besides the report above Dennis Mycock achieved some extra notoriety in his local paper for his Gold Medal effort in the World Masters Games in Auckland recently.**

Nothing mentioned about pinot noir!

The e-mail in-box immediately got busier.

## Coaches

There are 3 levels of coaches at the club. There are....

- Archery Instructors (level 1) - we have about 20 active Archery Instructors
- Coaches (level 2) - Brian, Michael, Trent, Peter
- The Club Coach (level 3 - Regional Coach) - Alison

To help identify the Coaches they now have shirts that look a little different to most members' shirts, they have bright gold sleeves, and have “coach” written on the back in black and their name on the front.



Dennis won Gold in the Indoor shoot in his age group as Paul also reported.

Congratulations from us all!

**Brian and Alison have returned from their trip down the river - Budapest to Amsterdam.**



While always busy helping people they are very approachable.

## Development Pathway

Archers, on joining the club, commence their development pathway - they usually are hiring bows for the first few months, attending the Mid Field on Saturday mornings, and shooting a self-paced OzBow score, all while getting assistance from the volunteer Archery Instructors rostered on duty; and they move out 5m



at a time as they achieve the OzBow target scores. During this time you will have been given 6 arrows and shown how to fletch them and maintain them. It is important to make Saturday morning archery a habit so as to constantly reinforce that training.

If you ask a Coach they can sit down with you to derive a Development Plan - this is important for those that want to move from social to competitive archery.

For youths there is, once a month, a Youth Squad which is very worthwhile attending.

With all scheduled archery you must be on time and it is best to get in the habit of being early and warmed up with your equipment ready to go.

After about 2 months, if you are interested in buying your own gear, new members are encouraged to book some time with a Coach who will take measurements and give you recommendations for a suitable bow.

You should attend one of our seminars/workshops on bow set up or the other training sessions held from time to time, e.g. equipment maintenance, tournament preparation, string making etc.

Once you have your own bow, members will most likely be shooting “red or better” at 30m or more, and may like to move to the West Field and participate in the club rounds as listed in the annual calendar and as summarised each week in the weekly email. This is an ideal chance to shoot with more experienced archers. Archers generally share a target butt of up to 3 archers each. By this time you will be entering your scores into Archers Diary and you will be able to track your progress; your rating.

From there you may like to start shooting some of the afternoon shoots, in particular the Monthly Club Shoot which is a handicap shoot, and has a medal

awarded to the archer who shoots best against their own “average” rating.

Once you are shooting the afternoon shoots you may then be thinking of inter club competitions. Or you may want to stay as a recreational social archer, which is fine. For those that are thinking competitive, an ideal avenue is the Silver Arrow Shoots which is a “postal” shoot with the results electronically posted off. These shoots are held generally on a Sunday at the club in target, indoor archery, clout, and field (though field archery is shot at Belmont), and there is one of these Silver Arrow Shoots about once a month or two. Because they are shot at the club there are only club members present even though it is an interclub shoot, so they are ideal non-pressure shoots for the newer archers. To shoot these Silver Arrow events in the relevant division you need to be shooting out to the respective distances. Your Development Plan could have these distances as a target achievement.

The next step in your development could then be to attend one of the QRE (Qualification and Ranking Events) that are held at Samford from time to time as per the club annual calendar, or shot at other clubs in South Queensland. There are 11 affiliated clubs in South Queensland.

Or you may plan to shoot one of the South Queensland Championships. Get plenty of practice at the required distances in the lead up to these tournaments. Include this in your Development Plan. Some of these SQAS Championships are held at Samford on your home grounds.

SVTA has some of the best archery facilities in Australia.

Then you may look to the Archery Australia National Championships and other national tournaments both for youths and adults. Archers that are at this level could see a Coach about a

review of your Development Plan and possibility of regular coaching assistance.

And for youths there is the Trans Tasman each 2 years, alternating between Australia and New Zealand.

And beyond that, if you meet the selection requirements, you could even go to International events like World Cups and World Championships. The club has archers that have been or are currently at this level.

Two of the Olympic archers are South Queenslanders!

The Archery Australia High Performance program is run out of the Queensland Academy of Sport in Brisbane. To be visible for this program you need to be shooting good scores at QREs.

**Bruce and Judith Symes would like to thank well-wishers** for their “Get Well” wishes during their hospital stints recently. They will be back to archery as soon as possible. Judith had a pinched nerve freed-up, and Bruce had a pace-maker placed. Bruce can now go from 40 to 100 in 1 second - if he doesn't treat the technician properly.

Judith also said I had permission to put my own twist on the news, but I have *absolutely no understanding* of what she means.

**The Hyundai Archery World Cup was held in Shanghai from 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May.**

**Tristan Barrett** was an Australian representative, shooting Compound. He ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> in the Qualifying Round, but was eliminated in the first Matchplay round by Lin Hsin-Min, 139 to 136, a relatively high scoring match.

**Pat Coughlan**, ranked 6<sup>th</sup>, ended with a Bronze medal in the Compound Matchplay.

**Danie Oosthuizen** ranked 51<sup>st</sup>, and was eliminated in the second Matchplay round.

The Compound Men's Team ended up 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Compound Mixed Team ended up 7<sup>th</sup>.

For the Recurve archers, **Ryan Tyack** ranked 11<sup>th</sup>, but was eliminated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Matchplay round, **Kane Wilson** was ranked 75<sup>th</sup>. **Sam Strickland**, who frequently shoots at Samford, was ranked 78<sup>th</sup>, and was eliminated 4:6 by Luis Alvarez in the first Matchplay round.

In the ranks of the Australian women archers, **Ella Byrne** ranked 53<sup>rd</sup> and **Belinda Maxworthy** (who won the Australian Open in March, here) ranked 59<sup>th</sup>.

For the Womens Compound, **Louise Redman** ranked 48<sup>th</sup>, and **Niamh Jones**, aged 16, ranked 57<sup>th</sup>.

A great effort by all involved. Thanks for representing our country.

**In recent Newsletters I've been including items from “Shooting Lines”**, a series of magazines from the 60's, 70's and 80's about archery in Australia.

People sometimes ask how far a bow can shoot.

There is a note in the magazine of October/November of 1981 about the World Hand Held Bow Flight Records of the time. Now, these bows are of an “unlimited” weight, but the bow must be hand-held.

The record for males was then 1222.25 metres (or 1336 yards 2 feet and 0 inches), set by Dan Brown on 5/10/1980, and for females 950.39 metres (or 1,039 yards 1 ft and 1 inch, set by April Moon on 13/9/1981.



### Talking about bow weights -

there is also a mention of a bow made by **Howard Hill**, who was a famous American Longbow hunter and trick shooter in the 40's and 50's. He made a bow which, to check the weight, was somehow strung in the rafters of a building and the weight of a 150 pound man hanging by the string, managed to reach full draw (28 inches). Hill then drew the bow, which had to be re-strung by 4 men, to overdraw (arrow inside the belly of the bow) and reset the arrow on the right-hand side of the bow. It was estimated that he drew 170 pounds.

You probably wouldn't want to do that too often!



**A bit more history, but more recent** - the following photos are from 2008/9, showing the Samford archery grounds at the beginning. The greater proportion of our members will not really be aware of what has been achieved in 8 years.



## **We are reaching an important point in the Club's history.**

Dave Arrowsmith, who has given sterling service to the Club in a number of roles, but especially as Equipment Officer, will no longer do the maintenance job after June 30<sup>th</sup> (and he is currently overseas anyway).

## **We need people**

(preferably more than one - perhaps up to 4)  
to become involved in equipment maintenance.

The arrow maintenance job will be much lighter than in the past, when the issue of arrows to new members is fully rolled out. Toni White and Christian Jeckimovs have been very helpful in arrow maintenance, but, generally speaking there has not been a great (continuing) response to attempts to set up a roster for equipment maintenance.

With 3 or 4 people involved, the job becomes much lighter for each person - a couple of days a month for 3 or 4 times per year for each member.

If we get to the point where equipment is not usable, and there is no functioning roster, the first person who complains will get a job.

A larger than usual Newsletter – I think I got carried away!