

Nocks & Tips

from

Robinhood Archery Club

July 2008

We made news again! Robinhood Archery Club was at the top of the front page and had a two-page sports article including two pictures on the day after John C. Fremont Days. Some great press! The JCF Days tournament was a success with great weather and 125 shooters. Maybe the word is getting out about what a nice course it is. Thank you to everyone who helped during those three days!

A suggestion about storing our 3-D targets at Camp Calvin Crest was made and the Director of the camp thought we might be able to erect a small storage garage there. He would need to get permission from the camp Board of Directors, but he didn't think that would be a problem. Several members are checking out various types of storage sheds and costs. A discussion of the club's feasibility in building one there will be on the agenda for the next meeting, which is Tuesday, July 29th.

The second Outdoor League has begun and will run through August 27th. Participants are looking for a few more people wanting to practice for 3-Ds and hunting.

Which reminds me, email your hunting photos to me at chrisandbrad@att.net this fall. I will set up a photo album page on the website to share everyone's successes and club events.

Club instructors are reaching a lot of children during the summer months. The Thursday night Parks and Rec league has about fifteen kids. Six members spent seven hours on July 16th introducing archery to nearly 80 kids from the Parks and Rec summer program - that's a whirlwind day! And Fremont's ELL program will bring its children to Monnich Park on July 30th for an introductory class. You can't believe how much fun it is showing children how to hit the target.

Dave Strong is coordinating a Bowhunter Education Class next week. Class times are 6pm-9pm on Mon., July 28th, Tues., July 29th, Thurs., July 31st and 8am to Noon on Saturday, August 2nd. Call the Parks & Rec office at 727-2810 now to sign up. Participants MUST be at every class session to receive their certificate. Classes are held at the City Auditorium on weekdays and the Saturday session is held at Monnich Park, where I hear Dave makes some great deer stew and cobbler to share.

This month's tip is how to judge distance, which is the most important skill in 3-D archery and is very helpful when hunting. However, in hunting, a range finder can be a wonderful tool because once seated in a stand, various 'marker' trees can be 'shot' with the range finder so when that big buck comes down the lane you'll know when he's within your range. In 3-D tournaments, range finders are outlawed, so estimating yardage becomes a critical skill.

According to nationally known Terry Wunderle, also known as The Shot Doctor, there are five things you can practice to enhance your distance judging. First, learn to identify a known distance, such as 20 yards. If competing at bigger tournaments, learn to identify 35 yards. Practice whenever possible by picking an object and guessing how far it is; then check your guess with a range finder or by stepping it off. Do this in your backyard, at the park, at work, wherever you can get away with it. Second, learn how to figure the last ten yards in front of the target - this is where most people make a mistake. Again practice judging ten yards from any object and verify it. Third, always practice yardage estimates by using vegetation and the ground. Do not estimate according to how the target appears because size of the target and lighting conditions make things appear closer or further. Fourth, always take a side view of the distance if possible. A side view may reveal ground contours or hidden distances that are not noticeable by a straight-line view. Last, studies show that archers have the most difficulty with distance on the first six targets. At the practice range before a tournament, practice your yardage estimation as well as your shot execution. Good luck!

Chris Johannesen,

President

Important upcoming dates:

July 26-27	Archery Competitions for Cornhusker State Games at Lincoln
July 27	3-D at Pottawattamie
July 29	<u>7:00pm Club Meeting at Moller Park</u>
Aug 2-3	3-D at Wymore
Aug 9-10	State Marked 3-D at Norfolk
Aug 16-17	NTA Rendezvous - Fremont
Aug 16-17	Lincoln Jamboree
Aug 17	Redding-Style 3-D at Grand Island
Aug 24	State Unmarked 3-D at Ahamo

Aug 24
Aug 26

3-D at Pottawattamie - 1st Leg of the Best of the West
7:00pm Club Meeting at Moller Park