

"THE ARROWHEAD"
THE NEWSLETTER OF LASSWADE ARCHERY CLUB

ISSUE NO.218 - FEBRUARY 2014

Greetings to you all from your much-loved Club President with another mammoth edition for you! 😊

CLUB NEWS

CLUB FEES FOR 2014/2015

Some comments in this item are based on my personal opinion and do not necessary reflect the views of Lasswade Archery Club, its committee or 50% of its members!

I have been in touch with our Treasurer, Joan, and she has now calculated the increase in the Club Fees for 2014/2015. However, first things first. Let's go back in time to 2006. This is when the current system of Club Fees was introduced and, ever since then, no increase in fees have been required. There was always an annual inflation level increase for the old hall hire but we were able to absorb this increase helped by our tournaments and beginners' classes.

Now, let's jump to 2013 and the imminent move to the new complex. Before we moved in, Derek, Tina and myself had a meeting with representatives from Midlothian Council in response to a memo I received which, in my personal opinion, advised me of a shocking increase in hall-hire and tournament hall-hire fees. Thanks to Tina, the cost of hiring the hall for a tournament was modified and this has led to a minor increase only which was offered and accepted by us.

Regarding the hall-hire charges, the Council, due to advice from outside bodies including Sports Scotland ----- not / ----- not* compromise on the increase for hiring the hall. A two hour session in the old hall cost us nearly £50.00 but this was to double to nearly £100 in the new complex. However, due to us being an established club this increase has been phased in by instalments so we will reach the maximum total by the end of this financial year at the end of March. In addition, for the foreseeable future, there will be a 4% annual inflation rise for the hall charges.

* You can choose the word which you want to fit in here!

So, last year, all the current members were given 2 options with regard to the Club Fee increases. Only 50% of the membership bothered to reply.

OPTION - 1. Carry on as normal with the 2 indoor weekly sessions and 2 weekly sessions at the new outdoor venue with the Club Fees to double.

or

OPTION – 2. Drop one indoor session with 2 outdoor sessions and a smaller increase in the Club Fees.

This was an informal vote which resulted in a 9 to 7 vote in favour of Option 1.

This subject was discussed again at the 2013 AGM and I insisted that a formal vote should be taken which was a last opportunity for members to make a final decision. I must admit that I found the result of this vote amazing, a large turnaround in favour of Option 2 with 14 of us attending, again, about 50% of the membership.

This vote was as follows: 3 for Option 1, 9 for Option 2 and 2 abstentions. It could have been worse. If it was a 7 to 7 result I would have to have used my casting vote to break the tie vote. How would I have voted? It's my turn to abstain!

Some of what you have read has already appeared in the December 2013 issue of the newsletter but I thought those of you who did not read it or have short memories should be reminded as to why we have had to increase the Club Fees due to circumstances beyond our control. As the attendances for a Saturday afternoon drop to nearly half of a Wednesday evening session it will be the Saturday afternoon session which will be dropped with effect from the 2014/2015 indoor season onwards. Think about this, those of you who voted or did not attend the AGM may come to regret this decision as I think if we could ever afford to get Saturdays back it will be damn near impossible getting back into the hall as once you move out, you are out!

Anyway, on to the new Club Fees for 2014/2015. If you pay your fee as an annual payment then just carry on doing this and your fee can be in cash or by a cheque made payable to Lasswade Archery Club. For those of you who pay by instalments in cash, by standing order etc. then you will have to ensure you have adjusted your instalments appropriately. If you have any problems then see Joan. Each increased fee type are below:

SENIOR - £156

JUNIOR /OAP /STUDENT - £96

FAMILY RATES - £36 added to each category

The observant amongst you will have worked out that the fees have been increased by £36.00 for a full year across the board. You can also break this amount down further as £3.00 a month or 0.75p a week which hardly breaks the bank!

Still not happy? You know where the door is. Nearest available club? Penicuik. I know their fees are much cheaper than ours. Why? Penicuik have to shoot in a gymnasium about half the size of our hall. We have to pay much higher charges due to the fact we are shooting in a top of the range Sports Centre and must therefore pay the price for this privilege which was the exact same scenario in the old hall but, at half the price, still more expensive than Penicuik. Feel free to complain about our charges to Midlothian Council. I wish you luck!

The final closing date for **All** Club Fees will be Wednesday the 2nd of April. The penalties for failure to comply with the closing date or failure to adjust your instalments can be found in your copy of the Club Constitution, Articles 20b, 20c and 20e.

APOLOGIES AND CONGRATULATIONS

A big fat apology to Richard. Which Richard you may ask? The one that does not lower the sport of archery by shooting longbow! Ha! Ha! Ha! In other words Richard P! In the results for the December Handicap Round I listed him as 11th.

However, he finished 9th and this pushes Ian H and Ann down to 10th and 11th places respectively. It proves one thing Richard, you must read the newsletter! Let's move on to the congratulations now.

Belated birthday greetings to Ian H who has reached the ripe old age of 80 and I must say he looks pretty good for his age. In addition to archery, Ian also participates in hill-walking, golf and karate although he has had to ease up on the karate. Derek, does this make Ian our oldest member who still shoots?

Well done to Stephanie, who recently gained her AGB Blue and Red Progress Badges which I presented to her at some recent Club sessions. She now adds these to her Black Badge Award.

A look through the achievement section in the winter edition of the Archery UK magazine reveals more achievements for Gareth. In addition to him gaining his 1200 FITA Star award he has also attained the outdoor ranking of Master Bowman, the second highest ranking for an archer shooting outdoors. I cannot remember if any member during my 22 years with the Club has achieved this. Derek, over to you for confirmation! Again, well done Gareth.

AGB CARDS

Fantastic news! Ian L has now received his AGB card for 2013/2014. One or two of you have also asked me if you keep the same AGB card number each year. The answer to this is, yes! For those of you who have joined us over the last number of years your card should have a 7 digit number on it. For those of us who have been doing archery for many years we only have a 6 digit number. Just thought you would like to know that!

THE CLUB WEBSITE

Since taking over Will has now completed most of the re-construction of the website. The Gallery is one section which still has to be completed and Will and I will delete some of the older out-of-date pictures, especially some of those grim looking ones when we used to shoot alongside the old gymnastic centre! 📷

One feature I have been asking previous webmasters to add is an "Items for Sale" section so hopefully this will be a new feature which will appear. This would be for the use of Club members only and for the sale of archery equipment only. So if you have a Steinway grand piano or a Picasso painting then you will have to sell them elsewhere!

If any of you have something we could add to the new gallery, especially you Billy, then see Will.

A NEW SAFETY DEVICE

Before the Christmas break up we had a child who managed to get onto the archery range during one of our Wednesday night sessions. The observant among you will know that we normally shoot in the B side half of the hall. At each end of the centre partition there is a solid gate which only requires a slide along bolt to open it.

At our end of the range is our shooting/waiting area, so anyone trying to get through this gate would be easily spotted and as this is usually the pitch held by Ian H one of his grumpy faces will scare most people off or perhaps a quick karate chop would be better. Ha! Ha! However, this is not the case for the bottom end where the targets are. So, to prevent someone meeting their maker trying to get access through the bottom gate Mike has designed a wooden bracket with warning signs on both sides of it which fits over both sides of the gate, a bit like a horse's saddle for want of a better description.

I brought this to the attention of the duty manager who was pleased that we had spotted a potential situation which a certain group of people should have spotted before the hall was being used for archery or any other sport using a projectile object. I will say no more on this subject for the moment!

Thanks to Mike for his "simple to fit" safety device which is usually stored in the green cabinet. If you see it then don't wait for somebody else to fit it, do it yourself as some of you seem to be incapable of doing anything and naively assume that someone else will do it. Soap box now packed away for the month!

LASSWADE INDOOR OPEN - DOUBLE FITA 18 (UKRS) (1200) - SUNDAY 2ND of MARCH 2014

Once again, Tina will be running this shoot for us. If you have entered this shoot then remember that you will shoot 5 dozen arrows from 18 metres at a 40cm target face in the morning. After a break for the ingestion of food and drink you will do it all over again in the afternoon. On Saturday the 1st of March we will have to set up the range so the Club session will run from 3 till 5pm.

As always, the usual plea. Could you please donate something for the raffle even if you are not taking part. As I said last month, now is the time to get rid of your un-wanted Christmas presents!

INDOOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS – SATURDAY 15TH of MARCH 2014

This year's round will take place on the above date and it will be the usual 2pm start that we have on a normal Saturday but extending till 5pm.

If we have all 8 targets set up and no more than 16 members shooting then you will shoot a single wave. However, if we have more than 16 of you shooting then there will be 2 waves and therefore a reduced number of targets. It would look silly if 16 of you shot and then you had to wait for a 17th member to shoot. This is why I allow an extra hour to anticipate +16 of you shooting. So, just once, let's see more of you taking part. For some of you it will probably be one of the few occasions when you have a chance of winning something! Nearer the time, I will be issuing you all with an entry form with all the necessary details. You must fill it in and return it to me so I will be able to advise the Centre staff of how many targets will be needed on the day.

The following members are also asked to return the Club trophies by the day of the shoot at the latest.

They are as follows:

LADY RECURVE - Adelle.

GENT RECURVE - Gareth.

OVERALL JUNIOR - Stephanie.

OVERALL COMPOUND - Phil.

TOURNAMENT REPORTS

EASTERN AREA INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (UKRS) (600) – SUNDAY 12TH of JANUARY 2014

So, for this year we had 9 of us taking part. By our standards, not bad, but only about 24% of the membership.

Yes, it is my name you will see in the results list, my first big tournament since 1998. I blame David R for this!

As I have been taking part in our handicap round it fired me up and as I did not have to deal with raffles and awards it gave me the opportunity to shoot. However, since 1998 it has become tougher for me being a low ranking compound archer what with the introduction of the inner ten compound ring on target faces and the 3 Spot Vertical face.

This means that opposed to recurve archers who shoot at a full face, I have to concentrate three times at each end on the smaller vertical face. My allocated number of brain cells is now sadly lacking and underscores what is required to achieve even modest results!

Anyway, put your hankies away now and let's get on to the main event of this report!

As always, the shoot was well run and once again Liz and Norrie who were our two judges. Liz was pretty sure that she had never seen me shoot before. Glad I made your day Liz!

As to our results, we picked up two awards. Phil, who was just outside the top three gent compound archers but collected the C class medal and Mike who collected the trophy for the Gents Recurve Barebow.

The results for all of us were as follows. By tradition, in addition to our individual placings, I have also added our overall placings in brackets if the non-Eastern Area archers' scores had been factored in as well.

LADY RECURVE

13th (16th) - Joan (478)

GENT RECURVE

19th (23rd) - Ian L (510)

20th (24th) - Derek (506)

24th (27th) - Will (485)

JUNIOR LADY U18 RECURVE

2nd (2nd) - Stephanie (450)

LADY COMPOUND

6th (6th) - Tina (554)

GENT COMPOUND

4th (7th) - Phil (558) C Class Medal

7th (10th) - Donald (419) Yes, before you ask, I was last!

GENT RECURVE BAREBOW

1st (1st) - Mike (435) Gent Barebow Trophy.

Thanks to those of you who helped to get the range set up and dismantled and especially to Tina who was running the shoot on behalf of the Eastern Area.

PS. We had a false fire alarm on the Saturday and another one on the day of the shoot itself. Funny how it seems to happen when a certain sport is taking place! What sport, you may ask? No idea!

CLUB HANDICAP 2013/2014 - ROUND 3 - JANUARY 2014

1 st	David H	220	35	255	N/A
2 nd	Will	203	47	250	8 th
3 rd =	Billy	223	23	246	6 th
3 rd =	Phil	223	23	246	N/A
5 th	Ann	185	59	244	11 th
6 th =	Ian L	208	35	243	5 th
6 th =	Joan	208	35	243	2 nd
8 th	Ian H	192	47	239	10 th
9 th =	Derek	200	35	235	7 th
9 th =	Richard P	200	35	235	9 th
11 th	Donald	184	47	231	4 th

Well, things are really starting to tighten up now as David R predicted. I only managed to get 2 scores in so that is my excuse for finishing last. Too many interruptions!
I can't wait for this month!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2014

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 26th Optional Coaching Session.

MARCH

Sunday 2nd Lasswade Indoor Open (UKRS). ROUND: Double FITA 18m.

Wednesday 12th Optional Coaching Session.

Saturday 15th Indoor Club Championships. ROUND: Do I have to tell you,
Yawn!!!!!!! 🙄

Wednesday 26th Optional Coaching Session.

APRIL

Wednesday 2nd Closing date for ALL Club Fees.

AND FINALLY (FROM THE ARCHIVES)

A welcome return(?) to an item which last appeared in Issue No.83, November 2002.

WHY DOGS ARE BETTER THAN WOMEN



- Dogs love it when your friends come over.
- Dogs think you sing great.
- A dog's time in the bathroom is confined to a quick drink.
- The later you are, the more excited the dog is to see you.
- Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name.
- Dogs don't mind if you give their offspring away.
- Dogs can appreciate excessive body hair.
- If a dog is gorgeous, other dogs don't hate it.
- Dogs don't shop.
- Dogs like it when you leave lots of things on the floor.
- A dog's parents never visit.
- When a dog gets old and starts to snap at you incessantly, you can shoot it!
- Dogs like beer.
- Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across.
- Dogs would rather have you buy them a hamburger dinner than a lobster one.
- Dogs find you amusing when you're drunk.

Don't panic ladies, here is the other side of the coin!

DOGS OVER MEN 🐶

- Spots are an attractive feature on a dog.
- A dog is better protection from an intruder.
- Dogs can find their own way back home, even after a really heavy night out.
- Dogs will wait patiently outside clothes shops and not criticise your purchases afterwards.
- If a dog gets ill, it won't take 18 Panadol's in order to avoid going to the vet.
- When dogs beg it's cute. When men beg it's pathetic.
- Dogs travel more cheaply on the bus.
- Dogs are less reliant on tinned food, but after a few cans, a dog will still be able to stand up.
- You'd feel guilty about turning a dog out on to the street.
- A dog will be eager to walk rather than getting in a taxi.
- A dog might actually take a bath of its own accord.
- There more chance of your dog being able to work the DVD recorder. (A VCR in the 2002 edition!)
- Dogs are easier to house-train.
- A dog can look as though it understands what you're saying.
- A dog is a pack animal, a man is a six pack animal.
- A dog is a faithful companion.
- A dog is for life.