



STOP PRESS!!

Fox honorary member **Tania Nadarajah** has won Bronze in the Able/Para and Gold in the Para at the World Archery competition in Puerto Rico. Many Congratulations Tania!!!

Welcome to the Fox Archers Newsletter for Spring 2017.... Hopefully there will be something of interest to all of you, Including some old news!

First... Congratulations to John Hare for becoming the Kent County Indoor Barebow Champion earlier this year.

Junior Archers **BLING!**

FITA Feather and Arrow Awards

Now, I know it is now called World Archery, but there must be an awful lot of badges still waiting to be sold that have got FITA on them.

At Fox Archers we like to encourage our junior members by using the FITA Awards to show progress and collect "bling".

From the coaches point of view, it ensures that the new junior archer has taken on board what was covered in the beginner course.

The awards are made up of three elements...

1) Score

Performance is evaluated at reduced shooting distances and number of shots. 15 arrows are shot at an 80cm target face. See the evaluation form for knowing the shooting distance for each award level.

2) Skills Development

The achievement of a good score is only a consequence of well implemented skills, as described in the Fox Archers beginner course.

For each development level, some skills are expected to be acquired. Their assessment is

based on some key elements described in the Fox Archers beginner course.

To help with your training, collaborating with an archery coach is strongly recommended; also do not hesitate in consulting the Awards reference manual.

3) Knowledge and/or Know-How's

Learning archery is not restricted in learning the steps of the shooting sequence. The novices have also to:

- play safe; hence knowing the safety rules;
- know the specific terminology;
- look after their equipment

To brace the bow

To maintain and repair the equipment (arrows, string, arrow-rest etc);

- learn the rules;

Types of Awards

There are two sets of beginners Awards are available:

One set for the youngest beginners (under 12 years old) and for some disabled novices. It is up to your coach (or person in charge of the entry level) to decide the archer's eligibility to challenge for these awards. FITA does not ask for any proof of age or disability. This group of two awards is entitled "**FEATHERS**"

The other set is for pre-

teenagers, teenagers and adults:
This group of five awards is entitled "**ARROWS**"

Fox Archers rewards every level achieved by our juniors with a badge and certificate. Further details of the starting levels can be obtained from the coaches.

Recent successes include:

Harry M	Red Feather
Harry M	Gold Feather
Elisha S	White Arrow
Emily C	Red Feather
Emily C	Gold Feather

Clubmark

Clubmark is basically a kite mark standard for sports clubs which demonstrate the highest standards.

Way back in 2010, Fox Archers gained Clubmark accreditation but when it came to renew, our governing body made things very difficult so the accreditation lapsed.

Recently, however, the system has been changed and Clubmark is now assessed by county sports partnerships, and in Kent these chaps are extremely co-operative.

Last month your committee decided we should try to gain Clubmark again and fortunately much of the work we did before can be recycled.

Clubmark demonstrates that the club is working to the highest standards and provides an assurance to parents of any prospective junior members. A spin off from this that it can be a benefit when making grant applications and as we need a new container it could prove extremely useful.

We are well on the way with our new application but there are a few things we need to make known to our members.

Safe Shooting at Fox Archers

How we lay out our range and control our shooting is laid out in "Rules of Shooting" which can be downloaded for free from our national governing body website.

The "Shooting Administrative Procedures" can also be downloaded and provide a wealth of additional information, including details of insurance cover. The policy details are displayed on the notice board in the container, but the key features are that once you have paid your fees you are insured to shoot at Fox Archers and any other affiliated club. Apart from league matches, if you do shoot elsewhere you will need to show your membership card and will probably need to pay a day fee.

We are a family club and the safety of our junior members is paramount. Our Safeguarding

(Child Protection) Policy is displayed on the notice board and this is supported by a number of other policies:

Constitution
First Aid Procedures
Health & Safety Policy
Photography Policy
Equity Policy
GNAS Code of Practice for 'Have a Go' Events
Data Protection Policy
Roles and Responsibilities and Codes of Conduct for Officers and members are also in place.

Any of these are available on request from the Secretary.

All coaches at Fox Archers are DBS checked and have completed a recognised child protection training course.

Look out for a questionnaire in the next newsletter... We want to know what you think!!

What's coming up this year....

First the bad news...

St. Michaels's School have put our rent up again!

However, club fees have stayed the same now for many years. So how have we achieved this?

When you look at the calendar for 2017 you will notice that we have scheduled 2 beginner courses and five have-a-go sessions.

All the have-a-go events have been agreed by the committee and recorded in the club's minute book beforehand in strict accordance with our governing body's rules for these events.

Without these events your club fees would double.

All club members benefit from these events through lower club fees...

So please don't just leave it to the coaching team to do all the work but help get equipment ready and put away afterwards.

Competitions...

Yes...

We have these as well...!!

Please consider entering our own competitions! Entry forms are available on the website front page...

(<http://www.foxarchers.co.uk>)

10th Fox Tournament
4th June

27th Independence Day shoot
2nd July

17th Fox Longbow Tournament
6th August

Mid-Kent League

This is the league competition that we take part in throughout the year.

Scores are taken both as pure

scores, and handicap adjusted scores.

Anyone can be in the team... so please take part!

(You might enjoy it!)

Sunday 9th April saw the first of this year's league fixtures where we had been drawn at home to Highstead Valley.

Due to the problems Sevenoaks Archers are currently experiencing with their ground they were unable to host Abbey at home so both those teams joined us as well.

It was a well supported and busy day.

Results:

Good to see that Fox have some archers at the top....!!

Top Gent Recurve: Derek Hexter

Top Jun Recurve: Summer Hexter

Top Lady Longbow: Julie Andrews

Pure score:

Fox 2729 HVB 2934

Handicap score:

Fox 5932 HVB 5882

MKL vs Sevenoaks Archery Club

We were 'away at home' on the 7th of May... Sevenoaks being temporarily homeless...

Pure Score:

Sevenoaks 2844 Fox 2220

Handicap Score:

Sevenoaks 5751 Fox 5783

Our next match is against Ferryfield, away ... They shoot in Aylesford. The match is probably on Saturday the 10th of June.

The full results will be on the website under **MKL** .

Tonbridge Archers

Birthday Shoot

A great day out on the 30th April, even the rain held off, although it was a bit windy... (VERY!!)

Great results for Fox archers as well...

Gents St George Recurve

1st Errol Barnett

Gents St George Longbow

1st Steve Purkiss

Gents Albion Recurve

2nd Cyril Reed

Gents Albion Compound

1st John Hare

(and a six gold end!)

Junior Ladies Windsor Recurve

2nd Molly Tyrrell

Ladies Longbow Windsor

1st Julie Andrews

Ladies Barebow Windsor

1st Zoe Tyrrell

2nd Marion Reed

Many Congratulations to you all!!

Other notes...

Is there any news that I should include..??

PLEASE let me know !!

If I don't know about it... It can't be included!

Either, tell me at a weekend session, or email:

alan.lythaby@gmail.com

I know that this is a lot of text...
Any photos to publish??
You do know about the club
website, don't you...??

<http://www.foxarchers.co.uk>

Lots of useful information,
including this year's diary...

Please note:

20th May... FIELD CLOSED

due to an event at the school

29th May... Otford Fete

This is a 'have a go' event at the
fete... Please come along to help
for a while, particularly to help set
up and take down.