



Sylvan Archers Newsletter - August 2020

No meetings in the months of Sept. and Oct.

Thursday November 5th at 7 pm

Board Meetings will be held at the Sylvan Archery Club.

Note: Please bring a mask (or don't at your own risk) and remember to keep 6ft apart as much as possible.

UPDATE

We believe we have finally fully dealt with the Ground Yellowjacket issue as you head to the 3-D, 2nd B course. If you see signs of the infestation returning please let us know.

End of Summer 900

Date: September 19th

We are currently planning to hold the End of Summer 900 with a few changes due to the current covid-19 restrictions.

We are limiting each target to two archers to help maintain distancing requirements as well as limit the amount of sharing.

- * This does mean there may be a shared contact point at the targets during scoring and arrow retrieval.

1. Due to the need to limit the number of archers this will only be open to current members of Sylvan Archers.
2. Additionally we require all archers to pre-register by emailing Mike Ellerbe at: meellerbe@gmail.com
 - * Failure to pre-register will mean you will not be able to participate - there will be no day of registration.
 - * If we get more archers than we have space we will maintain a wait list and notify archers of their status.
3. Masks will be required in the waiting areas and at the targets while scoring and retrieving arrows. We will not require masks to be worn while on the shoot line.
4. If you are not feeling well, please let me know and stay home.
 - * This includes if you are showing any symptoms of Covid-19;
 - * If you suspect you've been in contact with someone who is or may be infected within the last two weeks;
 - * And if you are waiting for test results because you believe you may have been exposed.
5. We will be keeping a list of participants and contact information in the event it is needed for contact tracing.
6. We will post an update to this page if the shoot is canceled.
 - * All other updates will be communicated to all pre-registered archers via email.
7. Cost: \$5 for Sylvan Members

If you have questions, please contact Mike Ellerbe: meellerbe@gmail.com

Find and book your next outdoor adventure.

Seek Wild launched in February and you can find guided fishing and hunting trips, hunting workshops put on by guides and some premium archery hunting leases for deer & elk. Adventurers have access to guided outdoor trips and access to private land.

[*Click here for an example of a private lease that is available.*](#)

You can go straight to [Seekwild.com](https://seekwild.com) and search for archery lease opportunities

New safety feature at the practice range

If you have been out to the practice range lately you will have seen the orange traffic cone, this is a new process we have put in place to help communication when an archer is downrange. When you are shooting and head downrange to pick up your arrows, simply move the orange cone off the cement pad and onto the grass as you walk out. When you return just set it back on the pad, it should not take any additional time or effort and the cone lets people know that someone is downrange and it is NOT safe to shoot. A huge thank you to Wendy McKee for the idea and for taking the time to implement it!!

Pack it in, Pack it out!!

During our range refresh, we had members walking the course and picking up broken arrows and random litter. I was out yesterday and I'm already seeing signs of discarded drink bottles and trash being "hidden" behind the bales. If you carried that drink bottle 1/2 way through the course, you can carry it the last 1/2 out. I would even ask if you have time to drop it in the clubhouse for recycling, every bit helps keep the range clean.

Fixed email for Membership communications

Historically personal email addresses have been used for all board member positions, including membership. However, in order to streamline things and keep everything in a single place, there is now a fixed email sylvanmembership@gmail.com.

This is your never changing, one-stop contact for all **membership issues**, please make sure you allow it in your email filters to not miss any communications.

Your 20-21 Board

We held the Board elections on August 6th as scheduled. We were able to fill the Board of Trustees and got new additions to the Officers Board.

You can see the full list of officers on our website at <https://sylvanarchers.com/contact.html>

If you would like to help fill some of the vacant positions, please reach out to Nikki Underwood or join us at our next scheduled meeting in November.

Safety, What we have done, what we still need to do.

Done:

1. Improved backstops with the greatest potential for overshoots onto the neighbor's property. This can be seen on the longest shot for the practice range and along the B1 course.
2. Defined our borders, T posts with wire and signage. We have done this along the north border and down the east side.
3. Moved bales as needed to comply with NFAA and USA Archery rules. This is to follow guidelines for overshoots on each side and behind.

Still pending:

1. Additional backstops and brush clearing, we were not able to finish everything during the range refresh. We do still have work to do on the A & B courses with landscaping and building/replacing some backstops. There is also an additional backstop to build on the practice range.
2. Move current cameras, possibly replace/upgrade if needed.
3. Shorten the Gate timer- The current gate settings were timed the gate is open for almost a full 3 minutes before it closes again. This has lead to a lot of piggybacking of members and nonmembers into the club. While we all want to be polite and courteous to our fellow members **piggybacking is absolutely not allowed**. It is clearly stated at the gate even if the gate is open, you should be swiping your badge. We are asking all members if you are leaving and see someone at the gate pull over enough to allow them to badge in then leave. Do not trigger the gate then let them in first. If you are coming in and there is someone behind you, stop when you have cleared the gate so it will close and the next person will need to badge in as well.

COVID and Sylvan:

Regardless of how you feel about it, or if you even believe in it, this does have a very real impact on gatherings and events. We all thought, in the beginning, our semi-lockdown would just last a few weeks to a month and we would go about our way. However, with the linking of the 3 counties, we have not been able to move out of phase 1 and some of the more dire estimates are saying we will be in this state for months to come. We have to date canceled all of our summer events from

broadhead league to JOAD but we feel this can not be our long term solution. Looking at the state requirements we have the following restraints.

1. Outdoor events should be limited to 50 people or less.
2. Masks where social distancing is not possible.
3. Events should only go until 10 pm.
4. A distance of 6ft should be maintained between people EXCEPT for members of the same party (no bigger than 10 in number) who can stand together.
5. Post clear signs listing symptoms

With these guidelines, we can still hold events but they will have to be much smaller or staggered out in shoot times. With this in mind, we are going to host the End of Summer 900, but registration is absolutely required. Please see additional information in this newsletter on how to register and when it will be hosted. If this event goes well we can look at how to bring back more events at the range for everyone.

Your suggestions and feedback are important!

While we (the board) can come up with a lot of things to do around the range, we also want to hear from you. What would you like to see improved or possibly added? It doesn't have to be a big change at all, Wendy McKee has shown that it is even small things that make a huge impact. Some current ideas that have been submitted include the following;

1. Stenciling the distances on the wood crossbeam along the top of the practice range bale houses, front and back. This would be to help remind people which bales they are shooting at for sight pins as well as if you are downrange looking for an arrow. (Thank you to Wendy for this suggestion!)
 2. We have some additional metal bench frames that just need wood slats, is there anywhere along the course that you would want a bench? We have archers of all ages and health ranges, is there anyplace, in particular, you could use a breather? Or maybe you just really like a particular area and would like to stop and enjoy it between targets, let us know! Drop Nikki an email and we can look into how to add that in.
 3. Online payment system, We are revisiting what would be needed for us to bring about online payments for membership. In the past, it was more costly and difficult to implement, but times have changed and we are taking a fresh look at this. (Thank you Patricia for tackling this!)
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