



CLOUD TIMES



ISSUE 6

NCAS TASSEL SCHEME NEWS

DECEMBER 2017

Lethal Weapon II

I've never been one for the Nanny State; H&S is for those people with clipboards / slavish adherence during your induction period at a pharmaceutical company. But I've seen the light – or rather one of those bulbs which wakes you up ever-so-slowly on winter mornings because you've got SAD. For the second time in 10 years I walked into an arrow. A senior moment; I saw it, but moved too late and the b****d jumped up and bit me. Someone then screamed and pointed at the blood coursing down my trouser leg. I glanced just once (I pass out at the sight of blood - mine) and saw a substantial lump of my calf dangling.

Your Clout field - full of arrows sticking up out of the ground - is a dangerous place. The nocks (remember your Beginners' course – which end is dangerous?) are coated in a toxic mixture of saliva, skin, food, and whatever the arrow last landed in - yuk. Not an issue until this adventure playground for toxicologists finds its way under the skin. My first injury took 6 months, 3 courses of antibiotics and daily visits to the nurse at the aforementioned pharmaceutical company to heal properly. We now hear reports that last line antibiotics are failing – fellow Clouters, *please take note*.

If it happens to you, forget the "I don't want a fuss / macho man" approach and embrace your inner drama queen. Hit the floor – SAS style if so inclined - if a part of your anatomy has been punctured; babble (coherently) for a first aider, keep the wound clean and if it seems stiches are needed go to the hospital immediately.

Thank you, archers and officials at the 2017 Kent Clout. I'm mortified that you couldn't shoot around / over me or the ambulance but the nice man in A&E told me that you'd done good.

This new convert to the ranks of H&S asks Tournament Organisers to check their First Aid Kits carry the relevant, up to date supplies. I'd also like to hear judges highlight the dangers along with their usual "offer-to-pay-for-the-arrow-if-you-break-it" talk. And if you ask – I did ask, but the arrow won that round and was undamaged. For my part, if you see me taking an unusually scenic route to the flag – leave me alone, I know what I'm doing . . .

Barbara Williams

Editor Plea:

Please let me have some articles to publish, whether these are reports from shoots or general discussion documents. I would like to share more news and not just award achievers. How about a letters page?

Reminder

The National Clout Championships – 20th October 2018 – Get it in your diary!

Did you know?

The only way you can obtain a "missed" Tassel badge is either by shooting a different bow discipline or a longer distance.

Need a Classification badge?

They can be bought from me for £4.00 each or if ordering 10 or more, £3.00 each.

More Clouts needed

The calendar is still missing Tassel shoots in Scotland, Wales & Northern Ireland. Do you attend any? If yes get the organiser to contact me.

Any news or photos?

Send it/them to me for the next edition.

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Son, then Dad gets hooked.....

My name is Finlay and I started shooting at Goldcrest about 6 months ago. After about 2 months Peter asked if I wanted to try clout and that I should come camping with my dad at Driffield. So I went down to the Goldcrest field to give it a try and on my second end I hit the flag and got my first clout, thanks to the coaching from Andy Davis.

I then went to Driffield for a weekend camping and clout archery, I had a really good time taking part in the two-day competition and camping.

Since then I have been to quite a few clout competitions and have set national records at under 12 distances which I am really pleased with. I also won the junior recurve national competition.

My favourite clout competition so far has been the tri-clout at Neston, I had a really good time and got to shoot with some friends that I have met at other competitions. It was really funny seeing all of Goldcrest dressed in 70's outfits.

I am glad Peter got me to try clout archery because it is really relaxed and always fun. I think everyone should try clout archery and come camping with us all next year.

Finlay Heydon



I'm **Mike Heydon**, dad of Finlay, and I started at Goldcrest Archers about 4 months ago after seeing how much fun my son Finlay was having and many hours walking up and down a field.

I had been to a couple of clout tournaments with Finlay before I tried it for the first time. The first time I had ago was a club competition at Fairfield and I only managed

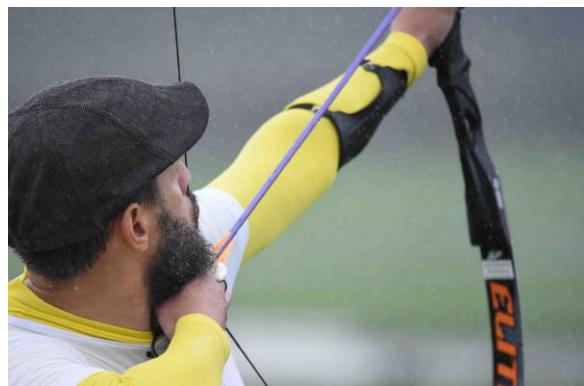
the ladies distance. After 3 ends I got a tap on my shoulder from Tracy saying I thought you were shooting barebow, to which I replied I am I have no sight...I didn't realise I couldn't use my long rod. So after my first try at clout at the ladies distance I wasn't convinced that it was for me, but wasn't ready to go back to spectating just yet. A few weeks later I decided to enter another clout competition with Finlay so we travelled down to Burton Bridge. This time I decided to give the correct distance a go and without my long rod! After a day of shooting in good conditions I had managed an impressive score of 3! But I have to say it was one of the most enjoyable days of archery I have had, everyone was helpful and encouraged me through the day.

From there it was the tri clout at Neston, 3 nights of camping with Finlay and 3 days of clout, by the end I was hooked. I even managed to get my first tassel.

I have since taken part in further clout completions with Finlay in the rain, wind and more rain and enjoyed every second of it.

If I'm honest it's not just the clout archery I go for or the winning of competitions it's the all-round experience of clout, the friendliness, the laughs and the relaxed atmosphere.

I would recommend that every archer, novice or veteran try clout archery. Apart from how much I have enjoyed the archery it has given me the opportunity to spend quality lad and dad time and that I would like to thank Goldcrest for giving me the opportunity and confidence to enter away competitions whilst still very inexperienced.



Clout Safety Distances – Field Layout – How did we get there.... Ray Chaplin

In the last edition of Clout Times (December 2016) mention was made of the directive given to Judges, to abide by the safety zone of 75 yards all round the Clout flag, as detailed in Rule 700b. This was causing much consternation for Archers and Tournament Organisers who had been attending or putting on Clout Tournaments, which did not fully comply with the safety zone, but had previously been run without incident. With the impending Ground Assessments due to start in April 2017 it was realised that without a change in the Rules of Shooting in respect of Rule 700b a number of grounds would have to cease shooting Clout.

In an attempt to prevent this from happening, a report was sent to the Chairman of the Rules Committee at Archery GB requesting that the safety zone rule for Clout (Rule 700b) be reviewed and realigned to that applied for Target Archery (Rule 302). The report contained a series of diagrams depicting layouts of the safety zones, as required under Rule 700b, for both Imperial and Metric Clout fields. These were overlaid with a theoretical safety zone developed with the criteria detailed in Rule 302. They were accompanied by a set of explanatory notes and a list of assumptions to support the request. The diagrams showed the massive difference in land needed to put on a Clout if Rule 700b was enforced, rather than if a variation of Rule 302 was applied.

As part of the discussion reference was made of attendance at numerous Clout Tournaments around the country over the past 30 years and having not seen any issues with arrows straying to the side of the Clout flag by an erroneous amount. This was presumably why the 75 yard rule was not being rigorously enforced by experienced Judges.

The words “deemed reasonable” were used in Rule 700b when assessing the 75 yard distance. It was unclear as to how the logic for the 75 yards was originally arrived at, it sounded like someone had a “feeling” that this was a value to use, rather than it being derived from some “empirical and sound” data.

It was outlined in the report, that when considering the criteria for the side safety zone in Target Archery (Rule 302), that if this was applied to Clout the side safety zone width alongside a gentlemen’s Clout at 180 yds would only be 28 yards. If the side safety line was extended out to the overshoot safety line, the side width saving here could be in the order of 30 – 50 yards each side of the field depending on the field layout and round being shot. A typical Clout field, for the same number of Clout flags, could be between 80 and 89 yards narrower if Rule 302 was applied to Clout rather than Rule 700b.

The question was posed “*Is an errant arrow shot at Clout, that much different to one shot at a long distance Target to warrant such a significant increase in side safety zone width?*” From the observation / experience of shooting at many venues and tournaments around the country the reality did not seem to justify the disparity.

In summary the report requested the following to be considered:

- It would be useful to review how the 75 yard value was established.
- Consider if there is any evidence to support the need for such a significant value for the side safety distance in Clout.
- Consider the alignment of the same safety criteria for Clout as is applied to Target Archery i.e. an extrapolation of Rule 302.

The request was made in the hopes that new guidelines for side safety zones for Clout could be implemented before the Ground Assessments started in April 2017. As there was a real fear that if Rule 700b was rigorously applied during that process, then the number of grounds available for Clout would be diminished and this may be only on the basis of some long standing “notion” rather than a “rigorous assessment” of what is actually required.

After careful consideration the Chairman of the Rules Committee responded in a very positive way by accepting the proposal to reduce the side safety zone for Clout to that of Target Archery, but also after reviewing the history of the rules also reduced the overshoot distance of 75 yards to 50 yards as in Target Archery. The rational for the rule change was given as:

The general principle of the range layout for Clout will be the same as for Target Archery. The sides will start at 10 yards at the shooting line, moving to 20 yards at 100yards, to 25 yards at 150 yards and 30 yards at 180 yards. The additional piece to cover the longer clout distances will be for the side overshoot to be 30 yards in a straight line from 180 yards to the end of the long overshoot. The long overshoot to be 50 yards from the flag. All distances to be measured from the flag. The long overshoot of 50 yards must be flat ground, and visible (i.e. cannot be hidden by bushes).

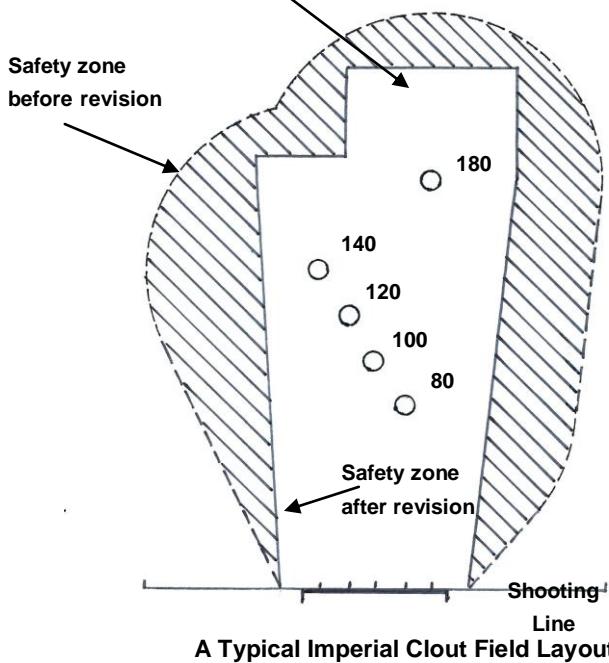
The following was taken into consideration in arriving at this proposal:

The overshoot for Clout had not been reviewed since before around 1981 (the oldest rule book I have which has the same overshoot rules for clout as currently in place). Since then, we have made two major adjustments - a) The trajectory that archers can use, and 2) the requirement for archers to have Clout training.

The good news is that one club has reported that it can now shoot clout on its ground under the revised rule, lets hope there are many more.

The following diagram shows the reduced area of land needed now to put on a typical clout tournament adopting the revised rule compared to that which would have been needed had rule 700b remained unchanged.

**Saving in field area with revised Rule 700b
as opposed to previous version of the rule**



I have had a great 2017 clout season, but only because of the help and support of my fellow Clout archers. I injured my knee in March and, while I was still able to shoot, for much of the season I was unable to walk to the target to help with collection and scoring and had to rely on club members and target companions to do that for me. This is not something I've ever been used to and I took badly to it, feeling very guilty that I was not "doing my bit".

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped me in so many ways – fellow club members and other archers for collecting and scoring my arrows, tournament organisers for making sure a Killingworth Archer was always on the same target to assist me, and Judges for keeping an eye on me – and bullying me when they thought I was doing too much!!!! Without your help, I would not have been able to shoot in many of the tournaments this year. Clout Archers really do live up to the GNAS motto of "Union, Trueheart and Courtesie".

Hopefully 2018 will be a better year and I will be able to pull my weight once again.

Thank you all and I hope to see you on the shooting line next year.

Kath Hall (Killingworth Archers)



Catriona Charters achieves her Imperial Purple Tassel and smashes the National Record



New flag post please!
An archer taking the Best Clout award seriously!

DIARY OF SHOOTS - CONFIRMED**Metric Tassel Award Shoots 2018**

Kettering	04-03-2018	Kettering
Waterside	17-03-2018	Exbury, Hampshire
Yorkshire	14-04-2018	Driffield
Cheshire	07-05-2018	Neston, Wirral
Eagle	09-06-2018	Penrith
Cumbria	14-07-2018	Penrith
Cumbria	15-07-2018	Penrith
Waterside	21-07-2018	Exbury, Hampshire
Kirknewton	22-07-2018	Wooler
Sussex	12-08-2018	Crawley
ECAA	19-08-2018	Woodford
Neston	27-08-2018	Neston, Wirral
NCAS	01-09-2018	Driffield
Hampshire	06-10-2018	Exbury, Hampshire
Fakenham	13-10-2018	Fakenham
Rutland	21-10-2018	Great Casterton
Northamptonshire	04-11-2018	Kettering

Imperial Tassel Award Shoots 2018

Waterside	18-03-2018	Exbury, Hampshire
Southampton	01-04-2018	Southampton
St.Georges	08-04-2018	Allerton Park, Knareborough
Yorkshire	15-04-2018	Driffield, East Yorkshire
ECAA	22-04-2018	Woodford
Burton Bridge	27-05-2018	Burton on Trent
SCAS	03-06-2018	Caddington, Beds
Eagle	09-06-2018	Penrith
Eagle	10-06-2018	Penrith
Coastal	15-07-2018	Burnham-on-Sea
Waterside	22-07-2018	Exbury, Hampshire
Southampton	05-08-2018	Southampton
Surrey	18-08-2018	Warlingham, Surrey
Cheshire	25-08-2018	Neston, Wirral
Cheshire	26-08-2018	Neston, Wirral
NCAS	02-09-2018	Driffield, East Yorkshire
Bowflights	09-09-2018	Tardebigge
D&N	16-09-2018	Ashington
Hampshire	07-10-2018	Exbury, Hampshire
York	13-10-2018	York
Fakenham	14-10-2018	Fakenham
Nationals	20-10-2018	Bradford
Southampton	02-12-2018	Southampton

Clout Tassel Rankings 2017
These were release via Facebook
last week, and can be found on the
Northern Counties Archery Society
website – www.ncas.co.uk

CLOUT CLASSIFICATIONS - DON'T FORGET TO RE-CLAIM

I believe archers are content with having achieved the standard in past years and don't think it necessary to make a re-claim for the current season. Why not? It's only like target classifications! Do you not want other archers to see you have attained the standard again? As an indicator of numbers please see below the table that shows 2017 with the 2016 year in brackets.

Also, to clarify, Junior archers only have the Master Bowman classification, they do not have the Grand Master Bowman classification, unless of course they attain the scores at the senior distances!

Classification Awards 2017

	Ladies	Gents
Master Bowman	Recurve x 2 (2)	Recurve x 0 (0)
	Compound x 2 (2)	Compound x 3 (3)
	Longbow x 3 (3)	Longbow x 4 (1)
	Barebow x 2 (2)	Barebow x 3 (5)
Grand Master Bowman	Recurve x 0 (0)	Recurve x 0 (1)
	Compound 0 (0)	Compound 0 (0)
	Longbow x 2 (2)	Longbow x 1 (1)
	Barebow x 2 (2)	Barebow x 2 (1)
Junior Master Bowman	Recurve x 0 (0)	
	Barebow x 0 (1)	Barebow x 0 (0)

The table aside shows the awards of Grand Master Bowman, Master Bowman and Junior Master Bowman claimed in the 2017 season. It is quite clear from looking at the claimants there are archers that have not bothered to make a claim. Whilst I can partly understand this as they don't get another badge once they've made a previous claim, it does slightly distort the figures. It is also noticeable that there is a lack of claims for certain bow disciplines. Given the Classification scores have been unaltered since I introduced them in 2014 I feel the time is right to make some adjustments. I will be looking at these

over the next couple of months and certainly before the first Tassel Shoots of the 2018 Season.

My initial thinking is that both the Recurve and Compound scores are too high, but also feel all scores could be dropped a little to bring more numbers into each category. Overall the number of claims made is very small against the number of archers taking part in clout.

How do we attract more archers to Clout?

For those of you that have properly read the Tassel Rankings you will have seen that I have reported a slight drop in archers that have competed in Tassel Shoots this last year. This is the first year that this has happened and apart from archers feeling the strain of money having to go further, what with increasing costs of travel etc. I don't know the reason for this drop off. As a personal view I don't think the introduction of more awards/badges is the answer. Any ideas?



Grand Master Bowman



Purple – Imperial

Alan Holder	Forest of Bere	Barebow	Catrina Charters	Hinkley	Longbow
Barbara Williams	Herts	Barebow	Malcolm North	Abbey	Compound
Carol Fairbrother	St.Georges	Barebow			
Catrina Charters	Hinckley	Longbow			
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Longbow			
Lyn Anderson	Bowbrook	Longbow			
Mick White	Goldcrest	Barebow			



Master Bowman



Gold – Imperial

Alison Williams	The Longbow Club	Longbow	Charlotte Baigent	Waterside	Recurve
Andy Sollars	Waterside	Longbow	David Ferguson	Southampton	Recurve
Barbara Williams	Herts	Barebow	Geoff Ingleby	Ebor	Barebow
David Smith	RLSAS	Longbow	Kate Carter	Loughborough St.	Recurve
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Barebow	Louise Smith	York	Compound
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Longbow	Roz Summers	Southampton	Compound
Gareth Beeby	Pennine	Compound	Mark Fenwick	Grimsby	Compound
Geoff Fisher	Burton Bridge	Longbow			
Geoff Ingleby	Ebor	Barebow			
Glynn Jones	Kettering	Barebow			
Ian Stowell	CCB	Longbow			
Jeanette Holder	Forest of Bere	Compound			
Kath Hall	Killingworth	Recurve			
Lucy Eyles	RAF Waddington	Longbow			
Mark Fenwick	Grimsby	Compound			
Paul Lomas	St.Georges	Compound			
Rachel van Besouw	Southampton	Barebow			
Roz Summers	Southampton	Compound			
Tracy Cross	Goldcrest	Recurve			



Junior Master Bowman

Jasmine Simpson	Wyre Forest	Barebow
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Clout Classification scores

These can be found on the Northern Counties Archery Society website, together with GMB/MB/JMB claim forms.



Gold – Metric

Aidan Harris (J)	St.Georges	Barebow	Andy Sollars	Waterside
Alan Tonge	Archery GB	Compound	Bernadette Stubbings	Wherry
Andy Sollars	Waterside	Longbow	Carole Tidd	Bournemouth
Christine Burnett	Sellafield	Compound	Christopher Massey	Guernsey
Diane Pople	Sevenoaks	Barebow	David Anderson	Croesoswallt
Dicky Summers	Southampton	Barebow	Dylan Higgs (J)	The Longbow Club
Hayden Ledwick (J)	Eagle	Recurve	Elaine Jobson	Morpeth
Ian Downham	Neston	Barebow	Lyn Anderson	Croesoswallt
Ian Stowell	Cheshire County	Longbow	Rachel Van Besouw	Southampton
John Bedford	Royal Tox	Longbow	Remy Lloyd (J)	Lytchett
Jude Lane	Eccles	Longbow	Sharon Lawrence	Noak Hill
Julian NcNair	Goldcrest	Barebow	Stephen Williams	The Longbow Club
June Houghton	Keswick	Barebow		
Kate Cater	RLSAS	Recurve		
Lizzie McCaig	Southampton	Barebow		
Luke Pritchard	Chippenham	Barebow		
Maggie Johnston	Abbey (Herts)	Barebow		
Mark Fenwick	Grimsby	Compound		
Natasha Willard	Waterside	Barebow		
Peter Curnock	Melton Mowbray	Compound		
Peter Eyles	Chippenham	Longbow		
Peter Fox	Rutland	Compound		
Remy Lloyd (J)	Lytchett	Longbow		
Steve Williams	The Longbow Club	Longbow		
Thomas Blumensath	Southampton	Longbow		



Longbow - Metric 3 Clout End



Metric 6 Clout End

Alan Tonge	Archery GB	Compound
Darren Barker	Derwent	Recurve
Diane Pople	Sevenoaks	Barebow
Finlay Heydon (J)	Goldcrest	Recurve
Jennifer Oates	Merdon	Recurve
Kate Carter	RLSAS	Recurve
Mark Leach	Eccles	Recurve

Alison Williams claims a “Maid Marion”!
A “hidden” compound arrow is skewered at 140 yards by Alison’s longbow arrow!