

An Introduction To Suffolk Archers and Bowhunters

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Congratulations and welcome to The Suffolk Archers and Bowhunters. You are now entitled to participate in all club activities and have full use of the range and membership privileges.

Enclosed you will find information explaining the general nature of the Club, Activities, Member Obligations and Privileges, Dues Structure, and other facts concerning Club Policies and Operation.

If you have any questions, please call and leave a message on the club hotline, (516) 873-8898 and your call will be returned.

Sincerely,
Board of Directors
Suffolk Archers and Bowhunters

II Administrative Organization and Functions

Suffolk Archers is a private organization dedicated to promoting the sport of archery in all its' forms, including field and target archery in compliance with the National and New York State Archery organizations. In addition we support and promote bow hunting and host 3D animal tournaments, stump shoots, novelty tournaments and hunting classes.

A Board of Directors governs the club. This Board of Directors consists of; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five Board Members that govern the club. The board meets once a month and a general membership meeting is held bimonthly for all club members. Attendance is encouraged at the general membership meetings.

All club activities are performed by committees headed by Committee Chairmen who are responsible to the Board of Directors

III Overview- Suffolk Archers and Range Facilities

Suffolk Archers is a private archery club, owning approximately twenty acres of woodland at 86 Pigeon Hill Road in Huntington, Long Island. The range is open every day for club members' use. Visitors are welcome with a club member as a host and are required to fill out a guest waiver.

The club is composed of a cross section of archers of all ages and shooting interests. These vary from backyard plinkers to formal target archers, field archers and bowhunters. Some members enjoy shooting with no thought of keeping score, while at the other end of the spectrum we have some national champions. Equipment selection ranges from recurves and longbows for instinctive archers to top of the line compounds with sights and release aids.

Beginning Archers and Plinkers

You may shoot at your convenience and at any established target you wish. At your discretion you may walk the course and shoot at the targets at closer ranges until you become more proficient. Obey the club safety rules oriented for your protection and continued safety. Of course minors need to be accompanied by an adult at all times while on the range.

Field Archers

The 28-target course is set up at regulation shooting distances of 20 feet to 80 yards as sanctioned by the National Field Archery Association. Tournaments are held on scheduled Sundays through the warmer months, but you can shoot for practice at any other time. Normally one to four arrows are shot at each target. A standardized scoring system is used at the tournaments and awards for archers of varying abilities are given out.

The range is equipped with practice butts with ranges of 10 feet to 80 yards.

Bow Hunters

Our woodland archery courses are a bow hunter's dream. Tournaments are scheduled using 3D deer and animal targets arranged in wooded settings to simulate typical bow hunting shots. The club hosts a traditional tournament for recurves and longbow shooters only. Targets consist of 3D deer and animal targets with running animals, flying disks and more. Our clubs Stump Shoots or Knock a Block Tournaments challenge the bowmen to knock blocks off stumps and are a unique practice experience for bow hunting.

IV Committee System and New Member Committee Assignment

The work required to conduct tournaments, organize events and maintain our range facilities is under the control of committees assigned specific responsibilities. Members receive dues credit for **active committee participation** as determined by the committee chairman.

The Committee Chairman will explain your duties or specific work to be completed.

You are required to complete eight hours of work in each of your first 2 years of membership. Any work time in excess of the first 8 hours will be credited towards the following year's dues. Work slips must be filled out and approved by the committee chairman at the time the work is done. *This is your responsibility.* Keep the pink copy for your records,

The Range Committee is responsible for maintaining the range in serviceable condition throughout the year. The Chairman is the Range

Captain who is solely in charge of the range property. He/ She is responsible to the Board of Directors. With the exception of scheduled workdays at the beginning of the shooting season, this committee will complete all work. Maintenance includes all target butts, knock a block posts and backstops, ethafoam blocks, shooting stakes, signs, picnic area, restrooms, sheds, practice area, road, front gate, target shooting lanes, course paths, storage lockers, bridges and platforms. Work possibly requiring contractor assistance, (i.e. roads and gates) may be referred to the Board of Directors. Any changes including target location, paths, structures, signs, security arrangements, etc. shall be under the control of this Committee Chairman with approval of the Board of Directors who may occasionally indicate that such changes be made.

Specific recommendations to accomplish these objectives are as follows:

Prior to the first work day of a scheduled season a range survey should be made to determine what work is to be completed. A list of jobs and material requirements for each job should be determined, and costs estimated. Submit these jobs and available data to the responsible board representative. Following allocation of funds, make necessary purchases and arrange delivery. Prepare a plan for workdays including, number of work groups, provisions of tools, and efficient use of manpower. Coordinate work effort on workdays.

In connection of year round requirements, establish subcommittees (or work groups) to divide the work effort either by time periods or area of responsibility. The course should be inspected periodically during the tournament season and necessary maintenance completed. To include in this maintenance and refurbishing targets, clearing shooting lanes, regular mowing of the field and the Knock-a-Block practice range. Targets will be kept in place on all target butts and practice range throughout the season except that targets for tournaments will be placed by the respective tournament committees.

Suffolk Archers Committees

- Range Committee
- Field Tournament Committee
- Bow Hunting Committee

V New (Probationary) Member Requirements, Privileges & Dues Policy

When an applicant for membership is interviewed, accepted and approved by our club's Board of Directors, and has attended the orientation meeting, the Applicant immediately becomes a probationary member. This status will last for first year of membership. During that time, the Membership Chairman will be your "probation officer", and answer your questions.

Each probationary member must do a minimum of 8 hours work time and attend at least 2 general meetings for the first 2 years. This mandatory work time must be completed by Oct 31 of the calendar year.

Those probationary members failing to complete their required committee and field work days will be dropped from membership.

A probationary member is entitled to the full use of the range, to all benefits and privileges, and to participate in all events and club functions just as any Regular Member.

VI Regular Member Annual Dues

The membership year is from 1/1 to 12/31

The Annual Dues for a Regular Member of Suffolk Archers and Bow Hunters is \$300.00 per year, which must be paid prior to Jan 1. Any dues received or postmarked after Jan 1, will have an additional \$100 late fee attached. After Jan 15, you will be dropped from the membership roster, and only readmitted not before Feb 1 with an additional \$50 fee for

reprocessing, above the \$100 late fee, only if there are still openings available. **If a hardship for dues payment is encountered, you must inform the Board of Directors prior to 12/15, and arrangements will be made.**

Members are eligible to earn credits to reduce their dues by participation in Club events up to full dues amount by

1. Attending up to four work days = \$50.00 Credit each
2. Participate in club committee work
3. Work assigned by the Range Officer

Credits earned by participation in workdays and committee work will be deducted from next year's dues.

Membership covers the member, spouse and unmarried children who reside with you. Grandchildren under the age of 18 are permitted to shoot as extended members, but must be accompanied by a family member.

Junior members (under the age of 18) pay one half the dues or \$150.00 per year. They may also earn workday credit and committee credit at the rate of \$25.00 per day to a maximum of \$50.00 (1work+ 1committee).

Military personnel receive dues relief while on active duty. (maximum of 5).

Suffolk Archers is a private club. The range is open to the public only by invitation and on certain days. Please make sure the gate comes down behind you when you enter and leave the range. Giving your access card to any non authorized person is cause for expulsion from Suffolk Archers.

VII Work Days

Workdays are scheduled on certain days of each year to recondition the range. Consult the schedule posted on our website for dates.

VIII Tournaments

Our tournament season extends from April to October. Suffolk Archers is associated with the New York State Field Archers and Bowhunters for which individual membership is required. The state association dues are included in the annual membership dues. This membership in the state association entitles each club member to his/her state classification card, which is required, if you choose to shoot in sanctioned local or state tournaments. Tournament fees and awards are established by the responsible committee or as set by the state or national organization at sanctioned tournaments. In general, tournaments are held on most Sundays and include the following: (see schedule for this year on our website).

Field Tournaments- Sanctioned shoots that include Field, Hunter and Animal Rounds. The type of equipment that is used determines Shooting Class. Classification is in group competition based on established shooting ability as put forth by the National Field Archery Association. (NFAA).

The following novelty or hunting oriented shoots do not require any pre-established classification. Some tournaments are conducted on a handicap basis or “flight” system.

3D Deer Tournaments Consists usually of 28, 3d Deer and Animal targets. Targets are placed in typical hunting type surroundings and yardage. These shoots are held late summer and fall.

Knock-A-Block Stump Shoots Shoots consist of knocking foam blocks off of stumps set at hunting distances. Obstacles make it a challenge. Arrows need to be equipped with Judo™ Points or blunts.

Traditional Shoot This course of targets is reserved for instinctive shooting, longbows and recurves only. No sights or releases are allowed. Novelty targets such as moving animals, flying geese and timed multiple shots add to the excitement.

NOTE: The 28 Target Field and the Knock-A Block Stump Shoot Course are permanently installed along with the 3D targets.

During tournament days we normally have a kitchen set up to provide lunch for the contestants and staff. The committee hosting the shoot determines food and beverage supplies. Alcoholic beverages, including beer, are not served during tournaments. Alcohol and arrows do not mix, and the safety of our Members and Guests is our number one concern.

IX Range Safety Rules

Members of Suffolk Archers and their guests, attending scheduled shoots, shall observe the range and safety rules to insure the safety of all participants.

Following is a copy of the safety rules and a copy of the Constitution and by-laws.

. SUFFOLK ARCHERS SAFETY RULES AND POLICIES

It is the responsibility of the primary member to ensure that all family and guests entering the facility are familiar with the safety rules and that they agree to abide by them.

Guests are permitted. Each guest is allowed to come a total of three times a year. At the front door of the lodge there is a guest book. The member must sign the guest book and enter his guest's name. The waiver, located by the book, must be filled out and signed and put into the box provided. Fill out both sides. The member is responsible for his guest. The guest must then wear a paper badge also located by the book at all times while on the property and be in the company of the member.

- 1) ABSOLUTELY NO BROADHEADS OR PRACTICE BROADHEADS ALLOWED ON RANGE EXCEPT AT THE BROADHEAD PIT LOCATED AT THE TOP OF THE ROAD
- 2) NO CROSSBOWS OR FIREARMS ARE TO BE SHOT ANYWHERE ON THE PROPERTY
- 3) SHARING OR LENDING YOUR ACCESS CARD TO NON-MEMBERS IS PROHIBITED.
- 4) NO SHOOTING OR HARMING WILDLIFE ON THE PROPERTY WILL BE TOLERATED
- 5) POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR ILLEGAL DRUGS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED
VIOLATION OF ONE OF THESE FIVE RULES ARE CAUSE FOR IMMEDIATE TERMINATION

- 6) Any person acting unruly or unsafe will be asked to leave
- 7) No pets are allowed on the property
- 8) Never put an arrow on the string until it is safe to shoot
- 9) Never shoot in the air or draw your bow higher than your intended target. If your draw weight is so high that you must point skyward to draw, reduce the draw weight
- 10) Shoot only at prescribed targets, not animals or trees

- 11) No one will not cross or move forward of the shooting line until all firing has ceased and there is a cease fire
- 12) Members and guests will move in ascending order on the range. No backtracking or shortcuts
- 13) When looking for lost arrows, you must protect the target. If you are alone, remove the paper target from the butt and place your **bow in front of the butt, knock a block or 3D target. If you are in a group one person must be visible in front of the target**
- 14) No shooting is allowed from the lodge or any porches
- 15) Smoking is prohibited in the lodge

Keep Suffolk Archers a **SAFE** place to shoot.

Archery safety is everyone's concern. It is a matter of common sense, and every precaution must be taken to insure the highest possible standards of **SAFETY and Courtesy.**

REMEMBER

Safety is our #1 priority. If you see someone doing something unsafe, say something or call the hotline below with time date and who committed the infraction. This is your club. Keep it safe for you, your family and other members.

X Club Hot Line

The club hot line, (516) 873-8898 is for member use to refer questions, and for prospective members to request membership applications, etc. Messages left on the answering machine will be returned at the callers' convenience.

For your convenience, we have installed wi-fi in the lodge. The password is 12345678