

# DARWIN TOP END BOWHUNTERS INC.

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## By-Laws

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# **PART 1**

## **By-Law 1**

### *Objectives of the Association*

a. The basic objectives of the Association are:

1. To promote the status of Bow Hunting and archery to a high level of public acceptance and legal recognition in the Northern Territory.
2. To establish ground rules and restrictions for bow hunters as set out in the Code of Ethics of the Association and the Rules of Fair Chase, acceptable to responsible Bow Hunters.
3. Where possible to assist all public bodies involved in conservation and game management, where such aims do not conflict with the aims and objectives of the Association.
4. To promote and preserve the less sophisticated forms in instinctive archery, whilst allowing for and assisting more competitive and sophisticated archery as used in bow hunting, field archery and archery clubs.
5. To hold and / or assist in the promotion of all disciplines of Archery (Less Crossbows at this time).
6. To educate members to attain and uphold the highest standard of hunter ethics and published rules of fair chase.
7. To promote Bowhunter responsible hunting ethics at all times.

## **By-Law 2**

### *Aims of the Association.*

- a. The aim of the Association is to establish a facility that can be enjoyed by all disciplines of archery, Field Archery, and Olympic Style.
- b. Ensure that all events are conducted in a safe manner and all equipment is safe to operate.
- c. To educate members to attain and uphold the highest standard of hunter ethics and published rules of fair chase.
- d. To promote Bowhunter responsible hunting ethics at all times.

### **By-Law 3**

#### Fees

- a. The Committee shall prescribe the Annual Subscription fees payable by members.
- b. Annual Subscription fees of a member is due and payable on or before the last Sunday in February of each year, after this day members are then non-financial and are not eligible to shoot on Club grounds until they become full financial members again.
- c. Persons new to the Club, not expired financial members, will be entitled to three free shoots before being required to make an election as whether to become financial members of the Association.
- d. Annual Subscription fees shall accompany an Application for Membership to the Association. If the Association does not accept the Application for Membership, then a full refund shall be reimbursed to the Applicant.
- e. Annual Subscription fees are as follows:
  - (i) Family Membership \$200.00
  - (ii.) Adult Member \$100.00
  - (iii.) Junior Member \$50.00
  - (iv) Senior Member \$75.00
  - (iv) Pro rata Fees for New Members is as follows:
    - 1. January – March 100%
    - 2. April – June 75%
    - 3. July – September 50%
    - 4. October – December 25%
- f. Pro rata rates for New Members shall take effect from their attendance at their first Shoot.
- g. Interpretation for application and payment of fees:
  - (i) Junior Membership - Child of the age of 1 year to 18 years as at the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of Annual subscription.
  - (ii) Family Membership - constitutes immediate family only such as spouse and children within the guidelines of By-Law 3 sub-para (g) sub sub-para (i).
  - (iii) Senior Membership – Person aged 60 years and over who present a Senior’s Card at Annual Subscription.

## **By-Law 4**

### *Dogs or Domestic Animals*

- a. Dogs or domestic animals are not permitted on any ranges during shoots. Dogs or domestic animals are to be suitably restrained in/at the member's vehicle or off the verandah within the clubhouse area. The owner of any animal, which becomes a nuisance to other members or visitors, will be required to remove that animal from the premises.

## **By-Law 5**

### *Fauna*

- a. All animals whether native, domestic or feral are protected within the Club Boundaries. Animals include all forms of birds, mammals and reptiles.

## **By-Law 6**

### *Flora*

- a. All flora is protected within the Club Boundaries. Therefore there shall be no deliberate destruction to the vegetation, except in the case of noxious weed control, in the maintenance of fire breaks, formed tracks and allies in use.

## **By-Law 7**

### *Vehicle Usage within the Club Boundaries*

- a. All persons operating a vehicle within the Club Boundaries shall operate that vehicle within accordance to Northern Territory Road Laws. All vehicles operating within the Club Boundaries shall obey speed limit signs and operate at safe speed with a speed no greater than 40km/h.

## **By-Law 8**

### *Camping*

- a. Camping within the Club Boundaries is permitted with Committee Approval. Camping will be only permitted in an area designated by the Committee.
- b. Campfires require Committee approval before lighting. If permitted a campfire must have a minimum area of 1 metre cleared of any fuel all the way around the campfire area.

## **By-Law 9**

### Grievance and disputes procedures

- a. This clause applies to disputes between
  - (i) a member and another member; or
  - (ii) a member and the Committee.
- b. Within 14 days after the dispute comes to the attention of the parties to the dispute, they must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute.
- c. If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting, or if a party fails to attend that meeting, then the parties must, within 10 days after the meeting, hold another meeting in the presence of a mediator.
- d. The mediator must be
  - (i) a person chosen by agreement between the parties; or
  - (ii) in the absence of agreement
    1. for a dispute between a member and another member – a person appointed by the Committee; or
    2. for a dispute between a member and the Committee – a person who is a mediator appointed or employed by the Association.
- e. A member of the Association can be a mediator.
- f. The mediator cannot be a party to the dispute.
- g. The parties to the dispute must, in good faith, attempt to settle the dispute by mediation.
- h. The mediator, in conducting the mediation, must
  - (i) give the parties to the mediation process every opportunity to be heard;
  - (ii) allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party; and
  - (iii) ensure natural justice is accorded to the parties to the dispute throughout the mediation process.
- i. The mediator must not determine the dispute.
- j. If the mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the Constitution(Act) or otherwise at law, presence of a mediator.

## **PART 2**

### ***Range Regulations***

#### **By-Law 10**

##### ***Minimum Dress Requirement on all Ranges***

- a. Enclosed footwear is to be worn on all ranges by shooters and spectators.
- b. Full camouflage clothing is not to be worn on any range by shooters or spectators.

#### **Practice Ranges**

#### **By-Law 11**

##### ***Rules whilst at the Practice Range***

- a. The Practice Range is open to all Association Members every day during daylight hours and is free of charges.
- b. No one is to stand at the firing line or pickup their bow or arrows whilst anyone is on the Practice Range.
- c. Only shooters may stand at the firing line or a coaching member.
- d. No one will place an arrow on the bowstring unless at the firing line, except whilst checking the brace height or tuning of the bow.
- e. Should a member call to “Down Arrows”, all shooters will immediately “let-down” without firing their bows and move back from the firing line.
- f. Arrows may only be fired at targets immediately in front the archer.
- g. After you have fired all arrows you must put down your bow and move back from the firing line and wait until the remaining shooters are finished.
- h. Arrows may only be retrieved when the firing line is clear and member calls “Clear”. Members are to follow any instructions given when retrieving their arrows at all times.
- i. In case of any danger or accident, immediately call for all shooters to “DOWN ARROWS”
- j. The shooting at any animals whether domestic, native or feral is prohibited on the practice range.
- k. The shooting of Broad Heads is prohibited on the Practice Range, as these items are destructive to butts and can create a safety hazard if the heads are left in the butts during refurbishment.
- l. Members are required to remove any rubbish from the practice range at their completion and place it into a rubbish bin. Items of rubbish include, but not limited to fletching, drink containers, food container, unusable or personal targets and any other items.

- m. No alcohol is to be consumed on the practice range by shooters or spectators.
- n. Participation of Junior Shooters is only permitted under competent adult supervision.
- o. No arrows are to be fired directly into the air (no sky drawing or firing).

## **Field Ranges**

### **By-Law 12**

#### *Shoot Fees*

- a. The Committee shall prescribe the shoot fees payable by members.
- b. Normal shoot fees are:
  - (i) Adult Members \$5.00
  - (ii) Junior Members \$2.00
  - (iii) Seniors Members \$5.00
  - (iv) Immediate Family Group \$10.00 (maximum)
- c. Additional Shoot Fees may be payable for special events such as the Australia Day Shoot, Club Championships and May Day shoots or any other events as described by the Committee. Additional Fees also apply for Club Hunts.
- d. Shooters are required to nominate and pay for the shoot at least 30 minutes prior to commencement of the first round. Any competitor who registers after that time may be penalised at the discretion of the Range Master or a Committee member responsible for the collection of these fees.

### **By-Law 13**

#### *Shoot Times and Places*

- a. If a shoot is to be conducted outside of the Club Boundaries then the Committee shall endeavour to give at least 30 days' notice to members.
- b. Club Shoots are generally conducted on each Sunday except Public Holidays. Timings for these shoots are generally:
  - (i) 9:30am - Shoot Nominations close
  - (ii) 10:00am - Team Allocations and briefings and shoot round.
  - (iii) 11:30am – 12:30pm - Lunch and Target retrieval.
  - (iv) 1:00pm – 2:00pm - Knife and Axe Throwing (if conducted).
- c. Wednesday activities general start at 6:00pm which could include Dart-archery (similar to Darts but with a bow), other novelty shoots, equipment maintenance, use of the practice butts, general socialisation.



## **By-Law 14**

### *Equipment*

- a. All archery equipment shall be in a safe condition and maintained in accordance with the manufactures recommendations.
- b. Arrows should be of the correct weight and spine for the bow weight being shot. It is recommended that you do not shoot an arrow weighing less than the minimum recommendation for your bow.
- c. Accessories such as release aids, sights and stabilisers can be used. Stabilisers in excess of 30cm (12") cannot be used in Hunter and Traditional Classes.
- d. Limb bolts are not be adjusted once a shooter commences a course. Limb bolts can be adjusted at the completion of the course and inspected by a range official.
- e. The shooting of Broad Heads is not permitted, as these items are destructive to butts and 3D targets and can create a safety hazard if the heads are left in the butts during refurbishment. Subject to the discretion of the Committee and the Range Master, broad head rounds maybe held.

## ***Types of Rounds Generally Shot***

## **By-Law 15**

### *Vinyl Rounds*

- a. The rounds are shot on vinyl animal face targets.
- b. One round at 20 targets using one arrow. You have one arrow to score with if you miss the scoring zone then you miss out on scoring.
- c. The distances are unmarked and you have to estimate these distances.

## **By-Law 16**

### *3D Rounds*

- a. Our main game is shooting life like 3D animal targets, the next best thing to hunting real animals.
- b. The 3D Round consists of 20 targets, one arrow to be shot at each target.
- c. The distances are unmarked and you have to estimate these distances.
- d. Targets are placed in natural settings at distances generally up to 46 metres.

## **By-Law 17**

### *Rules whilst on the Field Ranges*

- a. Shooter shall move around the ranges in their teams at all times.
- b. Teams and spectators shall move only around the range on tracks and path as directed by the Range Master, Committee Member giving the range brief or the Team Captain.
- c. All Shooters will carry arrows in a suitable container whilst moving around the ranges.
- d. The Shooting stance and position is to be as such that a foot /knee is touching the firing peg. Whilst

shooting the foot or knee must stay in contact with the firing peg. If contact is not constant during the shot that shot will not be scored. Exception to this can occur for Juniors and persons new to the sport to move forward of the firing peg to a distance suitable but still challenging to the Shooter.

e. Teams will commence on targets as allocated at the briefing, also indicated on the Score Sheet. Teams are to shoot targets in numerical order. If the team starts on different target than Number 1 they shall then shoot all targets to the end, i.e.: number 20, then continue from number 1 until all 20 target have been shot.

f. Only shooters (or a coaching member) may stand at the firing peg.

g. Shooters and spectators will not distract, interfere with or assist any shooter at the firing peg, coaching members excepted.

h. No one will place an arrow on the bowstring unless at the firing peg. No adjustments are to be made to equipment whilst on the Range.

i. Should a member call to “Down Arrows”, the shooter will immediately “let-down” without firing their bows and move back from the firing peg and wait for further instructions.

j. Arrows may only be fired at targets immediately in front the firing peg.

k. No arrows are to be fired directly into the air (sky drawing/firing).

l. After you have fired your arrow / arrows you must step back from the firing peg at least 1 (one) metre behind the next shooter.

m. Arrows may only be retrieved when the team captain indicates that this can be done after all shooters in the group have fired. Arrows are not to be removed until scored by the Scorer and Score recorder.

n. In case of any danger or accident, immediately call for all shooters to “DOWN ARROWS”

o. The shooting at any animals whether domestic, native or feral is prohibited on any field range.

p. The shooting of Broad Heads is prohibited on any field Range, as these items are destructive to butts and 3D targets and can create a safety hazard if the heads are left in the butts during refurbishment.

q. Members are required to remove any rubbish for the field range at their completion and place it into a rubbish bin. Items of rubbish include but not limited to fletching, drink containers, food container, unusable or personal targets and any other items.

r. Shooters are to shoot the target in order of the person shooting from the furthest firing peg to the closest firing peg. Each team is to remain in its original order during the entire shoot.

s. If there is any dispute over the shooting order within the team, the team Captain shall decide on the order.

t. No alcohol is to be consumed on any field range by shooters or spectators.

u. Participation of Junior Shooters is only permitted under competent adult supervision.

v. Shooters are allowed a time limit 3 minutes to search for missing / lost arrows. Searching for arrows after this allotted time is conducted at the completion of the shoot having been given approval from the Range Master or a Committee Member. A senior member is to remain present at the target whilst the initial search is be conducted.

x. The use of range finding devices is not allowed on the Field Range.

y. There is to be no discussion of target ranges until all shooters have shot the target. This discussion

is limited to the immediate team members only or teams that have already completed the target.

z. Pictures of the targets being shot maybe carried on the range.

aa. Any arrow dropped that can be recovered whilst still touching the peg can be fired again.

## **By-Law 18**

### *Scoring of Targets*

- a. To score the arrow must be stuck in the target. Witness pass throughs are to be scored as agreed by the majority of the team, or re shot before shooters advance to the target.
- b. Scores to be used for the shoot will be detailed at the briefing prior to the shoot. Generally A, B and C, 'C' being the body outline of the animals excluding horns.
- c. Arrows that touch or break the scoring ring shall be scored as the higher score.
- d. If an arrow is accidentally released and is not in the scoring area of the target it must be scored as a 0, even if the shooter calls "let down". Any arrow dropped that can be recovered whilst still touching the peg can be fired again.