

MA3 NEWS

Summer 2015

The Mounted Archery Association of the Americas



Overall Winner Lukas Novotny on Carmina

Slaying the Dragon at the 2015 MA3 Competition

The Rogue Mounted Archers hosts another successful competition in Southern Oregon. MA3 Members attended from around the country.

As the trucks rolled in, old friends reunited and new friends were made. Horses came out of the trailers ready to ride and the competitors were chomping at the bit as the excitement of another MA3 Competition filled the air.

Affiliated Clubs and Members from all over the United States represented in style. The theme this year was the Dragon Hunt. A Triple Qabaq course and the Four Dragons, a double-double shot course, were the main attraction this year. All were performed on a 90 meter course and with that many targets close together, this years competition was sure to be a challenge.

There were several outstanding performances during the three day

beginners out there really giving their best. RMA Member, Danna Pfaff, on her last shot of the competition, swung around, zoned in and nailed the back shot on the Hungarian. As she returned to the audience she uttered the words of the RMA credo, "Never give up!". Her smile said it all.

Lukas Novotny, Darran Wardle and Beesh Frischman showed excellence in their technique and horsemanship. Ferocious, fearless and elegant are just a few words to describe what you might have seen from these archers on any given day of the competition.

MA3 had the great pleasure of hosting Mihai Cozmei from Hungary. Mihai rode Quevedo, a horse owned by Holm Neumann from the Thundering Horde. It was beautiful to watch this horse's powerful stride as it raced down the range. Mihai exemplifies the dichotomy of mounted archers, humility combined with an almost savage ferocity. His performance on the Korean Style Course left no question this man is a world class mounted archer.

Samantha Edgar, 15 years old and one of our Junior archers, shot very well of her trusted horse Woody. Samantha won 1st Place Junior and the hearts of all in attendance with

her genuine kindness and positive attitude.

In the end, the scores reflected so much improvement from the group as a whole, it was very impressive. The competition ran smoothly with no accidents. Oh, and the food was amazing! It was a great competition



and we're looking forward to next year.

For more information about this or other mounted archery activities in the U.S. check us out at www.mountedarchery.org or contact me directly at robertasphone@gmail.com.



event. It was great to see the

Written By Roberta Beene

Horse Archery in the USA

2015 Competition Results

Member Ranking Updates



Skylar Anderson on Jewel

Ranking Updates

Congratulations to Diana Troyk, Skylar Anderson and to Joey and Greg Ogburn for raising ranks. Greg came up from HA2 to HA3 and Di from HA1 to HA3 and Joey from S4 to HA1 and Skylar's first rank as a HA1. Nicely done archers! Please check out our website for more information on member ranking.

[Current MA3 Ranks](#)



Diana Troyk on Jewel

Ranking is a great way to test your skill level, giving you a true measurement of your ability. What better way to improve your shooting, technique and riding skills than to have a baseline and move up from there.



Greg and Joey Ogburn

More From the Range

Training Tips with Mike Sabo

I'm far from perfect, but I do know a few things about a few things – and one of those things is mounted archery. It's an exciting and unique activity, however, it can sometimes leave you feeling like a perfectionist who never gets it right. This can be a source of great frustration.

One thing I've noticed over the years is that as accuracy improves, frustration levels decrease. When accuracy decreases – yep, you guessed it – frustration levels increase. Accuracy is a lot like horsepower; no matter how much you have, you can always use a little more!

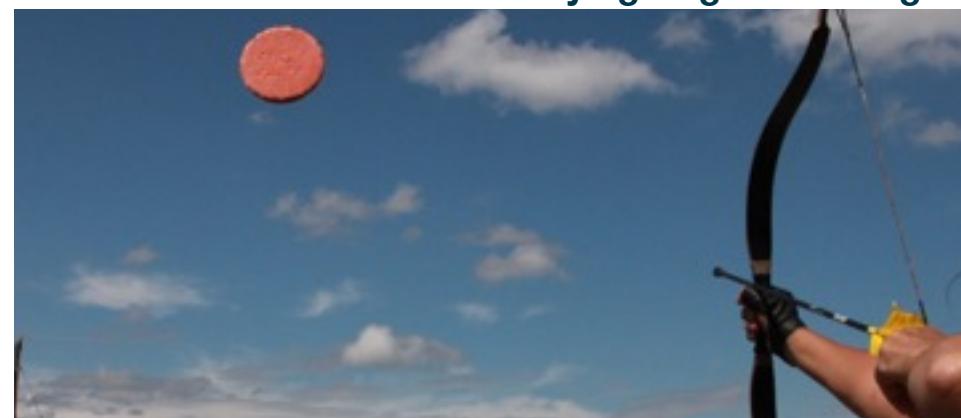
The best way to develop accuracy for mounted archery is by training from the back of a horse on a competition-sized mounted archery course. If you have a horse and a course on your property, or one you can use daily, you are very blessed and can stop reading now. For the other 80-90% of mounted archers, I have a few ideas to share that may help to improve your consistency of target hits and ultimately increase your overall scores.

1. **Flying disks:** Training with flying target disks can lead to tremendous increases in accuracy. Have the disks thrown in a different fashion each time (e.g., high, low, midway, fast, slow), ensuring that they do not hover in place and always stay in motion. Do not wait at full draw for the disk to be thrown. Instead, draw and shoot in one quick motion, never taking your eyes off the disk once it is in flight. The draw, aim, and release must be spontaneous.

2. **Continuous motion:** Walking, jogging slowly, or just being in

motion while launching arrows at a target is very helpful. You can shoot arrows while riding a skateboard, a bike, or a unicycle. It may look silly, but it is great accuracy training and can be done at home or at an empty construction site when a horse and/or course are not readily available.

3. **Rapid fire at various distances:** Place one target at 10 yards, one at 20 yards, and one at 30 yards. While walking, load and shoot as fast as possible at the 30 yard target, then the 10 yard target, then the 20 yard target. Do this while walking forward and backward. Remember to draw back and shoot in one smooth, quick motion – no hesitating. The aim must be spontaneous.



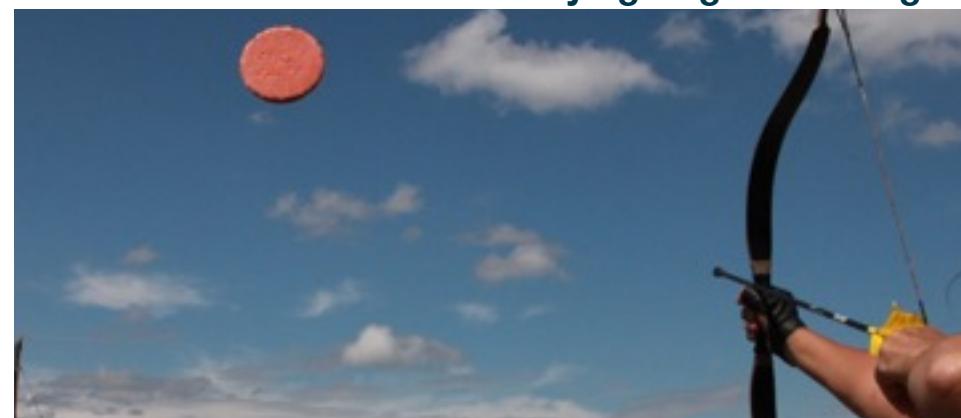
4. **Shooting at very small targets:** Empty Bic lighters and caps from water bottles seem to be lingering in many places and can be used as targets. They are not easy to hit, but it is amazing how tight your groups will get after a few training sessions with these little guys. Practice getting efficient at hitting or getting close to tiny targets and

you will see a huge increase in your ability to center punch a bull's eye on a competition-sized target. Once again, you will get the maximum benefit from this by being in motion while shooting and making sure to draw-aim-shoot in one smooth, spontaneous motion.

The ideas and training concepts I have listed above are really just a starting point. Give them a try, if you like, or use them to develop your own unique training methods. You may surprise yourself with what you achieve. Make no mistake, improved accuracy can and will increase over time and occasionally it can do so with astonishing speed.

Like so many things in life, it is best

Flying target shooting.



to start slow and speed up later. Training for accuracy is no different. There is no one-size-fits-all method. The "perfect" method is whatever works best for you and gets you the best results. It may not be possible for us to ever be perfect people, but, with the right training, it is possible for us to make that perfect shot.

Club Spotlight

Serena Lynn from the South Texas Archery Riders (S.T.A.R.), Interviews with Roberta Beene

S.T.A.R.

Serena originally started her club in 2014. She struggled to find a place to shoot until a year later. Her drive and resourcefulness has really paid off. In the short time from January to October of this year, she was able to connect with over 38 people

together, I found mounted archery. Since then, I've traveled across the U.S. and Europe competing and eventually was able to start my club.

What advice would you give new clubs starting out?

"Always think positively. Don't loose your own joy in the sport. And friendship is always the most important thing."

Mounted archery is..."more than a sport, it's a journey."

What are your club activities?

"We hold practice every Sunday. Practice can include anything from ground archery, desensitizing horses, archery soccer, and shooting flying targets just to name a few things."

What plans do you have for your MA3 Chapter in the near future?

"We continue to welcome new members and promote the sport through demonstrations. We don't have a definite date set yet, but, we are extremely excited that we will be hosting our first competition in March of 2016."

How has MA3 helped you and your club?

interested in mounted archery in her area.

Currently, Serena has one of the largest MA3 Chapters in the country with over 27 memberships and growing. I had the opportunity to sit down with Serena and discuss her experiences with growing her club.

How did you get started in mounted archery?

After a nasty divorce, I was looking for a way back into horses. I contacted a friend who had horses and when we got a chance to get

"MA3 personally has provided a connection with people across the US that I have been able to learn from and receive strength from. I have formed strong friendships that have made me a better person. For those reasons I chose to form my own club to share in the experience of self-discovery through an amazing sport. MA3 then continued helping my group by giving us the structure and protection of insurance and guidelines that we could follow to assist in sharing the sport with many more."

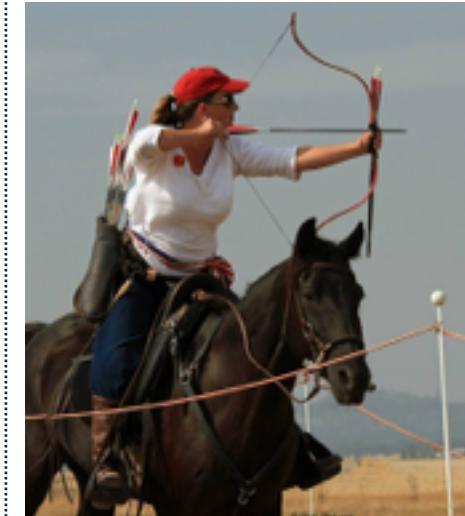
Is there anything you would like to add?

"Yes. I would just like to say, it might be hard work but if you are interested in this sport there is always someone willing to lend a hand to get you to where I am or further. It is well worth the effort."

In closing, we are very proud of Serena and all of her accomplishments. If you are interested in starting a club please contact Roberta Beene at 541-826-8232 or robertasphone@gmail.com. Happy shooting!

MA3 Policy Changes

Ranking Fees Reduced



From the MA3 Board

The MA3 Board of Directors would like to thank all of our members for making this the most productive year in our history.

One of the programs we have been working on for our members is the MA3 Ranking System. It has taken years and the collaboration of several countries to build a system that works.

The MA3 Board is proud to announce ranking will be offered as a free service to current MA3 Members. For more information on how to rank please click on the following link:

[How to Rank with MA3](#)

Upcoming Events

Clinics, Competitions and Demonstrations

Exhibitions, Parades and Clinics

The Desert Warriors will be at the Wild West Days Parade November 7th, 2015.

Rogue Mounted Archers will be holding a clinic in Blue Lake, California November 14-15, 2015.

South Texas Archery Riders will be holding a competition in March 2016. See website for details to follow.

Rogue Mounted Archers will be at the NW Horse Expo March 18-20, 2016.

Volcano Ridge Mounted Archers and Broken Arrow Mounted Archers will be at the Washington Horse Expo February 19-21, 2016.

Competitions

The Desert Warriors will hold the MA3 International Competition November 11-13, 2016

The Rogue Mounted Archers will hold an MA3 International Competition June 2016. See website for details to follow.

