



ARCHERS ON THE LINE

Start to Now

NASP by Don Lohnes

I would like to share some history with you about the NASP program and its beginnings in our fair province. The NASP program was created in the state of Kentucky, USA in early 2000 and has grown well beyond its original intentions to now include: most of the USA and to a total of twelve countries to date. These countries are as follows; USA, Canada, Australia, Botswana, Mongolia, Namibia, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, Virgin Islands, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Originally the program was started as a means to keep those kids on the verge of dropping out of school and to give them another interest. This sport reaches those kids that don't make the baseball, football, basketball, hockey or soccer teams, plus it also it also teaches physics, mathematics, and discipline. It has also helps some with disabilities get involved in a sport.

I personally became involved with the sport of archery in 1989 and enjoyed the sport to the degree that I got involved with Archery Canada in early 2000 on the executive and went on to serve a term as president. It was during this time that I became aware of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). I was also employed by the Nova Scotia Department of Education, so my

understanding of what the program could do for students was clear. As a result I got in touch with Roy Grimes, president of NASP, and inquired if there was interest in bringing the NASP program to Canada. Roy responded in a very positive manner and in the spring of 2007 the NASP program was introduced in Nova Scotia with training sessions held at Halifax West High School. These sessions were held in concert with the school board Healthy Living Coordinators (HLC). Each school board sent their HLC to be trained in the program and then we in turn trained several teachers.

The training is on three levels; Basic Archery Instructor (BAI), Basic Archery Instructor Trainer (BAIT) and Basic Archery Instructor Trainer Specialist (BAITS). The BAI course is a one day eight hour course and the BAIT and BAITS course is a three day twenty four hour course. Currently in Nova Scotia there are over 500 trained teachers of the program spread across all school regions.

After the initial training in 2007 NASP provided twelve sets of the standard NASP equipment which was spread across all the school boards. Some boards purchased additional equipment at that time.

Following our introduction I was able to help New Brunswick and Saskatchewan to get involved in the program. Newfoundland and Labrador have just joined the program. Quebec is the last province to consider involvement with NASP and positive discussions are now underway.

NOVA SCOTIA NASP NEWS

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Tournaments

NASP archery tournaments, hosted by Archery Nova Scotia.

Scholarships

Archery Nova Scotia and the NASP scholarship program review.

Canadian NASP

Nova Scotia scheduled to host the Canadian NASP championships for 2021, 22 and 23.

2019 NASP Conference

The 2019 NASP Conference was held in Salt Lake, Utah.

NASP Teacher

A teacher, Sam Samson, within the CSAP school system enjoys the program for what it teaches students.

Archery Canada

Archery Canada is currently reviewing the NASP program as a method of archery introduction in Canada.

NASP 3D

Archery Nova Scotia is investigating the possibility of getting NASP 3D targets to introduce students to 3D archery.

Currently, in our province, there are over ninety schools with NASP equipment and it is still growing. My personal goal is to have one hundred schools with the opportunity to teach this program with the proper equipment.

For new schools that wish to purchase a complete set of the equipment to teach this program, NASP provides a grant of up to \$1,000 which is applied at time of purchase. All requests for grants must go through the NASP Coordinator for Nova Scotia.

Tournaments

Provincials

Archery Nova Scotia has been hosting Provincials for the last three years. Two have been held at Avon View High School in Windsor and the last one was held at Ecole secondaire du Sommet in Halifax. The number of participants is growing but at a slow pace. We hope that the number of participants will grow as we move forward with the program. Further it is our intent to move the provincials around the province as interest grows with the program.

During the Provincials Archery Nova Scotia has been able to provide student scholarships to several students.

Skype Tournament

Several years ago we hosted a skype tournament with students in Capetown, South Africa. This event was hosted by Avon View High School. Our Nova Scotia students were soundly beaten but thoroughly enjoyed the experience and the technology. We were able to give gold medals to all the Capetown students via their coordinator at the NASP conference the following year.

The technology for Skype tournaments is relatively simple provide the right technical persons are available within the school. Should a school wish to host a Skype tournament with any of the other NASP countries, just contact the NASP Coordinator and he will make the necessary arrangements.

As a side note, I was able to travel to South Africa a few years ago and the South Africa NASP Coordinator, Charl Rabie went out of his way to ensure that he and his wife could show my wife and me around Cape Town with tours of a winery and some of the local markets. The point is you never know where contacts you

meet within this program can be an influence in your life.

Scholarships

Student Scholarships

Archery Nova Scotia has been hosting Provincials for the last three years and during each of these events we have been able to provide some scholarship funds to several students. Securing sponsorships for these scholarships is a daunting task. This past year we tried a 50/50 draw to raise funds for the scholarships. Each school received 25 tickets to sell. Unfortunately very few schools sold tickets so the end results were not favorable. What was really interesting was that some schools sold more than the 25 tickets they were provided, while others sold none at all. So, fortunately we did raise enough funds to provide some scholarships. After the draw, during the Provincials, the 50/50 draw winner received a cheque for \$720 and \$720 was made available for scholarships. NASP matched our amount dollar for dollar and contributed \$720 so we were able to provide a scholarship for the top male and female archer in the amount of \$720.

If we were fortunate enough to raise \$20,000 with 50/50 ticket sales we would have been able to provide the 50/50 winner with a cheque for \$10,000 and then have \$10,000 left for scholarships which NASP would have matched, so then we could have provided \$20,000 in student scholarships. Imagine that.

We are open to any method to raise funds for student scholarships. Perhaps some of the schools can provide some suggestions in this regard. Suggestions can be emailed to: donlohnes@gmail.com

2019 Scholarship winners with ANS president



Canadian NASP

Canadian Championships

The Canadian NASP Championships have been hosted in both Alberta and Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan has been the host for 2018, 2019 and 2020. Nova Scotia is scheduled to be the host Province for 2021, 2022 and 2023. During the NASP conference in Salt Lake, Utah last summer, the NASP Coordinators from British Columbia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan had to opportunity to review and discuss the Canadian Championships.

It was agreed by all that the travel distances, accommodations and meal costs for the school NASP archer are extensive to the point that the costs are a major deterrent for most archers to attend these Championships. Plus as school students they usually have to have a parent or guardian in attendance with them which further increases these costs.

It was further agreed that some means of comparing the skill level of NASP archers across the country was desired. So the consensus was that Regionals were a possibility or perhaps using the results of each Provinces Provincial tournaments to determine the Canadian Champions. The one difficulty would be if there were ties between students. The only way to resolve this would be a shoot-off between the students and perhaps this could be accomplished with a Skype connection. So there are things to be resolved with the Canadian NASP Championships.

We hope to be able to report more on this subject later this year.

2019 NASP Conference

Salt Lake, Utah

The 2019 NASP conference was hosted by Salt Lake in the state of Utah. I was fortunate to be able to attend this conference, which was attended by the most NASP Coordinators. So a very successful conference to date.

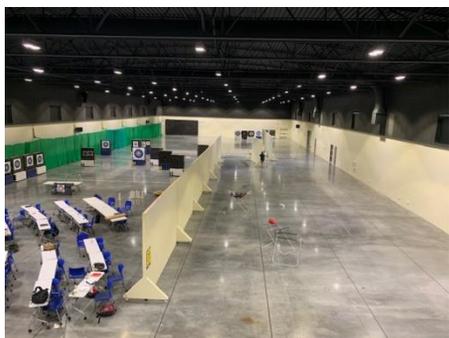
The conference was held in the Easton Archery Center, in Salt Lake.

Easton Archery Center



Would it not be wonderful if each province in Canada could have such a place to compete and practice archery? The conference was held over two days with meals provided at the center.

Indoor Shooting Area



While the center has a shooting area, both indoors and outdoors it also has some offices, meeting area and many archery related items on display. If you remember the Olympics in 1992 which were held in Barcelona, Spain, then you may remember the lighting of the Olympic torch by an extraordinary archer. Easton developed the arrow that was used for this opening of these Olympics; it is the arrow with the cone shape on the point end.

Olympic Arrow Prototype



The center also has an outdoor shooting area for 3D and FITA targets. The field has proper drainage

and is artificial grass so no mowing of grass or less maintenance. Plus a large berm at the end of the shooting field to catch those arrows that may go astray.

Outdoor Shooting Field



The Canadian NASP Coordinators and Tommy Floyd, vice president of NASP gathered on the deck at the center overlooking the shooting field for a group picture.

Canadian NASP Coordinators



From left to right; Chris Lim, British Columbia, Hal Ziprick, Alberta, Tommy Floyd, vice president of NASP, Doug Gibson, Saskatchewan and Don Lohnes, Nova Scotia.

During the conference there were many give away items which I brought back to use as draw prizes during our Provincials.

NASP Teacher

Sam Samson

I would like to introduce you to Sam Samson, one of the NASP coaches at École secondaire du Sommet in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Sam has been involved with NASP since 2010 and appreciates greatly all that the program offers to his students. École secondaire du Sommet is proud of its multicultural roots with a student body deriving from 54 different countries. Language can

occasionally be a challenge and Sam finds that the whistle commands allows him to overcome the language challenge. He also has archery students who have ADHD as well as general anxiety, yet he finds that NASP works very well for these kids and they perform just like any other students during archery classes. NASP allows them to join a team and to feel part of a group, sometime for the first time in their life, even if it is an individual endeavor. These students even excel over their counterparts.

There is also one student, Gabrielle Goodland, who has limited use of one arm and is partially blind in one eye, so she uses a mouth release. She loves the classes as it gives her a means to participate in a sport like the other students in the school. We are currently looking into the athletes with a disability program with Archery Canada as a means for her to pursue the sport further in her development.

Gabriella Woodland



Overall, he finds that NASP is the true inclusion sport as it allows every student to participate, regardless of background or physical limitations. He is proud that his program welcomes an equal number of males and females and that both sexes have excelled at his school, regional and provincial level.

Archery Canada

NASP and Archery Canada

Archery Canada is looking at NASP as a means to introduce archery to Canada's youth. Mainly as a stepping stone to either recurve or compound

