



**USA Archery Collegiate Archery Program-Annual Meeting  
May 18th, 2019  
Meeting Minutes**

USAA Staff Present: Mary Emmons (ME), Sheri Rhodes (SR), Geri Woessner, Sarah Boyd, Emily Beach.

Collegiate Committee Members Present: Johnnie Stinson, Jason Tong, Julia Lam, Danielle Gerken, E.G. LeBre, Glen Bennett, Rodney Estrada, Cody Kirby (CK).

Meeting started at 5:32 pm

**Agenda Items**

- **USA Archery Presentation: Mary Emmons provided a Collegiate Archery Program Update via presentation to include:**

**1. Introduction of the Collegiate Archery Program Committee**

- Current terms and expiration dates were reviewed. Athletes and coaches were encouraged to contact the committee with questions or recommendations and to apply for positions, when applicable.

**2. Collegiate Archery Program Statistics**

- Program numbers were presented for 2018 and 2019
  - Programs: 2018 - 75 2019 - 101
  - Collegiate Archers: 2018 - 983 2019 - 1,365
  - Collegiate Archers with Eligibility: 2018 - 757 2019 - 1,071
  - Varsity Programs: 2019 - 21
- Club leaders were encouraged to login to their accounts to update their profiles with program structure and scholarship information.

**3. USCA Merger Update**

- The merger was completed in March of 2019 and all individual members and clubs have been transferred to USA Archery.
- Through the creation of an executive task force and additional members added to the collegiate committee, USAA continues to work through items related to this transition.

#### **4. 2019 Collegiate Grant Program Summary**

- USA Archery and Easton Foundations provided a total of \$55,482.85 requested and \$43,682.86 was awarded to 18 schools (2 schools awarded Blue Tier Equipment Kit).

#### **5. U.S. Center for SafeSport Updates**

- The following policies have been updated or newly adopted by USA Archery:
  - SafeSport Code
  - Minor Athlete Abuse and Prevention Policy
  - Code of Conduct
  - USA Archery Bylaws
- Beginning September 2019, the SafeSport training will now expire on an annual basis and also a refresher course will be required annually.
  - Minors will need parental consent to take the training.
- USA Archery will offer education SafeSport education sessions at the following locations:
  - 2019 JOAD National Target Championships
  - 2019 National Target Championships
  - Webinars – Online

#### **6. 2020 Olympic Trials Schedule**

- USA Archery presented the 2019/2020 Olympic Trials schedule and encouraged all recurve athletes to participate.

#### **7. Collegiate National and Regional Events Update**

- The 2019 3D Collegiate Championships will be held Oct 4-6 in Foley, AL in partnership with ASA.
- The 2019 Regional 3D Collegiate Championships bids are due by June 10<sup>th</sup>. Bids will be for two years.
- Bid packages for the 2020/2021 Regional Outdoor Collegiate Championships will be sent out in May/June 2019.

#### **8. World University Games**

- The 2021 World University Games will be held in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China August 8<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>

#### **9. Program Updates**

- Starting September 1, 2019, Basic Compound archers must either register in Compound or Bowhunter division.
- Starting in 2020, the National Team Championship award at NOCC will include all four divisions (Barebow, Recurve, Compound and Bowhunter).

## **Discussion Items and Feedback**

### **1. USA Archery provided an overview of the current system used to determine All-American Academic Award winners, which is calculated as follows:**

- a. The award is provided to archers in each division and class based on the following criteria:
  - i. Archery must be eligible to shoot in the Spring Semester (Full Time College Student)
  - ii. Required Cumulative GPA of 3.5 through fall term of previous year
  - iii. The top 25% (ranked by score) of each division and class from USAA National Indoor
  - iv. Archers that are in the top 25% and who meet the minimum GPA earn a spot on the team. The team is not limited to the top 10 archers in each division and class.
- b. USAA proposed for discussion the following modification to the current rule:
  - i. There would be no reduction to the pool of candidates based on scores being in the top 25%. If archers meet GPA requirement, they would be on the team.

### **All-American Academic Team Discussion Feedback:**

- Support change to GPA Only:
  - The more we reward grades the better. This award is a good advertisement for the schools. Cut it down to 25% based on who makes the grades first and then look at scores second.
  - The All-American award recognizes athlete performance. Therefore, the All-American Academic award should be to recognize academics only.
- Oppose change to GPA Only:
  - Taking the score out of this calculation is a bad idea. Archers excel in the classroom and in archery (large round of applause from room). Those who meet the top score requirements should be considered first and then those who meets academic requirements (large round of applause from room).
  - Keep GPA and scoring. Reward people who achieve both.
- Other:
  - Could we make it where archers have to participate in “x” number of events per year to be eligible for the All-American Academic award?
  - There is an issue with using a cumulative GPA to determine eligibility. Athletes who transfer and don’t have previous semester can’t qualify. So need to take into consideration semesters and quarters.

- 2. USA Archery presented that there will be a Collegiate Indoor Final in 2020 at the Vegas Shoot in Las Vegas, NV.**
- a. Collegiate National Champions will continue to be awarded at the conclusion of the USAA Indoor Nationals
    - i. Eligible athletes will need to have participated in a USAA Indoor National Qualification event prior to January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
      - 1. Collegiate only locations may be considered when a USAA Indoor location is not available prior to January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - b. For the Collegiate Indoor Final the plan is to:
    - i. Invite the top 8 archers per gender and division but extend invitations to the top 12 athlete per gender and division to fill a category.
    - ii. Conduct elimination rounds only at the Collegiate Indoor Final (will not include any scores from the Vegas Shoot)

### **Collegiate Indoor Final Discussion Feedback**

- Clarification needed: Does an athlete need to participate in a USAA Indoor National Event to compete in the Collegiate Indoor Final?
  - SR – Yes, athletes must attend participate at a USAA designated location only.
- If someone wants to host a collegiate only indoor event in CA who, would run the event?
  - SR – We have enough locations in CA, so it wouldn't be an issue. USAA is looking to move dates in CA earlier to accommodate.
- When will we know when this information will be confirmed?
  - SR - That will be determined after this meeting.
- Feedback in Support of Vegas:
  - Participating at the Vegas Shoot can be valuable to archers as they get to compete next to high level archers.
  - Any additional opportunity for archers to compete is good and will help develop competitiveness.
- Feedback in Opposition:
  - Clubs can't afford to go to another event.
  - If there were multiple archer's this would be expensive for a smaller team.
  - This is bad timing for some students since it's in the middle of the semester.
  - Indoor nationals timing – one month isn't enough time to practice, especially for new archers.
  - Indoor National weekend after Christmas is not convenient. The holiday makes it difficult along with winter break – everyone's home. So, when

looking to move indoor national locations earlier this should be considered.

- North – weather is an issue and they are semester based. When Indoor Nationals was later, they saw a significant improvement in archers and indoor like a real season. A shorter indoor season would be hard to validate to the administration.
- Feedback in Support of Collegiate Final at USA Archery Final
  - Why can't USAA not host this event at the USAA Indoor Finals in March (applause)
  - The USAA Indoor Final in March would allow current structure to stay intact. Please do not try and fit this Final into the Vegas shoot at the risk of damaging the program of Collegiate Archery just for the notoriety of another event.
- Other:
  - Can we expand the final to include 16 archers to maximize participation options?
  - Can we implement in 2021 instead, so there is more time to plan for this?
  - Proposal to host final event in Las Vegas every other year rather than going to Las Vegas every year. Rotate the final throughout regions to accommodate people farther away.
    - ME – Vegas Shoot is the Vegas Shoot and always held in Vegas.
  - When will the final be held at the Vegas Shoot as it is already a very busy event and this would be one more thing to have to juggle schedule wise?
    - Friday night of the Vegas Shoot
  - When outdoor regionals are only a few weeks after indoor nationals it is hard to transition to longer distances. Some schools cannot practice outside until April.
  - More experienced archers may be the only ones competing in the Final anyways, so this may not affect a lot of people.
  - Please do not put Indoor National registration in September. It's impossible to solidify a team before registration opens as no one is back in school yet. Additionally, registration fills up too quickly and clubs are not organized enough to register.
    - SR – Registration has never opened in Sept.
- Poll:
  - Host the Collegiate Indoor Final in March at the USAA Indoor Final – Vast majority of attendees in support of this idea.
  - Host the Collegiate Indoor Final at Vegas – Only about 10 people out of 100 attendees were in support of this.

- 3. USA Archery presented the current National Outdoor Collegiate Championships event format as well as current issues and possible solutions for future growth of the event.**
- a. Current Issues:
    - i. USAA needs to find a way to the number of participants attending the event in order to continue to be able to find event hosts who can provide a playing field for the size of the event.
      - 1. In the past USAA has received feedback that adding an MQS/Qualifying event for NOCC and/or adding more days to the event schedule was not supported.
    - ii. Due to the large number of participants (522 this year) it is difficult for event host to find a banquet facility that is large enough and affordable.
  - b. Proposal:
    - i. USAA proposed changing the event format from a 144-arrow qualification round to a 72-arrow qualification round.
      - 1. USAA proposed the All-American Team calculation would use the first 60 arrows from the Indoor National Championships and the 72-arrow qualification round from NOCC to maintain the balance of the award structure.
      - 2. USAA provided a proposed schedule for review at the meeting (below).
      - 3. USAA proposed hosting a single BBQ/Social outside that included an awards banquet with a back-up plan in case of inclement weather.
      - 4. Opportunity on Sunday of NOCC to livestream a mixed team event.

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2020 U.S. National Outdoor Collegiate Championships  
Proposed Schedule

Thursday	12:00 – 17:00	Official Practice, Check-in, Equipment Inspection, Opening Ceremonies
Friday	8:00	AM Qualification RM/CW – all categories
	13:30	PM Qualification RW/CM – all Categories
	18:00	Social activity
Saturday		Individual Eliminations
	8:00 – 9:00	1/64
	9:00 – 9:40	1/32
	9:40 – 10:20	1/16
	10:20 – 11:00	1/8
	11:00 – 11:40	1/4
	11:40 – 12:20	Semi Final
	12:20 – 13:00	Bronze Medals
		Team Rounds
	14:00 – 14:40	1/16
	14:40 – 15:20	1/8
	15:20 – 16:00	1/4
	16:00 – 16:40	Semi Final
	16:40 – 17:20	Bronze Medals
	17:20 – 18:00	Gold Medals
Sunday		Mixed Team Rounds
	8:00 – 8:40	1/16
	8:40 – 9:20	1/8
	9:20 – 10:00	1/4
	10:00 – 10:40	Semi Final
	10:40 – 11:20	Bronze Medals
	11:30 – 11:50	BB Gold
	11:50 – 12:10	BH Gold
	12:10 – 12:30	C Gold
	12:30 – 12:50	R Gold
		Individual Gold Matches
	13:00 – 13:20	BBW
	13:20 – 13:40	BBM
	13:40 – 14:00	BHW
	14:00 – 14:20	BHM
14:20 – 14:40	CW	
14:40 – 15:00	CM	
15:00 – 15:20	RW	
15:20 – 16:00	RM	

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## NOCC Format Feedback

- MQS Support:
  - What's the issue with MQS? MQS limits people who don't meet qualifying scores and this could be good.
  - Having an MQS would stop people who are not ready for an event like this from having a bad experience.
  - Find multiple ways to qualify for NOCC in addition to the MQS (i.e. multiple opportunities to earn MQS or by also using JOAD or Adult pin program).
  - NOCC feels like any other USAA tournament. Need a component you really have to work for, so in support of MQS.
  - If many different options are provided to qualify for NOCC, then in support. Need flexibility in MQS.
  - Not having MQS allows well-funded schools to send a lot of archers. Schools with limited funds have to qualify anyways because of funding. MQS will allow top archers to compete with other top archers.
  - If you have a qualifier you can petition your administration for additional funds for that event. (Audience indicated this may be an opportunity for select varsity schools only.)
  - Adding MQS could benefit archery as a sport. We should be working toward getting archery on TV. Raising the competition level would help this.
  - NOCC "Elite" culminating event from smaller events.
  
- MQS Opposition:
  - Team rounds – many schools don't have 3 archers that may be able to meet the MQS.
  - MQS indicates we want to serve a certain audience. Collegiate is all about grassroots growth. Appreciate that this is a national level but would not support having to qualify for NOCC for this reason.
  - MQS affects logistical planning such as purchasing airline tickets since you have to wait to the end to find out who is going. Too cost prohibitive for travel.
  - Opposed to MQS. Many clubs already have qualifiers in place. MQS will discourage new archers. Get archers to as many tournaments as possible.
  - If this event has a 72-arrow round with MSQ will it be formatted like a USAT event?
    - SR – USAA splits men and women to include a large category with small category.



- Audience Response to SR – This will split up a collegiate team. In USAT you represent yourself and in collegiate you're representing a team. So, this needs to be considered.
  - An MQS will cause NOCC to become more exclusive.
  - MQS will pit team members against one another. Bad for team dynamics.
  - We're a team that brings extra people – 20-30 and they deserve to be here because of All-American opportunity.
- Implications:
  - MQS can really impact team rounds if not enough archers qualify. Take a team's top 3 archers and then have anyone beyond the 3 qualify.
  - Not opposed to MQS but if based on tournament scores then not very many people will qualify because some people miss earlier events due to weather or academics, so again there needs to be multiple options to qualify.
  - Scoring change will impact smaller teams more. Will new scoring disqualify certain teams?
    - SR – This is something to think about.
  - MQS needs other options. I.e. clubs (not varsity) some can't go to regionals because we're students first. By the way, for indoor and outdoor, many archers shoot different equipment.
- Other:
  - Weather will be an issue for an outdoor banquet.
  - If we go to a 72-arrow round, I can't get behind using the first 60 arrows from indoor national event. Instead add the single arrow average from indoor and outdoor for those rounds.
  - Friday do an AM and PM line. Saturday whittle down and PM team rounds and Sunday AM elimination round. Make it bigger but everyone can still participate.
  - Back in the late 80's if everyone wanted to go then they could go, but if students want to set-up a qualifying score for the team to focus the teams on winning then they did so.
  - Schools can qualify their own team as they see fit. Can we all see the old system from 2008 for full understanding because it was not as exclusive as is being perceived now.
  - How will this impact the registration costs?
    - ME – This will need to be analyzed, but the goal is not to increase costs.
  - How do you increase participation, by limiting participation?
  - What's missing is regional championships growth – very low on attendance. Regional are often far away and very expensive. Place higher value on regional events. Pay more attention to regional as a

way to grow clubs, varsity programs and school value. Give more to regional events to continue to grow.

- ME – USAA is looking to grow regional championships participation by increasing school growth by conference/region to increase event registration numbers and decrease travel distance.
- Host regional and get really low numbers. Always snowing in the north that April weekend. Need program focus on growing regionals. Also, build the sport by creating smaller events and more event opportunity (conference play).
- Instead of MQS let's have the regionals be the qualifying events.
- When will USAA make a decision on this matter?
  - ME – USAA staff and the committee will look at these comments and decide soon so we can plan for 2020 and beyond.
- What's the goal of these changes? Be elite or grow archery?
  - ME –USAA's mission is to grow the sport of archery and win medals. Collegiate is intended to be part of the High-Performance pipeline, just like most other sports. However, we also want to support club growth. The challenge is that we need places to put this large-scale event at. Read the USAA Collegiate Strategic Plan for more insight on long-term goals for the program.
- Why can't we keep NOCC in Dublin since the event fits here with 500+ archers? Would be helpful to know where event will be in advance for planning purposes.
  - SR – NOCC moves by region so everyone can afford to go.
  - SR – We have to limit participation numbers. NOCC cannot continue at this growth rate as is.
- Is Yankton, SD an option?
  - SR – Yankton is too small, can only host 600 people.

#### Audience Poll:

- How many people supports adding an MQS to NOCC?
  - Results were about 50/50 for and against an MQS
  - People needed more information on process to decide.

#### Audience Poll:

- Who supports a 72-arrow format instead of a 144-arrow format?
  - Results were about 50/50

### **Open Forum Q&A**

1. Could USAA consider removing the requirement that shorts must be mid-thigh? Schools who are contracted with Nike or others cannot control how shorts fit individual athletes but still have to order them.

2. Can you explain the origin of the upcoming change for the team championships calculation?
  - ME – This change was negotiated during USAA and USCA merger discussions.
    - Audience Response: No USAA collegiate coach or collegiate board rep was part of that decision and they should have been. The max number of points a school can earn is 90 points. The issue is that if a different school earned an individual 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3rd place – the weight is now on the individual not on the team to win a national championship. We can go back decades on the origins of team scoring to explain why this new proposed method does not work. Need to revisit how this will be calculated to keep focus on the team while taking into consideration individual value.
3. Why will all 4 divisions be counted in 2020 for the National Team Championship award? This rewards the larger teams only. Requiring all four divisions will hurt smaller schools even more and add to the event numbers you are trying to reduce. Is this decision still up for negotiation?
  - a. Audience Poll: Who is in support of using 3 divisions instead of 4 for National Team Championship calculation?

Results - There was overwhelming majority support for using 3 divisions instead of 4 divisions to calculate National Team Championship award.

Other Options/Ideas Presented:

- i. Triple team scores. Handful of people (mostly from one team) supported this idea.
  - ii. If we award 8 teams out of 14 then harder for individuals. Don't think any team would take 1, 2 and 3 in any bracket.
  - iii. Wants to see team have more emphasis.
  - iv. Currently the team counts only the top 3 archers. Written now the points will slide down to the next archers. These slots should NOT be passed on to other archers who did not earn them.
  - v. Having four divisions will encourage schools to grow their program
4. AZ is hosting first collegiate state event with a 60-arrow round format. Inviting all schools that have any archers to participate. Event will be early in season (Oct) and it's to grow collegiate archery in AZ. Goal is to get to know each other and support other clubs.
  5. It was requested USAA reconsider changing the team substitution rule as USCA permitted this.
  6. It was requested USAA re-consider eliminating the Genesis bow division.

7. Will USAA consider providing a USAA Collegiate National Field Championship since we have Outdoor, Indoor and 3D and field teams for World Field?
  - a. ME – I will make a note to review this request with USAA staff.
8. Why does USAA not provide a collegiate class at USAT events?
  - a. SR - The number of participants doesn't support this class.
9. Why is the WUG trials inclusive of the qualification round and not the elimination round and/or round robins like other trials events?
  - a. ME – We would need to add an extra day to this event to add a round robin. We discussed this last year at this meeting and the consensus was to not add an extra day and use the qualification round only.
10. What's the plan for USAA to promote the growth in varsity programs? Clubs struggling with funding because schools don't see archery as a viable program to support. How can USAA support these small clubs?
  - a. ME – USAA has a collegiate strategic plan with a multi-faceted approach to grow collegiate programs to include but not limited to:
    - i. Show administration the value of archery as a sport (i.e. enrollment numbers/strong academics)
    - ii. Educate club leaders on how to talk to administration about financial support
    - iii. Increase coach quality/depth and athlete recruitment
    - iv. Bring your ideas for the next quad plan to us so we can incorporate into 2021
11. Will bowhunters be able to move their site in the future?
  - a. SR – No, USAA has aligned this rule with NFAA and ASA for consistency.

Other:

SR provided an update on field and weather conditions for Sunday.  
Reminded people to pick-up trash and retrieve lost arrows.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.