

The Cub Run Archers Newsletter

September—October 2019



The Cub Run Archers club is a member of the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America.

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Upcoming Meeting

Next Monthly Meeting: November 3
2019, 11:00am.

Notes from last meeting

Bob Walla officially resigned as president following the September meeting. Bob would like to thank everyone who has helped make his tenure successful

There will be 2 club shoots in 2020. June 6th Money Shoot and June 27th for the team Money Shoot

Mason Feathers did the flagpole project as an Eagle Scout project.. Next eagle scout project is stepped shooting positions.

We will be removing half of the 3D animals from the course from November through March.

The Red Shed is condemned.

40 people attended the Indoor Summer Shoot.

JOAD 1-5pm on Sundays and George Mason will be on Wednesdays 1-3pm.

Lack of AC/HVAC system in indoor range, has resulted in some uncomfortable days shooting . working with IWLA board to get quotes together

Cement parking curbs - not moving forward due to perceived conflicts and safety concerns.

Water not being paid for in the fridge - considering ideas, reassessing next month

Bulldog blocks for 20, 30, and 40 yard sight in range being ordered to try them out as replacement for Pacific Bow Butts

Please sign the log book when using either the indoor or outdoor ranges. We need to demonstrate the usage of these ranges. If you see someone using the range without signing in please politely remind them to sign in.

Youth Activities Leader needed : will be in charge of range duties/instruction for weekend shooters - see bylaw description

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 19th - Red working Boy scouts,

There will be a portable freezer on site for field dressed deer for use in the upcoming butchering class

Oct. 27th - 101 Archery Class

Oct. 28th - Suburban whitetail meeting

Nov. 9th - Calendar Meeting, send dates before then to Dick if you want them included without having to present to the board

Member concerns/ comments:

Working with IWLA to get permanent system for target face payments

Nov. 2nd & 3rd indoor FITA

Nov. 9th Bull Run FITA

Getting rid of "old old" targets, will be a list out with pictures soon

How to Gain Hunting Permission



If you offer to make yourself useful to landowners, you have a better chance of gaining permission.

By Bruce Ingram
Photos by Bruce Ingram

One of the questions new hunters often ask (for that matter, so do many veteran sportsmen) is how can they gain hunting permission to nearby private land. John Koloda, a CPO sergeant for the DGIF, gives these tips on how to accomplish this essential task.

“The first thing I recommend people do is to talk to the folks they know at work, places of worship, or are friends with,” he said. “Ask those individuals if they know any local farmers or rural landowners who might be open to them coming onto their land to hunt.



Offering to do chores around a farm, like putting up posted signs, will help you gain permission to hunt.

How to Gain Hunting Permission

“Once these contacts come up with a list of landowners, call them and ask if there is anything that you can do to help them out in exchange for your hunting there. In other words, make yourself valuable to the landowner. You might suggest to mow their lawn, clear brush, cut firewood, repair fencing, put up posted signs, or some other chore.”

Koloda says these perspective hunters could also offer to come to the land first to pursue coyotes or some other varmint, as a way of making themselves useful. They could also inquire if the landowner was suffering crop losses from deer damage, and, if so, these folks could promise to shoot only does if they gained permission.

Once an individual has gained permission to go afield somewhere, the CPO sergeant says this person’s duties to the landowner should continue.

“Many landowners really enjoy hunters telling them what game they saw,” Koloda said. “They like to get reports from hunters, so send them an e-mail or quick text after every visit, giving a short account of what happened.”

One of the things I’ve done for years on places where I’ve been given permission to hunt is have my wife Elaine bake homemade bread or cookies as a gift after I’ve killed a deer or turkey there. Because of this tradition, many times landowners have called me and thanked me for the gift and asked me to come back soon so they can enjoy another sweet treat.

Finally, concluded Koloda, at the end of the hunting season, contact the landowner one last time and thank him or her for letting you go afield there. These and other simple acts of courtesy could lead to you being invited to come back the following season.

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Coming October 19:

VA DGIF Deer Skinning class

IWLA Archery Field House - 9:00 AM to noon

IWLA outdoor range, Deer Skinning station – noon to 3:00 PM

The instructor is Mark Gauntner.

How To Donate Deer

HOW TO DONATE VENISON

Option One: Donate an entire deer- HFTH pays the processing fee

If you would like to assist the program by donating deer all you have to do is take your **legally harvested, field-dressed deer** to a participating meat processor or specified collection point (see participating processor list). There is a simple form to fill out stating you are donating your deer. Hunters for the Hungry will be billed for the processing costs. The meat will then be given to a local feeding program so that it can be distributed to people in need. **To help our program be as cost-effective as possible please donate large bodied animals.** Processors reserve the right to refuse any carcass not properly cared for.

Option Two: Donate a package or two from a deer that you have had processed for your personal use

When you have a deer processed for your family consider donating a portion of the meat to Hunters for the Hungry. **Every package makes a difference. As little as 1 pound will help.** The processor will store this meat until it is picked up for distribution to the hungry.

Option Three: Donate an entire deer plus the cost of processing

In addition to donating a deer at one of the participating meat processors or collection points send the \$45.00 cost of processing to the Hunters for the Hungry program. A donation form is provided on the website if you would like to make a financial donation. Your gift is tax deductible and you will receive a receipt for your tax records

.Option four: Donate deer from damage permit harvest

If you qualify for damage permit harvests, call our office to see how we can assist you in donating these deer to the hungry.

Virginia Bowhunters Needed For Wildlife Survey

The Department is seeking assistance from Virginia bow and crossbow hunters to report their wildlife observations while hunting during the early archery season (October 5 – November 15, 2019). Participants can either download a survey form or [submit their data online](#). Interested hunters can also request that survey materials be mailed to them by sending their mailing address to mike.fies@dgif.virginia.gov.

Observational data submitted by Virginia bowhunters for this annual survey is used to monitor long-term changes in the abundance of wildlife populations and also provides valuable information on buck-to-doe ratios and fawn survival of white-tailed deer. Last year, 230 bowhunters recorded the animals they observed while spending 11,074 hours afield. The Department would like to increase the sample size of this survey to make the results even more meaningful. If you enjoy archery hunting during the early special season, please consider helping us collect information to better manage Virginia's wildlife populations.

OCTOBER 2, 2019



What's Giving You Away in the Tree Stand?

Ever been busted by a nosy deer in the tree stand? If you've been deer hunting long enough, you're probably familiar with that terrible blowing snort noise that whitetails like to make when they've got you made. While it's impossible to completely hide from a deer forever, there are several ways you can make it easier on yourself and fool them a little longer. More time in the tree stand could be what it takes for you to seal the deal and punch your tag. Let's get started by looking at the first of these six hunting tips.

1. Tree Stand Placement

Many hunters might give it a quick thought or two, but the placement and arrangement of your tree stand can really make or break a hunting trip. Obviously, you need to make sure you're in the right area and have a good chance at seeing a whitetail within range. But that's only half the battle. You also need to make sure the deer won't notice you when they finally do walk by.

Here's the first hunting tip: put yourself in a deer's position. When you walk along their main trail or enter a fall food plot and look up at your tree stand, what do you see? Does it stick out like a sore thumb? Or does it blend in seamlessly with the trees around it? Here are a few ways to make your tree stand placement a little better.

Consider the time of year. Early fall will be full of bushy green leaves to cover your tree stand. Late fall could mean nothing but barren trunks and leave you exposed.

Are you sitting too low in the tree? The higher you are (within reason), the less likely deer are to look up and notice you. Plus, your scent should carry up and over their noses.

If they still notice you, have you tried placing your tree stand on the opposite side of the tree? That way, there's much less to stick out and it can hide your movement from a big buck.

2. Camouflage Clothing

Another major reason you get busted in the tree stand is that your deer hunting clothing is older than that dusty high school trophy you're still hanging onto. While anyone at any time could still kill deer in blue jeans and a white tee, having the latest camo drastically increases your ability to stay hidden in the tree stand. Most people might not think about their hunting wardrobe for deer hunting tips and tricks, but clothing degrades over time and old camo patterns fade. Plan out the best camo pattern for the area and time of year you'll be hunting. Wearing late season waterfowl patterns high up in a tree in September doesn't exactly blend in. That might not be deer hunting 101, but it's pretty close.

3. Scent Control

Of course, we have to mention scent control – we are talking about deer hunting tips after all. More often than not, a deer will smell you before seeing or hearing you when you're in the tree stand. One of the most tried and true hunting tips is to play the wind when you hunt. If you're always downwind, they can't smell you. But sometimes you can't avoid it. Maybe the wind's swirling in a valley or your favorite stand can't be approached without alerting a doe group. Either way, you need something else.

Start your hunt with scent elimination products. From laundry soap, shampoo, to field wipes and sprays, the products will kill odor-causing bacteria on your skin to give you a clean start. From there, you need to use some kind of scent control clothing for those situations where you can't avoid the wind.

What's Giving You Away in the Tree Stand?

4. Staying Stealthy and Quiet

Whether you're walking to the tree stand or in it already, one of the first hunting tips most of us heard was to be quiet. That principle applies to your tree stand, your hunting clothing, and your behavior.

Also, take some time to test out your hunting clothes to make sure they're not loud in the woods. Many waterproof garments are extremely noisy – you might as well wear wrapping paper! Non-Typical™ clothing with HydroHush* is 100% waterproof, but the plush fleece material is absolutely silent! When you stalk a bedded deer, walk to your tree stand, or simply need to stretch in the tree, your clothing won't give you away as long as you move slowly. One of the best deer hunting tips for early season is to clear some paths in mid-summer to your tree stand areas so deer will be used to them before opening day. That way, you can still sneak into your hunting area without bothering them.

5. Don't Let Deer Pattern You

If you're a creature of habit, it's pretty easy to go to the same tree stand day after day, regardless of the weather conditions. Unfortunately, it doesn't take long before deer, especially mature bucks, start to pattern your movements and give you the slip. To big woods bucks, any sign of hunting pressure will cause them to change their routines. Ask a consistently successful hunter for hunting tips, and they'll probably tell you that you need to switch things up and pay attention to the weather.

For example, pick a tree stand location that you can stealthily sneak into without alerting deer in the first place (remember number one above?). Always stay downwind of bedding or feeding areas, and quietly tip-toe into position. If the wind isn't right for your location, just don't hunt it. You might be able to take a doe for the freezer, but the risk of spooking a mature buck is too great. Save your best tree stands for the perfect weather conditions. That alone is one of the most ignored deer hunting secrets that could help you tremendously.

6. Lighten the Load

If you simply have a few hours to hunt after work, you're probably not bringing all that much gear with you. But if you have to hike into a remote location for an all-day hunting sit or you like to film your own hunts, it sometimes feels like you're more of a mule than a hunter. It's easy to fill a backpack (or even two) with all the hunting gear one can collect. And if you have to rely on a deer hunting equipment list, you might be using too much gear. All this extra weight causes you to sweat more on your hike in, is bulky in the tree stand, and may even be a source of noise as you're banging it around.

As far as hunting tips go, this one may seem counterintuitive. Instead of bringing everything you could possibly need, try downsizing to the bare minimum. Eat some high-energy snacks and chug a bottle of water before you leave the vehicle. Then grab your bow, a knife, your license, and maybe some rope. That should be enough to get you through a hunt with as little bulk as possible.

This fall, consider these hunting tips and see how they impact your ability to stay hidden in a tree stand longer than you could have before.

VBA Shoot State Shoot Dates 2020

Congratulations to the Christina Tremblay, Robin Vogel, and Jason Mason for breaking/setting records during the VBA 2019 State Closed Field Archery Championship hosted by Massanutten Archery Club.

Sincerely,
Bakari Dale
VBA Field Vice President

The VBA 2020 State Shoot dates are:

Indoor: Feb 22 & 23

Host Sectional Clubs: Belvoir Bowhunters, Bowhunters of Rockingham, Sherwood Archers, Kingsboro Bowmen

Spring 3-D: April 4 & 5

Bid Clubs: Bowhunters of Rockingham

Open: May 16th & 17

Bid Clubs: Sherwood Archers

Fall 3-D: Aug 22 & 23

Bid Clubs: Kingsboro Bowmen

Closed: Sept 5 & 6

Bid Clubs: Two Rivers Archers

The VBA 2020 Quarterly Meetings are:

Jan 18 & 19

March 28 & 29 (Banquet)

June 6 & 7

Sept 12 & 13

Bakari Dale
VBA Field Vice President

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What Has The VBA Done

October 4 at 3:57 PM ·

With bow season starting now is a good time to reflect on what the VBA has done for the bowhunters in the commonwealth of Virginia. Here is just a few examples of what we have done since 1941 !

1. 1949 – North River area (16 square miles) in Rockingham County was the first area opened to bowhunting in Virginia.
2. 1953 – “Big Levels” in Augusta County was opened to bowhunting.
3. 1956 – A statewide bowhunting season was enacted.
4. 1985 – A separate archery license for bowhunters was established, allowing two additional deer to be harvested.
5. 1994 – An additional week of bow season was added when the opening date of archery season moved from the second Saturday in October to the first Saturday in October.
6. 1994 – It was made legal to harvest turkey with a bow during the early archery season.
7. 2003 – It was made legal to harvest a black bear during the early archery season statewide.
8. 2005 – The VBA opposed the effort to legalize the use of crossbows in the regular archery season and in the process many valuable messages about hunting safety and ethics were reinforced with all involved.
9. 2007 – New “Urban Archery” regulations **expanded** the archery season by months in many locations and included harvest incentives such as “earn a buck.”
10. 2009 - Resumed responsibility to coordinate the After School Archery Program (ASAP) in Virginia.
11. 2010 – Supported a successful VDGIF plan to reintroduce elk to Virginia; Sponsored state-wide charity shoots to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital; Revitalized the International Bowhunter Education Program in Virginia in conjunction with the VDGIF and National Bowhunter Education Foundation.
12. 2011 – The VBA was opposed to add a Bear Hunting license on top of our big game license. We supported the following: to expand the urban archery season to a few cities that were excluded in 2002; expand the “Youth” hunting day to include Fairfax, Loudoun and Pr. William counties; to close the elk season in Buchanan, Dickenson and Wise counties to be made available for collection of biologicals specimens for disease testing; to remove the daily limit and make it unlimited to hunt in Fairfax, Loudoun and Pr. William counties to bring the herd under control; and, the unauthorized feeding of deer, bear and other wildlife.

(continued on next page)

What Has The VBA Done

13. 2014 – We were in support of the following items: to make it legal to allow Sunday hunting on private land with written permission; combined the archery and crossbow license into one license; require the use of blaze orange during muzzleloading and bowhunting season; prohibit the hunting of deer or bear with the aid or assistance of dogs on Sundays and to allow persons holding an apprentice hunting license to hunt unsupervised if they have successfully completed a hunter education course.

14. 2018 opposed the Arrow Gun for use in the archery season. Went to Richmond and fought it . We got the legislation the way we wanted it.

15. Opposed the 3 day early Bear season still opposing it!

16. Opposed the separation of the Bear Tag.

We are working harder now than ever to ensure your rights as a Bowhunter are protected. In saying Bowhunter that includes the Traditional bowhunters, the compound bowhunters , and the Crossbow bowhunters! We are all on the same team ! Under my leadership I envision making the Association stronger and more accessible to all the bowhunters in the state of Virginia.

I believe it's time we focus more on the hunting side of the Association!

Thanks for your support and happy hunting
Shannon Nesselrodt
VBA President





CRA Newsletter

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When the buck you're hunting is
friends with the beaver....



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Won't you join us?