

# TFAN

*Texas Field Archery News*

**May 2026**



# From the President

## Honoring Legends

Two of our TFAA legends, who have dedicated more than 80 years of combined service to the Texas Field Archery Association have elected to retire from the TFAA Board of Directors at the end of June. Few members know the time, effort, and dedication these folks have put into the TFAA over the years, their efforts have helped our organization become the third largest NFAA affiliate in the nation with more than 1,300 members. These legends will be missed.



Betty Johnson is stepping down as Secretary/Treasurer after 31 years in this role. No one in the history of TFAA has been more dedicated to the success of the organization. She has been a staunch advocate of careful spending, fostering TFAA funds as carefully as she does her own. Betty has been the prime organizer of the TFAA state indoor and outdoor tournaments every year since 1995. Betty is also a legendary archer, national champion, and TFAA Hall of Fame member. Her Senior Female Freestyle indoor record of 596 with 91 Xs has stood for 21 years.



Lee Gregory is stepping down as TFAA Tournament Director after nearly 50 years of service to the NFAA and the TFAA in a variety of roles. Lee has served as Field Governor, TFAN Editor, NFAA Director, and Tournament Director during his tenure. He is also a TFAA Hall of Fame Member with state and national championships. As Editor, Lee printed the then mailed TFAN for nearly 20 years. Lee has served NFAA as the Southern District Councilman since 2004 with responsibility for NFAA activities in Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

Betty and Lee - thank you for your dedication and years of service!

We are looking for members to fill the shoes of these legends. Nominations for Tournament Director are being solicited [HERE](#) and later in this TFAN. We emailed job postings for Secretary/Treasurer as well as Editor and Social Media Coordinator to all TFAA members earlier in April. Please send in your applications, the TFAA needs you!

....Mark

Mark Tanner

(214) 770-5903





## Nominations for TFAA Tournament Director

The TFAA Tournament Director is elected during even years by the Board of Directors from among nominations made by TFAA membership.

**Click the Link to submit your nomination for TFAA Tournament Director by May 18, 2026: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BC9W3QR>**

### Thoughts and Prayers...

**Please keep these TFAA members in your thoughts and prayers:**

Michelle Bateman, health concerns  
The family of Derek Browning  
Betty Johnson, heart issues  
Kris Williams, serious auto accident  
Mike Miller's wife, recovering from a fall  
The family of Ed McCorkle  
Mark Tanner's wife, serious shoulder injury  
Leann Tice, cancer  
Carol Ann Avouris, recovering from a stroke  
Dean Vinson's wife, COPD  
Dennis Balusek, multiple medical issues and more surgeries

**If you know of other members with medical issues, please let us know so we can add them to this list.**

# Third Time's the Charm: A Continued Journey Across Texas

**By: Steve Holbert**

For the third consecutive year, I've had the honor of winning my age division in the TFAA "Shoot Your Way Across Texas" Indoor Archery Championship. What started as a way to stay active has turned into something much bigger—something that reaches far beyond scores, rankings, or even the competition itself.

As a paralyzed veteran, life after injury can easily become smaller if you let it. Physical limitations, daily challenges, and the mental weight of it all can narrow your world. Archery has done the opposite for me—it's expanded it.

Competitive archery has given me structure, purpose, and a reason to keep improving. It's also given me something just as valuable: community. Over the past few years, I've built friendships and connections with people I see regularly at local shoots and competitions. From my local archery shop to tournaments across Texas, the same faces show up—people who encourage, share advice, and genuinely want to see each other succeed.

One of the things I appreciate most about this sport is the environment. It's competitive, no doubt—but it's also low pressure in a way that's rare. On any given day, I might find myself shooting on the same line as a 12-year-old just starting out or a 75-year-old who's been doing this for decades. Everyone's there for their own reasons, but there's a shared respect and willingness to help one another. If you're struggling, someone steps in with a tip. If you're improving, people notice and support you.

One important aspect of these competitions is that there isn't a separate "para" category within TFAA. I compete in the same division as every other male in my age group, under the same conditions and standards. To me, that's meaningful. It reinforces that while I may approach the sport differently due to my physical limitations, the expectation to perform remains the same. It's not about being set apart—it's about being part of the field.

Another standout aspect is the younger generation of archers. Watching youth and young adult competitors demonstrate incredible skill, focus, and discipline is nothing short of inspiring. Some of these kids are putting up scores that rival—or beat—those in the Pro divisions. Seeing that level of dedication at such a young age is a powerful reminder of what's possible with commitment and practice.

At the same time, I've come to realize that I may be providing some inspiration myself. When others see someone with significant physical limitations competing—and competing well—it challenges assumptions. It shows that ability isn't defined solely by physical condition, but by determination, adaptability, and mindset.

That's really the bigger message here.

Recreational sports—whether it's archery or something else—can play a critical role in both physical and psychological health, especially for veterans dealing with life-changing injuries. The physical benefits are obvious: improved coordination, strength, and endurance. But the psychological benefits are just as important, if not more so. There's a sense of

accomplishment, a reason to get out, a way to stay engaged, and a community that helps keep you grounded.

If there's one thing I'd encourage others to take away from my experience, it's this: give it a try. Don't decide something isn't for you before you've had a chance to experience it. Most things feel difficult at first—that's normal. Stick with it long enough to learn, to observe, and to adapt.

Watch what others are doing. Ask questions. Let yourself improve.

You might surprise yourself.

I certainly did.

Three championships later, I'm still learning, still improving, and still finding new reasons to keep going. And that, more than any title, is what really matters.



**TEXAS' OLDEST ARCHERY  
ORGANIZATION  
EST. 1949**

**Come Shoot With Us!**

## From the Bowhunting Director



Late-season turkey hunting is mostly about adjusting to pressured, educated birds and changing seasonal conditions. Turkeys tend to be quieter, less responsive, and more pattern-driven late in the season, so success usually comes from better scouting, tighter setups, lighter calling, and patience rather than aggressive early-season tactics. By late season, many turkeys have already been hunted, called to, or spooked. That means they often hang up out of range, avoid obvious calling, and use safer travel routes. Late season usually rewards hunters who act more like ambush predators than active callers.

Focus on:

**Scouting more than calling. Hunting where turkeys already want to be. Setting up close without being detected. Look for Roost trees** identified by feathers and droppings beneath them. Late-season birds often respond better to less calling, not more.

A good approach:

**Start soft. Call less frequently. Sound like one relaxed hen. Let silence work for you.**

Good calls to use:

**Soft yelps, Clucks and Purrs. Occasional scratching in leaves** to add realism.

Best practice:

**Sit longer. Expect silent birds. Move only when you are confident the bird has changed location.**

Turkey hunters can be concealed and mobile, so late season still requires strict safety discipline. Always check:

- **Positively identify the bird and what is beyond it**
- **Use extra caution carrying decoys**
- **Set up early with good cover and visibility**

Bottom Line: Late-season turkey hunting is usually less about making a gobbler talk and more about meeting him where he already wants to go. If you scout carefully, call sparingly, set up tight, and stay patient, your odds go up dramatically.

If you have a successful hunt, send photos of your bird to [jerrybeavin@gmail.com](mailto:jerrybeavin@gmail.com).

You may have noticed that at the State Indoors, no Big Buck Buckles were awarded this year because there were no entries in any class. Over the last two years, we have had only three total entries each year. Because of the continued low participation, there is a real possibility that this award could be discontinued. Please help support the Big Buck Contest by entering your deer and encouraging others to participate. This award is worth keeping, but it will take more interest and involvement from our members to make that happen.

Jerry Beavin

## From District 5

Field Season is well underway with four SYWAT and Field 50 tournaments to go in District 5. I hope to see you at Cowtown Bowmen on May 2 and May 30 and Irving Bowhunters on May 16 – 17 and June 20-21.

SYWAT tournaments are fun and good preparation for the TFAA State Field Championship to be held the weekend of June 27 at Buffalo Field Archery.

Steve Bergh

TFAA Field Governor, District 5



## Attention Parents of Youth Archers

Please note that NFAA/TFAA rules state that an archer moves up to a higher age division on their birthday. This means that if your child has a birthday between now and the start of our State Championship Tournament, they must compete in the higher age division for the remainder of the SYWAT season and in the state tournament. In anticipation of this, you are allowed to move your child up in age division during or at the start of the SYWAT season. Once an archer moves up in age division, they must remain in that division. Please direct any questions to your Field Governor or email [info@texasfieldarchery.org](mailto:info@texasfieldarchery.org).

### NFAA/TFAA Age Divisions

Division	Age Range	Indoor Distance	Outdoor Max Distance
Cub	8 - 11	10 Yards	30 Yards
Youth	12 - 14	20 Yards	50 Yards
Young Adult	15 - 17	20 Yards	Adult Distances

## From District 6



*Heidi, Alana, and Alexis Ortiz enjoying a beautiful Sunday at Huaco Bowmen*

April has been a fun time shooting outdoors in District 6 while dancing and dodging around cold fronts and thunderstorms, yet we were able to have both scheduled Field SYWATs at the Archers Haven and HUACO Bowmen Clubs. Both venues Saturday events had anticipated weather impacts and yet they still had 34 Archers participating including 9 trying the new Field 50 format.

In May we have both of these District 6 Clubs hosting again with calmer skies anticipated for the respective weekends.

May 9 - Archers Haven - Saturday Only - 9:00 a.m. start  
May 23 & 24 - Huaco Bowmen - Sat & Sun - 9:00 a.m. start

We also have Buffalo Field Archery (Home of the 2026 State Field Championships), Cowtown, and Irving Bowhunters hosting events in May.

This [link](#) will take you to the TFAA website for more details. Select a hosting Club name for a given weekend to find the details of the SYWAT Tournament including location and start times. No need to pre-register for SYWAT Field or Field 50, just come on out about 45 minutes early to register and warm up. The club folks will help you enjoy the experience.

If you have never done this, TFAA Archers are the best at assisting you through a course. Be careful, you will find it the coolest thing since arrows were made with feathers!

Speaking of Cool, on April 10<sup>th</sup>, a couple of TFAA members, Rick Stonebraker and Pete Clark, were inducted into the Texas Senior Games **Hall of Fame** at the Texas Senior Games Archery event hosted by Arrow Minded Outdoors in Bulverde, TX. Most Archers participating at this National Senior Games qualifier were TFAA members as well. How cool is that!

Congratulations to Rick Stonebraker and Willis L. "Pete" Clark for this deserving Honor.

Thanks much and enjoy the Journey!

Tom Ramsbacher  
District 6 Governor  
Cell: 210-875-5939



## Request for Donations to the TFAA Scholarship Fund

Since 2018, TFAA has awarded scholarships to young men and women who have demonstrated academic, community, and archery success. Each year TFAA awards one scholarship to a high school senior in the amount of \$5,000. Winners are announced each year at the TFAA State Indoor Championships.

TFAA, a non-profit corporation, holds approximately \$41,000 in the TFAA Scholarship Fund, and the goal is to increase the fund so that in the future we can award a larger amount to the winner, or award multiple seniors. To further these goals TFAA is asking for donations to the TFAA Scholarship Fund.

A way to support the TFAA Scholarship Fund is by gift from your Will or Trust or, by making an annual donation. Several others, and I make a gift to the scholarship fund each December.

Another great way to support the TFAA Scholarship Fund is by hosting a fundraising event, such as was done by Alvarado Archery last January; that event raised \$1,700 which was donated to the TFAA Scholarship Fund in honor of Ayden Randle.

Donations can be made here: <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/texas-field-archery-assoc> , or mailed to Betty Johnson, TFAA Secretary/Treasurer, 1823 Yosemite Way, Longview, TX, 75605. Please direct any questions concerning the TFAA Scholarship Fund, to myself, Steve Bergh, Scholarship Committee, by email [slbkmb@aol.com](mailto:slbkmb@aol.com), or by text (714) 788-8826. Thank you for supporting the TFAA Scholarship Fund.



# Coming Soon!

**NFAA Marked 3D National Championships**

**May 1 - 3, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Redding, CA**

**National Outdoor Field & Target Leagues 2026**

**Field: May 11 -July 31, 2026**

**Target: June 1- August 23, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Various**

**2026 USA Archery Field/3D Nationals and Field/3D World Championships US Team Trials**

**June 3 - 6, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Yankton, SD**

**TFAA State Field Championship 2026**

**June 27 - 28, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Houston, TX**

**NFAA Outdoor National Field Championships 2026**

**July 24 - 26, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Yankton, SD**

**IFAA World Field Archery Championships 2026**

**July 27 - 31, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Yankton, SD**

**First Dakota Classic 2026**

**August 21-22, 2026, [More Info](#)**

**Yankton, SD**

# Upcoming Outdoor Tournaments

Host	Location	Dates
<u>Cowtown - 2</u>	Ft. Worth, TX	5/02/2026 - 5/02/2026
<u>Buffalo Field Archery - 2</u>	Houston, TX	5/09/2026 - 5/10/2026
<u>Archer's Haven - 2</u>	Canyon Lake, TX	5/09/2026 - 5/09/2026
<u>Irving Bowhunter's - 3</u>	Dallas, TX	5/16/2026 - 5/17/2026
<u>HUACO Bowmen - 2</u>	Waco, TX	5/23/2026 - 5/24/2026
<u>Cowtown - 3</u>	Ft. Worth, TX	5/30/2026 - 5/30/2026
<u>Sherwood - 1</u>	Bedias, TX	6/06/2026 - 6/07/2026
<u>NFAA Southern Outdoor Sectionals</u>	McComb, MS	6/13/2026 - 6/14/2026
<u>Irving Bowhunter's - 4</u>	Dallas, TX	6/20/2026 - 6/21/2026
<u>Archer's Haven - 3</u>	Canyon Lake, TX	6/20/2026 - 6/20/2026
<u>TFAA State Field Championship - 2026</u>	Houston, TX	6/27/2026 - 6/28/2026
<u>TFAA State 3D Tournament</u>	Roanoke, TX	8/01/2026 - 8/02/2026
<u>TFAA State 900 Championship</u>	Roanoke, TX	8/01/2026 - 8/02/2026

**ADDITIONAL DATES AND LOCATIONS MAY BE ADDED  
CHECK [TEXASFIELDARCHERY.ORG](https://www.texasfieldarchery.org) FOR UPDATES**

## **TFAA OUTDOOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**BUFFALO FIELD ARCHERY CLUB**

**13155 CLAY ROAD**

**HOUSTON, TX**

**JUNE 27—28, 20256**

**CHECK [TEXASFIELDARCHERY.ORG](https://www.texasfieldarchery.org) FOR DETAILS**

*Note: The State Outdoor Championship is its own tournament. Shooting in SYWAT or Field 50 tournaments is not required to participate in the State Outdoor Championship.*



## Introducing Field 50



For the 2026 Outdoor Season, TFAA is adding a new round to our field schedule. This round is a “lite” version of the NFAA field round and is a great option for Traditional Archers, New Field Archers, and those who just want a shorter round on a weekend morning. The round will consist of 14 targets, with a maximum distance of 50 yards. These events will be held in conjunction with our regular field shoots. See the TFAA event schedule for dates and results.(Note: Check the Field 50 Season)

**Cost:** \$15 for Adults, \$10 for ages 17 and under.

**Format:** 14 Field Faces in various sizes. Each range will have a different order of targets, but all ranges will have the following stations. Four arrows at each target for a total of 56 arrows.

Station	Shots	Target Size
1	4 @ 40 yards	50 cm
2	4 @ 50 yards	65 cm
3	Walk-Up 45, 40, 35, 30 yards	50 cm
4	4 @ 45 yards	65 cm
5	4 @ 20 yards	35 cm
6	4 @ 30 yards	35 cm
7	Walk-Up , 35, 30, 25, 20 FEET	20 cm
8	4 @ 50 yards	65 cm
9	4 @ 15 yards	35 cm
10	4 @ 45 yards	50 cm
11	4 @ 50 yards	50 cm
12	4 @ 25 yards	35 cm
13	4 @ 40 yards	65 cm
14	4 @ 35 yards (Fan)	50 cm

Cubs will shoot Cub stakes.... 30 yard max.

NFAA/TFAA divisions and styles will apply. The top shooter for the season in each division will receive an award (medal), provided they shoot at least three (3) events. No SYWAT Plaques for this format and we will NOT hold a State Tournament for the Field 50 format in 2026.

## **ABOUT SHOOT YOUR WAY ACROSS TEXAS (SYWAT) OUTDOOR**

This is a state wide "league" held primarily during the spring (April - June). Tournaments are hosted by various clubs around the state. Any archer can compete in the events but you must be a NFAA/TFAA Member to compete for the SYWAT Aggregate/Tour Champion award. N.F.A.A. divisions and shooting styles will be in effect. See shooting style rules [HERE](#).

Costs Per Round:

\$25 - Adult Categories

\$20 - Cub/Youth/Young Adult

\$70 - Max. Per Family

The Outdoor SYWAT format is the standard NFAA Field/Hunter rounds. Archer's shoot 28 stations, usually 14 field and 14 hunter targets. Four arrows per station for a total of 112 arrows. Scoring is 5-4-3. Xs are not scored except at state and national level tournaments and for PROS. Targets range from 20 feet to 80 yards. The average shot distance is 40 yards. There are four different target sizes used at the various distances. Target Sizes and Distances [HERE](#). For the full NFAA Field Rules, [CLICK HERE](#).

### **SYWAT OUTDOOR - AGGREGATE/HIGH SCORE AWARD**

Awarded to the shooter with the top total score of:

Best 3 scores from SYWAT Field events

Both days of the State Field Championship

Shoot as many SYWAT events as you wish, only your top scores will be used. If you shoot two times at a weekly event, only the top score from that event is used.

The first day of the Southern Sectional Outdoor can count as one score (Only the first day due to 2nd day being mixed with an Animal round).

You can only win for one division and style. The Aggregate/High Score Award will be presented at the awards ceremony during the TFAA State Outdoor Championship.

### **SYWAT OUTDOOR - INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

We award archers an individual plaque for their shooting achievements based on the following:

Each individual SYWAT event is it's own tournament.

Winners for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be recorded for individual award purposes.

You must place in the top three in at least three events in order to receive a plaque.

The last weekend before the State Tournament is not included in order to get awards ready in time for the tournament.

Individual awards will be created and made available for pick-up at the TFAA State Field Championship. The individual award is a single award listing the location and place for each individual event, where the individual actually placed.

# Field 50 – Adults \$15/Youth \$10 (17 & under)



## TFAA Outdoor Tournaments



**Dates:** March 21 - 22, 2026 SYWAT & Field 50  
May 9 - 10, 2026 SYWAT (Field 50 TBD)

**Start Times:** 9:00 a.m. start both days

### Directions:

- **From Sam Houston Tollway** exit Clay Road. Turn west on to Clay Road, the range will be on your left.
- **From I-10** exit Eldridge Pkwy. Turn north on to Eldridge Pkwy. and proceed to Clay Road. Turn east on Clay Road, the range will be on your right.
- **From 290** exit Eldridge Pkwy. Turn south on to Eldridge Pkwy. and proceed to Clay Road. Turn east on Clay Road, the range will be on your right.



13155 Clay Road, Houston, Texas Contact: 713-489-6307

# Outdoor SYWAT Adults \$25/Youth \$20 (17 & under)



2041 South Walton Walker Blvd  
Dallas, TX, 75211  
469-795-1035

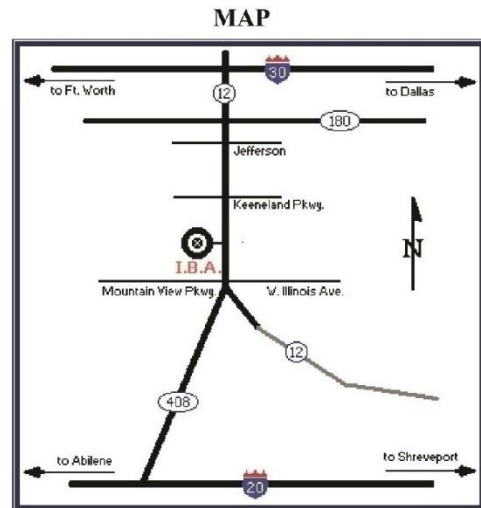
## 2026 SYWAT Outdoor and Field 50 Tournaments

March 28 - 29  
April 25  
May 16 - 17  
June 20 - 21

9:00 a.m. start

### Directions:

Range entrance is on the southbound service road of Loop 12. Coming from the north or south on Loop 12, take the Keenland exit and then follow the southbound service road until you see the entrance to IBA on your right.



**Field 50 – Adults \$15/Youth \$10 (17 & under)**



**2026 Outdoor SYWAT and Field 50 Tournaments**  
**April 4, May 9, and June 20**  
**9 a.m. Start**

**23655 FM 306 - Canyon Lake, Texas 78133 - 210-393-4168**

**Outdoor SYWAT Adults \$25/Youth \$20 (17 & under)**



9900 Watercress Drive • Ft Worth, TX 76108

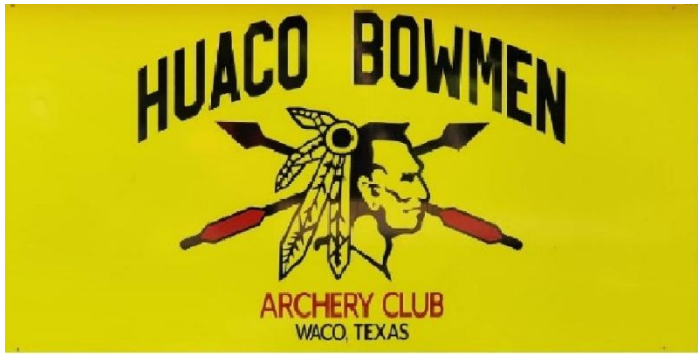
**2026 Outdoor SYWAT and Field 50**

**April 18, May 2, and May 30**

**9 a.m. Start**

Contact Chuck Hubbard at 817-709-7169 for more information

**Field 50 – Adults \$15/Youth \$10 (17 & under)**



125 Lovers Leap Road  
Waco, Texas 76708

214-478-9207



**2026 Outdoor SYWAT & Field 50**

**April 18 - 19**  
**May 23 - 24**

**9 a.m. start both days**  
**Concessions Available**

**Directions:** From I-35 take the Lake Shore Drive exit. Go west on Lake Shore Drive until you get to N. 19th Street. Turn left (east) on N. 19th Street and go to Meridian. Turn Left on Meridian and dead end into Park Lake Drive. Turn left on Park Lake Drive and the range will be on the left.

**Outdoor SYWAT Adults \$25/Youth \$20 (17 & under)**

**Sherwood Forest Archery Games**

9739 County Road 231  
Bedias, TX 77831  
713-201-8024

**TFAA Shoot Your Way Across Texas**



**28 Hunter Targets**

**June 6 - 7, 2026**



**9:00 a.m. start both days**

Snacks and drinks will be available.

# TFAA Board of Directors

## **President & NFAA Field Director**

Mark Tanner  
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[marketanner@att.net](mailto:marketanner@att.net)

## **Vice President**

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## **Secretary/Treasurer**

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## **Tournament Director & NFAA Council**

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Vacant

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## **Field Governor District 6**

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