



Toby Ragsdale

Although the Ragsdale family name is synonymous with archery excellence throughout the state of Texas and across the United States, Toby Ragsdale stands out on his own amongst his brother who has been inducted in both the National and TFAA Halls of Fame as well as his father who is also in the TFAA Hall of Fame.

The Ragsdale family joined the NFAA/TFAA in 1965, when Toby was just 5 years old. He vividly remembers that year because he was one year shy of being able to compete, which didn't sit well with the naturally competitive young Toby. Toby only waited that one year before he began competing with his bow. Toby had tremendous success as

a young archer and if you shot back in those days, you knew the archers in Texas were the most dominating and competitive group of shooters in the country.

As a young adult, Toby won his first NFAA Field championship in Aurora, Illinois, in 1976. That was the last year of the old 5-3 scoring system. The next year, in 1977, the NFAA introduced the metric 5-4-3 targets that we still shoot today. The TFAA outdoor championship was in Abilene and Toby, like many others, would get the opportunity to set new state records on the new targets. As competitive as shooting Freestyle has been over the years, nobody would have guessed it would take 30-years for Toby's aggregate record to be broken. Toby would go on to win Vegas titles in 1979 and 1981.

In 1981, Toby moved to Arizona to work for the newly relocated Precision Shooting Equipment (PSE). Toby would spend over 5 years in the desert working all aspects of the archery business as well as shooting as a member of the pro staff. In 1986, Toby needed to take a break from the everyday life in archery. He decided it was time to go back to Texas and start a family. He married his girlfriend Heather (also an accomplished archer), started his career with FedEx and decided to focus on raising his two kids, Erika & Ryan.

Over the next 15 years, Toby would shoot occasionally but did not get back fully involved until the early 2000s. Toby had started shooting more when he found an opportunity to become a managing partner with a local bow shop, Double B Archery, in Conroe. His industry experience and passion for shooting was a sure fit for the new shop. Toby had his regulars and was an integral part in growing TFAA archery in the north Houston area. The events hosted by that shop were always full of shooters old and new thanks to Toby.

In the last 8 years since Toby helped open the Saddle River Range as archery shop manager, he has coached and mentored multiple indoor and outdoor national champions and TX state champions while still having the time to win his latest NFAA Field Championship, in 2021, setting a new national record.

Toby currently holds the TFAA State records for SSMBHFS Hunter round and Aggregate. Toby is a fierce competitor and a better friend or competitor on the line cannot be found.

As impressive as Toby's shooting achievements, they pale in comparison to what Toby has done for TFAA archery the past forty plus years in his positions as business partner, shop manager, and archer. The number of people Toby has introduced, trained, and mentored is numerous. His involvement in archery-based businesses has brought many new shooters into the sport for recreation, hunting, and competition. He has trained shooters of all ages from 3 to 83 and can be credited for developing those same shooters' mental game and form to their desirable levels. Many of those shooters have gone on to win many county, state, sectional, and national titles.

Toby is currently working with two national champions, five state champions and scores of future champions, competitors, and hunters at the shop he manages for Saddle River Range in Conroe, Texas. His enormous success as a coach and mentor can be measured by the growth of the sport in the area, the accomplishments of the many people that have trained with him and the affection of uncountable adults, children, and their parents that credit Toby for the reason they are involved in archery. No doubt the owners of the shops Toby has worked at the past 14 years are appreciative of the thousands of bows Toby has sold into the marketplace, too. Toby has helped the blind, the burned, and the handicapped find a place in our archery family.

Having retired from FedEx after over 30 years Toby now spends much of his time managing the archery department and Saddle River Range promoting all aspects of archery including entertaining posts to social media and competing. Toby's Saddle River Rangers can be found in abundance at many indoor and outdoor SYWAT shoots as well as sectional and state events. Toby could be spending more time enjoying his many other interests including fishing, woodwork, traveling with his lovely wife Heather, or visiting family. Instead, many times archery is prioritized to the benefit of customers, acquaintances, friends, and many people Toby has just meet for the very first time.

Toby Ragsdale meets the shooting criteria by winning two (2) National Championships, at least seven (7) Sectional Championships, and six (6) State Championships for a total of 39 points (qualified). At the young age of 62, Toby has won at least one archery championship in each of the last six decades. During my research into the winning history of Toby we had to limit our inquires because if Toby knew what we were doing he would find some way to sabotage the efforts to get him nominated for this honor. I would sincerely appreciate your consideration in voting Toby Ragsdale into the TFAA Hall of Fame.