



## Tips on How To Submit An Article or Picture To WBH For Publication

By Dan Brockman, Editor of *The Bowhunter*

It's always interesting to read the stories and view the pictures submitted by our WBH members. Here are a few suggestions on how to write a good story and take quality pictures that will help your story find its way into the pages of *The Bowhunter*.

Type and double space your article, and include a copy on disc in MS Word. This makes it much easier to read and edit your story – the easier you make it to edit, the better the chance it gets in the magazine. After writing your story, set it aside for a couple weeks and then re-read and re-write it. Make the story as concise as possible. Remember, the reader can't ask you questions, so explain what's happening, yet only include information pertinent to the story line. Make short sentences and keep the article short; never over 2,500 words, with 1,500 – 2,000 even better. Have a beginning, body, and end to your story. The best way to learn how to write a hunting story is to read good hunting stories such as in *Bowhunter* magazine.

Include good photos with your story. The photos should be clean – a minimum of blood, distracting backgrounds, clutter, or arrows sticking out of animals. Take time to take good trophy photos. Don't sit on top of the animal –you didn't ride it into the ground! Show the animal some respect: clean blood and dirt off the animal, place its tongue back in its mouth, and make sure the background isn't distracting. Generally the best position for the hunter is sitting on the ground behind the animal.



Have the person taking the picture get down low – below your eye level, and very close!

Read the last paragraph again and remember it! All that needs to be in the picture are the hunter and the animal. The best deer trophy pictures show the deer's head and antlers, the hunter's head, and part of the bow – or at least a very minimum of background. The only exception to this rule is when there is a very scenic background that gives the viewer a sense of the terrain where the hunt took place: such as a high mountain sheep hunt. The best pictures are taken before the animal is field dressed, and certainly never in the back of a pickup, on a four-wheeler, or hanging. Stay out of bright, direct sunlight, and use your fill-in flash for the best quality pictures.



Besides trophy photos, you may also want to include other pictures pertinent to the story line. Pictures of your camp, your hunting buddies, or maybe a scenic view from your stand. Wildlife photos of the game you're hunting are good, if they're of excellent quality. Remember the pictures are generally printed in black and white so colorful sunsets don't show up, and the pictures must be very sharp to transfer well to black and white.

I look forward to seeing your submissions about a memorable hunting experience you've had. Send in those submissions!