

Hello fellow bowhunters

As I'm writing this, we still have a little over a month of the 2021 archery season to go and I am still chasing that elusive buck of my dreams! I hope all of you have had better luck than me this season!!

Our Wisconsin National Archery in the Schools Program (WI NASP) has been trudging along in the midst of this COVID thing. Many schools are back in session in some form or another and doing their best to run programs and curriculums with added precautions in place. This is also true with our NASP program, Schools and teachers are finding ways to add additional arrow curtains, more targets and more bows to allow the students to spread out more and stay within the CDC and other guidelines. Those that have figured it out and have the support of their administration have found a growing interest in archery and additional students in their classrooms being exposed.

This has also caused an amazing transition in how these NASP programs are ran at the school level, how we train the teachers, more on that in a bit, and the sheer number of students and schools getting involved. It's been a challenging yet rewarding year and half for NASP nationwide!

Roughly halfway through 2020 many of the state coordinators for NASP, myself included, worked with NASP to build a hybrid version of the NASP Basic Archery Instructor certification that has been the cornerstone of the success of NASP. This hybrid training allows people to take roughly 4 hours of online, virtual training and then only 3-4 hours of field class time, thus reducing the time they are away from work or family yet maintaining the integrity of the NASP program and certification. It's honestly been a game changer in the way we offer the training and the overall growth of the program the last 2 years.

Our WI NASP tournaments, for the most part were put on hold for 2020 but in 2021 there has been a reinvigorating and expanding interest from schools all over the state to start after-school or clubs to get into the competitive side of NASP. This has also allowed more community involvement and awareness of NASP statewide. Something I didn't think was possible with the past success but it's always great to see so many new people being introduced to the sport and so many students involved with NASP.

Our state tournament is set for the last weekend in March again in 2022. With the good Lords blessings this year it will happen, and we will again see some live NASP competitions and crown our state champions and qualify schools and students for the national event scheduled for May of 2022 in Kentucky.

We did run a live WI NASP scholarship shoot in 2020 in Weston. 25 of the top male and female High School archers started and after several rounds we handed out over \$5,000.00 in WI NASP scholarship money. Its always amazing to see what these kids can do with the Genesis bow and how they handle the pressures of competition with so much on the line. The format for that shoot will be used in future years!

There will be challenges ahead and I know we will need to continue to adjust our strategies for continued growth but that's what keeps the program fresh for so many and makes this such an awesome job!

As always, if you have connections at the schools in your areas, please feel free to share my contact information. I'd be happy to work with all of them on grants for equipment and getting them certified and adding more schools and students to our highly successful WI NASP program.

Get out and shoot your local club and shop leagues this winter and may all your arrows find the mark!

Thanks for the continued support and I look forward to catching up with many of you at this year's convention

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