

County Squad Development Days – Proposal

(for existing team members and anyone wanting to get onto the team)

**From Neill Brown (as a county archer)
and LAOFAC (as a club who would like to host a session).**

At the last few shoots I have been discussing with some of our existing County Archers the fact that several other counties have regular get together for their squads throughout the year, but L&R don't – so would this be a good idea for L&RCAA to do. Feedback has been positive from a number of people so I suggested I'd put together an outline proposal to put to the county to get a debate started. I only intend this proposal to be a starting point for discussions.

Format:

Ideally these would be rotated around clubs in the county. Format for each event to be defined, but it would be good to do a variety of events – some examples could be:

Practice for team event at Lilleshall (but open to everyone so they can see what it's all about);

Mini Tournament (half 720) with Head to Heads;

Formal coaching day;

BBQ and fun shoot;

Guest Archer for a discussion session.

Eligibility:

Eligibility should be for existing County Archers plus aspiring archers of a reasonable standard who may wish to join the team – a minimum standard should be set, but set at a low enough level to encourage people to come along – eg Bowman standard or above (open for discussion). Should we invite Juniors (who have their own JeDiS events)?

Timing:

Before the outdoor season is underway, eg around the same time the Selection Shoot dates are confirmed, a program of 3 or 4 County Development Days should be calendared. As selection shoots are normally in April and May, we could hold one in early June, two in July and one in August. Either a Sat/Sun/BH Mon, or an evening when the days are long.

Costing:

Ideally it would be good for the County (or EMAS) to fund this (which would show a progressive County wanting to promote and develop it's team and encourage people to join in, but if not then charge a nominal fee to participants, eg £5, or £10 for a coaching / guest day – however this may put some people off (and one of the underlying reasons for these events is to encourage participation and team spirit).

Next Steps:

If approved this should be put in place starting next year, but it may also be possible to trial a session or two this year (Neill/LAOFAC are willing to help get this started).