

WEST VIRGINIA'S  
**Archery**  
— IN THE —  
**Schools**



## May 2010 - Newsletter

*One final newsletter before everyone starts enjoying their summer vacation. Just wanted to let everyone know about all of the things that have been going on and of some of our upcoming events.*

### **January:**

Updated the West Virginia AIS Program FAQ sheet on the AIS website. This FAQ sheet provides the latest information on the AIS Program and answers many basic questions asked by school administrators, teachers and coaches interested in starting or continuing an AIS Program. The FAQ sheet is located at:

[www.wvdnr.gov/archery/documents/FAQs.pdf](http://www.wvdnr.gov/archery/documents/FAQs.pdf)

Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) training given at Gander Mountain Store (South Charleston, Kanawha Co., WV). Trained 22 new coaches. Including the school already in AIS, 13 new schools were trained – bringing the total in the AIS Program to 219 schools!

Promoted the Archery in the Schools Program at the DNR booth through flyers and other material at the West Virginia Hunting & Fishing Show (Charleston)

### **February:**

Ordered new WV AIS Sponsor Boards showing groups contributing monetarily or physically to the program, including: ABA; Beyond the Backyard; Morrell Targets; NASP; WV Bowhunters Assoc.; National Wild Turkey Federation; WV Dept. of Education; WV Trophy Hunters Assoc., and

WV Hunter Education Assoc. Thanks to all sponsors!

Coordinated with several conservation organizations (WV Bowhunters Assoc.; Appalachian Bowhunters Assoc.; WV Trophy Hunters Assoc.; WV Hunter Education Assoc.; and, WV Chapter – Wild Turkey Federation to provide volunteers at the March 2010 State AIS Tournament

Submitted a grant application to the WV Trophy Hunters Association (WVTHA) for partial funding of the WV Archery in the Schools Program. Good news! WVTHA will be presenting us a \$2,000 check this summer. This money will go a long way to ensure our continued success.

Ordered plaques for the 2010 WV AIS Program State Tournament with a grant given to us by the WV Bowhunters Assoc. Thank you WV Bowhunters Assoc.!

### **March:**

Invited Dr. Steven L. Paine, West Virginia State Superintendent of Schools to attend the 2010 WV State AIS Tournament. Dr. Paine agreed, and later spoke at the awards ceremony. He stated he wanted WV Dept. of Education will play a larger role in the WV AIS Program! We will continue to work with the WV Dept. of Education to help promote the AIS Program.

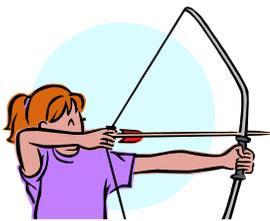
Resubmitted an AIS grant application to the NRA Foundation. Good news! The NRA Foundation has agreed to give the AIS Program a check for \$3,834.00 this summer to help finance program development.

Interviewed by Tom Roten of WVHU – Huntington Radio concerning the upcoming 2010 AIS State Tournament. Discussed the growing popularity of the program and tournament.

5<sup>th</sup> Annual WV Archery in the Schools State Tournament held at the Charleston Civic Center. Approximately 52 teams (from 41 separate schools) and 540 students participated. Tournament results are posted on the website. Again, WVDNR would like to thank all our volunteers and sponsors who made this event possible. In fact, because of their commitment, we were able to host the largest indoor archery tournament event ever held in West Virginia. Not bad for a program only 6 years old!

#### **April:**

Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) training given again at Gander Mountain Store (South Charleston, Kanawha Co., WV) due to enthusiasm and interest in the area. Trained 14 new coaches, and brought the AIS school total to over 225!



#### **Upcoming Training (2010):**

**July 13th-14th: at Cabela's (Wheeling)  
(Deadline to register June 28).**

Due to the hands-on training involved in BAI certification, classroom size will be limited to the first 25 teachers registered. So, if you are interested in getting your school involved in the AIS Program, you need to register for training before these classes are full.

Please note this training will cost \$25 for all school employees and \$50 for non-school employees. This fee will be paid to WV DNR – Archery in the Schools Program (via check, money order, or exact currency only) during the first morning of the training.

Because schools often need more than one instructor, **currently certified instructors are encouraged to alert other interested individuals about this training.** Also, because the school year is coming to a close and thoughts will quickly turn to summer activities, interested schools are encouraged to register someone now. **To register for this training please contact Billie Shearer at (304) 558-2771 or [Billie.J.Shearer@wv.gov](mailto:Billie.J.Shearer@wv.gov).**

#### **Two Lessons from the 2010 Tournament**

Two lessons emerged from the 2010 WV AIS Program Tournament that should be of interest to those instructors preparing for the 2011 tournament:

**1) Prepare in autumn if possible.** With several snow days this year, many schools waiting to prepare for the tournament after the New Year found they had insufficient time to train, and could not attend. Therefore, we would like to encourage schools to consider training earlier in the school year (autumn).

**2) Prepare and bring alternates.** Several teams showed up at the tournament missing one or more students, and therefore could not compete as a team. In addition your co-ed team of 12, consider training and bringing up to 6 co-ed alternates to the 2011 tournament to cheer on your team and to fill in as last-minute replacements.

#### **Contact Us:**

For information updates visit our website at [www.wvdnr.gov/archery](http://www.wvdnr.gov/archery) or call (304) 558-2771:

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