



## Somerset County Archery Association Senior County and Open Outdoor Championships - 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

This year was the 72<sup>nd</sup> running of this event, this year at its traditional home of Dunster Castle, The Old Deer park. This event is run every year, as a prelude to the Dunster Archery Week and the following Grand Western Archery Championship Weekend, therefore many visitors to the Somerset region to take part in this event and the following weeks event. This year nearly 140 archers attended from as far as Largs in Scotland, to local Somerset clubs like Danesfield, Coastal and Bath, to mention but a few.

This year the field had some new Banners and feather flags, provided by GWAS, and the field was dressed so to speak with the Somerset banners as archers entered the field of play.



The weather was a typical Dunster day, it threw a combination of conditions at the archers, but nearly all made it to the end and seemed have a great time enjoying the spirit of this tournament, with many staying for the prize giving held in the marquee directly after the tournament.



This year there were some new faces as Champions and some familiar ones too, one that deserves a special mention is **Mr. Mark Smith of Bath Archers**, he retained the Gentleman's Recurve Shield for the **tenth year in a Row**. This is a new record of consecutive wins, which has taken over 60 years to better, the previous holder of the most wins, was **Mr. Herbert 'Bert' Oram of Bowmen of Hatch from 1949 to 1957**.



The Awards Table has some very long-standing trophies, that a value cannot be placed upon due the unique nature, for First place Ladies Visitor, there is a very different one of a silver ink well.



This year's winner was Saira Choudry, who retains the trophy for the second year in row.



With the Gentleman's Visitor Trophy then being a slightly larger version.



This year going to a New Visitor champion of Mr Colin Watts.

Also, we have some amusing trophies for Best Gold awards for both ladies and gentlemen, in the form of a Nut Cracker shaped as a Giant Nut. This years Gentleman's one being retained by **Mr Steve Yates**.



There are many other awards for Longbow and Barebow also, with Longbow having a large following at this event due to the traditional rounds of York/Hereford and Record Status, as one Longbow archer said, it is difficult to find these types of events to attend, due to changes made at many other events to metric rounds.

The event may be a county event, but we do cater for all levels of archers, so those wishing to shoot a Hereford rather than a York may do so, this year we had a lady longbow shooting a York, along with several gentlemen deciding to spend the day with the ladies, along with some Juniors moving up to longer rounds gradually. We also accommodate archers wishing only to shoot less arrows with a friendly National round of 6 dozen, in the afternoon, this year we had one lady, who was not sure what she would be able to shoot, so we made provision for her in each line.

Combined this with the pleasant surroundings of Dunster Castle and the catering facilities provided by Ann Perryman and her team of helpers in the marque providing breakfast, lunches and those all important Ice Creams to keep your going through out the day, what more could you wish for, So try to keep the date for next years Event, if you did not manage to make it this year.

For full results see the SCAA website, on the Tournaments Results tab.