

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 25 of Somerset's best Archers travelled to Exeter School for the 2019 GWAS Intercounties tournament. This invitation only event saw a team fielded by each of the 4 counties in this region, all vying for the coveted title of Regional County Champion team as well as individual and bowstyle team awards.

The weather conditions were far from ideal a lot of the time with rain coming down hard at several points throughout the day, a variable wind and vastly differing levels of light throughout. Our Archers stood up well to these conditions though, showing the experience gained from the hard work they all put in to earn their place on the team. As we've come to expect from the Bowmen and Women of our County, when bows, arrows and clothing are dampened, spirits definitely aren't!

It is testament to the hard work and talent of our Archers that we had 5 first time members of the team this year, all in different categories. Congratulations to Clair Crook (Ladies Recurve), Louise Kraechter (Ladies Compound), Rachel Hemmings (Ladies Barebow), Pete Ruddock (Gents Compound) and James Annall (Gents Barebow) for earning your chance to represent us. Deserving of a mention also are Alec Hodgkinson and Hannah-Jo Porter who have both shot for the County before, but did so this year with a different bowstyle.

Shooting a WA1440 round, Somerset took an early lead in the overall standings which we held until near the end of the first distance. From this point onwards, a powerhouse Devon & Cornwall side would show their considerable class as they took control at the top of the team leaderboard. Somerset fought all the way though, and were always within a recoverable distance of the top of the standings. In the end DCAS held on to take the full team title, but Somerset strongly maintained our position from there to finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall. This means that we were able to defeat strong teams fielded by both Gloucestershire and Dorset & Wiltshire, a great achievement for our County.

We had success in several of the other classes though with Liam Goodes taking top honours in Gents Individual Compound and James Annall winning Gents Individual Barebow, both shooting GMB scores in the process. Outstanding performances in a very high pressure situation.

Our Barebow team of 2 Gents and 2 Ladies also bought home the team award for their category too, dominating the division with a lead over 2<sup>nd</sup> place of nearly 300 points. Congratulations to James Annall, Andrew Rees, Lizzy Rees and Rachel Hemmings for such a fantastic performance. This was a new trophy being awarded for the first time, making this a historic victory too.

With these successes as well as a number of Archers putting in personal/season best scores, Somerset were represented extremely well this year and all our Archers can take a great deal of positives from their performance. I feel extremely proud of our team and what they achieved, and our whole County should feel rightly proud of them too.

Here's looking forward to further success in the future!

Chris Hole

Senior Team Selector 2019

## SCAA Senior Team 2019

### Gents Recurve

Mark Smith	Bath Archers
Mark Tottle	Puriton Gold
Lee Parsons	Bowmen of Ina
Luke Jones	Coastal Archers
Duncan Garner	Bath Archers
Nick Chubb	Coastal Archers

### Ladies Recurve

Sue Elkins	Wells City Archers
Mel Dawes	Coastal Archers
Clair Crook	South Wansdyke Archery Club
Anne Lewin	Coastal Archers

### Gents Compound

Liam Goodes	Burnham Company of Archers
Alec Hodgkinson	Wells City Archers
Pete Ruddock	Burnham Company of Archers
George Pengelly	Wells City Archers

### Ladies Compound

Hayley Goodes	Burnham Company of Archers
Judith Martin	Mid Somerset Bowmen
Louise Kraechter	Wells City Archers

### Gents Longbow

Richard Hornsby	Burnham Company of Archers
Barry Gingell	Gordano Valley Archers

### Ladies Longbow

Val Leveridge	Coastal Archers
Hannah-Jo Porter	Coastal Archers

### Gents Barebow

James Annall	Bath Archers
Andrew Rees	Ballands Bowmen

### Ladies Barebow

Rachel Hemmings	Wellington Bowmen
Lizzy Rees	Ballands Bowmen