



National Archery in the Schools Program



2023 ANNUAL REVIEW

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NASP® Mission.....	2
Welcome to NASP®.....	3
NASP® To The Rescue.....	4
Tommy Floyd Op Ed.....	5
By The Numbers	8
Changing Lives.....	10
Academic Archer Program.....	11
Recognition/Giving Back	12
NASP® Scholarships.....	13
The Growth of Archery.....	14
NASP® Gets Kids Outdoors.....	15



NASP® Mission

The National Archery in the Schools Program promotes instruction in international-style target archery as part of in-school curriculum, to improve educational performance and participation in the shooting sports among students in grades four through twelve.

Hello and thank you for your interest in the National Archery in the Schools Program

It is truly an exciting time to be involved with NASP®!

NASP® is an in-school archery program for students in grades 4-12. We operate in 49 U.S. states, 9 Canadian provinces, New Zealand and the British Virgin Islands.

Each year, we reach well over 1 million students in just under 9,000 schools with a safe introduction to something they can continue throughout their lives.

While we are the largest youth archery organization in the world, we pride ourselves over the individual “success” that our participants experience!

We love to hear the stories from parents and guardians about how NASP®’s 11 steps have reached their child and how the lifelong skill of archery continues to change lives.

I hope you will enjoy our annual report where you will learn more about our growing program that is positively affecting students; hopefully, at a school near you!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us and we can assist you in learning how you can get involved with us. Together, we can continue to positively affect students: One Arrow at a Time!

Tommy Floyd Ed. D.
President, NASP®

NASP® IS INTERNATIONAL



49 States
including Washington D.C.



9 Canadian
Provinces



British
Virgin Island



New Zealand

CARRYING THE TORCH FOR THE SHOOTING SPORTS.

NASP® President, Tommy Floyd, becomes the face of the effort to protect shooting sports education in light of legislation that threatened school funding. He appeared live on FOX News to discuss the issue and the importance of NASP® and shooting sports to today's youth.



The Unity Quiver: Youth Archery's Role in Brief National Political Harmony

Simply turning on the television or scrolling on your cellphone is all it takes to immerse yourself in the divided political landscape of our nation. Recently an unexpected unifier – youth archery – became a catalyst and one of the eventual unifying forces in the polarized political environment of the United States. Over the course of several months, people from different political viewpoints came together in an instantaneous show of support for youth shooting sports.

After a wave of school shootings, federal legislators created the Bipartisan Safe Communities Act (BPSCA) in the fall of 2022. This legislation was intended to increase support for school and community safety and help mitigate tragedies like the one in Uvalde, Texas. Although the BPSCA was written with the best of intentions, educators were soon faced with some unintended consequences due to the language within the legislation.

In late spring of 2023, several schools in Alaska were contemplating the launch of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®). Following the actions of other states, they were considering using funds from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to train teachers as instructors for this program. Prior to the utilization of the federal money, the schools sought guidance from the United States Department of Education. After reviewing the language of the BPSCA, representatives of the USDE provided guidance that archery instruction, hunter education, or any other similar training involving the use of “deadly weapons” would be prohibited for the use of ESEA funds under the terms of the BPSCA.

The result of this guidance soon became public, and immediately almost every organization related to conservation or the shooting sports was discussing the issue – with NASP® at the forefront.

In late spring of '23, several schools in Alaska were looking to launch NASP® and considering the use of funds from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to train teachers as instructors. After reviewing the language of the BPSCA, representatives of the USDE provided guidance that archery instruction, hunter education, or any other similar training involving the use of “deadly weapons” would be prohibited for the use of ESEA funds under the terms of the BPSCA.

This set off a firestorm that played out in the national media with NASP® and President Tommy Floyd in the middle of what eventually resulted in a piece of legislation, HR5110, which clearly stated federal funds could be used for the promotion of hunter education and youth shooting sports such as NASP®! The bill quickly passed with just a single dissenting vote and the President signed it into law. Here is an Op Ed article that Tommy Floyd penned recounting the events.

What began as a trickle of communication, soon became a torrent of concern, confusion, and disbelief. Many wondered how these long proven and safe programs could contrast with the intention of the BPSCA and be out of bounds for the use of federal funds.

Staff members from several congressional offices soon began to reach out to NASP® and hunter education organizations and others to gain insight on the impact of these programs on millions of school-age students. Conservation groups and Directors of Fish and Wildlife agencies soon developed talking points on the value of these programs on the future of conservation efforts and advised federal legislators on possible solutions.

Parents, grandparents, foster families, and mentors of all kinds also began contacting their federal representatives to explain what these programs have done and continue to do for their students. They begged for solutions to this new barrier potentially blocking the expansion of these valuable programs.

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The groundswell of support for a solution might have begun as a trickle, but soon became a mighty unified voice from urban, suburban, and rural origins. For weeks, the developing situation was covered daily by multiple media outlets.

Finally, legislators acted. Support started flowing from both sides of the political aisles and legislators began drafting bills to submit for potential resolutions. One piece of legislation, HR5110, rose above all others with support from the nation's most respected conservation and shooting sports organizations. HR5110 established language where federal funds could be used for the promotion of hunter education and youth shooting sports such as NASP®. Once HR5110 was introduced in the house, it passed rapidly with only one opposing vote. The bill quickly passed in the consent agenda of the senate and a few days later, the president signed it into law.

HR5110 became one of the most rapidly approved legislative actions related to the shooting sports in recent times. In a nation divided on issues involving guns, gun violence and student safety, why did archery instruction and hunter education matter so much to so many people from so many walks of life?

The answer lies in a simple truth: Archery and the shooting sports are transformative in the lives of the young people who participate. Millions of students receive instruction in archery, shotgun, rifle, air rifle, and hunter education across the nation every year. These programs provide multiple benefits to young people including:

- A lifelong understanding of the paramount need for safety.
- An understanding of the need for personal accountability and responsibility.
- A foundation in the value and promotion of sportsmanship and ethics.
- Persistence through the process where marksmanship skills develop.
- Experience in dealing with pressure from various competitions.
- The value of becoming a contributing member of a team—many for the first time.
- A lifelong commitment to the value of conservation and the continuation of the outdoor lifestyle.

Students acquire these benefits through interaction with a coach, mentor or sponsor who often volunteers their time to work with students in the shooting sports or in hunter education instruction. Millions of adults in communities large and small give of their time and effort to work with young people in these disciplines. They develop long lasting relationships and become someone of relevance. Through the instruction of various disciplines over the course of weeks or months, they help students not only become proficient in their chosen discipline, but they soon help many make academic and behavioral improvements. They form relationships that outlast graduation and transcend into adulthood.

Perhaps, it was this “truth” alone that led so many individuals to contact their federal representative. Perhaps they knew that through their time with kids in the shooting sports, they were making a difference with students that otherwise might not have anyone else in that role. Perhaps they simply wanted as many students as possible to have the opportunity to experience what they had seen —transformative positive change through participation in archery and other shooting sports. Perhaps, it was this “truth” that brought red and blue together, Democrat and Republican.

From our perspective, this situation embodies what may still be the best of America; it demonstrates how people of different perspectives can unite to eliminate barriers for students. We believe that this situation illustrates just how deeply Americans care about the future of conservation and the preservation of the youth shooting sports.

On behalf of all the 1.3 million active student archers, as well as the millions of students that now have an easier path to be introduced to NASP®, THANK YOU to everyone who helped to develop this resolution!

Thomas G. Floyd Ed.D.
President



"The confidence, discipline and skills they learn are so valuable. I would recommend this program many times over. I have seen my children grow from quiet kids to being outgoing and sociable. It has also helped motivate their grades."

- Kristin Skillman



Everyone feels welcome in archery.

Archery is the most inclusive program, with students from every socioeconomic background, race, and family situation. Everyone is able to succeed!"

- Jamie Campbell, Principal, Paul Blazer High School



Berklie was nervous going into middle school—the confidence and connections gained through participating in archery will last long beyond her school years."

- Lauren and Shawn Plemons



"Archery gives a sense of belonging to kids who don't feel they belong at school. Kids who join archery make new friendships - it is an opportunity to be a leader and shine."

- Matt Thornhill, principal, Wiliam Natcher elementary school Bowling Green, Kentucky

BY THE NUMBERS

NASP® in-school growth is off the charts!

With the pandemic years behind us, NASP® participation numbers have rebounded to pre-pandemic levels with the number of new schools growing significantly!



21
MILLION
PARTICIPANTS
Since Inception -
Grades 4-12

2022-2023
1.3
MILLION
STUDENTS

8,967
Participating
Schools
1,346
NEW SCHOOLS

2022-2023
17,713
NASP® Trained Instructors
104,650
Trained Since Inception

TOP PARTICIPATING STATES

Number of Participants

TOP 10 STATES

Kentucky	141,908
Missouri	81,475
Indiana	75,830
Texas	68,050
Wisconsin	40,427
Iowa	48,949
Virginia	48,401
Ohio	45,356
New York	41,671
Alabama	34,095

Participating Schools

TOP 5 STATES

Kentucky	805
Missouri	630
Texas	563
Indiana	401
Oklahoma	335

I really believe in archery in the schools.

The thing about archery - it's not exclusive for anyone. Money for equipment makes no difference, every student with NASP® has the same bow without bells and whistles. Everyone can do it and the group melds together. Archery is a lifetime sport, so parents get involved with their kids. It teaches kids respect, control - and the kids so enjoy it!"

David Bagley, Retired Superintendent,
Antwerp Local Schools, Ohio

NASP® Growth in After-School Competition is Amazing.



TOP 10 STATES

2022-2023
Competition
Participants

Kentucky	8,567
Missouri	3,734
Oklahoma	3,400
Texas	3,296
Indiana	2,221
Alabama	2,100
Arkansas	2,032
Iowa	1,865
Ohio	1,790
Minnesota	1,682

2023 COMPETITION

1,687 Tournaments

101,604 Unique Tournament Competitors

542,420 Scores Recorded

2023 ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT

Total 2023 Economic Impact from all three national events:

\$12,973,537.00

See below for data on how Impact was derived.

MYRTLE BEACH:

The 2023 NASP® Championship was held in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina which resulted in an estimated economic impact of \$2.2 million to the area!

SALT LAKE CITY:

The U.S. Western National Tournament, held in Salt Lake City, Utah, generated an estimated economic impact to the region of \$2,624,047!

LOUISVILLE:

The U.S. Eastern National Championship, the largest of the three national tournaments, generated an estimated economic impact for Louisville, Kentucky of \$8,149,490!

2024 NASP® National Tournaments

US WESTERN NATIONALS

April 26 - 27 (Friday - Sat) - Sandy, Utah

US EASTERN NATIONALS

May 9 - 11 (Thurs - Sat) - Louisville, Kentucky

THE NASP® CHAMPIONSHIP

June 6 - 8 (Thurs - Sat) - Daytona, Florida

Changing lives, one arrow at a time.

What started as an effort to grow archery and motivate young people to learn a life skill and outdoor recreation quietly transformed into a life changing in-school activity that brought out the best in students and reached students that had previously been hard to reach.



Student participation is literally

**50%-50%
MALE/FEMALE**

and they participate together



58%

OF STUDENTS

say they feel more connected with their school, thanks to NASP®



40%

OF STUDENTS

report that they are more engaged in the classroom, thanks to NASP®

Belonging

"I come from a military family, so I have moved around and had to make new friends in new places. When I made the archery team, I felt like I finally belonged somewhere. With the help of archery, I started to meet people, not only at my school but in my community, and I quickly started to feel less alone.

Bryleigh McKeithan

Inclusive

"Something that is important about NASP® is inclusiveness. Regardless of a person's physical abilities or backgrounds, they are still able to compete with other students. This helps us all gain more confidence around other people."

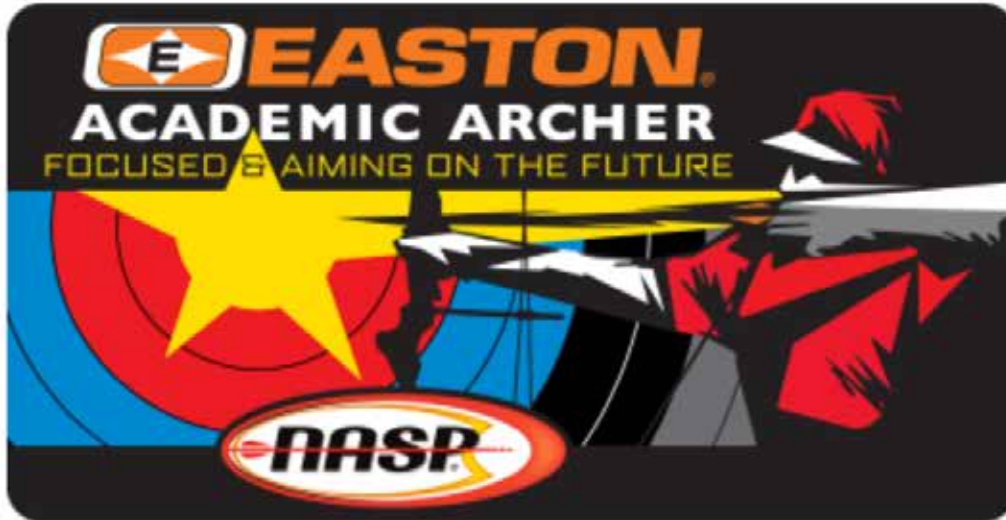
Grace Groves

Leadership

"In all my years shooting archery, I would have never guessed that I would get this involved. The reason why I got so involved in archery is because of my coach. He has pushed me out of my comfort zone and allowed me to enhance my leadership skills."

Nadine Davis

NASP® cares about learning in the classroom!



How did AA get started? In November of 2015, National NASP® leadership and a group of NASP® educators and students met to discuss ways to further enhance the almost 22 year old program. One recommendation was to establish a uniform incentive and recognition format to recognize and promote academic achievement among participating NASP® students.

The Academic Archer program was established to recognize student success in the classroom as well as on the archery range.



In November of 2015, National NASP® leadership and a group of NASP® educators and students met to discuss ways to further enhance the program. One recommendation was to establish a uniform incentive and recognition format to recognize and promote academic achievement among participating NASP® students. That's how the annual Academic Achievement Awards came to be.

Knowing that students love shooting NASP®, educators can use this love of archery to promote and recognize better outcomes in the classroom. Many times, students who are on the “bubble” of performing better academically find archery as the reason to give the extra effort needed succeed academically. The Academic Achievement Awards recognize those students who achieve both in the classroom as well as on the shooting line.

NASP® Schools that participate in the Academic Achievement Program can utilize the downloadable Academic Archer certificates to recognize their student-archers during their annual academic awards ceremonies.

NASP® recognizes the special people involved in the program and encourages giving back.

On Target For Life is the NASP® recognition program that allows us to recognize and celebrate the special people that do special things as part of NASP®.



We've created six unique award categories that allow us to bring the deserved attention to these special students, teams, coaches, volunteers and alumni. The candidates are nominated by those around them and their story is submitted to NASP® for consideration. All of the winners are then presented their On Target For Life Awards prior to the National Tournament Award Presentation

- 1 Community Service Award (Team Award)
- 2 Bullseye Award (Student Award)
- 3 Superhero Award (Volunteer Award)
- 4 Courage Award (Student Award)
- 5 Outstanding Alumni Award (Alumni Award)
- 6 Coach of the Year (Coach/Educator Award)



Two of the most popular youth archery organizations, the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®) and Scholastic 3-D Archery (S3DA®), partnered together for a second year to host a virtual fundraiser to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The two programs partnered together during the month of January and encouraged all schools, clubs, and teams to participate. Donations were made by archers, parents, family and friends in the name of the school or team on the tournament website.

This virtual event raised an astounding \$16,980.62 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This is yet another example of archery saving lives one arrow at a time!

NASP® President Dr. Tommy Floyd said, "We continue to enjoy our collaboration with S3DA and again we worked together and provided a 'win' for the kids of St. Jude. We look forward to future opportunities to work together, and we certainly hope other youth shooting sport organizations will join us in future efforts to help the kids of St. Jude. We know that participants in the shooting sports love to help others."

"It's always an honor to work alongside industry partners such as NASP® for the recognition and support of great organizations like St. Jude. S3DA is proud to collaborate with them and we challenge all other organizations to join us in our efforts. When we work together, nothing is impossible!"

Holly Helton, S3DA® Executive Director,

Making a difference in the lives of students, so they can make a difference in the world.

Each year a shoot-off is held at the NASP® Championship with scholarships being awarded to the top 5 male and female archers from the national tournaments.



\$5,000 each for 1st place female and male

\$4,000 each for 2nd place female and male

\$3,000 each for 3rd place female and male

\$2,000 each for 4th place female and male

\$1,000 each for 5th place female and male

\$1,000 each other if there are ties.

In addition, 20 participants are awarded random \$500 scholarships.

At Nationals (Eastern and Western combined), scholarships are also awarded to the members of the top three teams:

Up to 24 1st place High School team members will receive a **\$1,000 scholarship.**

Up to 24 2nd place High School team members will receive a **\$750 scholarship.**

Up to 24 3rd place High School team members will receive a **\$500 scholarship.**

Additionally, 100 random \$500 scholarships are awarded to participants.

Finally, NASP® matches state tournament scholarships up to \$10,000 per state.

In 2022-2023, twelve states took advantage of this \$10k match!

TEXAS, KENTUCKY,
LOUISIANA, INDIANA,
SOUTH CAROLINA, MISSOURI,
IOWA, VIRGINIA, FLORIDA,
NORTH DAKOTA,
MINNESOTA, MISSISSIPPI

NASP® brings more people into the lifelong sport of Archery!



It is no accident that archery has grown significantly since the inception of NASP®.

Since 2002, the year NASP® was founded, overall archery participation in the U.S. has grown from 7 million to 19.2 million. While there are certainly many other factors, we have no doubt that NASP® has helped to contribute to this remarkable growth.

18% of NASP® ARCHERS introduce family members to archery

66% of NASP® PARTICIPANTS are first-time archers



The 2023 NASP® Eastern National Tournament was one of the world's largest archery tournaments ever!

14,079
PARTICIPANTS



IBO 3D CHALLENGE

In 2013, NASP® introduced the IBO 3D Challenge featuring 3D targets. 2,000 student archers participated that year. By 2023, that number has grown to a record 72,699.

Unquestionably the 3D challenge is a stepping stone to participation in 3D archery and well as bowhunting.

2023 Record Participation

72,699

NASP[®] brings more people into the outdoors.



91% OF STUDENTS
pursue other outdoor activities thanks to NASP[®]

NASP[®] encourages young people to get into the active outdoors!

An independent survey of NASP[®] participants found that their involvement in NASP[®] had a dramatic impact in their propensity to participate in other outdoor related activities.*

CONSERVATION IMPACT	Have Participated	Want to Participate
Other outdoor activities	66%	25%
Fish with a rod and reel	43%	15%
Bought a non-NASP [®] bow	39%	34%
Take hunter education course	24%	27%
Small game hunt	19%	29%
Big game hunt with firearm	19%	26%
Bullseye archery other than NASP [®]	14%	28%
3-D archery competition	17%	32%
Bowhunt	17%	33%
Bowfish	8%	37%



"The NBEF is steadfast in its alliance with NASP[®] and is dedicated to supporting the program's continued growth and success. We recognize the merits of this initiative and its capacity to introduce young archers to bowhunting."

Marilyn Bentz, Executive Director
National Bowhunter Education Foundation



"NASP[®] is a proven program introducing youth of all backgrounds to the exciting sport of archery. Archery teaches many positive benefits of self-discipline, dedication, teamwork and persistence to set and accomplish goals. We are proud to partner with the National Archery in the Schools Program."

Bob Ziehmer, Senior Director of Conservation
Bass Pro Shops

OUR SPONSORS

Diamond Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



Partners



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Bring NASP® to your School.

Take steps to learn if NASP® is the right program for your school and how to implement NASP® curriculum.

STEP 1

Seek leadership or administration support & approval.

We have found the most beneficial NASP® programs start with the full support of the school administration.

Your interest in bringing NASP® to a new school can aid in improving educational performance amongst students by introducing life lessons required to be successful in the classroom and in life. We believe NASP® is especially attractive to previously underserved student populations. The school principal's familiarity with staff may be key to identifying the "ideal" educator to run the required in-school program.

STEP 2

Select passionate educators to lead NASP® lessons.

NASP®, like educators, is passionate about helping kids. NASP® archery lessons provide a new avenue to positively engage students, and has proven to engage a demographic of students that have yet to be reached.

NASP® lessons are normally conducted in Physical Education, but also have curriculum designed for Social Studies and Mathematics. Physical, emotional and social benefits can be gained from archery. In addition, safety strategies, skills and archery techniques necessary to participate in, and enjoy, archery as a lifetime activity will be fully addressed.

STEP 3

With administrator approval, register educators and volunteers who will instruct archery.

Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) certification was developed for instructors to present NASP® lessons that are safe for students, instructors, bystanders, and the facility.

This training will show you how to safely set up the range, teach the program and maintain equipment.

It is always a good idea to train multiple people at a school. In addition to the teacher that will be teaching the archery class in school, you can also train interested parents, coaches (for an after-school program/team), and other faculty at the school.

STEP 4

Order equipment, set-up your range and start shooting!

NASP® makes it simple for programs to find all of the approved equipment in one place. Using the Create a Quote function on the website, you can find the combination of equipment that works best for your school. Your order can then be submitted to NASP® online or by filling out the proper forms.

Equipment grants and fundraiser opportunities are available to help your program get started