How to Train Your Horse for Horseback Archery

Kassai Lajos
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Introduction

This paper is being written at the request of the West Kingdom Equestrian Group. At the July 2005 meeting in Cynagua the potential for competing in horseback archery at events was discussed. As my husband and I have been training our own horses for horseback archery through the last several years we encouraged the group to try it! We developed our own desensitization techniques and schedule for each of our mares based on their individual abilities and utilized/adapted the horseback archery techniques found in Kassai Lajos’ book on the subject. At the close of the July 2005 meeting we were asked to produce a training guide for horseback archery. So here it is!

Limitations

Both of our horses had a significant amount of groundwork under their girths before we even considered training them (and ourselves!) for horseback archery. In light of this, keep in mind while reading that we are only two people working with two specific horses that we have owned and trained for many years. We are intimately familiar with the ways they each learn and retain new information and to a degree can anticipate the reactions each will have under various circumstances. We are very cautious when attempting to train them in any new activity, taking it slower than some others might, but find that it leads to better comprehension and acceptance.

Before you consider training your horse in horseback archery utilizing some or all of the following steps, take some time to imagine your horse and its possible reactions to each of the steps. In this way, being honest with yourself about your horses’ training level, abilities and short-comings will better prepare you to modify the steps to best suit your situation. Also, as you view the photos included in this document, note that the horses used are already trained to horseback archery and so will only show you the reactions from an archery-desensitized horse, not the reactions of a horse that is new to the activities described.

Evaluation

Now on to the DO NOTS for the steps described herein as applied to your own situation:

1) do not try this until you are proficient at shooting a bow at a stationary target from two feet (your own!),
2) do not try this if, when you introduce something new to your horse, he/she spooks easily, you will need to do more desensitizing before trying these steps,
3) do not attempt any of the steps if your and/or the horses’ safety are being threatened, and
4) do not forget that no matter how well you know your horse, he/she is still a prey animal with instincts to react that can not always be adequately anticipated.

With these items firmly in mind, now is your chance to decide if you and your horse are ready for this… if so, read on!

Time

There is no set time for this training and as we all know rushing training just gets everyone in trouble! To be on the safe side, I would recommend that you take a couple of weeks to introduce this activity, effectively desensitizing your horse to every step before moving on. Then be sure to repeat the steps for each training session to reinforce the calm acceptance your horse will develop (see Appendix A for a sample training schedule).
You
You must be comfortable with shooting a bow from the ground on your own two feet, and ideally you will have also practiced either walking and shooting at a stationary target, sitting on a moveable object and shooting at a stationary target (such as a barrel suspended by ropes to simulate a seated position on horseback) or shooting while stationary at a moving target (such as a plastic bottle set swinging in front of your archery target).

You must be capable of maintaining control with an independent seat and leg cues, not relying totally on rein aids.

You must be willing and able to drop your bow by dropping it down to your left (if you are a “righty” otherwise to your right for a “lefty”) in case your horse requires two hands at any time during this training. For this reason, it may be best to practice and desensitize with an inexpensive bow!

Your Horse
You must evaluate the temperament of your horse. Before attempting horseback archery your horse should:

- not be jumpy or spooky!
- tie without spooking and pulling back,
- lead and stand calmly when asked,
- be desensitized to touch, noise and movement on both sides of their body,
- be easily controlled when they do get spooked,
- stand still while you are mounted (preferably on a loose rein),
- move under saddle with light leg cues, and be able to sidepass to some degree,
- maintain a steady gait,
- neck rein (though this isn’t strictly necessary, it is key to making the process much more pleasurable!).

If your horse spooks when it encounters something that moves and makes noise, you need to do more despooking/desensitizing exercises before attempting horseback archery. My recommendation would be to obtain some of Clinton Anderson’s training videos or books. We have found that Clinton’s methods work very well for us and our horses. As an aside, we bought the buckskin mare in the photos when she was four years old, only to find out later that she had respect issues, bucked, kicked and reared!!! After several months of little progress we attended the Horse Expo in Sacramento and watched Clinton work with several outside horses during the weekend. Several of the horses had the same respect issues my mare had, and let me tell you, after a week or two of using his methods at home I had a whole new horse! She has turned in to the best little mare and I have to credit Clinton’s methods (I have worked for multiple trainers in California and Nevada and few of the skills I had gained under them prepared me to deal with her issues)!

Equipment

Bows
I will not go into much detail on the types of bows that are available, there is a lot of information out there on horseback archery and everyone will have their own preferences (see Appendix B for a listing of helpful websites). I will suggest that you do not use a long bow as they are so long as to guarantee you will not only be bumping your horse in the side when you shoot, but you will not be able to get a full draw from the bow due to the positioning of your body in relation to the horse while shooting. Ideally, a bow made for horseback archery would be best, but these can be expensive and if you are just wanting to try horseback archery you probably won’t want to commit to that expense at first. Dafydd uses a horseback bow that is fairly short and as you will see in the photos, does not bang the horse at all! I use a traditional recurve that is 69” long and as you will see in the photos, it can bang into my horse if I am not careful, and in order to get a
full draw I have to angle the bow. You will also find that a lighter poundage bow is better for horseback archery than a heavier draw, Kassai recommends no greater than a 35 lb draw due to the stress on your body in achieving the correct shooting positions and the vast number of arrows you will be shooting from horseback to get it right!

Figure 1. Photo of traditional recurve on top and horsebow on bottom. Note: they have similar length when strung but you will see in the following photos that the draw on them is much different.

**Arrows**

Arrows with blunts won’t snake through the grass and are much easier to find when you miss your target. A sheet of heavy woven fabric painter’s tarp makes for a great backstop behind your hay bale or other type of target but actually archery netting is better. When hanging the tarp, be sure to let a couple of feet drag the ground, draped out behind the target to provide a deadening effect on the velocity of the arrows. The drape allows the arrows to hit the backstop without puncturing it and then slide down and drop to the ground for easy retrieval. You will want a substantial number of arrows to allow you to shoot a bunch before having to get off and retrieve (unless you have an assistant handy to retrieve them for you!).

**Quivers**

Kassai does not use an arrow quiver, this is his preference because he is focused on speed shooting and a quiver will only reduce shooting efficiency. Since we are not replicating his shooting arrangements and are not timing our runs (yet), we have both tried a variety of quiver positions and arrow holding. We have found that three arrows (or more depending on your bow grip and hand size) can be held in the bow hand in front of the bow with the nock end closest to the draw hand (this is the way Kassai does it). However, I do not think that is the safest way to travel with sharp-pointy objects while mounted on a prey animal!

I have a six-arrow quiver with straps long enough to either tie to my belt, hang from my saddle, strap to my back or strap to my calf. Dafydd has a 8-10 arrow quiver that he can either strap to his saddle or tie to his belt. We have found various difficulties with all of the options, when tied to your belt your quiver full of arrows could become very dangerous in case of a fall and can create difficulties when mounting. Tied to your saddle, it can become dangerous in case your horse falls. Strapped to your leg (in my case it is my right calf to accommodate my right-handed draw), it can become dangerous in case of a fall and can also create difficulties during mounting (I mount from the “off-side” when using my quiver this way). Strapped to your back, it could also become dangerous in case of a fall, but for me this isn’t much of an option since the bottom of the quiver bangs on the saddle making for difficult arrow draw when moving anyway!
Targets
There are as many types of targets as there are archers, but I will give you several examples we have experience with to get you started. For shooting from horseback, it is ideal to have the center of the target about 5-6 feet from the ground. You can try:

- Stacked hay bales with the target bale(s) angled upwards (if you want to practice all three shooting positions, you can angle three bales around a central position)
- Burlap rounds set in an A-frame stand (the rounds can be purchased by archery suppliers or made by hand by stuffing burlap sacks with tightly rolled straw)
- Plywood or OSB piece with a hole cut in it and a clay pigeon or a tin/aluminum pie pan held behind (these make a satisfying noise when you hit the target with a blunt).

Figure 2. Diagram of archery target set up in front of backstop frame. Dark red line represents the woven tarp that is draped in the direction the arrows are going (see next photo).

Figure 3. Photo of the burlap round and woven backstop we use.

An Assistant
Training a horse to accept horseback archery is a challenge that can be compounded by the lack of an available assistant. You will find a capable assistant a great asset during this training. A capable assistant is one that is comfortable with horses, can ‘read’ a horse’s body language and react appropriately and can follow directions.

Desensitizing the Horse by Shooting Nearby
While working to desensitize your horse throughout the following steps, be sure to make big movements and noise, your horse must become accustomed to all of the actions of archery and though archery is not a particularly noisy sport, you may find that you slap your pants to clear your hand of dust/sweat or you may fumble your quiver and make some noise doing it. It is important that the horse be desensitized to the whole package right from the start.

**Step 1.**
To get your horse accustomed to the noise and movement inherent in archery, you have a couple of options depending on your situation, you may be able to shoot outside of the pen/corral/pasture the horse lives in or you may be able to put them in a portable pen and shoot outside of that… the idea behind these choices is to allow the horse to find its own comfort level with the noise and movement by allowing it to move to the far side of the pen or to move closer to satisfy its curiosity. Just be sure not to crowd the horse by beginning to shoot while standing too close to the pen, start farther away and gradually get closer.

**Note:** you must be sure that you are not shooting your bow in a direction that will injure anyone or anything… you may even want to do this with blunts as they reduce the danger and do not travel or “snake” as far when you miss the target and they make more noise when they hit than a regular target arrow does.

![Figure 4. “Hunny” and her 4 month old filly “Brigid” being desensitized to archery while having the freedom to move towards me or away from me depending on their comfort and interest level.](image)

**Step 2.**
Once your horse is no longer showing any interest or reaction to you shooting near them while they are free to move about in a pen, you can move on to tying the horse while you continue to shoot near them (and as before you should start further away and work your way closer as they relax). Be sure to spend lots of time at this step to insure your desensitization is successful.
Step 3.
Have an assistant hold your horse inside the area where you are shooting. Obviously, you will want to be shooting in a direction away from the horse! Ideally, you would get the horse comfortable with you shooting near them while they face you and then progress to getting them comfortable with you shooting all the way around them (by moving the horse, not the target!) *No photo of this activity due to the limitations of my skills with timed photography!* Then you may want to proceed to tying the horse securely inside the area where you are shooting.
Figure 7. “Hunny” is tied to the fence inside the arena, getting more desensitized to archery.

How do you like that arrow quiver?!

Desensitization to Archery Equipment (Both Right and Left Brains)

The next step is to either have an assistant hold the horse for you or hold it yourself while you proceed to introduce the new equipment to the horse. Do not tie the horse to do this step and do not stand immediately in front of the horse. This requires you and the assistant to be sensitive to the reactions of the horse. If any piece of the equipment makes the horse uncomfortable, you can use the ‘approach and retreat’ method of training (see Clinton Anderson reference above). This is a very efficient and easy way of training a horse to remain calm during new experiences. Basically, you teach the horse to stand still during this exercise by ‘approaching’ the horse with the bow, giving the horse the opportunity to smell it and check it out, then as it continues to stand calmly, you remove the bow or ‘retreat’. The key to using the approach and retreat method is to incrementally approach the horse until you find a spot that they are not comfortable with and then not to retreat until the horse stands still. Then retreat and give the horse a mental break. Approach the horse again, and then retreat, as the horse learns that the pressure of the approach will be released when they remain calm, they will remain calm for longer and longer periods of time.

**Step 4.**
Be sure to desensitize with the bow, arrow, quiver, arm guard and any gloves or tabs you use as all of these items can move, make noise and/or smell unusual to the horse. And remember, desensitize both sides of the horse since when you change sides you effectively change brains!

Don’t forget to desensitize the horse to the feel of the bow and quiver touching their rumps!
Figure 8. Dafydd is desensitizing “Hunny” to the bow itself by allowing her to check it out of her own volition.

Figure 9. Introducing the bow to the “left brain” by letting “Hunny” check it out first and then rubbing the bow along her neck and shoulders.
Step 5.
Now you are ready to pretend to shoot the bow while standing near the horses’ head. Have an assistant hold the lead while you stand off to the side and pull the bow back a few times. Watch for a reaction from the horse and if it is showing concern, you have not done enough desensitizing. Hopefully, at this point, the horse will be standing quietly showing no concern with your actions.

Step 6.
Now, hold the lead yourself and pretend to shoot the bow while standing off to the side and near the horse’s head. Be vary aware of what your horse is doing, this is one of the most vulnerable positions to be in as it requires you to face away from your horse while pretending to shoot. You can skip this step if you feel
uncomfortable with the position since the previous step of having an assistant hold the horse should provide you with enough information on how the horse is going to react and what you may have to work on more.

Figure 12. Dafydd is not actually shooting his bow, but is pulling it back and watching for “Hunny” to react. (Dafydd is not standing directly in front of the mare as this picture seems to show, but is standing off to her left side and the lead rope is simply tucked into his pocket).

Step 7.
You should now be able to move on to actually shooting the bow while an assistant holds the lead and again watches for any reaction from the horse.

If this step garners no reaction from the horse you can move on to holding the horse yourself while actually taking practice shots. Be very careful here, this position requires you to look away from the horse while taking aim and shooting… if you have a horse that is not standing quietly at this point, do not proceed to this step as they could potentially step in front of you and be hurt by the arrow!
Desensitizing the Horse to Mounted Shooting

Step 7.
Once steps 1-6 are completed and you feel that both you and your horse are ready... you should mount. Have an assistant hand the bow/arrow to you so that you can do additional desensitizing while mounted. The horse will need to be comfortable with the bow and any accoutrements you may have (i.e. arrows, arrow quiver, bow quiver) as seen from above them, from either side and touching their rump.
Step 8.
Remember when I mentioned in the evaluation section that you have to be willing to drop your bow in an emergency? Well, now is the time to desensitize your horse to the potential for this activity too. Otherwise dropping a bow while your horse is upset and has not been desensitized to the motion, will only aggravate your situation. For this, we use a broom stick (but you can use your bow or whatever you like) and practice dropping it straight out to our left (or right if you are a “lefty”).
Figures 16 & 17. In these pictures I am practicing dropping the stick and getting “Hunny” to stand calmly and relaxed throughout the motion.

Step 9.
Now you are ready to try pretend shooting again… draw the bow repeatedly without releasing an arrow. Watch for any reaction from the horse. The handler should be watching the horse, not you!

Figure 18. Desensitizing “Hunny” to the sound and movement of the bow being drawn from above.

Mounted Archery Shooting Positions

Before we proceed to actually shooting off the horse, I will briefly describe the most common shooting positions from horseback (based on Kassai Lajos’ style). There are three positions we use to shoot from on horseback, the first requires the horse to be at an angle of 25 to 45 degrees to the target. Be aware that in order to shoot from these three positions successfully, you must have an independent seat! You twist for the last two shots from the waist up, your hips, legs and rear must remain facing forward.
Figure 19. First horseback position, shooting to the left and front of the horse (at some angle less than 90 degrees to the horse or target). This is the position you shoot from as you are approaching the target.

Figure 20. Second horseback position, shooting to the left of the horse (at a 90 degree angle from the horse to the target). This is the position you shoot from when you are even with the target.

Figure 21. Third and final horseback position, shooting to the left and rear of the horse (at some angle greater than 90 degrees to the horse or target). This is the position you shoot from as you are passing the target.

Mounted Shooting

Step 10.
With your assistant still holding the calm horse, try shooting one arrow. Watch for any reaction. The most common reaction at this stage, if you have almost done enough desensitizing, is a slight head lift when the arrow leaves the bow above the horse. If all is well, continue to shoot arrows until the horse is no longer reacting at all.
Step 11.
Try shooting the bow without your assistant holding the horse. This requires a horse that is calm, willing and has been trained to stand still (preferably on a loose rein).
Figure 23. Shooting without an assistant, with reins looped over horn within easy reach. Note: Dafydd is not shooting directly over her head as this picture seems to indicate, but is shooting slightly off to the left as in the first position diagramed above.
Figure 24. Shooting perpendicular to the line of the horses’ body. The second position diagramed above.

Figure 25. Different photo angle of second shooting position.
Figure 26. Shooting to the rear. Third and final position as diagramed above.
Note: Dafydd’s independent seat and that the outside lower leg/heel is not making contact with the horse.

Figure 27. Preparing to shoot to the rear.
Figure 28. Shooting to the rear on a calm horse.

Note: again, Dafydd’s lower leg/heels are not making contact.

Arrow Retrieval

Step 12.
After shooting from horseback successfully, you will need to retrieve your arrows. Do this with the safety of the horse in mind. The mare in these photos will sidepass up to the target to allow you to retrieve from the saddle, but this is not very safe especially for an inexperienced horse. This is an item that is not discussed in the books we have read and while there have been no accidents from us retrieving from the saddle we suggest not doing it to prevent poking them with the nock-end of the arrows sticking from the target.
Figure 29. Retrieving arrows with safety of horse in mind.
Note: woven cloth backstop draped to the rear to aid in missed arrow retrieval.

**Mounted and Moving Archery**

**Step 13.**
Now you and your horse should be ready to shoot while mounted and while moving! You can choose to have an assistant lead the horse at the walk and maybe even trot while you shoot as an extra safety precaution. Or if you feel confident enough, you can choose to ride the horse at a walk and eventually a trot while you practice. Remember to place your reins in such a manner that they are easily accessible in case you need them in a hurry!

One of the training options we had available at the time we started on the moving part of mounted archery was to place our portable round-pen inside the arena and set up the target and backstop outside of the round-pen but inside the arena. This setup allowed us to ride the horse at a constant speed in a confined area while shooting out into the arena. The other option we had would have involved partitioning the arena off with rope and barrels that would allow us to have the same freedom of movement without actually being next to the target. These options were particularly appealing after the birth of both foals in May as it allowed us to take advantage of the foals’ dependence on their dams to desensitize them to archery without endangering them by allowing them to run free near the target!

We have also set up various lanes with ropes to teach the horse to travel in a straight line or an arc.
Note the difference in the two bows Dafydd and I use for horseback archery in the following photos. Dafydd’s horsebow is shorter and compresses further down when drawn and poses much less of a threat of accidental bumping of the horse than my traditional recurve.

Figure 30. Here I am walking “Hunny” on a loose rein while I shoot over the railing at the target. This allows me to not worry about her taking off while I shoot and lets me reinforce her response to my leg aids by keeping her just the right distance from the rail.

Figure 31. Another shot of me walking “Hunny” in the round-pen while shooting outside of it at the target. Note my attempt to twist my upper body only while allowing my legs to remain loose.
Figure 32. Dafydd is shooting in the first position from “Dusty” while she is walking with no barrier between them and the target.

Figure 33. Dafydd is shooting in the third position on “Dusty” while she walks around the arena. Note: he is also further desensitizing “Hunny” who is at liberty in the round-pen as he practices.
One side-note: the SCA rules for mounted archery (at this time) require that a beginner walk the horse, an intermediate rider trot the horse and an advanced rider lope the horse for this sport… I am going to tell you right now that trotting and shooting a bow is far more difficult than either walking or loping and shooting a bow. This is simply due to the differences in the rhythm of the gaits (and ignores the application of gaited horses!). A lope has a brief pause after the third beat when all four feet are suspended, that is the best time to shoot. At a trot there is no pause in the four beats before they repeat, making it very difficult to find a “flat spot” to shoot from. I have overcome this challenge by standing up in my stirrups during the trot or by requesting my mare do a “western pleasure” type jog and Dafydd has developed a slow trot in his mustang that works for him, but does not like to stand in the stirrups as I prefer.

While training your horse for horseback archery, always be aware of what is going on around you… don’t worry about shooting accurately and precisely every time you approach the target, the most important thing at this stage is to be aware of your horses’ comfort level and respond to it appropriately. As your horse becomes more and more comfortable with this new “sport” (aka another weird idea from those humans!) you will be able to work on your accuracy and precision.

That pretty much sums up our experience with training our horses to accept horseback archery. We are now working on arranging a running practice area on our property that will allow us to lope the horses through a variety of terrain and differing levels of archery targets. If you read Kassai’s book, you will see that he focuses on straight line rundowns at great speed. This level is probably beyond the capabilities of this SCA group as we seldom have that kind of space available at events!

Hopefully, you will be able to adapt these methods for your own horses’ particular talents and we’ll get to compete at this someday!

And ‘til we meet on the field, keep practicing and enjoying your partnership with your horse!
When we trained our mares using this method we took many months, not because we couldn’t do it faster, but because we wanted it to be stress-free (and fit into our work schedules!). I would recommend that you take at least several weeks to introduce this activity, effectively and thoroughly desensitizing your horse to every step before moving on. Then be sure to repeat the steps for each training session to reinforce the calm acceptance your horse will develop. So a sample training session may go like this:

Weeks 1-2:
- Shoot bow near horse while he/she is loose in a corral for 15 minutes or until horse is calm and accepting.

Weeks 3-5:
- Shoot bow near horse while he/she is loose in a corral for 10 minutes.
- Tie horse facing you while you shoot the bow for 15 minutes (start out at a good distance, work closer as horse remains calm).
- Untie the horse and introduce the archery equipment one piece at a time, allow the horse to examine each piece.
- Rub the horse with the equipment, being sure to show both “brains”.

Weeks 6-8:
- Shoot bow near horse while he/she is loose in a corral for 5 minutes.
- Tie horse facing you while you shoot the bow for 10 minutes (start out a good distance, work closer as horse remains calm).
- Untie the horse and introduce the equipment one piece at a time again allowing the horse to examine each piece.
- Rub the horse with the equipment on both sides.
- Have handler hold horse behind and to the side while you shoot in front for 10 minutes.
- Have handler hold horse behind and to the side and turned slightly away from you while you shoot in front for 15 minutes.

Weeks 9-11:
- Shoot bow near horse while he/she is loose in a corral for 3 minutes.
- Tie horse facing you while you shoot the bow for another 5 minutes.
- Untie the horse and introduce the equipment one piece at a time again allowing the horse to examine each piece.
- Rub the horse with the equipment on both sides.
- Have handler hold horse behind and to the side while you shoot in front for 5 minutes.
- Have handler hold horse behind and to the side and turned slightly away from you while you shoot in front for 10 minutes.
- Mount horse and pretend to shoot several times while handler watches for any reaction.
- Shoot off horse once while handler watches for any reaction.
- Shoot off horse a bunch until horse ignores/doesn’t react to the action.

Weeks 12-14:
- Untie the horse and introduce the equipment one piece at a time again allowing the horse to examine each piece.
- Rub the horse with the equipment on both sides.
- Have handler hold horse behind and to the side while you shoot in front for 3 minutes.
- Mount horse and pretend to shoot a couple times while handler watches for any reaction.
- Shoot off horse several times while handler watches for any reaction.
- Shoot off horse a bunch until horse ignores/doesn’t react to the action.
- Have handler walk horse while you shoot off it.
- Practice all three positions shooting with handler walking horse.

Weeks 15-18:
- Hold saddled horse (either handler or yourself) and shoot from the ground.
- Shoot off horse a bunch until horse ignores/doesn’t react to the action.
- Have handler walk horse while you shoot off it a bunch.
- Practice all three positions shooting with handler walking horse
- Have handler trot horse while you try to shoot off it (try to get the first position, facing forward down before you try the others at the trot).
- Now you take the reins and try walking the horse and shooting off it.
- Now progress to trotting and shooting from horseback

Weeks 19, 20, 21… repeat whatever steps you deem necessary to reinforce the calm acceptance of the horse with the archery action. Then move on to going faster, lope and gallop if you dare!

As a side note, when Dafydd started working with his BLM mustang mare “Dusty” for horseback archery, he took it very slow. He spent about two weeks just shooting in the arena with her tied up outside. He then spent another two weeks shooting inside the arena with “Dusty” on a lead standing quietly behind and to the side. This allowed him to accustom her to the repetitive nature of prepare-shoot-prepare-shoot-prepare-shoot-retrieve-start over. He firmly believes that the month he invested in this type of preparation aided them both immensely when he started shooting from her back.
APPENDIX B

Handy Website References

By no means intended as a complete listing of all horseback archery references, this list is but a fraction of the sites out there dedicated to horsemanship and horseback archery.

**Horsemanship**

Clinton Anderson  [www.downunderhorsemanship.com](http://www.downunderhorsemanship.com)
John Lyons  [www.johnlyons.com](http://www.johnlyons.com)
Pat Parelli  [www.parelli.com](http://www.parelli.com)
Dennis Reis  [www.reisranch.com](http://www.reisranch.com)
Chris Cox  [www.chris-cox.com](http://www.chris-cox.com)
Richard Winters  [www.wintersranch.com](http://www.wintersranch.com)
Charles Wilhelm  [www.cwtraining.com](http://www.cwtraining.com)

Cottonwood Creek Equestrian Center (located in Cottonwood, between Redding and Red Bluff)

**Horse Expo**  [www.horseexpo.com](http://www.horseexpo.com)  (Held every year in May/June in Sacramento)

**Horseback Archery**

International Horseback Archery Festival  [www.horsearchery.org](http://www.horsearchery.org)  (held every other year)
Horse Bows  [www.horsecbows.com](http://www.horsecbows.com)
Krackow Bows  [www.krackow.com](http://www.krackow.com)
Lajos Kassai  [http://steppenreiter.de/horseback_archery.htm](http://steppenreiter.de/horseback_archery.htm)  (excellent description by Kassai)
Hungarian Archery  [http://www.atarn.org/magyar/magyar_2/balint.htm](http://www.atarn.org/magyar/magyar_2/balint.htm)