

The European Round

A Short History, Description and Some Personal Best Scores

Compiled by Douglas Bassett - February 2008 (updated 1/10)

A Short History offered by Pascal Chauvaux:

The European Round originated as the European Championships for Prehistoric Weapons (atlatl and bow). It can trace its beginnings with a meeting at an archaeologists' congress in France in 1986 when two people met and began to trade information. One was from Belgium, Pierre Cattelain, who was finishing a thesis about the atlatl (mostly French Upper-Paleolithic). The other was from Germany, Ulrich Stodiek, who was beginning a PhD thesis about the atlatl use during the Upper-Palaeolithic in Europe. As part of his PhD Thesis, Stodiek held an atlatl contest with five German participants in 1987. In 1988, a second "open" atlatl contest was held in Koln, Germany and Stodiek asked Cattelain to join them - Cattelain won (he was using longer darts). In 1989, a third contest was held in Germany and more Belgians came and using longer darts than the Germans, the Belgians took two of the top five scores. The contest had evolved into three parts: a long distance throw, five shots at a 20 meters target and a dart shot the closest to a pole at 40 meters. The contest was won by Pascal Chauvaux who was now addicted to the atlatl. Another contest was held the same year in Belgium and now the contest had become international. In 1990, an international prehistoric atlatl championship was arranged: throwing 6 times at 5 distances (8m, 12m, 18m, 27m, 40m), and a long distance throw as well. In 1991, there were three contests and the European Championship was on the way. It was in this year that the current contest of 10 distances, 30 darts and 150 points was finalized by Stodiek, Cattelain and Chauvaux. Throughout the 90's the contests grew from five to eighteen per year and involved up to six countries (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland). Throughout the 21st Century the contest continues to grow from 19 to more than 30 contests per year.

Description:

The European Round consists of ten targets that are scored 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1. These are set out at ten different distances and may all be in a field area or set out on a walking course (wooded or not, level or not, and in any order). A contestant goes around three times throwing one dart at each target recording hit or miss and the score if a hit was made for a total of a possible 30 hits and a possible score of 150. The final score is derived by calculating the ratio of actual hits divided by the possible 30 X the raw score divided by the possible 150 X 100. For examples: a perfect game is $30/30 (=1) \times 150/150 (=1) \times 100 = 100$ or $15/30 (=0.5) \times 75/150 (=0.5) \times 100 = 25$. The easier method is hits X raw score divided by 45 = final score (e.g. $15 \times 75 / 45 = 25$).

The targets can be created by making 10 sticks with holes at the following distances to draw radii on cardboards of five concentric circles:

All target distances are in meters and all increments for each radius are in centimeters.

# and Distance	Radius for each scoring ring				
	5 point	4 point	3 point	2 point	1 point
Target 1 (8m)	4	8	12	16	20
Target 2 (10m)	5	10	15	20	25
Target 3 (12m)	6	12	18	24	30
Target 4 (14m)	7	14	21	28	35
Target 5 (16m)	8	16	24	32	40
Target 6 (18m)	9	18	27	36	45
Target 7 (20m)	10	20	30	40	50
Target 8 (22m)	11	22	33	44	55
Target 9 (24m)	12	24	36	48	60
Target 10 (26m)	13	26	39	52	65

Also there is an optional closer stake for participants under 12 years of age starting at 8 meters for target 1 but only receded by one meter increments to 17 meters for target 10.

Therefore, the stick to make target 1 will have holes at 4, 8, 12, 16, and 20 cm from the nail in the stick that will be placed in the center of the target to draw 5 circles. This will result in a finished target with an 8cm circle for 5 points, 16cm circle for 4 points, 24cm circle for 3 points, 32cm circle for 2 points and a 40cm circle for 1 point. Typically the bulls-eye worth 5 points is colored in (say red) and the rest is plain. Animal drawings in addition to the rings are also an option for the targets, examples of which are available online from:

<http://www.esnips.com/web/Targets>

Some Personal Best Scores: (Highlights are new entries in 2009)

High scores for the atlatl (all known personal bests scores greater than 65):

<u>Score</u>	<u>Hits</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
78.00	30	117	Doug Miller	Franklin Grove, IL	Franklin Grove, IL	5 Aug 01
74.67	30	114	Douglas Bassett	Warsaw, NY	West Almond, NY	9 Aug 08
72.67	30	109	Thomas Hohn	France	Bougon, FR	7 Oct 07
71.33	30	107	Gary Fogelman	Turbotville, PA	Elmira, NY	30 May 08
69.60	29	108	Cyril Huc	France	Bruniquel, FR	28 Sep 08
67.33	30	101	Terry Keefer	Ft. Loudon	Cahokia, IL	11 Sep 99
66.38	29	103	Laurent Bernat	France	Bruniquel, FR	21 Nov 09
65.00	?	?	?			

High scores for bow & arrow (all known personal bests scores greater than 86):

<u>Score</u>	<u>Hits</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
95.33	30	143	Alain Helbert	France	Petersfeld, GE	17 Sep 00
93.33	30	140	Uwe Kurz	Germany	Bougon, FR	15 May 94
93.33	30	140	Laurent Bernat	France	Eguzon, FR	7 Oct 06
92.67	30	139	Xavier Michel	France	Zonhoven, BE	17 Sep 05
92.00	30	138	Bianchi Giuseppe	Italy	Alfedena, IT	4 Jul 99
91.33	30	137	Jochen Claus	Germany	Schwerte, GE	27 Oct 07
90.00	30	135	Bruno Halbmeyer	France	St Cezaire, FR	6 Jun 09
89.33	30	134	Geoffrey Veyssiere	France	Teyjat, FR	29 Mar 08
88.67	30	133	Jose Binon	Belgium	Berck, FR	30 Oct 04
88.67	30	133	Jean-Pierre Coudert	France	Teyjat, FR	28 Mar 09
88.67	30	133	Pierre Lansac	France	Bruniquel, FR	21 Nov 09
88.00	30	132	Franco Cappello	Italy	Boario, IT	13 Aug 05
88.00	30	132	Christian Carriere	France	Boario, IT	5 Aug 06
88.00	30	132	Yannick Pouessel	France	Monteneuf, FR	21 Feb 09
88.00	30	132	Fabrice Toutin	France	Etiolles, FR	2 Jun 09
87.33	30	131	Pierre Lansac	France	Labastide, FR	7 Apr 07
87.33	30	131	Claude Berducou	France	Brassempouy, FR	20 Aug 08
86.67	30	130	Benno Gorg	Germany	Crépy en Valois, FR	29 Mar 08
86.67	30	130	Michel Soulard	France	Teyjat, FR	28 Mar 09
86.00	30	129	Jean Timmermans	Belgium	Ramioul, BE	12 Apr 08

Also it should be noted that only primitive equipment [made of natural raw material which is compatible with what was used by prehistoric people (wood, bone, antler, sinew, tar, etc)] is entered at all events held in Europe.

In 2009 the contests drew more than 550 athletes (358 men, 121 women, and 91 youth) and for the bow and arrow more than 850 competitors (534 men, 204 women and 140 youth) to 39 events.



Devin Pettigrew (Fayetteville, Arkansas) took part in the greatest meeting of the year (more than 180 archers and atlatlists) in the backyard of the Archery Museum in Crepy-en-Valois (France, May 2007).



Thomas Hohn (France) during a contest in Etioilles, near a well-known Magdalenian site (Essonne, France, June 2007). Thomas won the European Championships in 2006 and 2007.



Bruno Roesch (France) at Mont-Saint-Vincent in June 2007. During the meeting, we have had a new kind of primitive technology contest: to cut down a tree with a stone axe!



Delphine Tuzy (France) at Mont-Saint-Vincent (France) in June, 2007. Contest held on hills in the Bourgogne wine area (photos by Pascal Chauvaux).