



STRAIGHT SHOOTING FROM THE PREZ ...

Sept. 2006

Well, Here we go again...

I wanted to give everyone an update as to where we stand on the new range. I have been telling you all that we would be on the range by September – Well, we won't be. Unfortunately, we are still a few months away. On Sept. 7th, Rick Dorey & I met with Tim Granowitz, the county official in charge of the

Palm Beach Downs Park Project (where our range will be located) and Dal Major, the PB County Construction Specialist. We discussed what has, and what needs to be done, to the archery range area in the park.

Tim and Dal advised us that they had cleared 25' on each side of the road leading to the cul-de-sac for parking, as we'd discussed and have cut 5 roads into the archery area. The majority of the time spent with these gentlemen was discussing our most important concerns. Rick and I both felt the emphasis should be placed on the Olympic area, as well as the Flint Range and Practice area. When Rick and I were there, it was really wet, so we asked that they address the area, to assure that it would be dry all the time. We were assured that it would be, and fill would be brought in, and perhaps culverts built to allow runoff. We also asked for an area 375' x 400', to the north of the road, to be cleared for the Olympic and Flint ranges east of the Practice area. The rest would remain natural to be used for the walk thru of the International and Hunter rounds.

As I mentioned, we are still looking at a few more months before we can gain access to the property. It is really wet, especially after all these rains, so therefore, they have more work to do than they thought. I do know the practice range will have fill brought in and be leveled. The south side is another story. Dal said their hope is to control the water issue with drainage and culverts, with the excess water draining into the canals. To build these drains and culverts to correct the problem, will take a good 2 months. Patience is a virtue – of which I personally was not given a lot of. With this project, I have been forced to learn the true meaning of patience. I am seeing light at the end of the tunnel. It's not as dim as it once was, and is getting brighter every day. I promise you, we will be there soon. Just don't lose faith in me. As I get information, I will pass it on to you.

There is something you can do now, while we wait for the range to be ready. Start planting those cabbage palms that are dropping seeds all over your lawn. We need those. Most of the property will be barren when they take the non native trees out. I have been told we do have some Red Maple there, but they only range in diameter from 4" to an arm's width around, and are no taller than 10'. As you can see, it will be quite some time before they provide shade. When the time comes, we ask that everyone go to local tree farms and nurseries to ask them to donate shade trees to the club. We are going to need a bunch, as well as some ornamentals to spruce the place up. Rick is going to be in charge of seeking tree grants from the state, through contacts he has from the Fire Dept., but they won't be able to do it all. Lowes, Home Depot and places like that will be some you can approach. Remember, the land will be donated, but after that, everything else is our responsibility to get and maintain. If we want this to be **"THE"** top notch club in the state, it takes everyone. I challenge you to do your part. Rick and I are doing ours by getting a place we can call our own. Now you need to do yours. We will be having work parties to set up the range. Be prepared to help!

Larry E. Sites
President
Gold Coast Archers

