**NK (Open Dutch) Run-Archery 2021 report (basic text by head referee Rudy Claasen)**

Despite the short preparation time, prompted by the relaxation of the corona measures, St. Switbertus has managed to organize a combined international and national competition with a large number of well-motivated and knowledgeable volunteers. (Open Dutch Championship and Dutch Championship). The walking route on the terrain was already well marked in advance. The walking route outside the site and the shooting area are excellently set out in the morning. Where the walking route went over the public road, the permit was in order to close off part of the public road so that traffic could not hinder or endanger the athletes. Under the guidance of two excellent presenters (Frank Adema and Pascal Koolhof), it was clear to the athletes at all times what was expected of them at any time of the day. Result processing, in which times, misses and penalty rounds had to be compared with each other in order to assign penalty times, was carried out flawlessly and quickly. After a nice prize-giving ceremony, the day ended with an excellent "King's" barbecue. With compliments to the organization and the athletes.

**Match report qualification and finals**

The competition started with a qualifying against time over 3 laps of 950 meters of running and 2 shooting turns with 4 arrows each. The fastest time for Jorik Klein Nijenhuis of the organizing team Switbertus was 12 seconds ahead of defending champion Mark van Tiel of Concordia Zeeland. The qualification is of great importance, because it determines whether a participant will come out in the A, B or C final; in a higher final the medals are distributed, even if a participant in a lower final achieves a faster time.

The Finals cover 4 laps of running and 3 times shooting 4 arrows (12 arrows in total), the second shooting is kneeling. In the **C-final** there was an exciting battle with constantly changing leading positions and finally debutant Frank Korzilius of Vriendenkring Rijen was the winner, 9 seconds ahead of the strong running and shooting Jarlath Wadey of the Waterland Shutters who won the silver NK medal in the juniors. Debutant Maarten van Haren of VZOD Volkel also performed well and took 3rd place for Don Westerheijden (Sagitta Et Arcus) who also led the final but had to settle for 4th place. Steady was run by Pien Tepaske (KNHS Concordia) and Iris Rouwhorst (Switbertus), who were less lucky with shooting. Pien was the 3rd junior (1st lady) and Iris took her 1st NK medal.

In the **B-final** the cadets were the strongest, partly because they were partly allowed to run a shorter round. Thanks to better shooting, Myrthe Hermanns (Waterland Shooters) was the 1st cadet for the super fast Julian Mondeel of survival Jan in 't Touw. There was a heroic battle between top scorers Annemarie der Children and the long-awaited debutant Stijn Koijen from Sint Sebastiaan Goirle. Annemarie who runs well, but especially excelled by being the only participant in both qualifying and final not to score a single miss (and therefore not a single penalty lap). Stijn was not discouraged, he had to take 2 penalty rounds, but still managed to pass Annemarie in the last round. With her excellent performance, Annemarie did win the Dutch championship for the ladies and 2nd lady overall, she stayed just ahead of her fellow provincial and strong debutant Patrick Korzilius (Friends Circle Rijen) and the strong German Cornelia Borchers, who became fastest Ladies Master and 3rd lady overall. Ruben Stoopendaal (KNHS Concordia) and Tonny van Kuringen (Aurora) also proved to be excellent shooters with 10 out of 12 hits (and even clear in qualifying). With this Ruben was Dutch Champion in Men's Juniors and Tonny was 2nd lady at the Dutch National Championships.

**A-final**

In this, reigning champion Mark van Tiel surprisingly took the lead in the 1st round. With the shooting Mark was less stable than we are used to from him; normally Mark is almost clear, but now he had to allow 2 misses. His major competitors had a disappointing 7 penalty rounds (qualification winner Jorik), 4 penalty rounds (Mathijs Barkel from Avalon Sports Apeldoorn) and 3 penalty rounds (Joost Immink Switbertus). Only Joost Immink was able to compensate for the extra penalty lap with fast running and especially fast shooting (12 x 3 seconds per shot is 36 seconds) and after an exciting last round he reached the finish exactly 9 seconds faster. Mathijs took the bronze medal at a good distance ahead of Jorik, Bram Polman and the strong performing Mark Konings, all three of the organizing Switbertus; the so-called red army. Nicely in between the red army, the German Sandra Szulc from Werder (Berlin) came to the finish as 5th overall and as first lady. Sandra has improved a lot with shooting and also scored 2 misses. Behind this, the medal battle between the men's masters took place. Favorites beforehand were Wim Mulder (Avalon Apeldoorn) as the defending champion and Henri Polman (Switbertus) was also champion more often. This year there was the super fast survival athlete Peter Rutjes after a strong qualification (5th) in the A-Final. Peter ran impressively and took the Open Masters title. Wim shot a lot better than Henri and took the 2nd master spot and the NK title for NHB members, ahead of Henri Polman and Sjef Aertse from Sint Sebastiaan Goirle.

**Team-Relay**

This is traditionally the spectacle at the end of a Run-Archery race. Usually participating in this part is more important than winning, but not at a Dutch National Championships. Beforehand, Sint Sebastiaan was a favorite together with Switbertus Lichtenvoorde. Switbertus was unable to fulfill the favorite role in this game of seconds with a 5th and 6th place respectively for Switbertus 1 and 2. In Team Brabant (Tonny, Mark and Maarten) they kept their heads the most cool with shooting with 0 (zero) misses , just before the finish they fell off the podium. The bronze place was claimed by Avalon with Mathijs, Wim and guest runner David Stevenhagen (HKS Zoetermeer). With both teams 3 misses, the running had to offer the decision and team Sint Sebastiaan Goirle (with Anemarie, Stijn and Sjef) managed to cross the finish line 5 seconds ahead of Team Deutschland (with Sandra, Cornelia and Bernd). Sint Sebastiaan is the proud winner of the Open Dutch title Run-Archery Team Relay 2021.