

Primitive Archery Equipment

To put the primitive archery equipment in defined standards based on the PPR requirements we all need to adhere to:

1. A bow is a wood or bone long or short bow that may have a backing glued to it using natural glue available prior to 1840.
2. Re-curve bows were not used normally but with special skills of wood bending of the wood, it was possible but not normally done.
3. The bow strings were natural fibers like cotton, hemp linen or sinew not artificial sinew.
4. The arrows were shoots from willow, rose, reeds, ocean spray or other plants that produce a tapered shaft not a dowel of consistent diameter for the length. One reference lent to hand-made split wood with inconsistency from forming the arrow.
5. The nocks were a groove most often made from the shaft not a glued on plastic or other objects.
6. The arrow points were hand made from numerous natural occurring materials including obsidian, chert, hand forged metal, glass, flint or copper.
7. Fletching were natural bird feathers attached with natural glue and natural fibers like sinew or hemp. Silk or cotton are suitable replacements. NOT artificial sinew. Hemp was mentioned as one of the strongest wrapping materials.

Bottom line is if you don't meet these requirements you may shoot the course but you may not turn in a card for primitive archery. This is the best information I have gathered from folks that have references for all the items listed above.