



# BOOMERANG BULLETIN

AUGUST  
1982

*Boomerang Association of Australia*

P.O. BOX 245, LILYDALE, VICTORIA, 3140, AUSTRALIA.

No. 31

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THROWERS PAST AND PRESENT



Ian Stapleton



Andrew Webster

Youthful members of the Victorian State Team, Sydney 1982

## EDITORIAL

This is my last edition as Editor of the Boomerang Bulletin. Increased commitments and pressures from other areas, especially in paper work have forced me to relinquish this office and its workload. From the outset it was my purpose to improve on the quantity and quality of communication amongst BAA members through the written medium, and I hope that in that endeavour we have been successful in the last eight editions.

I say 'we' because I would not have been able to do any of this without considerable support and help in time and labour from Br. Brian Thomas, who also has looked after the entire printing, assembling, packaging and posting side of the operation, as well as being a regular contributor of ideas, articles, artwork and typing facilities.

Originally, the urgency of improved communication was heightened by the imminent American visit - a world first and a great event. With preparations being made in both continents for a return Australian visit to the U.S.A. in 1983 or 1984, it is important to keep communication regular and involvement of members high. Our Association is only ever as strong as the sum of its individuals.

In October we have a very important General Meeting, at which will be discussed fully the whole issue of rules raised in Bulletin No.30. If you have definite ideas, NOW is the time to act, not THEN. Formal notices of motion are required in writing for any rule changes and priority will be given to motions on notice before the meeting, which will be run to orthodox standing orders for the sake of efficiency and legality. Plan to be there and plan to be involved.

My stepping down from the post will not leave me uninvolved, either. I still have the N.S.W. State Association and the North Sydney region's activities to look after and I still plan to write articles for the Bulletin. But we need more people prepared to be actively involved and regularly. Can you do something? Please let us know at, or before, the October Meeting in Albury. The more people involved, the lighter the workload all round. How about YOU in '82?

TONY BUTZ  
Editor.

## NEW MEMBERS

More people are joining the ranks of the BAA. A very warm welcome to

JACQUES BESLOT of FRANCE

PETER FARQUHAR of CHATSWOOD, N.S.W.

PETER GREEN of WAHROONGA

CHARLIE & BERYL HAMMOND of EAST IVANHOE, VIC.

LES, MARK & MATTHEW JONES of NERANG

RODNEY A. JONES of MAIN BEACH, Q'LD.

STEVE & ALI MILLER of SEATTLE, U.S.A.

ANDREW ATKIN, of DARLINGTON, N.S.W.

BRUCE KENNEDY of W. HEIDELBERG, VIC.

**FOOD  
FOR  
THOUGHT**

On the eve of the great first Inter-state Boomerang Battle all three teams were well fed by Di Jonson on Australia's No.1 dish...no, not meat pies..but mouth-watering PAVLOVAS! (Eat your heart out, Barnaby!) Luminous balsa-rangs were the next 'round'..won by N.S.W. The Jonsons are great hosts. We'll be back next year, Di.

# LETTERS to the Editor



## NEW FORMAT

Dear Mr. Editor,

Congratulations on the new Boomerang Bulletin format. The "newspaper" style requiring no staples is neat and efficient.

On a more critical note, could you please explain why the face of the last issue (30) was taken up almost entirely by a duplication of Sydney scenes, when a list of contents for example would have been much more useful? Also, regarding the last line on page 2 would you please record a note that rain has never stopped a comp in Australia's great city, Melbourne, which is more than can be said for that place featured on page 1.

I also have a couple of suggestions: Please don't reduce the size of our official organ. Have you considered producing one a month to reduce the number of pages thus? Also, why not put the application form on a single sheet in the centre of the new efficient format? If a major comp was coming up, a registration form could be included to make this a standard double.

A Staunch Melbournian

(Name & address supplied)

Dear S.M., thank you for your suggestions which were hard to read due to a smudging by Melbourne rainspots. Ed.

## SLOW CATCHING EVENT

Dear Editor,

One of the main reasons Australia lost last year's Test Series was because of our inability to handle new (to us) Slow Catching Events.

Presumably this event will also be included in next year's Test Series. With that in mind, I am amazed that organizers have failed to include Slow Catching (MTA) in the last three championships (Blue Mts., South Australia, Sydney.)

Novelty events are entertaining and certainly have their place. However, their inclusion should not be at the expense of our national honour.

C.C. HENZGEN

## LETTER FROM TOM AASKOV TO SECRETARY MORRIS MAXWELL.

Dear Morris,

Thank you for my membership card and letter. I always look forward to news from the Association.

To my point of view the Constitution seems very good except perhaps the safety regulations should be established without delay as any mishaps could be injurious to the Association as well as to anyone standing in the line of fire. I feel Competition rules will change as the Association grows and clubs are formed with perhaps "Reps" sent by various clubs to major competitions and perhaps the Australian titles rotating in different states each year with "Reps" of clubs or states sent.

TO THE EDITOR, BOOMERANG BULLETIN.

RULES, EVENTS, ETC.

Some comments in response to points made in the last issue by Barrie, Chris and Morris.

Barrie

I was a sceptic about Suicide Throws until I saw the advantages in the U.S. The main advantage is to eliminate people quickly in a catching competition, when there are lots of competitors. Who knows, we may some day get a competition with over 100 throwers as in some U.S. competitions. Incidentally, this event has great spectator value. However, it has to be run carefully with everyone in a straight line with lefties at one end. Judging is a bit difficult but we could rely on one or two judges plus honesty of competitors for the first round. Those eliminated in round one can become judges for subsequent rounds. I was greatly impressed with the potential of juggling both from the point of view of spectators and competitors. No one who saw Bob Burwell's brilliant performance (which many throwers said was the best effort they had ever seen) could disagree.

Chris

I find that an optional practice throw helps me feel more relaxed in competition. Boomerang throwing should be fun. Let's not make it too "professional". Of course, not all events will be suitable for an optional practice-e.g. fastest time for five.

I don't see why order of throwing should always be random-e.g. there would be increased spectator interest in team competitions if throwers from different teams alternated. Also, I don't see why there should be a limit of three throws per competitor per event. Who wants to travel from Brisbane to Albury, or from Whyalla to Wollongong for three throws in the General Competition?!

Finally, as some one with a genetic disposition to arthritis, I don't share your objection to gloves. But if you do ban gloves, I'd extend the ban to knee pads. (In any case, I doubt if the Americans would 'buy' this one). Sorry to be disagreeable, Chris, but I agree with your other points.

Chris

I think you make a good point about accuracy scoring. The only reason for sticking with the present system is tradition. But if we keep the same scoring system there are old records to be attacked. (What is the highest score for two rounds of five in the General Competition by the way?) .. (It is 131 by Bob Burwell, Pete..Ed.)

For reasons set out above I'd allow non-webbed gloves. Trying to decide what is only for 'protection' is futile, so we should drop this idea. And as noted above, I prefer an optional practice wherever practical. Boomeranging should be fun.

A final thought.

I assume we are going to involve the Americans and others in the discussions on rules. It would be worth trying to figure out how to do so. Should we set out our preferred set of rules (with reasons as in Morris's piece) and seek the reactions of other national groups?

Peter Jonson 1st July 1982

COME OUT OF YOUR CORNERS FIGHTING WITH GLOVES OR KNEE PADS ON!!! Ed.



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2nd and 3rd October 1982

To be held at ALEXANDRA PARK, EAST ALBURY.

- STARTING AT 12.30 SATURDAY. EVENTS WILL BE
- DURATION OF FLIGHT
- SHORTEST TIME FOR FIVE CATCHES
- CONSECUTIVE CATCHING
- ACCURACY
- OTHERS, IF TIME PERMITS.

Separate Senior and Junior events will be held in Consecutive Catching and Accuracy. All other events are Open.

- SUNDAY STARTING AT 9.00 a.m. JUNIOR GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP
- SENIOR GENERAL CHAMPIONSHIP
- SUICIDE THROW, if time permits.

12 NOON will be Presentation of trophies.

ENTRANCE FEES: BAA MEMBERS SENIOR \$3, JUNIOR \$1  
 DAY COMP MEMBERS: \$5, \$2.

This is a flat fee regardless of number of competitions entered.

- \* Top three Juniors are invited to enter Senior General Championship.
- \* Practice throws: General Championship first throw may be nominated as a practice but will not be counted. No other practice throws will be allowed in the competition area.

TROPHIES HAVE AGAIN BEEN GENEROUSLY DONATED BY BARKERS PHARMACY ALBURY AND ENGRAVED BY MICHAEL EGAN.

Enquiries: Ken Ovington, 423 Nowland Ave., Lavington. 2641. Phone: (060)252648

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GENERAL MEETING

After tea on Saturday evening a General Meeting will be held with the prime purpose of reviewing current rules for competitions. All suggestions for rule changes reported in Bulletin 30 have been listed as separate motions on notice and will be given priority in discussion which will strictly follow orthodox meeting procedure. The agenda will be posted to members requesting it from the secretary before the meeting.

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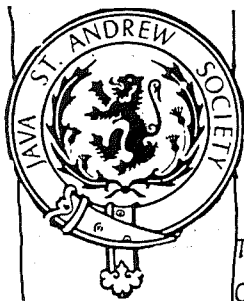
COMING EVENTS

ALBURY...2nd,3rd October. See above.  
 ALLARD PARK, EAST BRUNSWICK, VIC....13th Nov. '82  
 Day/night competition. 6 p.m.start...  
 anniversary of Aust./USA clash.  
 Contact Chris Henzgen.

Proposed series of inter-state matches for 1983:  
 March..Melbourne.  
 April..Albury (ANC).  
 May..Adelaide.  
 June..Brisbane.  
 July..Sydney.  
 September..Perth.

# Jakarta Highland Gathering

## 1982



This boomerang fling was sponsored by Cathay Pacific Airlines. The tour was the result of a phone call to the Siladys by the Cathay Pacific public relations manager, Jim Macdougall. Jim invited two boomerang throwers to demonstrate their skill at the gathering in Jakarta, Indonesia. The Siladys rang Bunny and Bunny asked me to accompany him. We are both grateful to Steve Silady and Pauline for their invitation and Cathay Pacific for their offer. I was very humble when Bunny asked me to go with him.

### Programme

Melbourne to Hong Kong 3rd-4th June

Hong Kong to Jakarta, Java 4th June

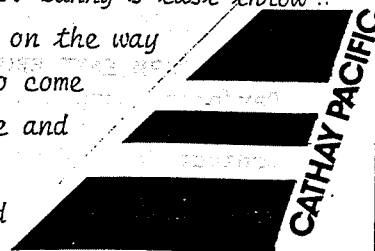
Java, St. Andrew's Highland Gathering, 6th June

Jakarta to Hong Kong 7th June

Hong Kong to Melbourne 9th-10th June

The trip to Hong Kong and Jakarta, 14 hours flying time, overnight in Hong Kong, went very smoothly. We arrived in Jakarta at 9.30 p.m. and were driven to a party. We met our hosts, Bill and Fiona Donaldson. Saturday they showed us around Jakarta and we had a practise throw at the gathering venue, the Madya Stadium.

Saturday night was a buffet dinner and 'Scotland in Concert'. Amongst bag pipes, drums, dancing, singing, comedy and recitals, Bunny and I put on a 10 minute boomerang performance. Bunny proceeded to throw his boomerangs over the heads of the audience. He built up to a finale after six tries, and getting lower and lower with each throw to clear the ceiling and the hotel chandelier for a perfect return and catch. The hotel roof just about caved in with the applause they gave us. Bunny's last throw had clipped a guy's head on the way out. I asked that guy to come forward onto the stage and also another fellow dressed in a kilt and all. Each person was shown how to throw the cross balsa wood



The Swire Group

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rangs, and then had a competition of most catches for five throws. Each catch or miss was greeted with much encouragement! RESULT: British Isles 3, Australia 3. Our finale was to turn off the lights and we threw the cross rangs with luminous fluid tubing wrapped around each wing.

Sunday was a warm 30 degrees C, humidity 90%, slight breeze 3 to 4 knots. The only problem at the Madya Stadium was that the breeze was coming over the top of the stand which meant pockets of dead air. Our first demonstration went off very well. The commentator ad-libbed to fill in the blank spots in the commentary given him. We started off throwing conventional 15" and 12" King Billy Hooks. Bunny was working on a 50 metre range, and I was throwing 25 metres. I then showed left-handed boomerangs. We next threw right and left handed boomerangs simultaneously. Doubling was demonstrated. While we were doing this competition rules of play were described. We then threw multi-bladed 3, 4 and 6 bladers. As a finale we threw Bunny's 3 foot tip to tip boomers. These were really successful. I was personally impressed with the control and hovering that can be achieved with them.

The reception we received was really gratifying and we were very relieved and happy that we had given a good exhibition in good conditions, so that everyone got an excellent idea of what ranging is all about. We were swamped by people saying how much they enjoyed the exhibition. Our second demo was not as co-ordinated but we managed to throw fairly well. The breeze had strengthened and was swirling around. This meant that we had to work hard to get the right direction for the throw.

Our hosts took us home for a well-earned rest and shower. After a cuppa and sandwich we enjoyed a reception at the British Ambassador's residence. Bunny and I presented boomerangs to the officials. Next we went to a night spot and then back home for a cuppa. Bed was finally reached at 2 a.m. No rest for the wicked: we were up at 5 a.m. to leave at 8 a.m. for Hong Kong.

We spent two days sight-seeing in Hong Kong and then returned to Melbourne (home sweet home). Our thanks again go to the Siladys and Cathay Pacific Airlines for enabling Bunny and I to take our rangs and throw them off in Jakarta at the Gathering. What a fling!



DENNIS MAXWELL, demonstrator, and Captain of the first successful Inter-state team in Sydney in July.

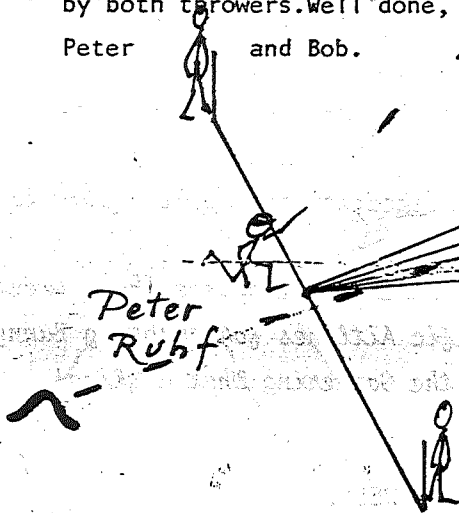
DENNIS MAXWELL.

# Rivalry never keener

What a task! Months before hand the Guinness Book of Records people set a date for an attempt on the Long Distance Throwing record, and then spent about \$30,000 getting people and equipment at the Randwick Racecourse for the event. The chances of a suitable day (3 to 15 kph breezes) in Sydney were at long odds. Peter Ruhf even flew all the way from America to make the attempt on Al Gerhard's three year old record of 123 yards. And the crazy thing about it all was that it came off!

Sydney B.A.A. members were contacted to act as officials for this Guinness' attempt, and so, sporting the new impressive N.S.W. boomerang team shirts, we had lined up Ken and Robert Arthur, Rick Haywood, Garry Durrant, Paul & Michael Heath, Margaret & Terry Patterson and Br. Brian Thomas to act as official witnesses and judges to this great performance. An historic moment: the first filming of a Guinness' record attempt for boomerangs. Because it was for Guinness, and for filming, the judging was not in strict accord with the B.A.A. measuring system. What was measured was the furthestest throw each thrower could do in as many attempts as he wanted (human endurance set the limit here). The record therefore stands as a Guinness' record, while the longest throw according to B.A.A. rules is Bob Burwell's 111 metres at Albury in November, 1981. (crossing one line of axis).

Setting up cameras, etc., took a long time, and, unfortunately for Bob, the most suitable breezes for his slightly heavier boomerangs died down before the record attempting throws. An enthusiastic Peter Ruhf, using a modified Al Gerhard's model, found conditions ideal, and finally winged one out 125 yards and back. A great throw! Bob soon followed with one out to 124 yards and back, also breaking Al's record. Two in one day! It was a tremendous experience for all the officials to watch both throwers consistently tossing boomerangs out past the 100 yard mark every throw. Half a dozen non-qualifying throws went past the 130 yard mark, and Bob even put one out 141 yards, but the breeze was too light to carry it all the way in. A truly outstanding performance by both throwers. Well done, Peter and Bob.



In the calmer weather following the Distance Attempt Bunny Read joined Bob and Peter in several attempts on his 33 seconds for the Fastest Five Catches. Once again we witnessed superb throwing by all three throwers. Circumstances were awkward with two camera men following

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only a metre away! Even so they came within  $\frac{1}{2}$  second of Bunny's record. This event really caught the imagination of host David Frost, who kept crying, "Give it another go!" David was assisted in his hosting of the programme by Randi Oakes of "Chips" fame.

The programme should go to air in America sometime in October, and after that it will be sold to other countries. Many of the segments are Australian, so we should be certain to see it out here not too long after that.



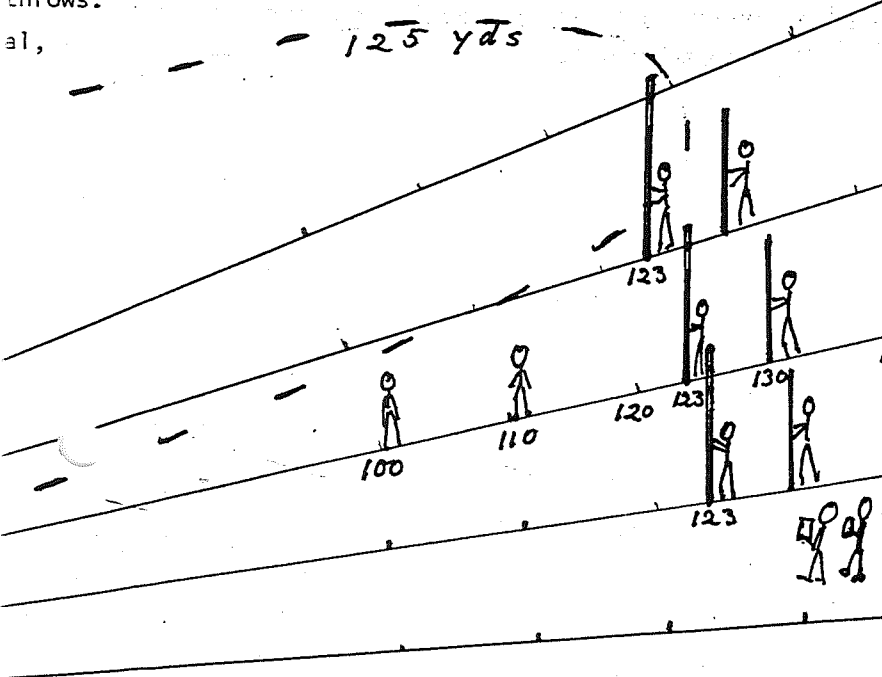
Two of the officials, Margaret & Terry Patterson..his & hers

DAVID HOY from the Guinness Book of Records in London flew out to be their official witness for these attempts. The painted record poles were a tribute to his skill with a spray can!

The field lay out was the same as our B.A.A. set up, except that we ran out five axis lines instead of just one. Three inch yellow tape was used as lines. This took some time to set out, and was a tribute to the hard work of the N.S.W. band of officials. There were no strikes here!! Many thanks to these devoted throwers who gave up their time to make this such a successful happening.

Another witness to this great day was 150 yds.

Sydney thrower Duncan MacIennan, who encouraged the throwers throughout the day. Duncan's mate, Peter, also lent a very valuable hand to the proceedings.



I was very impressed with Peter Ruhf's all round throwing on the day, and would say that he has even improved on his great Challenge Tour form. Peter explained his improvement when he said he decided not to rest on his laurels, but to really get stuck right into improving more. That's the sort of dedication we want to see in every Australian thrower, so that the next Australia's Cup Challenge will be ours!

Br. Brian M. Thomas  
Australian Captain & Coach.



# SYDNEY CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

The Fourth Annual Sydney Boomerang Championships were held on Sunday, 18th July, 1982, at Beauchamp Park, Nicholson St., Chatswood. A few innovations in organisation and competition procedure were tried, and are here recorded, with comment, for the record and for the benefit of other organisers of competitions.

## ORGANISATION

- \* Players had to register no later than 15 minutes before the first event.
- \* Entry fee entitled player to enter three events only.
- \* As players registered they were also entered by State on cards for a draw for order of throwing.
- \* The General Competition was closed at 30 players.
- \* The organiser did not compete in any events, but stayed at the registration table to assist the registrar, give a commentary over the P.A. system and handle inquiries.
- \* No second round was held in the General Competition.
- \* Junior events were held the previous week for Sydney throwers.
- \* Juniors from inter-state and country were allowed to compete with Seniors, as were Junior finalists of the General Competition.

## COMPETITIONS

- \* A cold day of shifting light to gusty winds kept all 32 competitors on their toes all day, but held the crowd of 110 to 130 spectators for most of the day (12 noon till 4 p.m.). Good publicity in local newspapers and on Sydney radio preceded the day.

The B.A.A.'s first Inter-State Match was contested by Victoria, Queensland and N.S.W., and was based on the top scores of competitors from each state in the General Competition preliminary round. It was won by Victoria (Morris & Dennis Maxwell, Chris Henzgen). Victoria won 136, N.S.W. scored 122, and Queensland 106. This was a great effort from the newly formed Queensland team (minus champion Bob Burwell defending Australia's honour in America) of Rod Jones, Les, Matthew and Mark Jones, and Br. Ray Shears.

Other results are as follows:

	SENIORS	JUNIORS
GENERAL	1. Dennis Maxwell VIC 2. Bob Burns N.S.W. 3. Chris Henzgen VIC	1. Paul Heath N.S.W. 2. Damien Heath N.S.W. 3. Phillip Walsh N.S.W.
CONSECUTIVE CATCHING	1. Les Jones QLD 2. Chris Henzgen VIC	1. Phillip Walsh N.S.W. 2. Damien Heath N.S.W.
ACCURACY	1. Michael Ovington N.S.W. 2. Bob Burns N.S.W.	1. Scott Haywood N.S.W. 2. Sajih Chakkour N.S.W.

FASTEST FIVE CATCHES 1.Chris Henzgen VIC

2.Rod Jones QLD

MULTIBLADERS

1.Garry Durrant N.S.W.

2.Ken Arthur N.S.W.

GIRLS: Maryanne Ryan N.S.W.

LADIES: Margaret Patterson N.S.W.

NOVICES: Br.Ray Shears QLD

VETERANS: Ken Arthur N.S.W.



Chris Henzgen, Fastest Five...what?

Junior champion Paul Heath notched up his 5th General Championship win in three years making it a hat-trick for the Sydney title.

Michael Ovington took on the Seniors in the Accuracy Comp and won.

And young Damien Heath was N.S.W.'s second top scorer in the General!

Tony Greig was unable to present trophies, but Willoughby Mayor, Ald. Jack Donnelly, and Commonwealth Bank Manager, Mr. Bryan Lloyd, were on hand to witness the events and to present the trophies which were again generously donated by the Commonwealth Bank of Chatswood (\$250), Willoughby Municipal Council, and Sydney Sporting Supplies. It was pleasing to see such a wonderful turn up of country and inter-state players (14 out of 32!) and the competition was terrific, despite difficult conditions.

Our thanks to our generous sponsors, to all competitors, and to all who helped set out the field, supply equipment and make the day the success it was. A special vote of thanks to Mrs. Di. Jonson, B.A.A. Treasurer, who faithfully handled the paper work all day.

TONY BUTZ

Contest Organiser

President BTA of NSW.

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## KYNETON

The Vic's had a CITY V the COUNTRY match at Kyneton on August 21st. There were many city throwers, quite a few of them being novices.

The results were: ACCURACY: Rob Croll FAST CATCH: Peter Maxwell in 39 secs.

SLOW CATCH: Chrsi Henzgen, although Dennis Maxwell had an 18 s. throw.

GENERAL: 1. Morris Maxwell

2. Rob Croll

3. Chris Henzgen

There were two international competitors taking part: Jimmy O'Connor from Ireland and Jo Jacobsen from USA (Annie Henzgen's sister).

HOW FAR CAN YOU THROW A BOOMERANG ?

This is one of the first questions that anyone asks about boomerang throwing. This would seem to be an obvious question and thus in the eye of the public, the distance a boomerang is thrown holds a certain charisma.

This type of achievement is of a superlative nature and, indeed, it lends itself more to establishing records than as a regular competitive type function with scores of points etc. However, Association policy decrees that only those achievements recorded during a competition with championship status shall be accepted as records. Thus we have been obliged to maintain a set of rules which in practice are cumbersome and time-consuming. Said rules have been the subject of much whingeing and complaint but no one has come forward with positive criticism or orthodox proposal for improvement. I hope that this current review will induce some more ideas for improvement.

The main problems with running this test of skill as a competition are the time it takes and the manpower required using current techniques. More elaborate equipment such as photographic or radar detection devices (re. later review) would make judging a lot easier and streamline the whole operation, but these are not available or economically viable at the moment. Another drawback is that such an event requires an extra large ground and thus cannot be held at some venues that are suitable for all other comps. This, and the point that participation may affect following performance, has resulted in the Distance competitions being restricted to one event a year squeezed in at the end of the National event.

With these problems in mind, I hereby give notice of motion for the General Meeting in October, "That Longest Distance Competitions be held independently of other events and prior notice requirements be equivalent to those required for a Championship Competition."

Following is an update of an article I included in Bulletin 15 during 1975.

Morris Maxwell.

LONGEST DISTANCE COMPETITION REVIEW.

1. GENERAL

- (a) A competition held in accordance with the following rules is a test of range, with a reasonably accurate return behind the throwing point.

This first sub-section covers the basic principles. The "range" mentioned is determined by the maximum longitudinal horizontal distance along a nominated axis, achieved by the flight path of the boomerang. The "reasonably accurate return" refers to a nominal lateral (sideways) accuracy. Longitudinally, (lengthwise) the boomerang must have at least 100% of return. In other words, it must come back behind where it was thrown from, and no more than a reasonable distance either side of the throwing point.

- (b) Such a competition shall be used for all "Longest Distance Competitions" which are recognised by the Association.
- (c) These rules may be altered only in accordance with the By-Laws of the Association.
- (d) Competitors will use boomerangs which are of similar shape to the Australian Aboriginal Boomerang.
- (e) Competitors will throw by hand from behind a "Base Line" (re 2 a) and within 1.5 m either side of the centre of said line.

References made above to the type of boomerang used and how it is to be thrown, are reviewed in Bulletin No. 30 pages 12 and 13 as part of the Basic/General comp rules.

- (f) For a throw to qualify:-
- (i) The competitor must not let any part of his or her body project over the Base Line before the boomerang is released.
- (ii) The boomerang must return over the Base Line without interference or,
- (iii) The boomerang must come to rest behind the Base Line and within 20 m of the centre point without interference.
- (iv) If the boomerang returns over the Base Line, and then flies forward to land, the throw still qualifies.

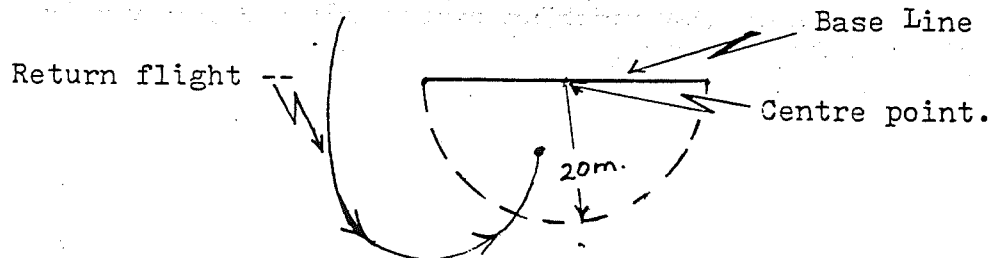
The logic here is that once the boomerang has made a "closed circuit" or tight enough circle, and returns the full distance to cross the Base Line, the throw qualifies. Any further flight is disregarded, as the boomerang has covered the distance in both directions the moment it crosses the line or comes in "close enough" behind it.

Example flight paths:-

Once boomerang has made full return --- the throw qualifies ---

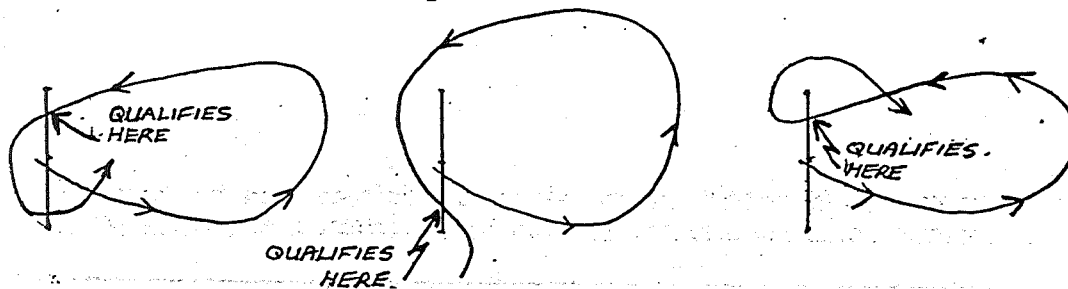
Any extra flight is disregarded Base Line

Sub-section (iii) covers the possibility that a boomerang may not cross the Base Line but cut back to land within the qualifying distance behind it eg:-



## LONGEST DISTANCE COMPETITION Rules review continued:\*

Sub-section (iv) covers the possibility of a return flight "banking forwards". Examples:-



It should be noted that a throw which continues on in any direction after crossing the Base Line would be unlikely to achieve maximum distance in the forward measured direction. As the energy in throws made by the same person varies little, any throw which qualifies in the basic manner, is likely to be the longest for each contestant.

(g) If the weather is inclement or very windy, the competition will not be held, unless by vote no less than seventy five percent of the members present approve.

## 2. FIELD EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The Base Line shall consist of stout cord, or equivalent material, 40 m in length, with a suitable loop for attaching to a centre peg.
- (b) The centre peg shall consist of a metal rod or equivalent, which is able to withstand the strain of an "Axis Line".
- (c) The Axis Line shall consist of suitable non-stretching material, bearing appropriately numbered marks at metre intervals, commencing at least 55 m from an end which is suitably looped for attaching to the centre peg.
- (d) Perpendicular sighting poles shall consist of light wooden pattern, rigid plastic tube or equivalent material, at least 3 m in length and strong enough not to bend appreciably when held in a vertical position. Such poles shall hereinafter be referred to as "sight poles".
- (e) Sight poles shall be supported in a vertical position by hand or suitable mechanical means if available. Any mechanical supports must be safe, portable, and approved by the Judge.
- (f) Extra equipment may be used, providing it does not in any way impair the function of the competition and is approved by the Judge.

Possible extra aids could be such items as a right angle guide to square the base line to the axis line and a supporting rack for sight poles. More elaborate aids could include filming or video taping setups to record the flight path in relation to reference points on the ground. Yet another system may be possible with a short range radar setup, connected to a viewing screen giving a residual trace of the flightpath at its outer limits across a reference grid. This unfortunately has a few technical problems. Not the least of which is to produce a pulse repetition frequency of several Gigahertz and with enough power to detect a boomerang.

### 3. DISTANCE AND FLIGHT DETERMINATION

- (A) No less than five sight poles shall be positioned at adjacent metre marks on the axis line as directed by the range stewards.
- (B) There shall be no less than two range stewards, who are to take up positions as they deem necessary, in order to best witness the maximum distance achieved by the boomerang's flight over the axis line sight poles.
- (C) The distance recorded shall be in whole metres only and shall be the number of whole metres on the axis line surpassed by the boomerang's flight. In other words, the distance recorded shall be that of the furthest sight pole whose vertically extended axis is encompassed by the boomerang's flight.
- (D) A sight pole shall be positioned at each end of the base line.
- (E) There shall be a base line steward at each end of the base line, who shall declare whether the boomerang passes over the base line.

### 4. PROCEDURE

- (A) Each round shall consist of five recorded throws by each contestant.
- (B) Each contestant will be allowed one no-recorded practice throw before the first recorded throw in each round.
- (C) Each throw will be commenced when directed by the judge.
- (D) If a tie occurs for the longest distance, then the positions will be decided by a throw-off of three throws per person. Should a greater distance not be recorded, then the positions will be decided by each thrower's second longest recorded distance. Should these be equal, then the third longest and so on.
- (E) (1) The competitor is responsible for nominating the direction of measurement and shall direct the positioning of the axis line as he or she deems necessary to place it in line with the longest horizontal axis of the flight path about to be made.
- (2) When the preceding has been done, the judge shall ensure that the base line is at right angles to the axis line, that all sight poles are in position and that all stewards are ready, before allowing the throw to be commenced.

### 5. JUDGING

See Basic General Competition Rules section 6. (File No. CRGB)



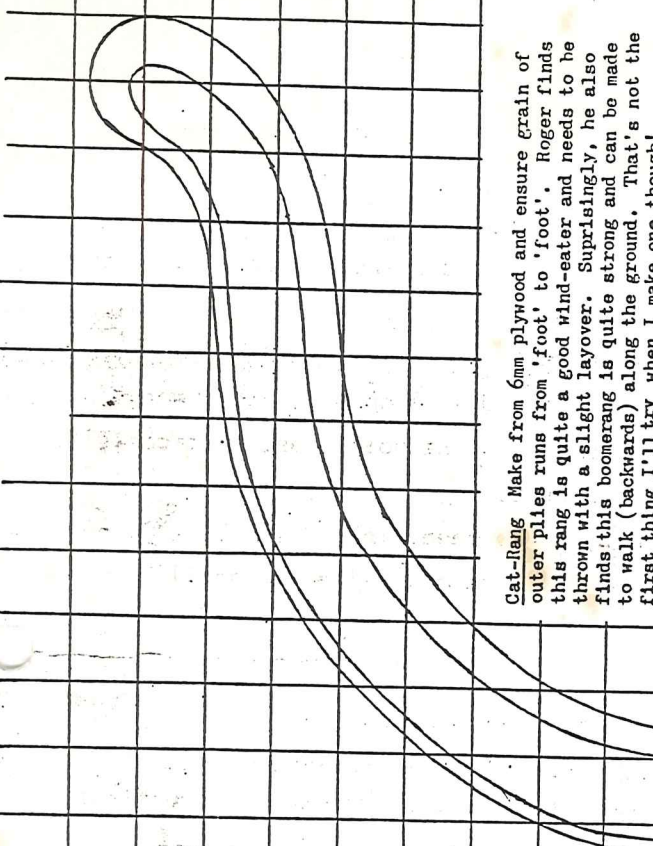
## BOOMERANG THROWING ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.

BTA of NSW held its AGM on 11th July, 1982. Office bearers for 1982 are:  
PRESIDENT: Tony Butz.  
VICE-PRESIDENT: Rick Haywood.  
SECRETARY: Garry Durrant.  
TREASURER: Ken Arthur.

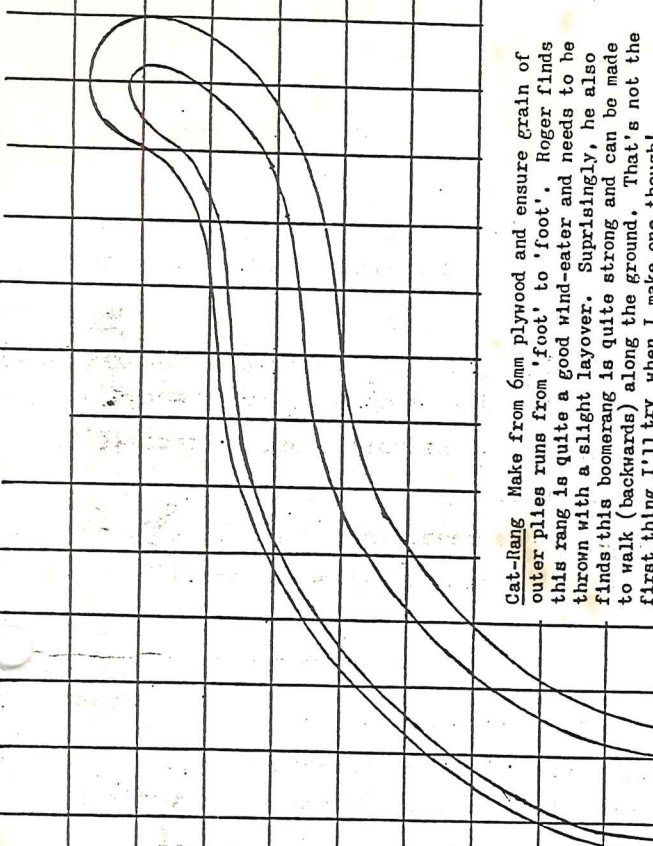
NOTE: One motion passed was "That this Association, in compliance with the State Govt's request to adapt field measurements to sizes appropriate to junior players, reduce the 20 m qualifying distance to 18 m for junior players".

# CAT and LONG FLIGHT RANGS by Roger Levitt

25 MM SQUARES



**Cat-Rang** Make from 6mm plywood and ensure grain of outer plies runs from 'foot' to 'foot'. Roger finds this rang is quite a good wind-eater and needs to be thrown with a slight layover. Surprisingly, he also finds this boomerang is quite strong and can be made to walk (backwards) along the ground. That's not the first thing I'll try when I make one though!



**Long Flight Rang** From 6mm ply too, this boomerang is also good in a bit of a wind and Roger suggests that you don't throw it on a very calm day. He also says, 'Don't use it when anyone is within 120 metres, because if it rolls on the ground, it goes on for ever!' A few people have had problems with breakage, Roger hasn't, but he reports some spectacular bounces of over 3 metres in the air! As with the 'Cat', he advises makers to round off all the edges well to give a good flow line.