

Jack Harrison Bows

MAINTENANCE/SERVICE INSTRUCTIONS

LUBRICANT

PLEASE READ

Each new bow is supplied with a small container of lubricant. This is a high viscosity Vaseline petroleum product that is totally inert and has a waxy nature. It is completely safe to use and can even be used as a lip balm. It will not affect the leather wrap or the bow finish negatively. It is an excellent lubricant and should be used to moderately coat ~~the~~ male and ~~the~~ female components that make up the bow handle (male and female sleeve fastener).

Proper care of the stainless steel male and brass female sleeves should include routine inspection and cleaning. Following the inspection and cleaning, coat the metal surfaces with the lubricant, wipe off any excess lubricant. **Avoid fouling the "socket joint" with dust, grit, or debris. Never try to fit the two components together** if they are even slightly dirty. Because of the close tolerance with which the sleeves are made, any debris will cause the limbs to seize together and become very difficult to separate. Call 708-957-4090 for instructions if you cannot separate your bow. **DO NOT attempt to pry your limbs apart.** Service your bow before storing and always keep a film of lubricant on all metal surfaces. By keeping the handle in good, clean condition, it will remain serviceable for years.

ASSEMBLING & DISASSEMBLING

TO ASSEMBLE YOUR BOW:

(A) First flare open the leather covered opening to the handle with your thumb. This ensures that the leather will not be pinched into the joint when inserting and seating the lower limb of the bow into the upper limb of the bow. The leather wrap, which is on the upper limb that forms the bow handle, overlaps the bottom limb when the bottom limb is completely seated in the socket. By flaring out the leather with your thumb you can be assured that you have properly seated the limbs together. **DO NOT** string your bow with the handle only partially assembled; it can be damaged beyond repair.

(B) Insert the lower limb into the upper limb. Make sure that it is properly lubricated and that the limbs seat by coming to a solid stop. Avoid trapping the leather in the joint.

TO DISASSEMBLE YOUR BOW:

(A) Make sure that you lock your elbows in as closely as possible to your body with the back of your forearms braced firmly against your thighs. Obviously, your hands are gripping the upper and lower limbs and are in a semi-crouched position. Pull firmly, but gently. Avoid any spontaneous separation that will throw you off balance and possible injury from wildly flailing limbs. By crouching low and backing your forearms against your thighs you can apply even pressure until the limbs **SLOWLY** separate. This enables you to control the disassembly of your bow without damage to it or injury to a bystander.

(B) Always store your bow in the case provided.

(C) Always transport your bow in the case provided.

BOW STRING

The function of the bow string is to transfer the mechanical energy stored in the bow limbs to the arrow as efficiently as possible. If it stretches it absorbs mechanical energy instead of transferring it. Therefore, each bow is provided with a FastFlight bow string. Contrary to "conventional wisdom" a

Even strings that are twisted, e.g., Flemish Twist style strings that are made from FastFlight, become inefficient in transferring the bow limb energy to the arrow. Consequently, only continuous, non-twisted strings are used. The warranty is voided if either Dacron or Flemish strings are substituted on Black Wolf bows.

BOW STRINGER

The bow should be strung using the "push/pull" method. It is not designed to be used with a bow stringer. Bow stringers give a false sense of safety and were originally designed to be used on recurve bows which typically have difficult recurve tips that require alternative methods of stringing because of the difficult nature in flexing the tips. The bow stringer was the "quick fix" borrowed from the ranks of the recurve shooters by some longbow makers in a lame attempt to placate potential liability. (Product liability insurance is used for this!) Black Wolf bows are designed to be strung easily, with the least amount of difficulty. If you are concerned with the tip of the bow springing back and hitting you with in the face - if you slip in setting the string in the nock groove, concentrate on locking your forearm and elbow (the arm you are pulling with) in against your abdominal region. By twisting your hips, slightly, you will have adequate strength and control to string the bow. If your hand slips, the bow limb will not flex back far enough to hit you in the face if you brace the arm you are pulling with against the abdomen.

In addition, these longbows can also be strung using the "boy scout" method of stepping through between the string and the bow. The "boy scout" method is actually safer than the stringer when one examines what happens to the bow if it breaks. The individual stringing the bow is less apt to be injured. It is possible to damage Black Wolf bow limbs in either of these methods of stringing, e.g., twisted bow limbs.

Make sure you **DO NOT** put the bow tip against any hard surface while stringing it. Simply put the tip in snugly against the inside of your shoe, **NOT** on the ground!

BRACE HEIGHT

The proper brace height of your bow is designed with obtaining the optimum mechanical energy transfer from the limbs via the string to the arrow. It is lower than most longbows, i.e., 5-1/2 to 6-1/2 inches only. The material that makes up the FastFlight string. The less it stretches, the less amplitude it produces which robs mechanical energy and causes "string slap" against the bow arm. Most of my customers have actually gotten away from using arm guards because of this last item mentioned. Incidentally, a lot of "traditional longbow noise" comes from the string slapping the arm guard. String that stretch, e.g., Dacron B-50 and B-60 in Flemish style strings are the worst to use on contemporary epoxy laminated longbows of any design and especially Black Wolf bows. Also, ANY longbow that is supplied with FastFlight instead of Dacron will have considerably less HANDSHOCK.

In conclusion, because it is impossible for AFA, Inc. to determine your ability to use a bow, stringing it is an assumed risk taken by the new owner of the recently purchased Black Wolf bow. AFA, Inc. cannot be there in your presence to guarantee that you have the proper skills to do this. Consequently, it is your responsibility to make sure that you do it safely. You assumed this risk when you purchased the bow! So, be safe, and if you have any further questions, contact us and we will do all we can to assist you.

Have FUN with your new bow and bow adventures...after all, that's what it is all about!

Sincerely,

Alaska Black Wolf Bows
Bower Jack Harrison