

**Originating Committee:** Archery and Shooting Sports

**Author:** Dick Wood

**Intended Recipient:** Missouri Department of Conservation

### **Remove Antler Point Restrictions for Youth Archery Permittees**

**WHEREAS**, it is well known that for many years the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) has strongly supported the concept of recruiting and retaining youth in outdoor recreation, and has made laudable provisions for Missouri's youth in regard to deer hunting opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, this strong support is exhibited by their establishment of seasons of Youth Firearms Portions, both Early and Late, as well as Youth Archery designation, resulting in greatly reduced permit fees for all 6 to 15 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to increase Youth Firearm Hunter success, has so regulated that the "4 Point Buck" restriction does not apply to youth hunters during the Youth Portions of the Firearms Season, but the restriction does apply to youth hunters during the regular Firearms Season; and

**WHEREAS**, unlike Youth Firearms Season there is no separate Youth Archery Season, only regular Archery Season; and

**WHEREAS**, the most current data to MDC web site users illustrates that an exciting 2017 - 39% success rate for "Any Deer" permits was accomplished by Youth Firearm Hunters, which was up by 18% in success rate compared to 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, other data reveal that Antlered bucks made up over 55% of the Youth Firearms kill for both 2016 and 2017 compared to the Youth Archery Hunters low 17%; and

**WHEREAS**, the success rate for Archery Youth filling their Any Deer Permit was a disproportionately low 6%; and

**WHEREAS**, the Youth Archery Hunters being required to comply with the "4 Point Buck" restriction may be an obstacle to the success of a Youth Archery Hunter, and may not be a pathway to recruit and retain those youngsters giving thought to taking up bowhunting; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** that the Conservation Federation of Missouri, assembled at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, Jefferson City, MO, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, shall strongly urge the Missouri Department of Conservation to afford the Youth Archery Permittees the same opportunity for success that is provided for Missouri's Youth Firearms Season Hunters, by no longer making the "4 Point Buck" regulation applicable for Youth Archery Hunters.

Searchable Keywords: youth, archery, youth archery permit, youth firearms permit, antler point restriction, any deer permit, youth archery hunter, youth firearms hunter.

**Expires:** March 8th, 2025