

THE BRITISH TENTPEGGING ASSOCIATION



RULES, EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS.

The British Tentpegging Association is the Governing Body for Mounted Skill-at-Arms in Great Britain and is an affiliated World Tent Pegging Federation.

BTA Equipment Specifications.

These specifications are intended to give riders, instructors and organisers of competitions a guide to the construction of equipment. It covers:

- Pegs
- Gallows and rings
- Brush Jumps and Wings
- Sword Dummies
- Swords and Lances

These specifications are intended to give a pattern which will produce safe and serviceable equipment up to competition standard. These drawings are based upon equipment currently in use, some of it military equipment of some vintage. It is not intended to be prescriptive and prevent the use of safe equipment which meets the general parameters set in the rules, i.e. height of fences, rings, etc. Where, due to the availability, or lack thereof, the available equipment is not absolutely to the same specification as laid down here, it shall be as close as reasonably practicable, i.e. slightly different brush jumps, sword dummy heights, form of gallows etc. However peg dimensions, ring and lemon (or other fruit) heights are absolute as are spacings given in the main rules between obstacles and or targets.

For 'Lemons and Pegs' and similar sized fruit or vegetable that can reasonably be cut by the sword may be used.

For Swords and Lances the overall minimum and maximum lengths are absolute requirements as are the point requirements for lances. In all other respects weapons must follow the general parameters set out herein.

Pegs.

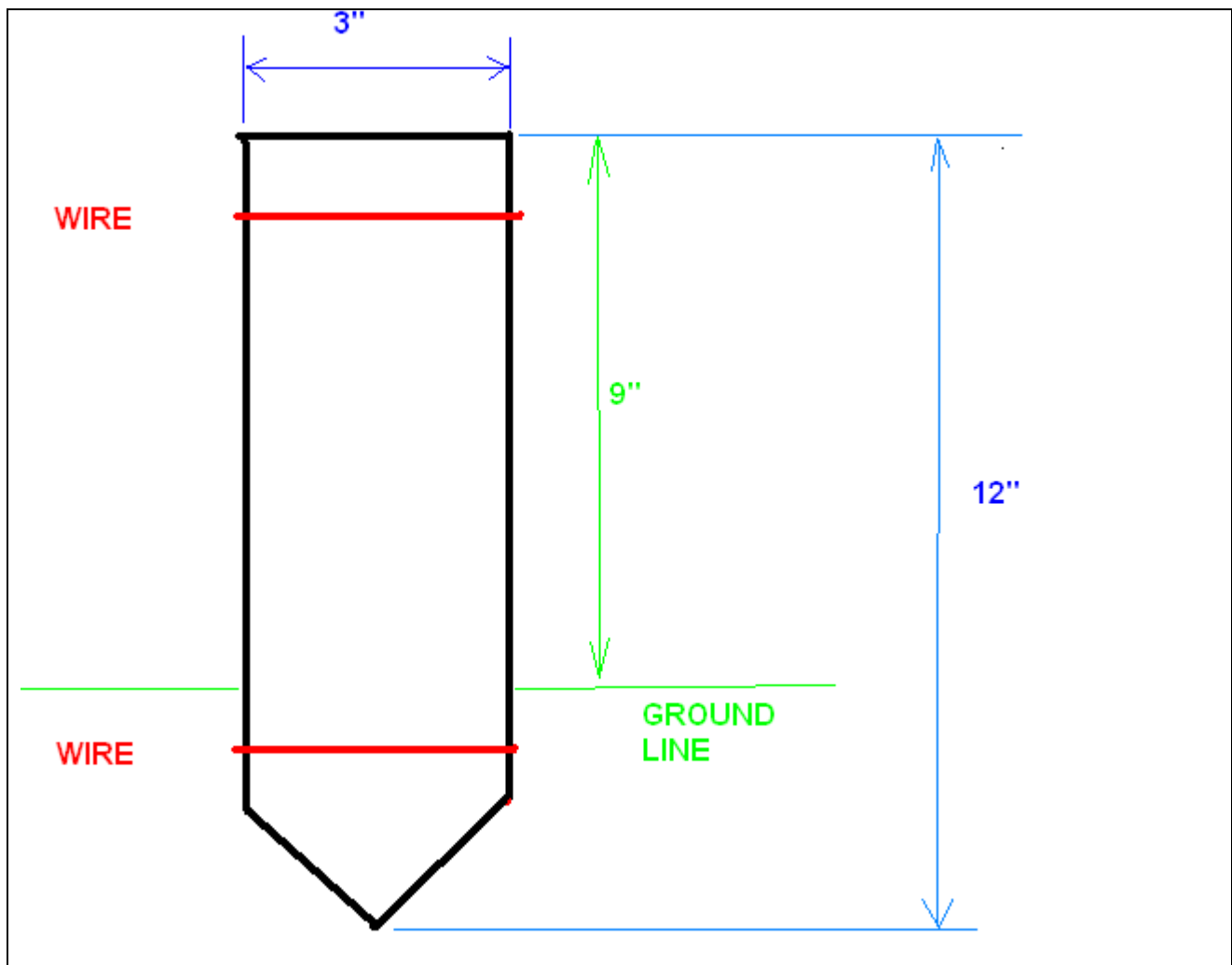
Pegs should be made to the standard dimensions shown below of 12"x3"x1", for run offs pegs of 1" width may be used.

Construction and use: Pegs should be place at an angle 60 degrees to the ground with 9" of peg showing.

Wooden Pegs. The traditional material. Pegs should be made of a soft open grained wood free from knots, wired top and bottom to prevent splitting and soaked in water overnight before use. Only the face and sides should be painted white with emulsion to allow water to penetrate the wood. Wooden pegs should be place firmly in the ground in order to offer enough resistance to the point of the weapon in order for it to penetrate and carry the peg if struck correctly.

Plastic Pegs. Plastic pegs can be made from white soft plastic corrugated board glued together to make a thickness of 1". Heavier duty plastic board can be used for the centre to give a resistance similar to good wood pegs. Pegs should be taped top and bottom to prevent them delaminating when hit. Corrugations should run alternately side to side and top to bottom to aid rigidity.

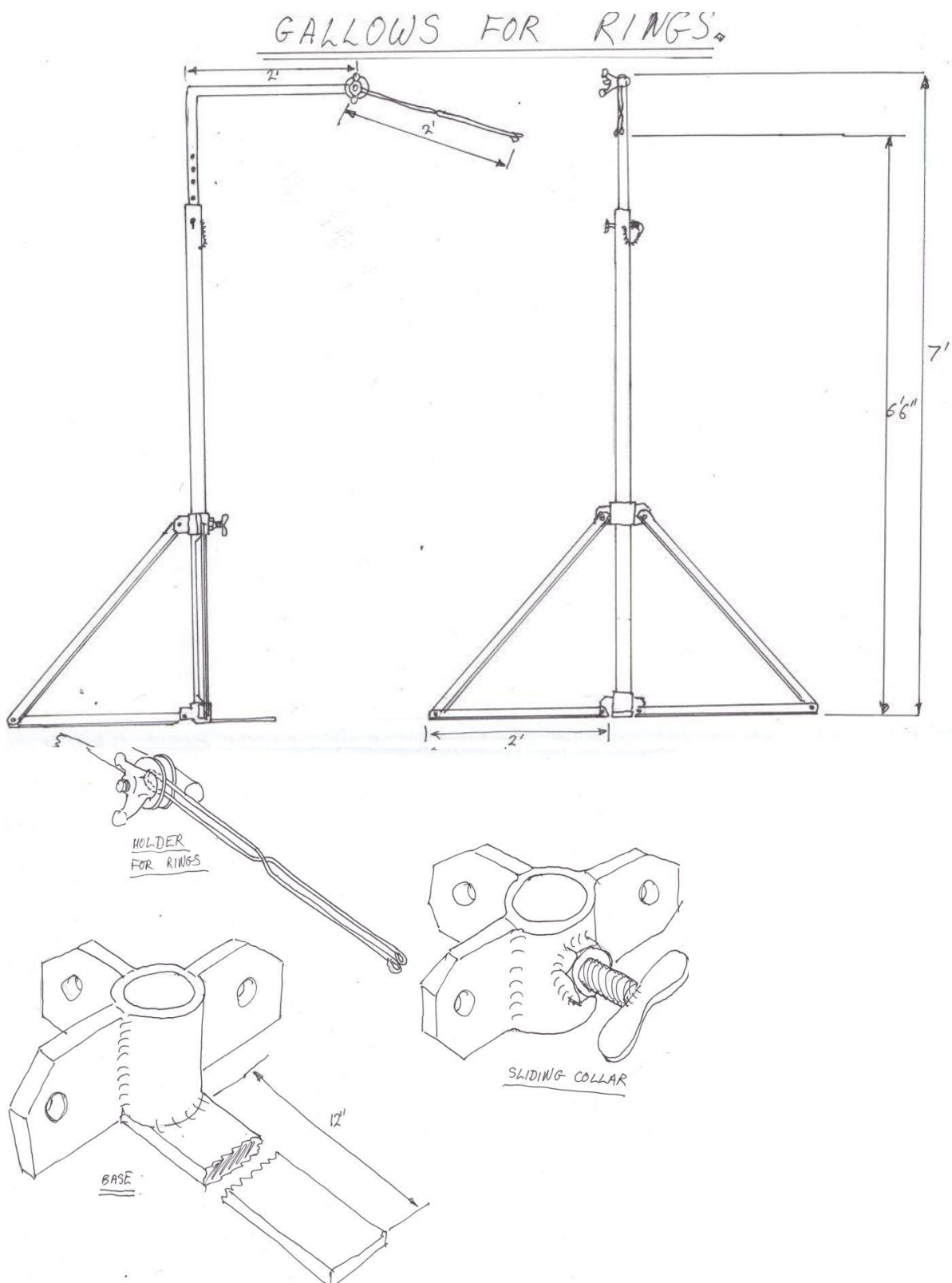
Cardboard Pegs. Pegs can be made of laminated cardboard covered in white paper and taped around the edges. They are unsuitable for wet or damp conditions and would not normally be used in the UK.



Gallows and rings.

Traditional gallows are made from metal tubing, any other suitable material such as aluminium, wood or plastic piping may be used so long as it produces gallows which perform in the same manner, holding the ring securely at the correct height and releasing it when struck or carried. 20mm plumbers poly pipe with a slot in the end makes a flexible safe way of carrying the rings in place of the sprung clip shown below.

Gallows to carry Lemons (or oranges etc) are to be sufficiently rigid to take the weight.

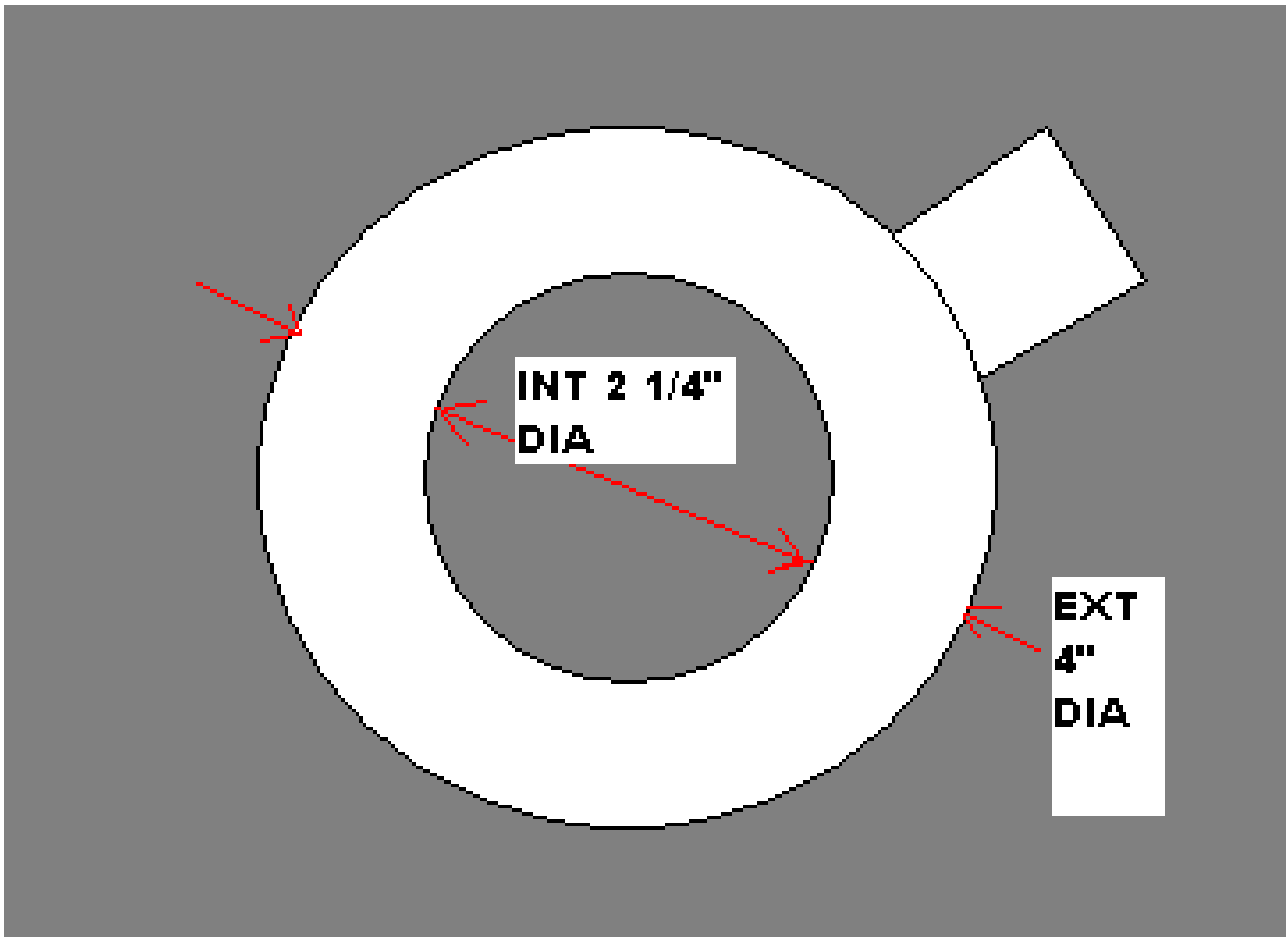


Rings.

Rings shall be of hard leather, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " internal, 4" external and painted white.

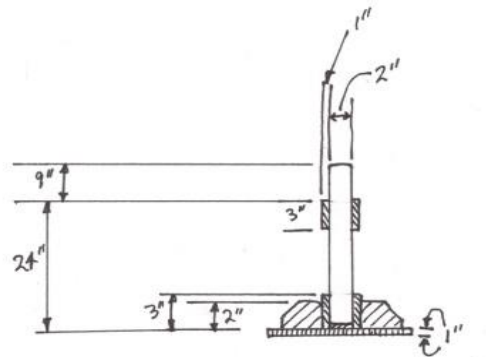
As a guide old saddlery leather, sealed with shellac (French Polish or Knot Sealer) and painted with gloss paint will make a good stiff ring. The ring should be stiff enough not to bend if struck with the point of the weapon or be penetrated by it.

Any material with similar characteristics in the finished ring may be used.



SLR JUMP & WINGS.

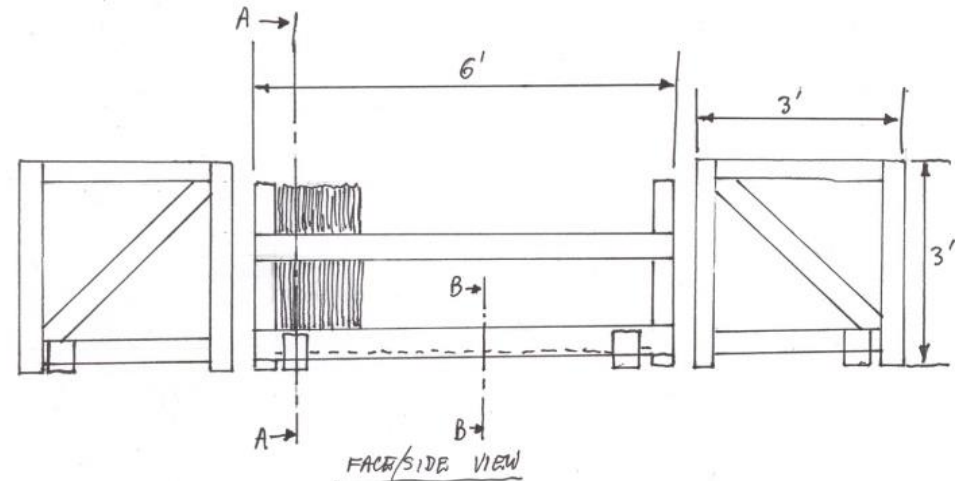
- ◆ MAIN TIMBERS 2" x 2".
- ◆ FACING TO JUMP 3" x 1".
- ◆ JUMP/WING SUPPORT LEGS TO BE DETACHABLE
- ◆ ALL WOOD TO BE PRIMED, UNDERCOAT & GLOSS WHITE.
- ◆ TO BE PACKED WITH BRUSH & TRIMMED LEVEL TO 2'9"



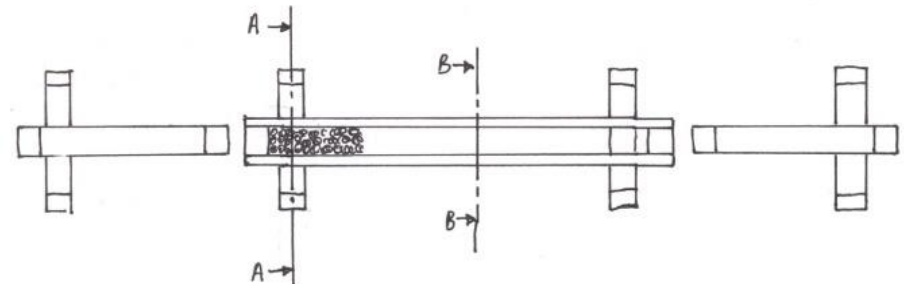
CROSS SECTION A-A



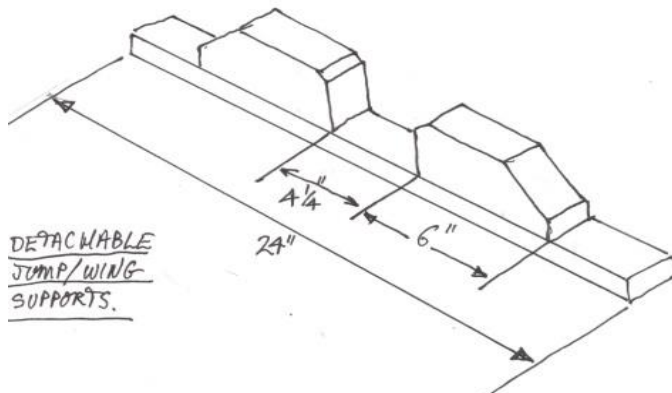
CROSS SECTION B-B



FACE/SIDE VIEW



PLAN VIEW

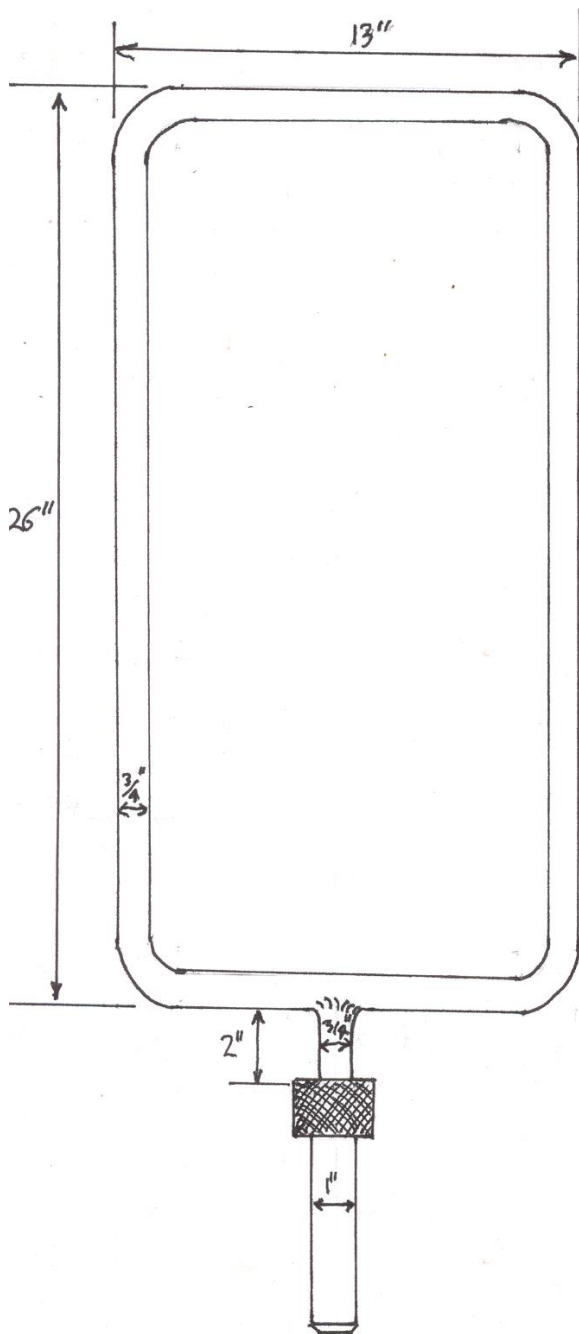


DETACHABLE
JUMP/WING
SUPPORTS.

Any suitable alternative form of construction may be used provide it makes a safe and inviting jump for the horse. For example plastic brush bundles and white plastic plumbers pipe make effective jumps with good wings which are low maintenance to keep in good order and are easily moved around being light.

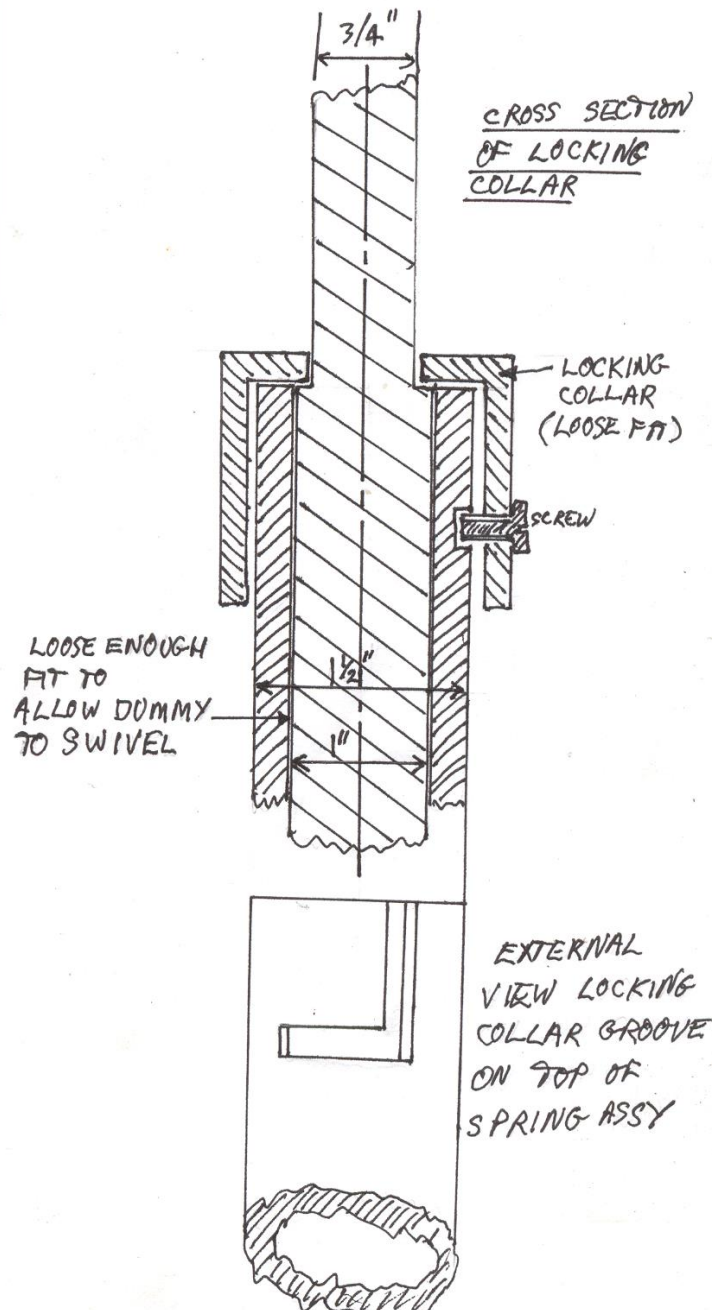
Sword Dummies.

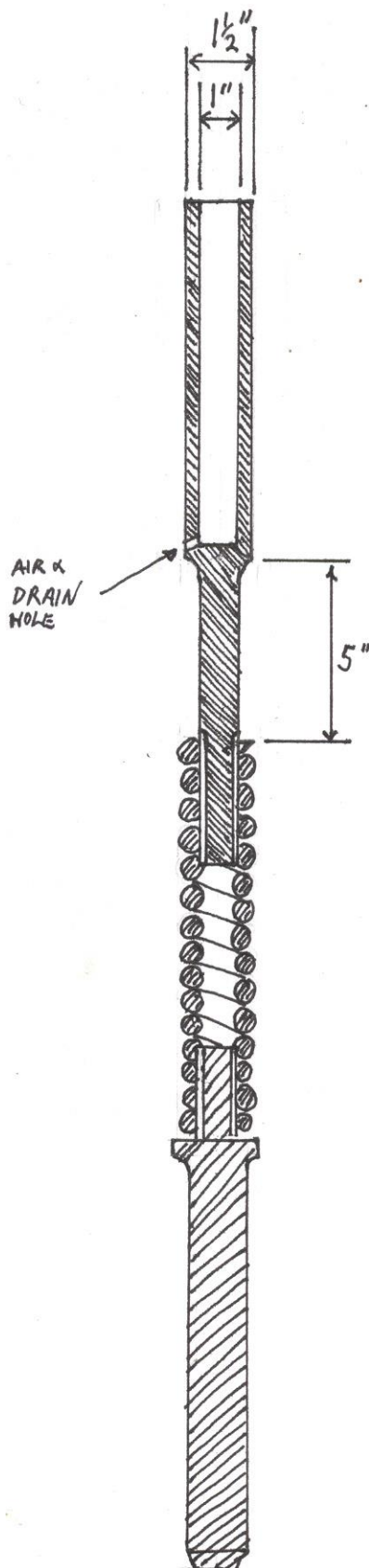
The drawings show the 'ideal' dimensions for a sword dummy. Existing stocks of sword dummies do vary in construction and height. Variations in dummies will be encountered in competition. The guiding principal is that the top of the target shall be as close as possible to 7'6" from the ground commensurate with the target being placed close to the centre of the dummy.



DUMMY.

Cover steel frame in hessian
then cover in white tent canvas,
stitch firmly with straw.
(use circular steel bar)

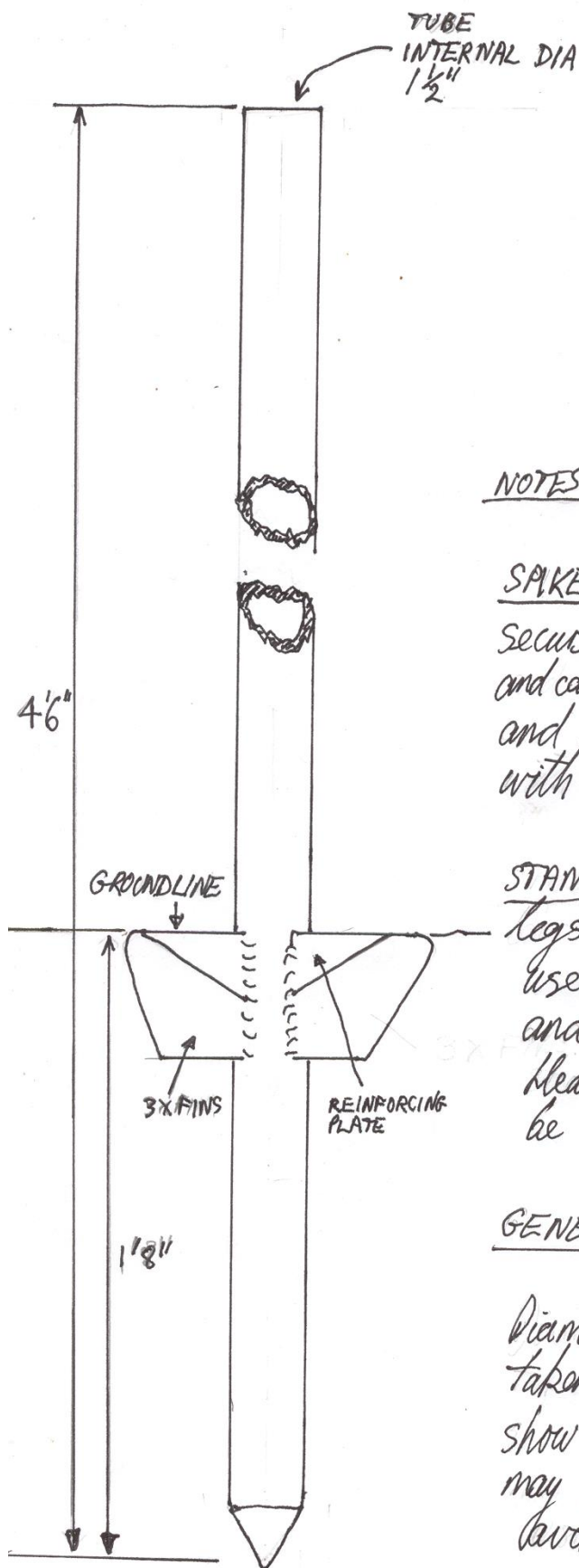




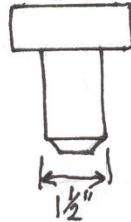
SPRING ASSEMBLY.

{CROSS SECTION}

Spring {such as Lorry Ramp Spring}
drilled and tapped to take threaded
end of top and bottom. DO NOT
WELD AS WILL DESTROY SPRING
TEMPER AND WILL SNAP!



DUMMY BASE



HAMMER DOLLY.
Place in top of base
before knocking in
to avoid burring tube!

NOTES.

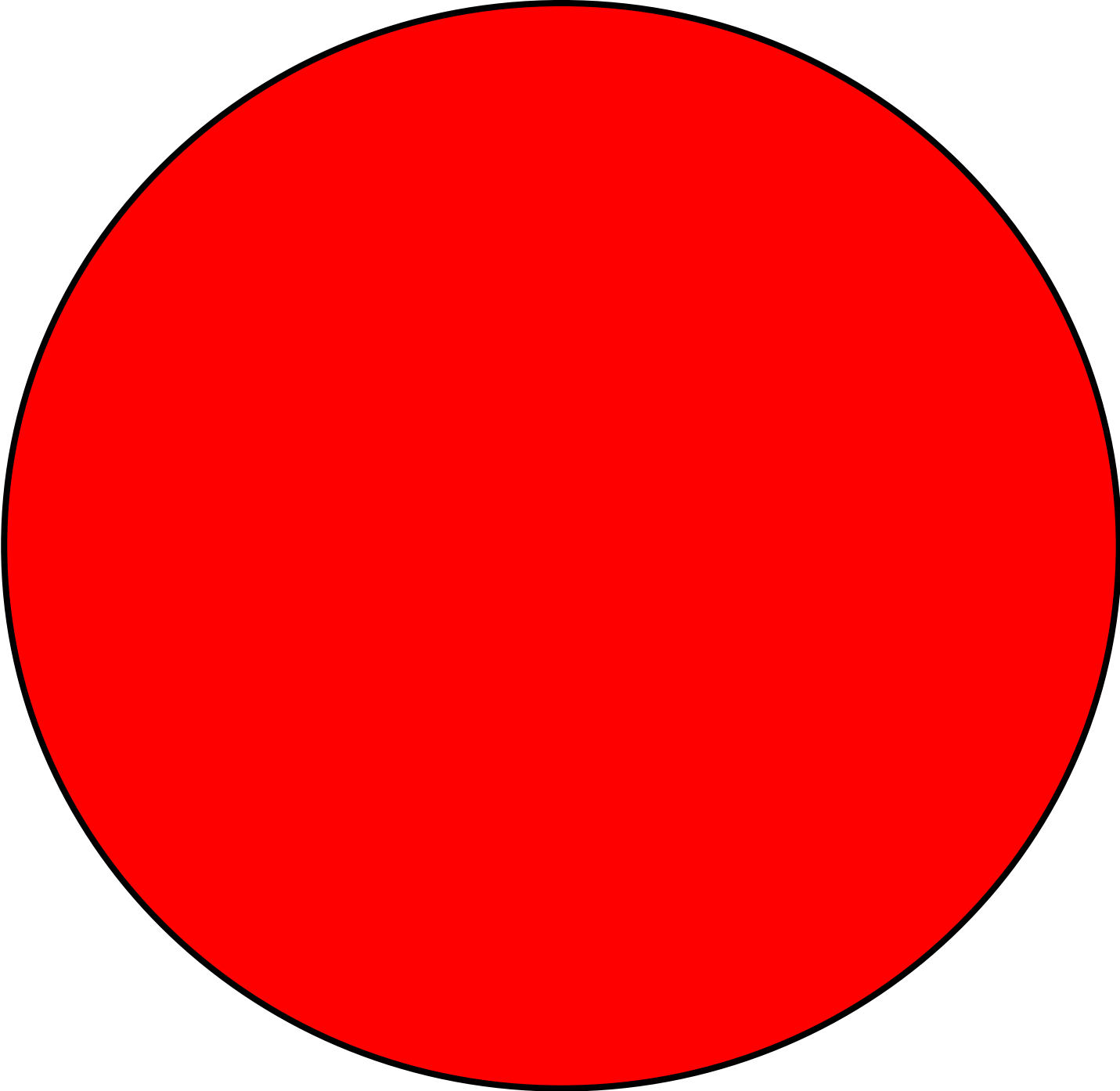
SPIKE IN VERSION - shown here, is the most secure version but takes time to install and can be difficult on very hard ground and not suitable for sand arena's with a membrane.

STAND VERSION A set of 3 folding legs as used on Gallows may be used, however this is less secure and will need pinning down. Heavily weighted with sandbags it can be used in a sand arena.

GENERAL NOTES

Diameters given on all drawings taken from an actual dummy to show relative sizes required. Sizes may be altered to fit the steel stock available.

Sword dummy target top at 7'6" from ground, target 7" dia.

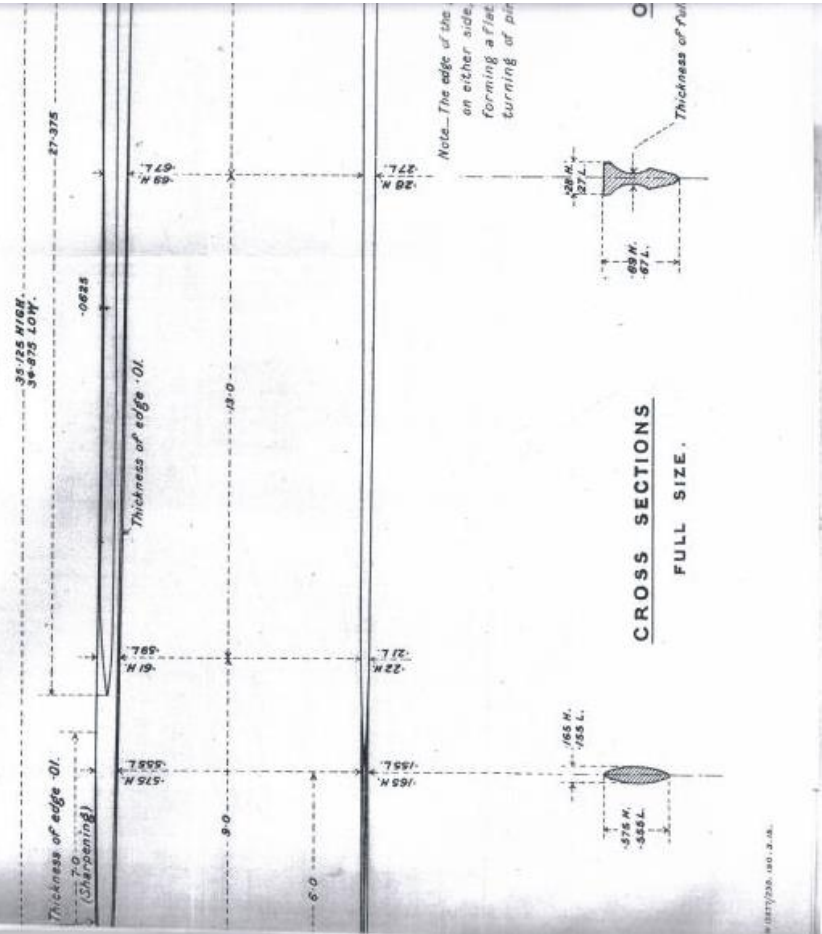


Swords and Lances.

Swords.

Sword to be ideally of the 1908 Pattern, however any straight bladed pattern may be used provided that the length parameters are met. The drawings below are from the original workshops specification for the 1908 sword. For SLR it is strongly advised that only this pattern is used. Only original swords made up to circa 1940 have been proved for use although some copy swords have now been made from sprung steel.

Swords should be stored and carried in their scabbards or placed in a saddle rack. Unsheathed swords are to be carried at Slope or Carry positions when mounted. Under no circumstances are unsheathed swords to be carried tucked under the rider's thigh!



Lances.

Lances may be of any material but must be between 7'6" and 8'6" in length. Points should have a smooth 3 sided point without barbs or serrations designed to hold the peg. Lance butts may be slightly pointed as in the regulation issue 1868 Pattern in order to aid placing in the ground or lance bucket, but they should not be sharp. Lances may be inspected by the judges to ensure that they meet the length and point rules and are of a safe construction for use. Constructions that may be encountered are:

1868 Pattern – genuine antique lances will be solid male bamboo with a 3 sided fullered cast head and cast lance shoe (butt). They can be made up from male bamboo joined to heads and shoes cast to the original pattern available from BTA. Only solid or at least very thick walled bamboo should be used, thin walled garden cane bamboo is liable to shatter under heavy impact.

Indian Bamboo Pegging Lances- have a thin nail point fixed in a lightweight sheet metal head with blunt butt cap. They are not suitable for sustained use on wooden pegs.

Wooden shafts- should be straight grained and strong, ideally should be taped to prevent shattering if they break.

Aluminium Shafts- often encountered with nail points, strong but offer no shock adsorption, especially on wooden pegs!

Carbon Fibre Shafts, strong and light but must have a good wall thickness. They should also be taped or shrink wrapped to reduce the risk form sharp fragments if they break, less shock adsorption than bamboo but more flex than aluminium.

Point Covers. All lances should have a point cover applied when not in use.

