

SAFETY

Modern boomerangs are mostly small and light, therefore the danger to injury is not significant IF these minimal safety rules are followed. Make sure to protect your head and eyes (glasses!) though.

Throwing field:

Only throw when there is enough space, ie the distance to the next object should be at least the double of the expected range of your boomerang. Make sure that the throw-area is clear of people, animals and any other obstacles that might be damaged.

Throwing:

Never take your eyes off the flying boom until it is caught or lands. If you are throwing in a group of people, only throw one boomerang at the time. Everybody watches the flying boom! In case of a dangerous situation, shout! 'watch out, boomerang' and point towards the flying boom.

Return:

NEVER catch a boomerang directly in front of your face. If the boom returns dangerously, duck and protect your head. Make sure to warn people present.

ABOUT CANBOOM

The Canadian Boomerang Throwers Association. The goals of Canboom are to:

- : Foster all aspects of the sport of boomeranging: competition, art, science
- : Strengthen association with all boomerang enthusiasts in Canada and other countries
- : Promote national and international competitions
- : Establish uniform rules and regulations for these competitions
- : Select throwers to represent Canada in international competitions
- : Educate public about boomeranging
- : Become a non-profit organisation

Canboom is a 100% volunteer organization carried by the magic that boomerang throwing brings to our lives.

To learn more about Canboom and boomerangs, please point your internet browser to <http://www.canboom.org>

If you do not have access to the Internet, feel free to call _____ to learn more about boomerang throwers close to you.



THE CANADIAN BOOMERANG
THROWERS ASSOCIATION



The Canadian national team at the World Boomerang Team Cup in Charlesville 2004.

Upcoming Team Cups:
2006 Hokkaido, Japan
2008 Seattle, USA

WHAT IS A BOOMERANG?

Aerodynamic throwsticks were developed by Stone Age civilizations in different parts of the world thousands of years ago. The Australian aborigines are the best known; however, these special hunting weapons were also developed in other areas including ancient Egypt, the American Southwest, and eastern Europe. While there are many stories of how the returning boomerang came to be (many rooted in myth and misinterpretation), most anthropologists agree that it originated from the throwstick.

The throwstick, called a kylie by the native Australians and a rabbit stick by the Hopi people of pre-European America, was a heavy, non-returning aerodynamic weapon



thrown horizontally to kill or stun prey. At some point (perhaps by accident) the stick became more curved and refined (and much lighter) so that, when thrown vertically, it would return to the thrower. These true boomerangs were probably only used for fun and games, not as weapons.

Today's modern boomerangs are sports equipment and should be treated with the same respect as a baseball. Baseballs and boomerangs both can be dangerous when used carelessly. When used properly, they are safe and fun.

COMPETITIONS

Boomerang competitions are held regularly throughout North America, Europe, Japan, and Australia. Throwers meet to enjoy the magic of boomerang flight, test their boomerang throwing skills, renew acquaintances, and meet new boomerang throwers. Competitions include events designed to test a variety of boomerang throwing skills including accuracy, catching ability, speed, and distance. The following provides an introduction to the individual events often contested at boomerang tournaments.

Accuracy: Boomerangs are thrown from the center of a bullseye and points are awarded based on where they land. The scores from either five or ten throws are then added.

Aussie Round: Boomerangs are thrown from the center of a bullseye and points are awarded both for where they are caught within the bullseye and for how far they travel (up to 50 meters). The scores from five throws are added.

MTA: In MTA, or Maximum Time Aloft, boomerangs are thrown and must be caught within a 100 meter circle. Longest time wins.

Trick Catch: A series of progressively difficult trick catches is made with one boomerang, then with two simultaneously.

Fast Catch: Five consecutive throws and catches are made from the center of the bullseye in the shortest amount of time possible.

Endurance: As many consecutive throws and catches are made from the center of the bullseye as possible within five minutes.

Long Distance: Longest flight wins. Boomerang is thrown from center of a 40 m line and has to return over the line to qualify.

Other events are contested as well such as GLORP (similar to basketball's HORSE), or juggling among others.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why does a boomerang come back?
Boomerangs return as a result of the combined principles of asymmetric lift and gyroscopic precession.

Were boomerangs used for hunting?
No. Returning boomerangs aren't heavy enough to kill anything bigger than a large insect. In Australia, where the returning boomerang probably originated, boomerangs may have been used as decoys to mimic birds of prey, tricking a flock of ducks into the waiting nets of the hunters.

Where can I buy a good boomerang?
Boomerangs that really work are hard to find. This is changing due to the growing number of national and international distributors. Try:
<http://www.wallabyboomerangs.com>
<http://www.Master-Designs.com/catalog>
<http://www.theboomerangman.com>
Or try a specialty kite store. To be really sure, please try to get in contact with Canboom on www.canboom.org and ask about a specific boomerang maker.

How can I make a good boomerang?
First, learn how to throw a boomerang that you know works. Then, copy it. Still got the crafting bug? Good. Go to www.canboom.org to find more info.

Where can I find more info and ask specific questions?
Go to www.canboom.org and browse the web site. If you cannot find an answer, post in the forum and your questions will be answered.

