It’s well known that shooting with a back tension release aid is the best way to learn an effective and balanced shot execution; in an ideal world I’d recommend archers continue using one for tournaments as well as in training to refine their technique and prevent bad habits from forming. However, I’m aware that not everyone feels comfortable shooting a back tension release, especially when the pressure is on or when the weather conditions are bad. But switching between a trigger and back tension can be difficult; the differences in handle shape and design can make your equipment feel unfamiliar and leave your results inconsistent. Luckily enough, I’ve found T.R.U Ball has the answer with the latest additions to its already industry-leading hinge and trigger line ups.

At the beginning of 2015 T.R.U Ball launched two identically designed release aids that use two entirely different firing mechanisms. The Signature Series FulKrum; a hinge-style back tension, and the Abyss; a thumb-activated trigger, are inspired and designed by world gold medalist and professional compound archer Jesse Broadwater.

The FulKrum and Abyss stand out as unique additions to the release aid market. Their identical handle designs, each made from solid brass, ensure that you can easily switch between each solidly crafted release without negatively impacting your shooting.

So how did such an innovative idea come about? Jesse Broadwater explains his collaboration with the release company; “The team at T.R.U Ball and I worked hard on designing these releases from the ground up, using some technologies and adjustability never seen before in a hand held release. Our goal was to provide the user with a comfortable release aid and allow the adjustability to fit your individual style, so you can be as consistent, comfortable and accurate as possible”

Both the Fulkrum and Abyss come in a three-finger design and are available in medium and large sizes to fit almost any hand. T.R.U Ball has also incorporated its new LAS (lever alignment system) technology into both products. The LAS allows the archer to move the head of the release around the outside edge of the index finger; which adjusts how the fulcrum (pivot) point of the release works in conjunction with the archer’s individual shooting style. So what other industry-leading features have these releases got to offer?

THE FULKRUM
The FulKrum has been described as the ultimate hinge release and a back tension shooter’s dream. It’s designed with a nicely weighted brass body, an enclosed smooth index finger and knurled second and third finger design. This makes the FulKrum very smooth to shoot and easy to use in wet conditions; something that can have a particularly bad effect on other back tension release aids.

Its simple and crisp head design incorporates the lever alignment system (LAS), and this allows you to alter its position to suit your individual needs and shooting style, perfect for archers who suffer from accuracy-robbing string or vane contact with their face at full draw. As the LAS adjusts the way the FulKrum sits in your hand, it allows you to truly customise the fit and feel of this release aid as well
BOW International equipment as fine tune its firing time.

The FulKrum comes with a clear and easy to adjust speed dial to set the amount of travel needed to activate the release, and laser engraved marks on the moon adjustment make it easy to reference your preferred setting so you can clearly see how much you are adjusting it.

It can also be used with or without a click, by simply flipping the speed dial around 180 degrees. The release is supplied with a mid-length click but comes with the option of both longer and shorter dials.

With all these features neatly packaged into the superbly comfortable and ergonomic handle it’s easy to see how the FulKrum has built a huge following worldwide and is now regarded as one of the best, most customisable back tension releases on the market today.

THE ABYSS

The Abyss is the first of its kind; a brass thumb activated trigger release that uses the same handle as its back tension counterpart, the FulKrum. This not only gives you the exact same reference point and hand position when switching between the two releases, but ensures that your impact point on the target will also be exactly the same. The addition of the LAS head makes this a truly unique
trigger release, as it means you can identically match the head position on your FulKrum, so your trigger release has the same string and vane clearance, as well as feel, as your back tension.

The Abyss comes with a unique three-stage tension adjustment system so you can easily customise the release to your preferred trigger weight, and as the spare spring spacers are stored in the body of the release, you can be sure they are always to hand when you need to make an adjustment.

The simple design of the lockable travel adjustment screw allows you to set the trigger’s travel to your own specifications quickly and easily, then lock it securely into place. This reduces the possibility of it working itself loose and consequently avoids the risk of a misfire or your shot timing being altered.

An adjustable thumb trigger comes as standard on the Abyss, allowing you to create a truly customised feel and with the option to move it to almost any position, you are sure to experience consistent, comfortable and easy to execute shots.

This year I have been working with both the FulKrum and Abyss and I have enjoyed shooting them both. Their adjustability has allowed me to get the perfect hand position and the LAS has helped me to achieve a relaxed and natural release hand during my shot, something I have previously struggled with. Although I have been shooting back tension for some years now, like many people, I have had times when I’ve found it necessary to use a trigger and with these new releases I’m now able to switch between the two styles without any detrimental changes to my form or a difference in my sight marks. The FulKrum and Abyss are without a doubt the most comfortable and consistent releases I have ever used; their perfect fit and customisability have really boosted my confidence when I switch between back tension and trigger.

Of course, you don’t have to use these releases as a pair, they work perfectly on their own and with all the features and technology packed into each one they will be a perfect addition to both a back tension and trigger shooter’s set up. So whatever you choose to shoot, you’ll find the interchangeable nature of the FulKrum and Abyss indispensable to your confidence and scores.

No two releases aids will give you the same adjustability and comfort as these latest additions to the T.R.U Ball line-up; their identical handles and head positions will ensure your form remains crisp and your sight marks unchanged even when switching between shooting styles.

As an added bonus, for every release sold a percentage of the sales will go to the Windber Research Institute to help fight breast cancer; a charitable cause personally supported by Jesse Broadwater, so there’s even more of a reason to pick one up.

WWW.DUNCANBUSBYARCHERY.COM
DUNCANBUSBYARCHERY@GMAIL.COM