



CLUB HANDBOOK

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Introduction



This is the fifth edition of the
Tonbridge Archery Club Handbook
2024-2025

Being compiled from numerous sources this is not the ultimate in archery know how, but it is hoped that it will be a good reference source to new (and not so new) club members of the mysteries the rest of us take for granted, but do not necessarily understand.

This Handbook is divided into three main parts:

PART I: Tonbridge Archery Club

Of equal interest and importance to all club members.

PART II: Archery Basics

Of particular interest to those new to archery but can also be referenced as needed by more experienced archers.

Appendices

[Common Phrases and Abbreviations](#), [Glossary of Archery Terms¹](#), and interesting sections not solely applicable to just Part 1 or just Part 2.

¹ Another Section can be linked to by clicking over [Text with a grey background](#).

PART I: Tonbridge Archery Club

Who and What We Are

We are the Tonbridge Archery Club and our venue is the Schools at Somerhill, Somerhill, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 ONJ.

The Tonbridge Archery Club was founded by Thelma Barber and Malcolm Brady on Saint George's Day, 23rd April 1978. Both Thelma and Malcolm had an early interest in archery and were members of Tamburlaine Archers. Thelma was requested to give a talk on archery, via Hospital Radio, who were running a series on different sports when it was mentioned that Tonbridge did not have a club. After some three months, John Turton (the DJ), called to say that Tonbridge Hockey Club would welcome the revenue from sharing their ground. The venue was eventually taken on by the Old Juddians Rugby Club. After many years we eventually had to move because they wished to build an extension to their club house and we were kindly offered the ground we are now on where we have remained ever since.

We are affiliated to Archery GB (the trading name of the Grand National Archery Society), the national governing body for the sport of archery in the UK from grassroots up to International competition and Olympic level. Archery GB is the umbrella organisation for the English Archery Association, Archery Northern Ireland, Scottish Archery and the Welsh Archery Association.

The Club Constitution defines our Governance and the Club Committee manages the day-to day operations of the club.

We cater for archers aged 12 and above, requiring all archers under the age of 18 to be accompanied at all times when shooting at Somerhill by a parent or guardian.

We cater for most bowtypes but do not permit Crossbows, Slingbows or catapults at the venue.

Organisational Affiliations

Archery GB

The **National Governing Body** for archery in the UK is the Grand National Archery Society (**GNAS**), which operates and trades under the name Archery GB (**AGB**).



AGB provides the governance for archery in the UK from grassroots up to International competition and Olympic level. Archery GB is the umbrella organisation for the English Archery Association, Archery Northern Ireland, Scottish Archery and the Welsh Archery Association.

Tonbridge Archery Club is affiliated to AGB and adheres to its rules and regulations. We have additional rules and regulations specific to the club to account for the requirements of our venue, the limited size of the venue and our membership.

Progress Awards Scheme

We encourage beginners to follow their progression with this scheme. There are White, Black, Blue, Red and Gold badges for both Indoor and Outdoor rounds.



The *Three-dozen rounds for Beginners* section has further detail.



Southern Counties Archery Society

The **SCAS** is a **Regional Society** of Archery GB and acts to promote and encourage the sport of archery in the Southern Counties of England. It carries out a wide range of functions that promote or support archery, such as organising and running tournaments, providing help and grants to clubs, training development and support for judges and coaches and supporting archers in the region. It is run by a Regional Council, consisting of County representatives and elected Officers and Officials. Its remit covers 13 counties in the south of England.

Tonbridge Archery club is in the SCAS region and club members pay SCAS a separate fee for annual membership.



Kent Archery Association

County Organisation

The **KAA** was formed in 1953 and was responsible for archery in the whole of the county of Kent as it then existed. Its purpose was primarily administrative, collecting affiliation fees for the national governing body (the Grand National Archery Society (GNAS)), coordinating training for officials and coaches, organising county championships and team tournaments, and maintaining county records. It fits into the AGB hierarchy of organisations as part of SCAS.



Some 60 years on, the county boundaries have changed, but the KAA is still responsible for the same area, so certain clubs in some of the south-east London boroughs fall inside its domain. It is also still responsible for the same administrative work, but its developmental role is steadily gaining in importance and it has recently started working closely with the Kent County Council Sports Development Unit.

Tonbridge Archery club is in the KAA region and club members pay KAA a separate fee for annual membership.

County Coaching

KAA has delegated its coaching role to the **Invicta Coaching Group**, which provides a focus for archery coaching in Kent and offers support to coaches through workshops and coach education courses. It runs coaching clinics and other performance activities. The group is managed by an elected committee.

Summary of Club Shooting Regulations

Safety

All shooting must be controlled by a Tonbridge Archery Club Approved **Field Captain** and will be shot according to Archery GB and Tonbridge Archery Club Rules. No-one will shoot if no Field Captain has control.

Before any archer may shoot they must **sign in** and record their *AGB Number and expiry date*. The Field Captain will not allow shooting to commence before all archers have signed in. Before leaving the venue all archers must **sign out** and confirm they have not left any kit behind. Failure properly to sign-in and sign-out will result in immediate suspension.

For indoor shooting we are uncomfortable with **compounds** over 35lb and for new members and existing members changing their equipment limit the maximum weight to 45lb. For outdoor shooting we are uncomfortable with compounds over 50lb but do not actually limit the weight.

For **normal club shooting** *All lost arrows* in any end will be found *before the next end* is started. In **Tournaments** *All lost arrows* will be found at the end of the distance and *before the next distance is started*.

Pure carbon arrows are not allowed as all arrows must be relatively easily findable with a metal detector

There must be a **minimum of two people present at all times** when shooting, each being a minimum of 18 years of age and *at least one being an approved Field Captain*.

Members must be familiar with AGB and club rules and adhere to all instructions by the Approved Field Captain or club officials present.

General Rules

Members must be compliant with the **Safeguarding** policies of Archery GB and Tonbridge Archery Club.

Smoking and vaping are not permitted between arriving at Somerhill and leaving Somerhill at the end of the day's shooting.

Drones shall only be used with the advance permission of the club committee.

Club Days

Rounds only count for AGB shooting on Club Days.

Properly completed paper **scoresheets**² for all rounds shot on Club Days must be submitted to the Club Records Officer. An official results sheet for any away shoot must be submitted to the Club Records Officer. Scoresheets must *not* be submitted for rounds shot at Somerhill on non-Club Days.

Club Days are:

- Tuesday evenings Indoors in the winter season ³
- Sundays indoor and outdoor all year

Shooting Procedure

Assembly is 30 minutes before the published start time for each session. Archers are expected to be at the venue by that time to help setup the field and setup their own equipment. The field will be setup to cater for the archers present at assembly.

Everyone shooting must sign-in on the shooting register before they can shoot and sign-out when their day's shooting is complete. There is also a tick box next to the sign-out box. This must also be ticked by the Archer to confirm they have not left any arrows or other equipment at the venue.

If an Archer wishes to join the shooting line after shooting has started for the session it must be with the Field Captain's permission.

Any Archer joining the session after shooting has started will be assigned a place on the shooting line by the Field Captain and may only catch up with the Field Captain's permission if scoring has not yet taken place for the designated round.

If shooting starts after scoring for the round has taken place the score is void for club record purposes. (To avoid disruption of shooting and inconveniencing archers already shooting NO other targets will be erected unless it is unavoidable).

If an archer wishes to shoot a round other than the designated round the Field Captain must be asked and give permission. It is entirely the Field Captain's decision on whether they are happy with this.

² Please refer to the **Score Sheets** section which has an example and instructions for completing score sheets.

³ **Tuesday evenings outdoors** are *not* Club Days - these are for practice, bow-tuning and coaching

A target will be set up with the targets for the designated round in a position commensurate with orderly shooting.

Shooting a non-designated round will follow the shooting regime of the designated round, under control of the Field Captain.

If the majority of archers wish to shoot a non-designated round the shooting regime of the designated round will be followed unless in the opinion of the Field Captain safety would be compromised.

If an archer wishes to shoot for activities other than for record purposes, (bow tuning, coaching, beginners courses. etc.), then if it is possible and agreed by the Field Captain targets will be erected in a safe position and shooting will be controlled to respect the designated round being shot. All such archers will sign-in and out and their shooting will be under the direction of an approved Field Captain.

On completion of the designated round, archers who have finished shooting are expected to dismantle and store the redundant equipment in the manner prescribed by the Equipment Officer for best preservation of the equipment and the safety of other archers.

Care will be taken of the ground and all litter removed.

Specialists

Our more experienced members are willing to provide assistance for any archer, whatever their ability and some of our members are either 'lapsed' coaches or are qualified to train beginners.

The club runs Beginners classes during the year. If anyone enquires about archery courses or joining the club direct them to the contact us section of the club website. If any member wishes to undertake coaching training they should ask one of our Committee members for further information.

Field Captain

Shooting at Somerhill is only permitted under the control of a club-approved Field Captain. This might be supplemented by an AGB Judge when tournaments are held.

Tournaments

A Lady Paramount is always invited to a Tournament to welcome the archers at the start of the shoot and to award trophies and medals at the end of the shoot.

Usually at larger meetings a Judge is appointed to take charge of shooting. Field Captains or experienced archers may also be appointed if necessary. At tournaments these officials are non-shooting. The Judge is in sole control of the shooting and will resolve all disputes in accordance with Archery GB Rules of Shooting.

Shooting Programme & Clothing

We shoot outdoors year round when the weather is suitable. We have a Sunday outdoor shooting programme which shows what round we plan to shoot on any given Sunday. We do change the plan occasionally, and will shoot whatever round the majority want to shoot if archers prefer something different to the plan. In bad weather we may shoot indoors instead.

We shoot indoors on Tuesday evenings during the winter season, usually between 1 October and 31 March. We have a Tuesday indoor shooting programme which shows what round we plan to shoot on any given Tuesday evening in the winter season. We do change the plan occasionally, and will shoot whatever round the majority want to shoot if archers prefer something different to the plan.

We shoot outdoors on Tuesday evenings during the summer. There is no shooting programme for summer Tuesday evenings. Archers may shoot rounds if they wish and the field captain agrees, but these evenings are intended for coaching, bow tuning and general practice and any rounds shot do not count for records, classification or handicap purposes. In bad weather we may shoot indoors instead.

Dress Regulations

We adhere strictly to the Archery GB dress regulations, clauses ‘a’ & ‘b’ being:

*“The recognised dress of Archery GB is plain dark green and/or white; footwear that fully encloses the toes and front of the foot must be worn at all times when shooting”.*⁴



Batches of club shirts are ordered by the club when there's sufficient demand.⁵



⁴ Refer to Rule 307 clause ‘c’ in the **AGB Rules of Shooting** which sets out the further detail relating to Members of Archery GB shooting and officiating at tournaments granted UK or World Record Status by Archery GB.

⁵ Our club colours are not registered with AGB, so for county level and above tournaments we recommend wearing standard archery green and white, although it's highly unlikely that anyone will challenge members wearing our club colours.

Special Events

Birthday Shoot

The biggest event in our calendar is the Birthday Shoot to celebrate the Club's birthday of St George's Day.



We endeavour to hold this on the Sunday as close as possible to St George's Day and invite clubs and individuals from Kent and surrounding counties to send teams to shoot on our field. It is run along the lines of a proper tournament with a Lady Paramount, together with Field Captain and a Judge. On the day Tonbridge Club members are the working party, scorers, Tournament Organiser's assistants etc.



Included in the entry fee are a cream tea for lunch and a slice of Birthday cake afterwards.

This is a very popular event but is only as successful as the effort put in by the club members.

Trophies and medals are awarded.

Chairman's Shoot

One Sunday in the summer is given over to the Chairman's Shoot, inaugurated by Thelma Barber as a challenge shoot for club members. We shoot the Tonbridge Round (not found in the Archery GB Handbook) but was devised so that experienced archers could shoot relatively short distances without damaging their handicaps. As this is not a recognised Archery GB round the scores do not count against the handicap and classification schemes.

The Tonbridge Round is the (Imperial) American round but scored Metric. Individuals may convert their scores to an American for their own gratification.

Club Championships

These are held towards the end of the summer season and before the AGM. The Rounds shot each year are York/Hereford and Bristols and all club members are invited to compete. Trophies are awarded to the best archers in each category i.e. Gentleman and Ladies recurve and compounds shots.

Fun Shoots

During the year the club holds the occasional Fun Shoot such as at Christmas and Halloween. Prizes are awarded.



Club Awards

Thelma Barber Recurve Trophies

In memory of our founder member Thelma Barber, two trophies were donated - Gentlemen Recurve and Lady Recurve. Members can compete for these and other trophies at the Annual Club Championships.



Handicap Medal

This medal is awarded to the club archer who makes the most improvement in their handicap rating during the year.

It is presented annually at the beginning of the year.

The medal belongs to Archery GB and they require the winner to wear the medal on all target days — or pay a forfeit (to be specified by the club).



Goodfellow Trophy

This trophy was presented to the club by Mike Goodfellow, a past Records Officer, after whom it is named to encourage members to hand in their scores. Points are awarded as follows:

For every round shot and a score handed in (one point is awarded). If the score achieved equalled the archers current handicap (two points are awarded). If the score achieved bettered the archers current handicap (three points are awarded).

This trophy traditionally is awarded at the AGM.



Sue Redsell Indoor Trophy

Sue was a club member who sadly passed away in 2001. In her memory two trophies were donated. This trophy is awarded to the archer who wins the winter indoor league rolling handicap shoot. The shoot carries on throughout the winter and is decided on a points system based on weekly position after handicap allowances are applied. The system was first used in the club and accredited to Sue, the then 'Records Officer'.



At the beginning of the season a handicap is established for each archer and the allowance for each round and score are added to give a weekly position. Points are given from 20 down to 1 for 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. The allowance per round depends on the handicap shot at the previous shoot and therefore can alter throughout the season. As the points accumulate weekly so positions are determined and the final winner with the most points is announced at the AGM.

Sue Redsell Memorial Trophy

For the same reason as stated above the trophy is a memorial trophy but is awarded at the annual 'Birthday Shoot' for the best handicap achievement on the day. As club members traditionally do not enter the birthday shoot its intention is to remember Sue to archers outside of the club of whom she knew so many.

Portsmouth Badge Awards

During the Indoor Season we have Portsmouth Badge Awards. These are personal achievement badges. As archers achieve higher scores at this round, they can claim a badge for each step they take. These are awarded for scores of 400, 450, 500, 525, 550, 575 & 600. Only one score needs be submitted per badge application.



Usual shooting rules apply, scoresheets properly recorded and witnessed. They can only be claimed at club target days.

Six Gold End Awards ⁶

Target

The 6 Gold End award is open to all members of Archery GB. It is for 6 consecutive arrows shot at one end into the Gold Zone during competition. It is not claimable during sighters but it is not necessary for the round to be completed.



For the purpose of a 6 Gold Badge on WA rounds the 9 and 10 scoring ring will be treated as golds.

The rules specify the shortest distance at which the badge can be claimed but basically six gold ends shot at the two longest distances applicable to each age group will apply, i.e. Gentlemen — 100/80 yards or 90/70 metres, Ladies — 80/60 yards or 70/60 metres etc.

Clout

An award is available for 6 clouts in one end shot during competition.

FITA Star Awards

This award is open to members of Archery GB according to World Archery rules and is only available at open tournaments that qualify. These events also carry World Record Status. On achieving, or bettering a specified score level, a badge for that score level can be claimed.

Archery GB Rose Awards

This award is available for the same general rules as for WA Star Badges. The essential difference is they are awarded on scores shot for York/ Hereford/ Bristol I-V rounds at official UKRS Rose Award status events, i.e. this is the Archery GB version of WA star.



Records

A Record can be claimed for any score shot that betters a record score currently listed. Dependent upon the status of the competition is how the claim is made.

⁶ Refer to **Levels of Competition** area of the Archery GB website for further detail.

PART II: Archery Basics

Archery Etiquette

The AGB's Rules of Shooting states that a **Good Archer**:

- Does not talk in a loud voice whilst others are shooting.
- Does not talk to another competitor who obviously prefers to be silent.
- Does not make any exclamation on the shooting line that might disconcert a neighbour in the act of shooting.
- Does not go behind the target to retrieve their arrows before their score has been recorded.
- Does not walk up and down the shooting line comparing scores.
- Does not touch anyone else's equipment without permission.
- Does not leave litter.
- When calling scores does so in groups of three, for example '7 - 7 - 5' pause '5 - 5 - 3'.
- If they break another's arrow through their own carelessness, pays for it in cash on the spot.
- Thanks the Target Captain at the end of each round for work on their behalf.

Types of Archery

Target Archery

The most common discipline within archery, that you are likely to practice, is called 'target' archery. Basically, this is shooting at targets set out at measured distances on a flat field.

Excepting where 'special' rounds are devised, shooting always starts at the longest distance and works down to the shortest distance. This is a throwback to when archery was purely practiced for warfare - i.e. shooting at an enemy advancing towards your position.

A 'round' is a combination of a set number of arrows shot at prearranged distance or distances, i.e. the 'York Round' is a total of 12 dozen arrows shot. Six dozen at 100 yards, four dozen at 80 yards and two dozen at 60 yards.

The 'target', in most cases is a paper sheet of different sizes (the face), sometimes reinforced, covering a compressed straw backstop (the boss).



It is printed in a series of concentric circles in five colours - from the centre outwards:

Gold
(never called yellow),
Red, Blue,
Black and White.

This combination is called the Princes Colours.

The 'Face' is attached to the 'Boss' by plastic golf-tee looking 'Face Pins' and the Boss then normally sits on a stand. Some 'Bosses' are made from foam fixed in a frame and are free standing.

Other sections in this handbook have tables that show all the **Outdoor Metric Rounds** and **Outdoor Imperial Rounds** with distances and number of arrows shot. Also diagrams showing the

Scoring.

Additionally, there is a 2-inch inner circle at the centre of the Gold which is used by Compound archers under certain circumstances. The score is determined by the arrow's position, if the arrow touches two colours or the dividing line it is scored at the higher value. Target archery is also practiced indoors.

Indoor Archery

There are nine indoor rounds different shot over distances from 18 metres to 30 metres, and on faces from 40 centimetres up to 80 centimetres. Some are shot at 20 yards. Most rounds consist of 5 dozen arrows. Most are scored as metric scoring — i.e. from 10 down to 1. An exception is a Worcester round which is shot on a black and white face and scored from 5 down to 1.



Another is a Vegas which uses 5 zone scoring from 6 to 10.

Clout

This style of archery is practiced on a large, open field. Although usually only practised for fun it is a demanding test of trajectory skill. As the distances shot are greater than for either target or field it is often preferable to shoot two ways — i.e. once arrows have been shot and scores collected the archers turn round and shoot back to the starting line. Three dozen arrows are shot.

For senior archers the distances are 180 yards for Gentlemen and 140 yards for Ladies from the shooting line to the Clout. There are a variety of distances for the junior Gentlemen and Ladies depending on age group.

The 'clout' is a piece of cloth or a flag attached to a post. It is 12" square and set as close to the ground as possible. No part of the post should project above the clout.

Arrows are shot from the shooting line at the clout and are shot at a much greater elevation than is usual for target archery to gain the extra distance. Once all the arrows have been shot and the archers have progressed towards the clout the scorers move in to collect and score the arrows. A length of cord or similar, in excess of 12 feet long is attached to the clout post, usually by slipping a ring over the post, and stretched out from it. The cord is coloured at the following measured intervals forming the following radii when stretched out from the centre of the clout flag pole: 18 inches, 3 feet, 6 feet, 9 feet and 12 feet, and this is moved around in a circle with the 'colour' captains at each colour point picking up the arrows within each colour range and finally laying them across the cord once all have been collected, ready for scoring.

Scoring on the five coloured zones from gold outwards

Gold (Clout)	5
Red	4
Blue	3
Black	2
White	1

Clout shooting has its origin in the 'military' practice in medieval times. The archers were collectively known as 'the artillery' (French 14th century *canillier* to arm), and were used to destroy the enemy at as long a range as possible. Though sheer weight of firepower could do great damage, accuracy was highly regarded too, hence clout shooting. The word clout means a piece of clothing and is thought to be of Anglo-Saxon origin - *clut* - a piece of cloth.



Wand

Like a Clout, this style of archery is practiced on a large, open field. A Wand is a target 6 feet tall and six inches wide which is shot at from 140 yards away. It is positioned inside a 6-foot diameter 'ring'. 10 is scored for hitting the wand, and 1 for a ring.

A wand shoot consists of 6 ends of 6 arrows each.



Handicaps and Classifications

The Handicap Scheme

The administration of the National Handicap Scheme is in the hands of Club Officials. No central register is held at Archery GB. Handicaps may be used for indoor and outdoor shooting, but the two ratings are to be kept entirely separate. The Handicap Scheme runs from year to year starting from 1st January for Outdoor shooting and 1st July for Indoor shooting. All scores are recorded with the club's Records Officer who keeps the official club records. Archers should keep their own records.

All scores for recognised handicap rounds shot can be compared on the Handicap Tables and a rating obtained. The aim of the scheme is for an archer to reduce their handicap to the lowest possible rating for outdoor and indoor shooting.

Once an archer has shot 3 recognised rounds the Handicap Scheme comes into play. The handicap award is equal to the average of the 3 rounds. If the average handicap rating is not a whole number, it is rounded up to the next larger whole number. If any of the rounds shot do not comply with those listed in the tables, the archer is given a handicap of 100 which is held until an improvement is made.

The process of reducing handicaps is continuous. A handicap may be reduced every time an archer shoots a round better than their current handicap. It will be reduced to the average of this current handicap and the handicap rating of the better score. If the average is not a whole number, it will be rounded up to the next larger whole number. Handicaps on scores obtained outdoors can only be reassessed upwards once a year, on the 1st January. At this time the Club Records Officer reassesses each archer's handicap equal to the average of the 3 best scores obtained during the previous year. There is a provision for archers shooting less than 3 full rounds in a year.

Handicaps on scores obtained indoors are reassessed on 1st July and follow the same process as outdoor rounds.

Outdoor Classifications

There are three tiers, each with three sub-levels.

Starting top-left, you progress through the sub-levels for the Archer, Bowman and Master Bowman tiers.



The bow style, gender and age of the archer determine the specific scores applied for each sub-level within each tier. The scores across different rounds are calculated from handicap tables. In addition to the skill element, each award has a minimum distance required for each classification.

The scheme follows the calendar year.

TIER	From rounds totalling	Rounds	Type of event	Administered by
Archer	12 dozen arrows	all rounds of an appropriate distance	Any event	Clubs
Bowman	18 dozen arrows	all rounds of an appropriate distance	Any competitive event	Clubs
Master Bowman	36 dozen arrows	age-appropriate rounds in York, Hereford, Bristol, WA1440 & WA720 rounds families	Any Record Status competition	Archery GB

Indoor Classifications

There are the same three tiers, but with eight rather than nine classifications in total.

The master bowman tier only has master bowman and grand master bowman sub-levels.

The rules are similar, although the scheme runs from 1st July each year.



TIER	From rounds totalling	Rounds	Type of event	Administered by
Archer	10 dozen arrows	All indoor rounds	Any event	Clubs
Bowman	15 dozen arrows	All indoor rounds	Any competitive event	Clubs
Master Bowman	15 dozen arrows	All indoor rounds	Any Record Status competition	Clubs

Outdoor Metric Rounds

Archery GB Metric Outdoor Rounds 10 Zone Scoring: 122cm/80cm Faces (dozens of arrows)

Round	90m	70m	60m	50m	40m	30m	20m	50m	40m	30m	20m	15m	10m
Metric I		3	3					3		3			
Metric II			3	3					3	3			
Metric III				3	3					3			
Metric IV					3	3					3		3
Metric V						3	3					3	3
Long Metric (M)	3	3											
Long Metric (F)		3	3										
Long Metric I		3	3										
Long Metric II			3	3									
Long Metric III				3	3								
Long Metric IV					3	3							
Long Metric V						3	3						
Short Metric I								3		3			
Short Metric II									3	3			
Short Metric III										3			
Short Metric IV											3		3
Short Metric V												3	3
Metric 122-50				6									
Metric 122-40					6								
Metric 122-30						6							
Metric 80-40									6				
Metric 80-30										6			

WA Metric Outdoor Rounds 10 Zone Scoring: 122cm/80cm Faces (dozens of arrows)

Round	90m	70m	60m	50m	40m	30m	20m	50m	40m	30m	notes
WA 1440 *	3	3						3		3	* refer to the AGB rules of shooting
WA 1440 *		3	3					3		3	
WA 1440 *			3	3					3	3	
WA 900			2½	2½	2½						
WA 70		6									barebow compound
WA 60			6								
WA 50/b				6							
WA 50/c								6			
Double WA 70		12									barebow compound
Double WA 60			12								
Double WA 50/b				12							
Double WA 50/c								12			
WA Standard *				3		3					

Outdoor Imperial Rounds

Archery GB Imperial Outdoor Rounds 5 Zone Scoring: **122cm Face** (dozens of arrows)

Round	100y	80y	60y	50y	40y	30y	20y	10y
York	6	4	2					
Bristol I / Hereford		6	4	2				
Bristol II			6	4	2			
Bristol III				6	4	2		
Bristol IV					6	4	2	
Bristol V						6	4	2
St George	3	3	3					
Albion		3	3	3				
Windsor			3	3	3			
Windsor 50				3	3	3		
Windsor 40					3	3	3	
Windsor 30						3	3	3
New Western	4	4						
Long Western		4	4					
Western			4	4				
Western 50				4	4			
Western 40					4	4		
Western 30						4	4	
American			2½	2½	2½			
St. Nicholas					4	3		
New National	4	2						
Long National		4	2					
National			4	2				
National 50				4	2			
National 40					4	2		
National 30						4	2	
New Warwick	2	2						
Long Warwick		2	2					
Warwick			2	2				
Warwick 50				2	2			
Warwick 40					2	2		
Warwick 30						2	2	

Indoor Rounds

Indoor Rounds shot at Somerhill School

Type	Round	Distance	Face	Scoring	Dozens
Metric	WA 18	18m	40cm	10 zone	5
Metric	WA 25	25m	60cm	10 zone	5
Metric	Vegas	18m	3 spot	6-10	5
Imperial	Portsmouth	20y	60cm	10 zone	5
Imperial	Bray I	20y	40cm	10 zone	2½
Imperial	Bray II	25y	60cm	10 zone	2½
Imperial	Worcester	20y	16in	1-5	5

Three-dozen rounds for Beginners

Beginners can score their first three-dozen arrows, after sighters, for each distance shot. These scores don't count towards handicaps but are a good way for beginners to measure their progress. They're a useful way of helping beginners avoid shooting at longer distances before they are ready to do so.

Progress Awards Scheme

The **Archery GB section** introduces this scheme and has pictures of the indoor and outdoor badges for the five colours of the target face. There are categories based on several factors including age and bow type. The scoring grids can be downloaded from the members' area of our website. A badge is awarded once an archer has registered three scores for that badge.

The Indoor Badges

These are always for rounds shot on a 60cm Portsmouth target using 10-zone scoring. Seniors and U18s always shoot at 20 yards which means they don't need to decide upfront which colour badge they are scoring for (U16s and U14s mostly shoot at 20 yards). This example is for recurve bows at 20 yards.

AGB Indoor Progress Awards Scheme at Tonbridge Archers (TAC)										
Recurve bows at 20 yards with 60cm target faces										
AGE										
Adult	Grey				White	Black	Blue	Red	Yellow	Gold
Under 18	Grey			White	Black	Blue	Red	Yellow	Gold	Gold
Under 16	Grey		Black	Blue	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Under 14	Blue	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
Under 12	N/A at TAC									
	0	124	154	182	202	228	250	264	280	290 (360)
	POINTS (36 arrows)									

The Outdoor Badges

Imperial rounds on a 122cm target and/or Metric rounds on an 80cm can be scored. Any three qualifying scores for a colour badge will do. You can count the first three-dozen arrows for each distance in a round.

Apart from U14s, each distance for the age category is specific to one of the five colour badges. Therefore, the Outdoors scheme is best aligned to only 'moving up' a distance when you are ready to do so. If you shoot at too long a distance initially you will probably fail to achieve the qualifying score for that 'more difficult' colour (i.e. blue, red or gold). It may be better to shoot the shorter distances for your white and/or black badge(s) first.

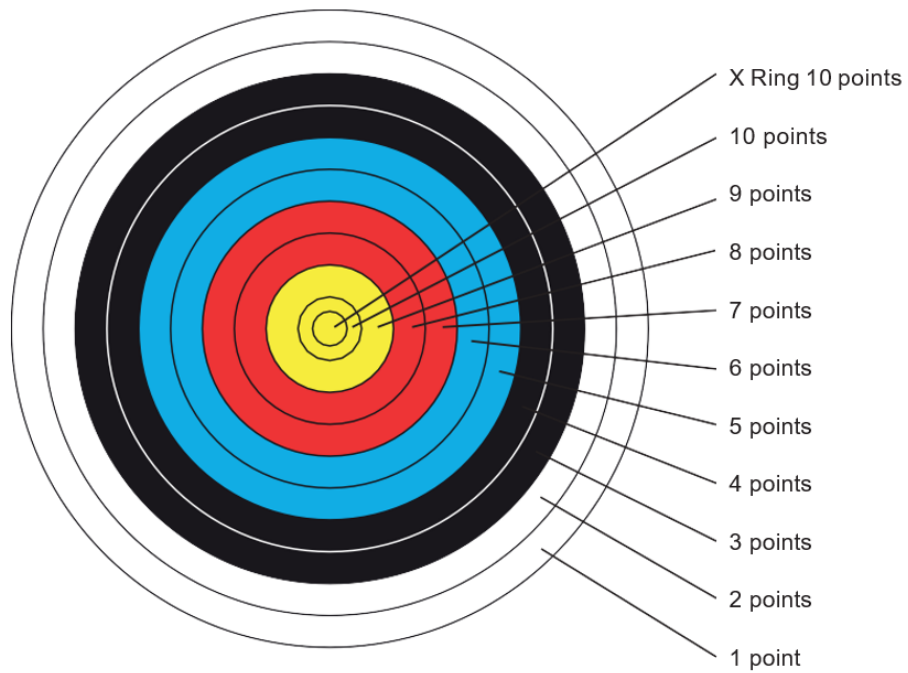
252 Rounds

A simpler way of avoiding moving up to a higher distance too soon is to review your score for your first three dozen arrows when shooting an Imperial Outdoor Round on a 122cm 5-zone target face. When using a **recurve** bow ⁷, scoring 252 where you average at least 7 points per arrow (averaging being in the red zone) indicates you are ready perhaps to move up to the next distance.

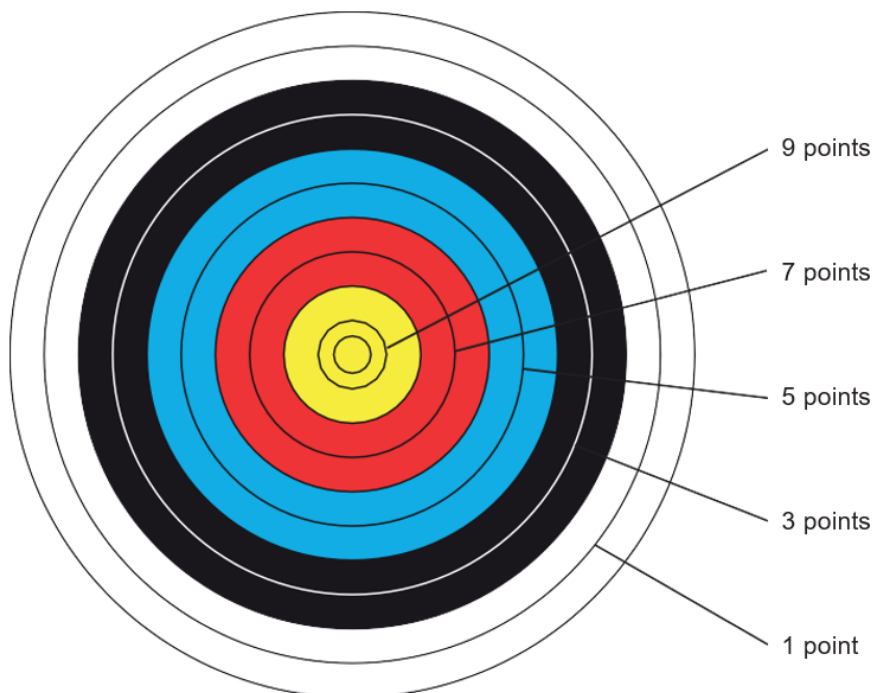
⁷ The main point here is that when you are new to a distance you may not achieve this threshold for some time, so don't be disheartened. You could target averaging scoring 180 (the blue zone) initially. It will also mean you and the other archers won't need to spend so much time looking for **lost arrows** which have missed the boss!

Scoring

Metric Scoring ⁸



Imperial Scoring



⁸ The X ring is for Compounds only.

Score Sheets

For Club Days we use a generic score sheet which can be used for any round of up to twelve dozen arrows.

Tonbridge Archers

Name: **Robin Hood**

Round: **Metric 122-50**

Date: **01/04/2024**

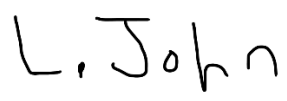
Senior / Junior

Gent / Lady

Recurve Barebow / Compound / Longbow

→ 1 st end							End Total	→ 2 nd end							End Total	Hits	Gold	10s	Doz. Total	R/T
10	10	10	10	9	9	58	10	10	10	10	8	6	54	12	8	8	112	112		
10	10	10	10	9	7	56	10	9	9	9	9	9	55	12	5	5	111	223		
10	10	10	10	10	10	60	10	10	9	9	9	8	55	12	8	8	115	338		
10	10	9	8	8	8	53	10	10	10	8	7	7	52	12	5	5	105	443		
10	10	10	9	8	8	55	9	9	8	6	6	5	43	12	3	3	98	541		
7	7	5	4	3	3	29	5	5	4	2	2	1 ^M	18	11	0	0	47	588		
													Totals		71	29	29		588	

Signed: Archer 

Target Captain 

Please remember that two of the Archery Etiquette points relate specifically to scoring.⁹ A Good Archer

- Does not go behind the target to retrieve their arrows before their score has been recorded.
- When calling scores does so in groups of three, for example '7 - 7 - 5' pause '5 - 5 - 3'.

⁹ The next page covers in detail how to fill in a scoresheet. There is also a more extended sub section on Scoring generally in the *Once Competition has started* part of a Guide to Tournaments towards the end of Part II.

Filling Scoresheets

Every box on the scoresheet must correctly be filled or your round is invalid. Get anything wrong and the AGB will not accept your round, record or six-gold end. They're applying full Olympic level standards to everything, so you have to too.

Scoresheets must be filled using indelible ink. Black or blue is fine, but not red or green.

Top Section

Your Forename and Surname, bow type, round, and date must all be recorded. They must all be legible. Miss anything out and your round is invalid.

Middle Section

Every box must be filled. Any box unfilled renders your part of the sheet invalid.

Boxes on each line include the score for each arrow, the end score for each end, the total score for each dozen, the number of hits and golds for each dozen and the running total so far.

You must not fill in your own arrow scores. Someone else on the same boss must fill in your arrow scores. If you are the only person on a boss then someone from another boss, the Field Captain, or another person with you must fill them in.

Note that for Imperial rounds the number of hits and the score for the dozen must both be odd or both be even numbers.

If any changes have been made to any arrow score by anyone other than the Field Captain then your part of the sheet is invalid. The Field Captain will use a different colour ink to the rest of the form (ideally red) and initial each and every change that they make.

Changes to other numbers are acceptable, right up until the form has been signed and countersigned.

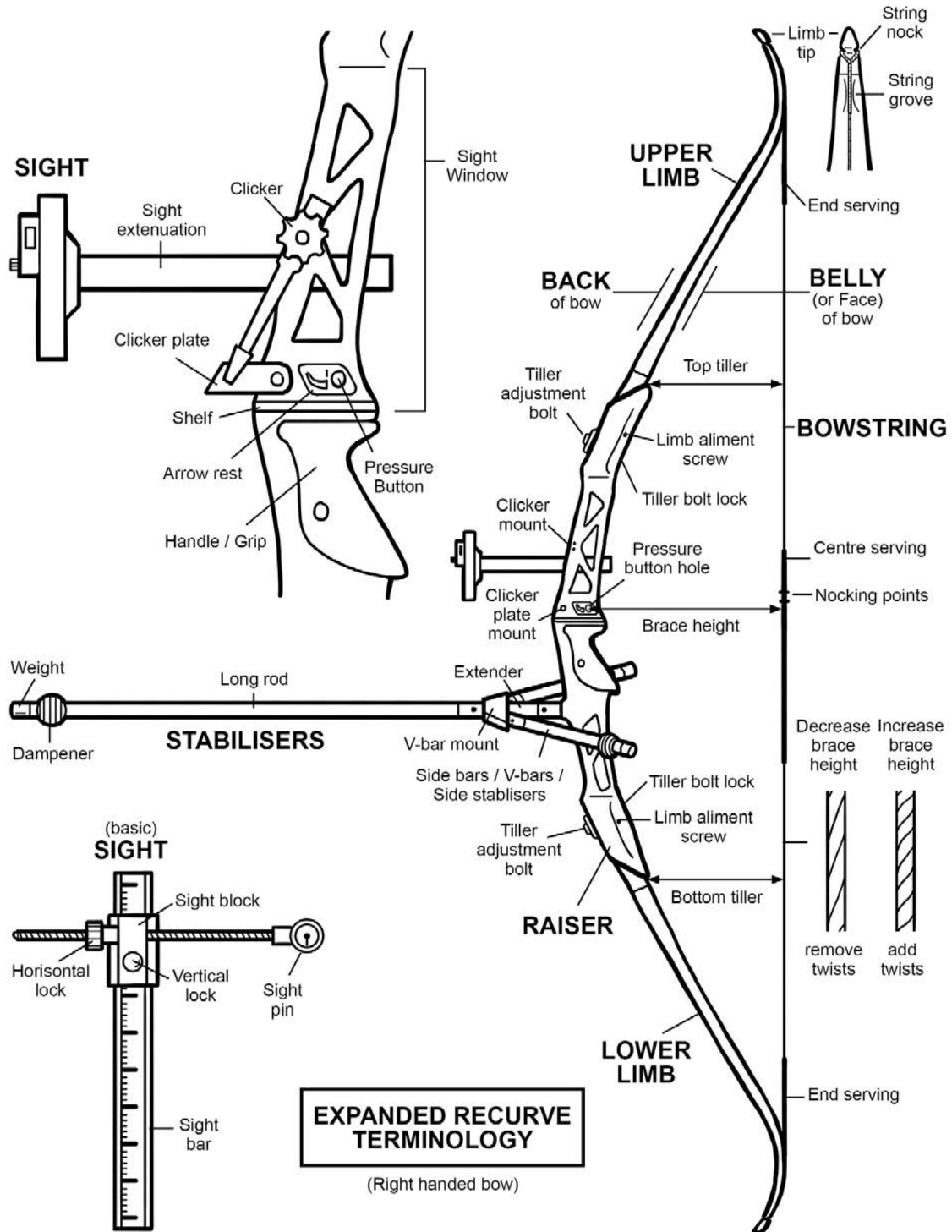
End Section

Again, every box must be filled. Boxes include total number of hits, total number of golds, the sum of all the individual ends and the final running total. The latter two should be the same. Filling both is a cross-check on the arithmetic. For Imperial rounds the number of hits, the sum of the individual ends and the final running total must either all be odd, or all be even.

Finally, you and the scorer who filled your arrow scores must both sign the form.

Equipment

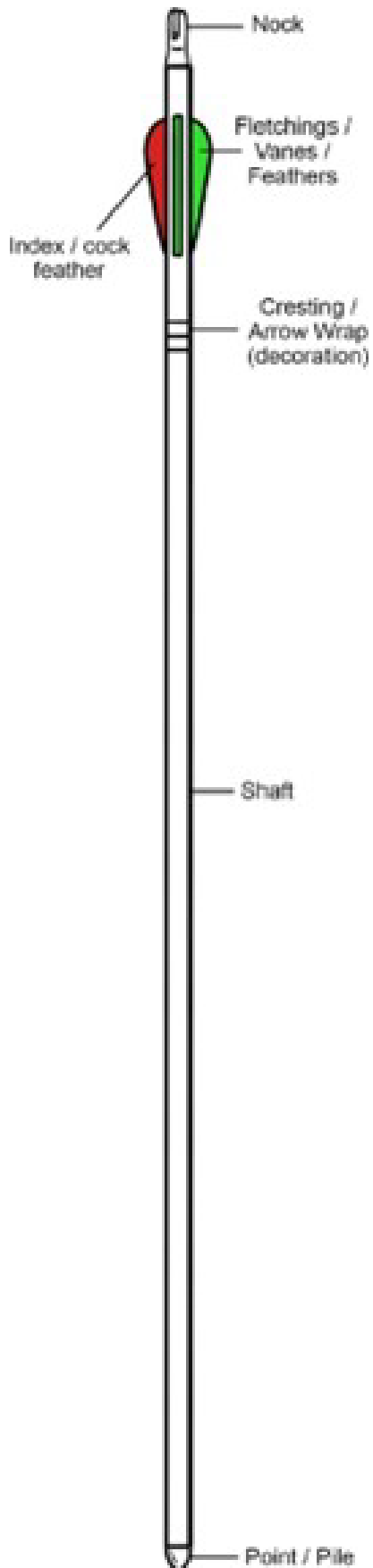
Parts of a Bow (Recurve)



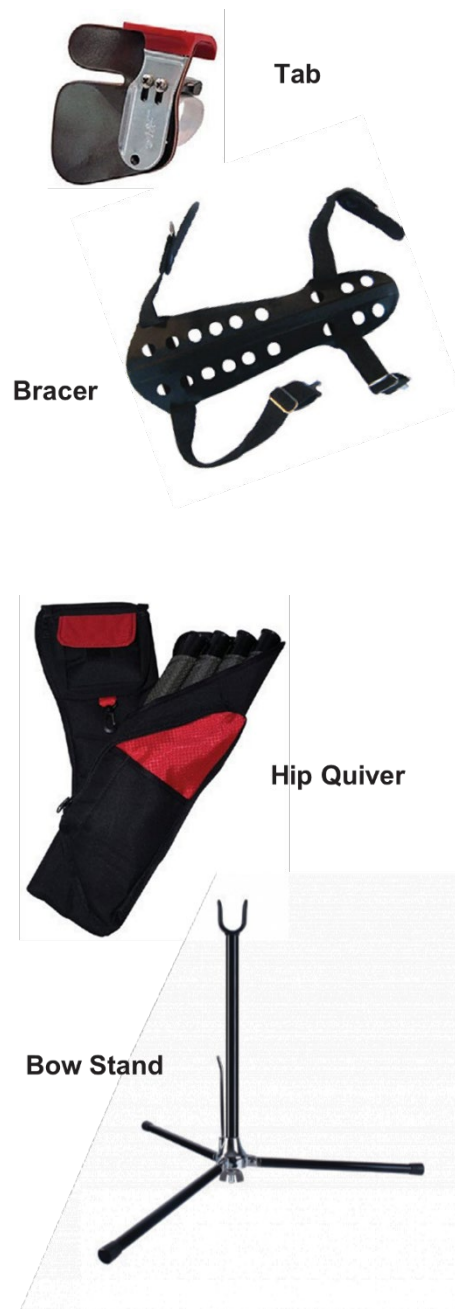
Illustrated by © Jessica Emmett - www.jessica-emmett.com

This image can be used for personal and non-commercial use with credit. This image is a basic guide only, always consult a qualified archery instructor.

Parts of an Arrow



Basic Equipment



Initially Setting up your Bow

Once you have bought your new bow, you will obviously wish to start shooting it as soon as possible, but there are one or two things you should do first. This is called the Basic Setting Up of the Bow. It is not Bow Tuning.

Setting up a bow is a specialised task. It should only be done with the help of a coach/archer experienced in setting up your type of bow.

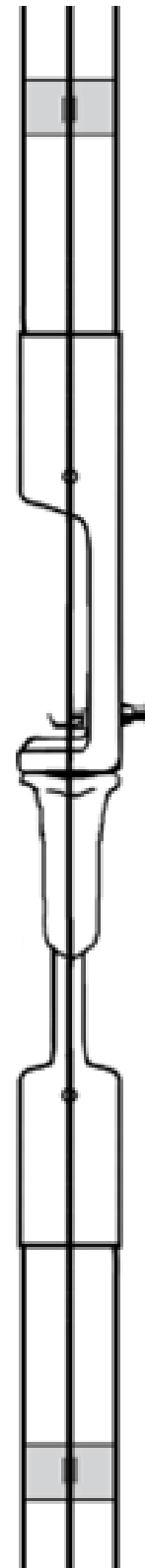
First **assemble the bow** making sure you put the limbs in correctly. Be careful inserting the limbs into the limb pockets and make sure you have the top limb in the top pocket of the riser and the bottom limb in the bottom pocket. Most manufacturers label their limbs top and bottom.

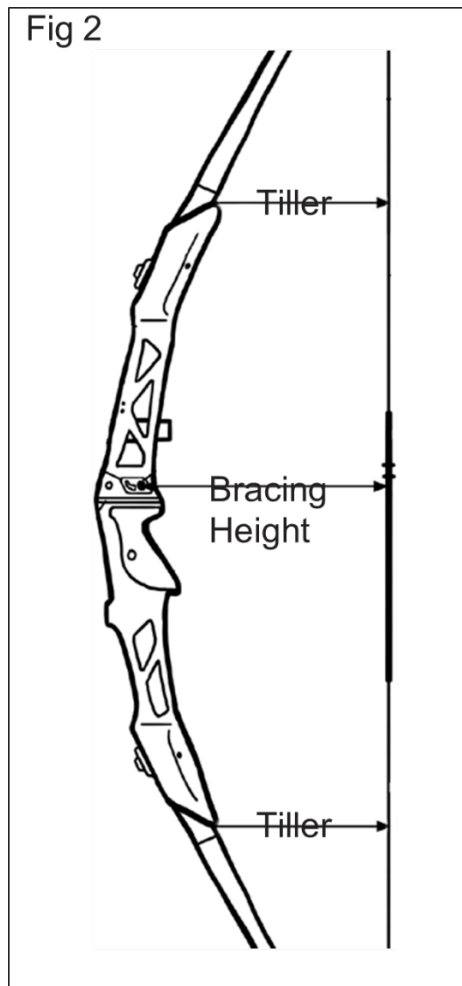
Next **put on the string**. The loop that goes on the top limb is usually bigger than the loop for the bottom limb. When stringing the bow always use a bow stringer. This saves putting a twist in the limbs. The string should have at least 20 twists to its length i.e. one twist every 3 inches approximately.

If your bow has the facility for **Limb Alignment Adjustment**, (not all bows have), this is the next step. You will only have to do this once. Put a small strip of tape across each limb on the side facing the archer at the riser and about halfway up the limbs and make a mark in the centre of the limb width. This will also be useful later in the process of setting up the bow.

Support the bow in an upright position in such a way that the limbs do not touch anything. This can be done by putting a long rod on the bow and hanging it over the back of a chair. Stand behind the bow and sight the string with the marks on the tape. If they line up all is well (see Fig 1). If not you need to make adjustments to the limb alignment. You will find information on how to do this in the manual you will have received with the bow.

Fig 1



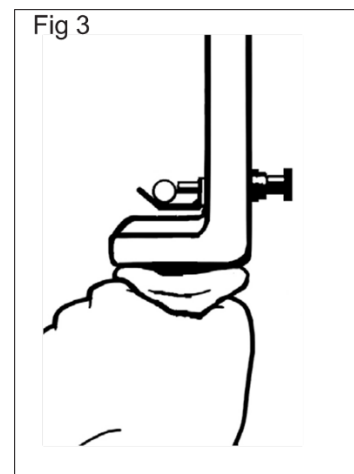


The next thing to check is **the tiller** (see Fig 2). This is the difference in the distance between the string and the limbs where the limb joins the riser, taken at right angles to the string. Normal or positive tiller is when the distance is greater at the top limb than the bottom. In general, this is normally about 5 to 6 mm. You may decide to change this later, but for now this is satisfactory. Again the manual will tell you how to adjust this.

Now you must set the **bracing height**. Your manual will tell you the recommended bracing height and where it is measured from and to, usually to the throat of the handle or the pressure button. The range is usually about 2 cm or 1 inch. This measurement is made at right angles to the string.

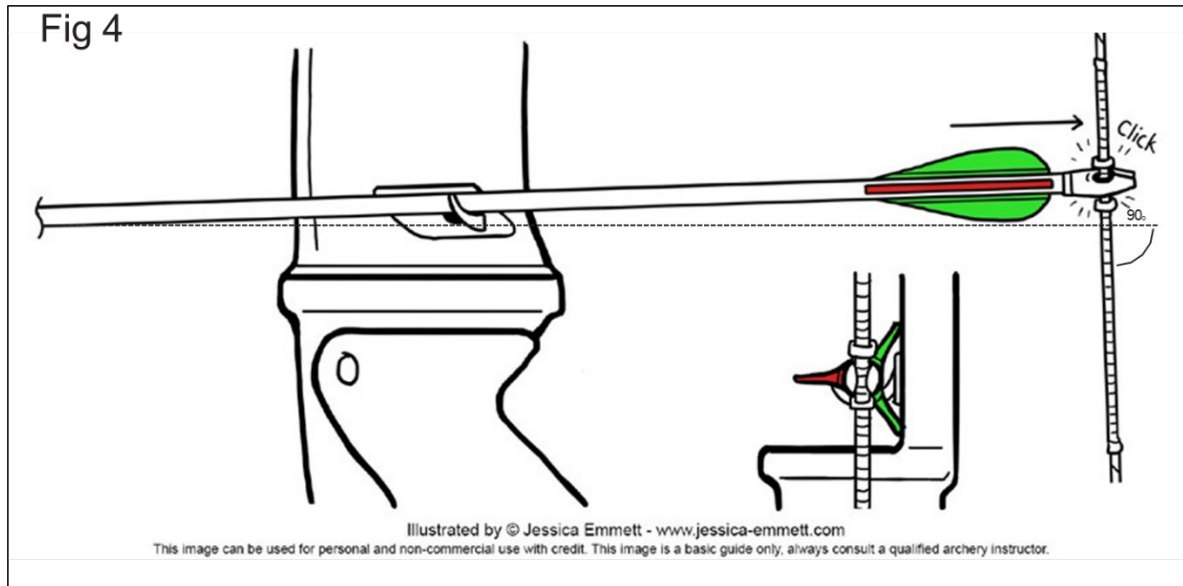
The best place to start is in the middle of the range. The brace height will change to start with after having shot some arrows because of the stretch in the string. Every string stretches to different degrees according to the string material.

One assumes the bow already has an **arrow rest**. If not, or you wish to check the setting of the arrow rest, the following basic rules apply. Most bows are now fitted with a pressure button and the position where it fits will be a guide to the position of the rest. The general rule is that the rest or pressure button should be directly above the throat of the handle.



Most arrow rests should have a slight upwards incline of the shelf. This helps to keep the arrow on the rest during the draw and hold. The rest should be positioned so that the arrow lies central or just below centre of the pressure button (Fig 3).

You must now attach a temporary **nocking point** to the string. This can be done using nock locks or with tape, so that the underside of the arrow nock is about 6.25 mm above square (see Fig 4).



If you have a **pressure button** now is the time to install it. There are two adjustments for the button. A) Screwing the whole unit in or out, B) Weakening or increasing the spring tension.

Support the bow upright in such a way that you can stand behind it and sight the string with the marks on the tape. Now place an arrow on the string and line up the marks. Looking along the arrow it should appear just slightly to the left of the string (see Fig 5). If it is not, screw the whole button in or out until you can see about half of the arrow pile to the left of the string. When this is done, tighten the locking ring on the button barrel. The spring tension on the button should be about a medium setting.

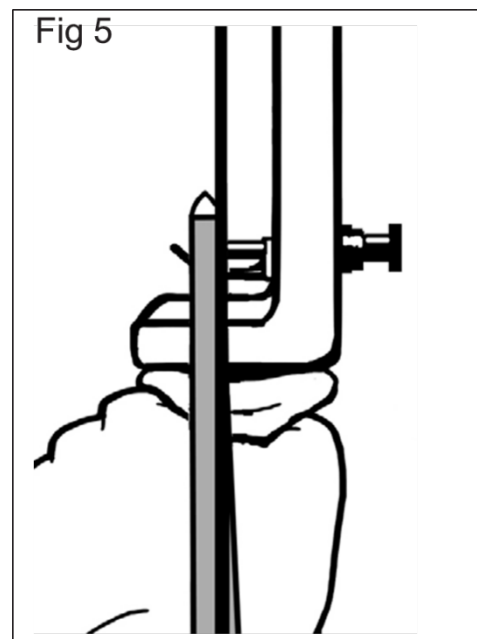
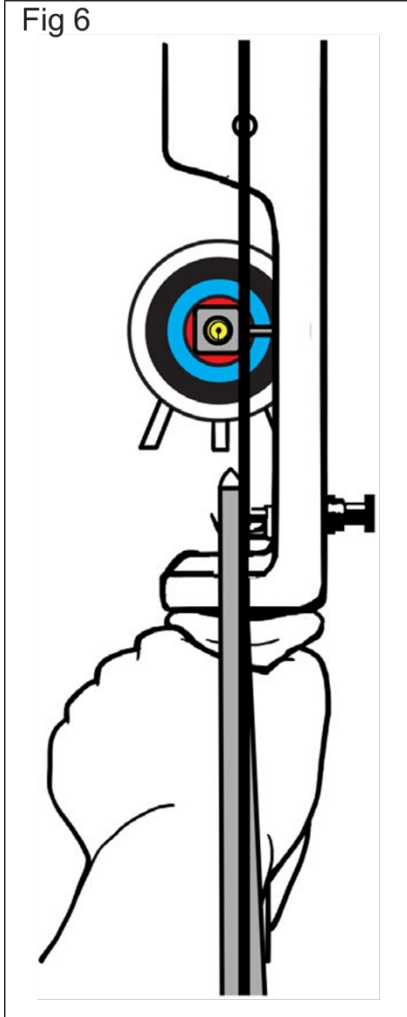


Fig 6



Lastly **attach the sight** and check its alignment.

To do this, position the sight block at the top of the track and again look from behind the bow. Line the string with the marks on the tape. The sight pin should appear just to the left of the string (see Fig 6). To achieve this position wind the sight pin either in or out. Now drop the sight block to the bottom of the track and again sight from behind the bow. If the sight pin is not still in the same relationship to the string it means that the sight track is not parallel to the string. Most sights have an adjustment to allow you to achieve this.

When you have done this, you have completed the basic bow set up. Now is the time to go and shoot some arrows. Later on, you can consider doing some **bow tuning**.

It is best if you leave bow tuning for about six months until you have worked on your technique and have developed a fair degree of consistency. Otherwise, bow tuning will be irrelevant.

A Guide to Tournaments

This information is just a guide, and things may vary slightly from competition to competition and individual to individual. This also just covers Target Archery, not Field or Clout, although some of the basics still apply to them.

If you are not sure of anything then ask a more experienced archer at your Club or your local Judge or Coach, or the Organiser of the Tournament. If any questions or queries arise at a tournament then please ask the Judge (if there is one) or another archer – no one bites (honest!), and we were all beginners once. Just remember you are not alone at a competition, and everyone is there to have a good time and to shoot as well as they can, so no one will mind helping you out.

Choosing and Entering Competitions

Why Shoot Competitions?

Why not? Once you have been shooting for a while and are hopefully hitting the target more than you are missing it, there is no harm in spreading your wings and going to a few local competitions. Whilst most of the time in archery you are in competition with yourself, it is sometimes nice to see how you rate against other archers. Competitions are also a great chance to make some new friends and chat to people about archery, equipment and anything else.



The recurve, barebow and longbow trophy winners at the 2024 Club Championships at which a club record was set for a double-Portsmouth.

The vast majority of archers are very friendly and we can all remember our first few competitions, so no one is going to be upset if you ask questions or are a little uncertain. We are all there to have a good time – it is supposed to be fun!

It is probably best to start with a local shoot. Ask around your club and see if anyone can recommend a tournament for your first one or, even better, one that they are already going to and you can go with them.

What Are The Different Rounds And Levels Of Competition?

The types of Rounds available can be very confusing to start with, but you soon get used to them. Full details of all the Rounds, distances, number of arrows and face size can be found in the Archery GB Rules of Shooting.

The types of rounds are split into Archery GB and World Archery categories.

Archery GB Rounds

These are also called Imperial Rounds and are shot to the Archery GB Rules of Shooting. The distances shot tend to be in yards and Outdoor the scoring is 5 zone (you score 9, 7, 5, 3, 1). These are the traditional British Rounds. Most people find these more relaxed and are often the first tournaments that people do.

Archery GB Rounds tend to fall into ‘families’ so these are a group of rounds which are shot on the same field at the same time and have the same number of arrows. It’s just the distances that are different, so you can choose the round that suits your abilities / age / gender best. An example of a family of Rounds are New Western, Long Western, Western, Western 50, Western 40 and Western 30.¹⁰ There is no problem if you want to shoot a Round that is below your age group / gender, although you may not be eligible for any competition awards. No one is going to think there is anything strange in that, we have all done it.

World Archery Rounds

These are also called Metric Rounds and are shot to the World Archery Rules of Shooting. The distances are in metres and the scoring is 10 zone (you score all the numbers). These are the rounds that are shot all round the world and some are the ones used at the Olympics and World Championships. Some people find these a little more formal as there is stricter timing on them, but don’t worry as they are not as scary as they sound. Like most things, they are easy when you know how.

Each Round has a level or standard attached to it. These are World Record Status (WRS) Events – This is the highest level of competition and is the most strictly controlled. The only Rounds that can achieve WRS are World Archery Rounds and shooting in these gives you the opportunity to claim World, European and National Records as well as World Archery Target Awards.

These competitions will have at least one National Judge at them and will be controlled using traffic lights, whistles and occasionally count down clocks to tell you when to shoot.

National Record Status Events (RS)

These events are ones where you have an opportunity of shooting a National Record. Some of these tournaments also have Rose Award Status, a Rose Award is the Archery GB Target Award. The rounds shot can be either Archery GB or

¹⁰ In 2022 there was an overhaul of the Imperial rounds, the last three in the Western family previously being called Short Western, Junior Western and Short Junior Western.

World Archery. These competitions will have at least one Regional Judge as a minimum.

Non-record Status Events (NRS)

These are the most relaxed type of tournaments and are often smaller than RS Events. They will often have a Judge in charge of them (there is no minimum level of Judge needed at these tournaments), but sometimes they will be run by a Field Captain. This is normally an experienced archer who has been appointed by the Organiser to blow the whistle and resolve queries.

The rounds shot can be either Archery GB or World Archery but tend to be Archery GB Rounds. Some rules such as

Dress Regulations are often 'more relaxed' at Non-record Status Events.

For your first few tournaments you might want to go to Non-record Status Archery GB Tournaments, as these are the most relaxed and informal and will hopefully get you- used to everything. But if you want to go to a National or World Record Status Event, then do so. All tournaments are very friendly, and you will be welcome at any of them.

How Do You Find Competitions And Enter Them?

The starting point for finding competitions to enter is the Competitions section of the AGB Website. More and more clubs are listing their competitions there and all AGB supported national and international competitions are also on there. Members also receive copies of the *Archery UK Magazine* in which many competitions are listed.

Local clubs often notify the club secretary or the club tournament officer of their competitions, and these are forwarded to club members (note that forwarding such notices does not constitute any kind of recommendation).

Other places to look are Regional, County and Club websites, and archery forums. Some clubs have also established Tournament Diaries on their websites which list tournaments of varying levels. You can search for clubs in the Clubs area of the Archery GB website

Sometimes the club might submit a mass entry for members. If this is the case, make sure you see the Entry Form as this will tell you vital information, such as what level/status is the tournament, start times, locations, is there catering available etc.

So, once you have chosen your tournament and read the entry form carefully, you then need to complete the entry form. Most Entry Forms ask for the same information – Name, Club, Archery GB Number, Gender, Bow Type, email address and Round you want to enter. Some Entry Forms will ask for additional

information, for example if a Junior they may want your age. Some may want your handicap for certain prizes (if you are not sure of your handicap ask the club records officer). They may ask if you are in a wheelchair or are planning to shoot sitting on a chair.

Some entry forms also have sections where you can register to take photos (don't worry you can also register on the day). If the tournament is World or National Record Status there will also be a section regarding Doping Control; and if you are entering on behalf of a junior you will have to sign to consent to them being drug tested. Again, don't panic, drug testing is very rare in this country and tends to only happen at the top tournaments and to the top archers at that tournament, but there is a chance they could turn up at any tournament. If you are taking any prescription medication either talk to someone in your club or contact Archery GB directly and they will help you with the current process for registering that you are taking the medication. Do not stop taking the medication, there is no problem with taking it, it just needs to be registered.

The bit you have filled in then needs to be sent to the Organiser. Most organisers now utilise email and electronic payments for tournament administration. There may be an option to pay by cheque, and/or receive the Target List followed by the Results list via post (in which case you will probably be required to provide stamped addressed envelopes). You should let the Organiser know if you have any concerns, for example if you are disabled and want to know about access or car parking.

If there is a problem with your entry, such as there is information missing or the tournament is full, the organiser will contact you and let you know. If you do not hear anything you are safe to assume your entry has been accepted. Then a week or so before the competition the Organiser might send out a Target List (this is a list of everyone who is shooting and where on the field they are shooting), although if the tournament is a small non-record status event they might not.

If you receive a Target List you should check it carefully to make sure the start time and venue have not changed, and to make sure that you have been entered in the correct round. It is also worth checking the Target List to see if anyone else from your club is attending as you might want to share a car.

If for some reason it turns out you are unable to attend a competition, then try and get in contact with the Organiser to let them know. Some Organisers will refund your Entry Fee, but if you cancel after the entry closing date they might not. You should still let the Organiser know as it may affect how they prepare the field and there may be a waiting list of people who want to shoot.

Preparing for the Competition

As well as the obvious of making sure you have sightmarks for the distances some other things to bear in mind are covered below.

What Do You Need To Take To The Competition?

Packing for a competition is a bit like packing to go on holiday, the list of things you may need is endless, so the below are just suggestions of a few additional bits you might need (but make sure you don't forget the actual bow!). It is also a good idea to check you have everything you need a few weeks before the competition just in case you have forgotten something.

Shooting Equipment

Arrows

It is always a good idea to have a couple of spare arrows with you in case one is damaged or lost, so for Outdoors a minimum should be 8, and Indoors 5. All arrows must be nocked and fletched in the same way. They must also be numbered and have your name or initials on the shaft to identify them.

Please don't put your name or initials on the fletches, as if they fall off there will be no way of identifying the arrows. Arrow wraps are now a very handy way to easily put numbers and names on arrows.

Spare Nocks

Arrow damage is often to the nock, so make sure you have some spares with you to match the nocks already on your arrows. Some people also carry spare nocks in a different colour with them, just in case someone on the same target has similar colour fletches and nocks.

Spare String

Make sure your spare string has been shot in and has the nocking point in the same place as your current string.

Spare Tab/Release Aid

Just in case your current one breaks, or you drop it and cannot find it!

Bow Stand

You will need somewhere to leave your bow when collecting arrows, and the floor is not the best place for it!

Allen Keys

Always handy to have a set in Imperial and Metric sizes, just in case something works its way loose.

Towel

A small hand or bar towel is always a good idea so you can wipe your bow and handle down if it rains, or to wipe your arrows if you happen to miss the target.

Over time you will collect lots of other bits and bobs in your bow case, for example screwdrivers, spare fletches, glue, scissors, dental floss, razor blade, pliers, arrow puller etc.

Personal Equipment

Dress Regulations

For Record Status Events the Archery GB

Dress Regulations, including those relating to footwear, must be followed.

For any event, please do not turn up wearing blue jeans and a Manchester United football top. At worst the Judge will send you home, at best you will be able to shoot but you will be excluded from the results and medals.

Also remember you will be wearing the clothing all day, in the sun and rain, so make sure it is comfortable and is not going to interfere with your shooting, layers are always a good idea. Even for Non Record Status Events footwear rules are likely to be enforced.

Wet Weather Clothes

Very occasionally (!) it will rain at a tournament, so make sure you have some waterproofs to put on and boots or wellies to wear. It does not matter what colour these are, just make sure the waterproofs don't get in the way of the string, quite often the sleeves on waterproof jackets are quite loose, so it is a good idea to have some bandage or a Tubigrip to hand to hold it out of the way.

Hat and Sunglasses

Have a hat to keep the sun and rain off your head and out of your eyes. Try shooting with your hat and sunglasses on before the tournament to make sure they don't get in the way of the string, affect your field of vision, or sag when wet.

Tent or Shelter

There are lots of small pop-up tents available at very reasonable prices, which can provide shelter to you and your equipment. Alternatively, if there are a few

people going from your club see if someone wants to share a tent. If you do buy a tent, have a practice putting it up and down at home first. You don't want to be caught out when you get there.

Chair

A comfortable chair is always a good idea. You will be on your feet a lot, and don't forget to take one even when you are shooting Indoors as not all halls provide seating.

Umbrella

Particularly helpful to keep the rain off the scoresheet.

Food and Drink

A lot of tournaments provide catering, or at least tea and coffee, but it is always a good idea to take your own as well, just in case. You are out all day, and even on the coldest wettest day you can end up getting dehydrated. As well as packing your lunch, take some snacks with you, just to give you a little energy boost when you need it.

Sun Cream

You are out in the open all day, so even when it is cloudy you can still get sun burnt. It is also a good idea to take some lightweight clothing to cover up with to stop you burning on those rare days of sunshine.

Telescope/Binoculars

Particularly as you start shooting the longer distances it is a good idea to have a telescope or binoculars with you. Even if you don't take them onto the shooting line you may want them when you are waiting to shoot. If you do want to take a telescope onto the shooting line with you make sure it is waterproof and make sure the tripod is strong and stable, as you don't want it being blown over and the scope being damaged.

If the telescope is not in anyone's way you can now leave them on the line permanently, in this case take something with you to secure the tripod to the ground so it does not get blown by the wind, or accidentally knocked by another archer. If you are taking a telescope on and off the line, be careful you set in down properly each time, you don't want it falling over.

Scoring Equipment

Make sure you have a couple of pens with you for scoring, and at World Archery Rounds for marking the arrow holes. A calculator is always handy, an arrow puller and your own score pad. There are also a large range of 'Apps' available for doing your personal scoring with. It's fine to use these, but if they are on your

phone make sure your phone is turned off or onto silent. You are not allowed personal communication devices in front of the shooting line (beside the distraction of someone's phone going off when you are at full draw it would be very rude to take a phone call whilst at the target). Also make sure your device is waterproof and take care of it as they tend to be very expensive.

What to do the night before

Make sure you have all your equipment, plenty of food and drink and don't forget to take your Archery GB Membership Card or temporary receipt. Make sure you know where you are going and leave plenty of time to get there. As most archery takes place on school fields your Satellite Navigation system can sometimes only get you so far, so leave a little extra time for getting lost or getting stuck in traffic.

Most Organisers will attach a small map to the Entry Form which is helpful, or will put signs (often a target face) near the road to direct you. It is best to arrive about one hour before the start of competition / practice or assembly, whichever comes first.

Make sure you check the weather forecast so you can take the appropriate clothing with you.

At the Competition

When you arrive

Aim to arrive approximately one hour before the start of the event. This will leave you plenty of time to find out where you are shooting, set up your equipment, meet your fellow archers and have a cup of tea and a bacon butty (or some other healthy breakfast).

When you arrive the first thing to do is to find the 'Booking in Table'. Tell the person there who you are, and they will then check your Archery GB Membership card, ask you for any money that is owing and confirm which target you are shooting on.



You can then set your equipment up. If you have a tent or a shelter, make sure you set it up behind the tent line.

There will normally be two lines marked behind the shooting line, the first is the Waiting / Equipment line, the second is the tent line (if you are not sure which one this is, just ask). Be considerate of others and make sure there is room for people to pass between the tents. You can then put your bow between the Waiting Line and the tent line.

Have a look around and see if you can find out who your target companions are. They will be listed on the Target List. Introduce yourself and maybe start discussing whether you want to score or pull the arrows. For your first few shoots you might want to just help pull the arrows and observe the scoring until you feel a bit more confident.

Most archers are very friendly and will happily guide you through your first few tournaments. However, if you do happen to come across someone who is not overly friendly, don't worry. Some people are very focused and don't like to chat during the tournament, so don't take it personally. This is also a good time to sort out where you are going to stand on the line, put your foot markers down, and to sort out where people want to place their telescopes.

The normal positions on the line when shooting two details are A and B (the first detail), then C and D. However, if you all agree you can change your shooting position. If it is single detail, then three of you will be on the line at once. You are allowed to leave a telescope on the line as long as it is not in anyone's way, or you can share a telescope with the person on the other detail. So if you are A you can share a telescope with C. But if there is not enough room for telescopes or they are in the way, then they must come off the line. At World Archery Events there is a height limit for telescopes. The top of the scope cannot be higher than the armpit of the archer when they are at full draw.

Just before shooting starts there will be an Assembly. The time for this is normally on the Entry Form, so just before this time, make sure you have been to the bathroom and have done your warmup exercises!

When it is time for Assembly the Judge or Organiser will call you all to gather. Normally this is signalled by a whistle and you meet towards the middle of the field. The Organiser will then introduce themselves, the Lord or Lady Paramount

and the Judges and then go through some of the practicalities of the tournament, such as the details of the raffle, where the toilets are etc.

The Judge will then quickly go through the important rules for the tournaments, such as is it 5 or 10 zone scoring, does the Inner 10 score an X, how many sighters / practice you have etc. Make sure you listen carefully. When the Assembly has finished you will be told how long it will be until you start shooting. Normally there is only a couple of minutes gap. If you have any questions or are unsure of anything, then please go and ask the Judge. They will be more than happy to answer your questions, and it is better to ask than to get it wrong.

Once Competition has started

Sighters / Practice

Once the Assembly has been completed then the competition will start. You start with either sighters or practice.

Sighters

These are shot at Archery GB Rounds, and the normal rule is Outdoors there is one end of 6 arrows and Indoors 2 ends of 3 arrows, but make sure you listen at Assembly as it will be announced then. This is the only chance you will have to warm up during the competition. If you decide to shoot 2 sessions of an Indoor Archery GB tournament you will only be able to have sighters at the first session

Practice

This is for World Archery Rounds. You will get approximately 45 minutes of practice which tends to be 3 ends if shooting in two details; or 2 ends of practice when indoors. It will be announced when it is the last end of practice. During practice you can shoot as many arrows as you want. This is the only chance you will have to warm up during the competition. If you decide to shoot 2 sessions of an Indoor World Archery tournament you will be able to have practice before both sessions.

*Scoring*¹¹

Once everyone has shot there will be 3 blasts on the whistle so you can go forwards to score. Only archers are able to walk to the targets, if someone else wants to walk to the targets they must ask the Judge's permission first. Be careful as you walk up to the targets, in case there are any arrows in front of the target.

¹¹ Refer also to the **Filling Scoresheets** page in the earlier **Score Sheets** section.

Make sure you do not touch the target face until all the scoring has been completed. If you do any linecutters will score the lowest value.

All the archers should gather in front of the target. Do not go behind to look for missing arrows yet. The person who is doing the scoring will then call the name of the first archer on the score sheet.

Scores should be called out in groups of three, starting with the highest score, so for example 9,9,7 pause 7,5,5 (see footnote ¹²),

The normal rule is that Archery GB Rounds use 5 zone scoring, so only the odd numbers. World Archery Rounds use 10 zone scoring, so all the numbers and the Inner 10. Make sure the scorer is writing down what you called out correctly. The scorer should call back what you have said to confirm it.

When you call your arrows, make sure you indicate to them, but do not touch them. If the shaft of the arrow is touching a dividing line between two scores (a linecutter), then it scores the highest score.

When other people are scoring make sure you check what they are calling out and what is being written down are the same and they are calling out the correct values. If they have a linecutter, then have a look and see if you agree with what they call it as. If you disagree then say so. No one will mind. If you disagree on a score then a Judge is called who will look at the arrow with a magnifying glass and give their decision. Their decision is final.

If you make a mistake when calling out your arrows or they are written down incorrectly, then call for a Judge who will come and ask for the scores to be recalled and then correct the scoresheet. Do not alter it yourself. You can alter the adding up yourself, just not the actual arrow values.

You may also want to record your score in your own scorepad for future reference and to help you double check the scorer's adding up.

The scoresheet will probably be passed between a couple of archers, as the scorer is not allowed to record their own scores. But if there are two identical scoresheets with two people doing the scoring (double scoring) then this is fine.

Once everyone on the target has scored then the arrows can be pulled, and any missed arrows can be picked up from behind the target. Help your target companions pull the arrows and look for any lost arrows. If it is a World Archery

¹² Please remember that two of the **Archery Etiquette** points relate specifically to scoring. These *two sentences in italics* are considered to be attributes of a 'Good Archer'.

round then the arrow holes will need to have a small mark put against them in case of bouncers or pass throughs.

Equipment Failures

If you are unlucky enough to have an Equipment Failure, then let a Judge know straight away. If you are on the shooting line, then step back from the line and attract the Judges attention.

The Judge will then come over and help you with the situation. Once you have fixed the problem they will explain how to make up any arrows that have not been shot whilst you were repairing the problem. You cannot re-shoot any arrows that have been shot, even if they were a bad shot due to the equipment failure.

Normally the arrows will be made up as soon as possible, but the Judge will explain everything.

Bouncers

If one of your arrows bounces off the scoring zone, then depending on the Round being shot you should do the following:

<i>Archery GB Round</i>	<i>World Archery Round</i>
<p>Finish shooting the rest of your arrows, then step off the line and attract the attention of the Judge. The Judge will then come over to you and ask for a spare arrow, which they will then mark or identify in some way. Once everyone on your target has finished shooting then you can go and shoot this arrow. The Judge will then walk to the target with you when you go to score, and check that the arrow was in fact a bouncer.</p> <p>If it was not actually a bouncer then the score of the extra arrow is ignored. If the bouncer bounced off another arrow then you get the score of that arrow and the extra arrow is ignored. If it is a proper bouncer then you score the value of the extra arrow.</p>	<p>Stop shooting straight away and stop anyone else shooting on the same target as well. Step back from the line and attract the Judges attention. The Judge will then ask you how many arrows you have left to shoot. Once everyone else has finished shooting the Judge will stop the shoot and walk to the target with you.</p> <p>Once the Judge has checked the arrow is a bouncer they will then look for an unmarked hole. You will score the value of the unmarked hole that the bouncer made. If there is more than one unmarked hole you score the value of the lowest unmarked hole, and if the arrow bounced off another arrow then you score the value of that arrow. You will then return to the line and shoot your remaining arrows. The Judge will then come with you to assist with the scoring.</p>

But don't worry if you have a bouncer, just stop shooting and call a Judge. The Judge will talk you through what needs to be done.

Photographs

Most tournaments have a photographer register which you will need to complete. If you are taking photos, then make sure the flash is turned off, and don't go in front of the Waiting Line unless you have asked the Judge's permission.

Tournament Etiquette

- Don't walk on or off the line when someone is at full draw. It is not strictly against the Rules, but some people find it disturbing. If someone does it to you, then ask them politely not to.
- Try not to swear or make any comments whilst on the shooting line, even if you miss. It is distracting to people and also it is a family sport and there is no need for bad language.
- If your arrow seems to have passed through the boss or is hanging down the front of the target face then stop everyone on your target shooting and attract the attention of a Judge who will guide you through what to do.
- Broken arrows can sometime cause problems. If you hit another arrow in the target, or if you step on a missed arrow that is buried under ground and break it, it is an accident and you are not expected to pay for a replacement. But if you break someone's arrow by being careless, such as not looking where you are going, then the polite thing to do is offer to replace it for the archer.
- Do not touch anyone else's bow or equipment without permission.
- When waiting behind the Waiting Line don't start talking loudly to anyone.
- Make sure your mobile phone is turned off or onto silent.
- If the targets need moving during the tournament, then help do this. But don't try and do it alone.
- If you have any problems, or are unsure of what to do then ask a fellow archer or a Judge. The Judges are there to help and to try and make sure you have the best day possible. Remember, there is no such thing as a stupid question.

What to do at the end of the Competition

Once the competition has finished you will be asked to check your scoresheet carefully. Make sure that all the adding up is correct, and complete all the total

boxes, including the number of hits and golds. Once you are happy with it, then sign it. You get the score that you sign for.

One tip for Archery GB (5 zone scoring) rounds is that if you have an odd score you must have an odd number of hits, an even score means you must have an even number of hits. This does not work for rounds with 10 zone scoring though.

Thank the other archers on your target for their help and company during the day and congratulate them if they did well. If possible, thank the Organiser and the Judges for their time as well.

If you are not staying for the results then it is polite to let the Organiser know this.

If you think you are eligible for a World Archery or Archery GB award, then ask the Organiser for the claim form.

Awards – World Archery, Archery GB and Competition

Most tournaments have their own medals / trophies / certificates etc, and details of these can be found on their Entry Form. Normally they will award 1st, 2nd and 3rd, depending on the number of entries in each category. 1st place will sometimes be given a trophy.

Quite often you are expected to return the trophy the following year. In this case you must sign for the trophy when you receive it, and you are expected to get it engraved with your details and then arrange for it to be returned to the Organiser before the tournament next year (your club will often reimburse you for the cost of engraving). It is always best if you can clean it before you return it. If you are unsure of how to get it engraved, then please ask the Organiser.

Sometimes Organisers will group together different categories for the purposes of the awards, for example all Juniors might be classed together. And if you are shooting a Round below or above your class you might not be entitled to an award.

Awards are given at the Organiser's discretion and are not covered by the Rules at all.

They may also give additional prizes, for example best gold or worst white or a Lady Paramount's prize. The best gold / worst white will normally be judged on one random end of shooting and you won't know which end until you have shot it. Otherwise, it will be judged over the whole tournament, but don't worry if there is one of these prizes available as the details will be explained at Assembly.

The Lady Paramount's Prize is a prize given by the Lady Paramount or Lord Paramount (the Lord or Lady Paramount is someone chosen by the Organiser to give out the prizes, they may be a member of the Club, the Organiser's partner or a local dignitary such as the Mayor or Headmaster, no matter what they should be treated with the utmost respect). They can award the prize for whatever they want, and you will probably never know what the criteria was.

If you do win a prize, then the Organiser will call your name, and maybe your club, score, hits and golds. Go up to the Lord or Lady Paramount and shake their hand and receive your medal or trophy and if necessary pose for a photo (if you know someone there with a camera). Then return to your seat or sign for the trophy if needed. A lot of clubs will also hold a raffle which will be drawn before the Results are given.

If you achieve a score that is eligible for an award (such as a Rose Award, Six Gold End, WA Star etc.) you must complete a Claim Form which the Organiser will have and submit on your behalf along with a copy of the scoresheet and the tournament results. So make sure you claim them on the day.

If you have any questions on the day then ask the Judge. They have normally been archers for a long while as well and are there to help. Most importantly, relax and enjoy yourself. Archery is a friendly sport, so make friends, enjoy the day and don't worry if something goes wrong. We all have bad days.



***Have
fun!***

Appendices

Archery in the British Isles

The inhabitants of the British Isles have a long history with archery - a bow dating from 2690 BC (+/- 120 years) was found some years ago in Somerset. However, even by the time of the Norman invasion of 1066, when Duke William of Normandy defeated the Anglo-Saxon King Harold II at Senlac Hill, the bow was not regarded as a useful weapon of war. The military value of archery in the UK was only realised when the powerful Welsh longbow was developed and when large numbers of boys and men had been trained over many years in its use.

From the mid 1200s British monarchs went to great pains to ensure that enough men had the proper archery skills to meet the needs of their armies. At different times, they officially banned games such as football, bowls and, in Scotland, golf, because men everywhere were playing those sports rather than practicing archery. Laws requiring all able-bodied men to practice their archery every Sunday, and for any Englishman to shoot dead with his longbow any Welshman he discovered after dark within the walls of Chester were only rescinded late in the 20th Century.

The gradual introduction of firearms from the 15th century rapidly eliminated the military value of the longbow. Training an archer and developing the muscles and skeleton to use a warbow took years of constant practice; training someone to be effective with a firearm took just a few weeks. Archery continued as a recreation, but had no further military value. The last known use of a warbow in the British army was during WW2 when someone took his bow along just to see if it was effective (it was).

As early as the 16th century, societies dedicated to the recreational use of the bow and arrow sprang up to satisfy the demand for competition, with modern target archery beginning in the 18th century. The earliest known archery club was the Society of Archers at Scorton, formed in 1673, whose annual tournament for the Ancient Silver Arrow is still contested today. The Royal Company of Archers in Scotland formed in 1676, and the Toxophilite Society, an exclusive membership by invitation only club enjoying royal patronage in 1781 were followed in 1785 by the Woodmen of Arden, at Meriden, and in 1787 by the Royal British Bowmen, the first society to admit women as members.

Grand National Archery Meetings (GNAM) - began at York in 1844, and the Grand National Archery Society, now called Archery GB, was formed at Liverpool in 1861.

Common Phrases and Abbreviations

FITA	This is the World governing body and is now known as World Archery
EMAU	European and Mediterranean Archery Union, this is the Continental governing body and is now known as World Archery Europe .
GNAS	Grand National Archery Society, this is the UK governing body and is also known as Archery GB ¹³
ROS	Rules of Shooting
RS	Record Status Level tournament, meaning you can claim National Records and certain awards at this tournament
Rose	Rose Status Level tournament, meaning you are able to claim Rose Awards at this tournament
Tassel	Tassel Status Level tournament, this is for Clout Archery only and mean you can claim Tassel Awards at this tournament
WRS	World Record Status , meaning you can claim World Records and certain awards at this tournament
H2H	Head to Head . This is the knock out tournament used by World Archery and some WRS events.
NRS	Non Record Status Level tournament
TO	Tournament Organiser
Work Party	The volunteers that help set up and look after the tournament field
Field of Play	Another phrase for the Archery Field
Lady Paramount	Also Lord Paramount or Lord Patron. This is someone who has been chosen to award the prizes at the tournament, they are often a local dignitary or a hard working member of the club hosting the tournament
Assembly	This is a short get together which is held at the start of the shoot. It is important you attend as it will contain useful information (such as where are the toilets)
Sighters	Sighters and Practice are the warm up ends you shoot before you start scoring

¹³ You are a member of Archery GB, Archery GB is in turn a member of World Archery Europe (EMAU) and World Archery (FITA).

5 zone	This is where you only score the odd numbers, so anywhere in the gold is 9, red is 7, blue is 5, black is 3, white is 1 and anywhere else is a M (Miss)
10 zone	This is where you score all the numbers, X, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 and M (Miss)
Petticoat	This is the area of paper outside of the scoring zone
Inner 10	This is the small circle inside the 10 ring, and is sometimes also called the X ring, when shooting Outdoors using 10 zone scoring this is scored as an X by everyone. ¹⁴
Division	This is the class you are shooting in, for example Gents Recurve, Junior Boys Compound. It is important to check that the organiser has you in the right division as it will affect the results.
Style	This describes the type of bow you shoot, so Compound, Recurve, Longbow, Barebow or American Flat Bow (AFB). There are extra style for Field Archery only.
COJ	Chairman of Judges , this is the Judge in charge of the tournament
DOS	Director of Shooting , this is the Judge who is in charge of the timing at World Archery tournaments

¹⁴ Indoors this is the 10 ring for compounds, and the rest of the gold is 9, and for recurves, longbows etc, it is not used indoors.

Glossary of Archery Terms

Anchor point	A fixed point on the Archer's face to which the string and loosing hand is drawn.
Archers Paradox	The peculiarity of the arrows' flight on release as it passes the bow.
Arrow Rest	Small shelf above the bow handle on which the arrow rests during the draw.
Back (of bow)	Part of the bow limb on the opposite side of the string.
Belly (of bow)	Part of the bow limb nearest the string.
Bow sight	An adjustable device used for aiming.
Bow window	A space between the bow and string through which the archer may sight.
Bracer	Protective item worn on the inside of the bow arm to contain loose clothing and shield the arm from the string.
Bracing height	Distance between the string and a specified point on the back of the bow, measured from the nocking point each time the bow is set up and braced.
Cast	The power of the bow to deliver the arrow.
Clicker	An audible draw-check, often used as a signal to loose and to achieve consistency of draw length.
Fistmele	Distance measured by archer's palm and extended thumb, used a rough guide to bracing height for Longbows.
Fletching jig	Device to hold fletchings in the correct position while being glued to the arrow shaft.
Kisser	A small disc attached in the string to indicate to the archer the point on the string which is drawn to the lips to aid consistency of elevation.
Loose	The act of releasing the string and arrow.
Stabilisers	Weights and rods attached to the bow to reduce the tendency for the bow to move away from the mark and/or to reduce torque, i.e. to stabilise the bow.
Tab	Leather shield worn on the 'loosing' fingers to protect the fingers. Can have a small platform on top to aid positioning to the face and a distance piece between the top fingers to protect against pinching.

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