

# How to Become a Judge

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# Introduction

Judging is a great way to be involved in archery. It gives you the opportunity to give something back to the sport, support participation and competition and stay involved if you no longer shoot.

There are lots of opportunities to judge, whether this is at your club or progressing right through to the international scene. You will receive support, and a warm and friendly welcome, whenever you judge. Archery would not develop without such key volunteers.

The sport needs Judges to ensure that competitions are run safely and fairly. Like all other sports, a team of officials is required to make sure the result at the end of the day is correct and to help the competitors have a good day out! Archery is a friendly sport, and judging is a great way of participating.

This guide is designed to provide potential judges with the right information to start their Judging career.

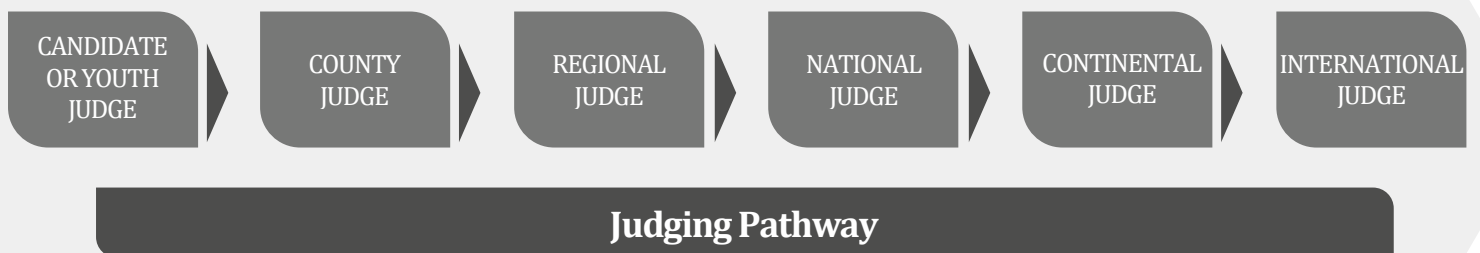
Whilst it may be advantageous to have shooting experience, this is not necessary. The best Judges are efficient, helpful and aware of what makes events run smoothly.




## How to Become a Judge

**In the UK there are several tiers of judging, supported by a programme of training and improvement at each tier. Through the programme, you can reach national levels of judging in archery and could even go on to judge at international events such as the Olympic Games.**

Judge training starts at Candidate or Youth Judge level and goes up to National level. After this there are opportunities to qualify as a Continental Judge and then as an International judge or a youth international judge.



The background image shows an outdoor archery competition. In the foreground, two men wearing white and green polo shirts with 'JUDGE' printed on the back are looking towards the targets. One man is also wearing a grey bucket hat. In the middle ground, there are several archery targets with arrows embedded in them. A large black sign with the number '36' in yellow is visible. The background features a line of trees and a blue sky with scattered white clouds. A tall stadium light pole is also visible.

Judging is a great way to be involved in archery. It gives you the opportunity to give something back to the sport, support participation and competition and stay involved if you no longer shoot.

# 1. Becoming a Judge

The entry tiers into judging are designed to help people learn and develop judging skills.

Youth, Candidate, and County Judges work as part of a larger team of Judges that is headed by a Regional or National Judge.

Regional Judges can be the senior official at British National Award Record Status events, where British Award records can be broken.

National Judges can be the senior official at an event in the UK where world records can be broken and include head to heat matches as seen at international events.

## Youth Judge

A judge training workshop and access to the UK's larger tournaments is available to anyone who wants to become a Youth Judge. To be eligible, you need to be aged 16–25. The workshop will introduce you to the basic skills you need to start officiating at tournaments.

When you get started, you will be assigned a supporting mentor to help you. Once you have gained some experience, there will be opportunities for you to progress to a County or Regional Judge or even the youth international.

A course is organised each year – to apply email [judges@archerygb.org](mailto:judges@archerygb.org) and further information will be provided.

## Candidate Judge

You first need to contact the Regional Judge Liaison Official in your area to register as a Judge. They will introduce you to a mentor and another judge who will support you through the first tournaments you attend.

A one-day judge training workshop is also available to introduce you to the basic skills you need. Once you have gained some experience, there will be opportunities for you to progress to a County or Regional Judge.

## How long does it take to qualify?

From the initial registration as a Candidate Judge, it usually takes a minimum of 12 months experience and practice before you are ready to take an assessment to become a County Judge. The assessment is designed simply to ensure that you understand the rules of shooting and to see you officiate on the field of play.

## How much does it cost?

There is a tuition fee to attend the workshop and you will need to supply your own judging equipment, including stop watch, whistle and magnifying glass.

Once you are settled as a Judge you will need to need to buy the standard judge uniform. This costs approximately £100. Some regions and county associations support candidates by contributing towards these costs.

## Entry on to the Course

- The course is intended for learners with experience of archery and is open to Archery GB members.
- Learners need to be at least 15 years old by the first day of the course.
- When judging, learners under the age of 18 must be supervised by a responsible supervisor.



## Youth & Candidate Course Overview

The course is 1 day, however additional tasks are required before and afterwards. The course syllabus is briefly outlined below.

Prior Learning	Course Day	Assessment	Post Learning
Online guidebooks / reading	9.00am - 5.00pm		Practical, Conference and Self-driven CPD
Topics covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roles of a Judge</li> <li>• Procedures</li> <li>• Understanding basic Archery GB and WA Rules</li> </ul>	Topics covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judging Philosophy</li> <li>• Practical application of rules (both WA and Archery GB)</li> <li>• Disability awareness</li> <li>• Procedure and rule explanation</li> <li>• Grade related theory exam</li> </ul>	Format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 45-minute exam at the end of the seminar.</li> <li>• A practical test will be organised within your Region, with the support of your JLO, once you have gained some practical experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Going to shoots and working with teams of established judges</li> <li>• An individual mentor to ensure you get the correct level of events and help</li> <li>• Continually keeping up to date with the World Archery and Archery GB rules.</li> </ul>

## 2. What is involved?

### Role of the Judge

Whenever shooting takes place, it needs to be under the control of a 'Field Captain'. At larger meetings the Field Captain will also be a recognised Judge.

The role of the Judge is to see that shooting takes place smoothly, so that each archer can achieve their best. This involves applying the rules fairly and in the spirit of sportsmanship.

### Duties of a Judge

Here is a guide of the general duties you'd be expected to undertake as a new judge, with the support of more qualified judges around you.

#### A new judge will help to:

- Assess range layout
- Control shooting procedure
- Use sound signals and timing
- Use electronic timing system
- Monitor the number of arrows shot
- Assess a line cutter
- Correct arrow values
- Deal with bouncers
- Deal with un-shot arrows
- Inspect equipment
- Deal with equipment failures

It is important for all judges to provide a positive representation of the sport, in how they behave as well as the duties that they carry out.

Announcements are given before the competition commences to welcome all archers and explain the format being used.

The announcements are usually given by the Chairman of Judges (appointed as the Judge in charge). End of distance announcements or announcements in the running of the shoot, for example bouncers or equipment failures, will be given by the Director of Shooting, who controls the shooting procedure.

### How much time do I need to give to judging?

It is possible to combine both shooting and judging, but not at the same event! The amount of time you give to judging is entirely dependent on you. Most judges are active for a minimum 12 days a year and many others do more. It's also important to attend the annual Regional and National Judge conferences as part of your on-going development.

### Will I get paid for judging?

Judges don't get paid but do receive re-imbursment from the Tournament Organiser (TO) for expenses they incur. In addition, the TO will ensure that the Judges are 'fed and watered' during the event, and pay for overnight accommodation should it be required, such as during a two-day event.

### Who do I contact?

To be put in touch with your Regional Judge Liaison Officer please contact the Judging Working Group at [judges@archerygb.org](mailto:judges@archerygb.org) or call Archery GB on 01952 677 888.

Further information about Judging is also available on the Archery GB website – [www.archerygb.org/judge](http://www.archerygb.org/judge)

# Notes



## Archery GB

Lilleshall National Sports & Conferencing Centre  
Newport  
Shropshire  
TF10 9AT

### General Enquiries:

Tel: 01952 677 888

Email: [enquiries@archerygb.org](mailto:enquiries@archerygb.org)

[www.archerygb.org](http://www.archerygb.org)



Archery GB



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