



# *Returning to Archery*

Phase 1 – Restricted  
Shooting

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**Guidance Notes for  
Archers**

Version 1.1

Updated: 4 June 2020



FOR THE **LOVE** OF ARCHERY

## INTRODUCTION

We have indicated the key additions and updates to these guidelines with **[NEW]** and **[UPDATED]** on the following pages.

These guidelines currently apply to England, Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man and **[NEW] Northern Ireland only**, and relate to the first phase of returning to archery (restricted shooting). They have been produced in line with the Government guidance on public spaces, outdoor activity and exercise published on 11 May 2020, which can be read on the Gov.uk website - [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**Archery ranges in Wales should remain closed, the Welsh Archery Association are working with Sport Wales on their guidance, which will be published shortly.**

**[NEW] [The guidance for Scottish Archery can be found by clicking here.](#)**

Archery is a sport where close contact with others can be avoided. Archery GB has developed a set of practical guidelines for clubs to follow so that restricted shooting can take place in England, Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man and **[NEW] Northern Ireland during lockdown, where the local environment allows**. The choice to return to archery at this time is one that needs to be made locally by clubs, after considering their own circumstances. There are many clubs who are keen to return to archery as soon as possible, but we appreciate there will be those that have genuine concerns, or their local environment will make shooting safely impossible at this stage. It is the responsibility of each club to make their own assessment based on their local environment and circumstances.

We therefore ask you to read and consider the information below carefully, before making a decision to return to archery as safely as possible during this current phase. Please do not feel pressured to shoot until you are confident you can do so as safely, by following both the Archery GB guidelines and the current government advice.

## STAY ALERT

The clear Government message is that we can all help to control the virus if we all stay alert. This means you must:

- Stay at home as much as possible
- Work from home if you can
- Limit contact with other people
- Keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart where possible)
- Wash your hands regularly
- Self-isolate if you or anyone in your household has symptoms.

**Please be aware that clubs need to remain flexible and have the ability to communicate changes to their members quickly. Your club must respond quickly if there is an increase in the virus locally, nationally or if any of club's members or visitors to the range test positive for coronavirus. Please make sure you keep in contact with your club.**

## PHASED RETURN

A return to archery is taking place on a phased basis, the phases will change in line with the latest government guidelines once it has been published. Currently we are working on a three-phase approach. Please note, these phases are subject to change as the government exit strategy becomes clearer.

**Phase 1** - Outdoor only. Family units or individual shooting. Social distancing of 2m maintained between anyone not in the same household. No social activities, “turn up, shoot, go home”, minimise contact with others. **[UPDATED]** Coaching 1:5 allowed while maintaining social distancing.

**Phase 2** – Indoor or outdoor shooting. Limited numbers with appropriate social distancing between archers – Further details to follow.

**Phase 3** – Full training and competition. Indoor and outdoor shooting. Social activities permitted – Further details to follow.

These guidelines cover **Phase 1 only** and will be updated as necessary to reflect future phases of returning to archery led by the latest government advice.

If you have any questions then please email [membership@archerygb.org](mailto:membership@archerygb.org) and a member of staff will get back to you, please note a number of the team are furloughed and this may take a longer than usual.

## STAY ALERT

- Archers **MUST NOT** come to the Archery Range if they show symptoms of any illness but in particular of Covid-19. [These are highlighted on NHS Direct](#) and include:
  - A new persistent and dry cough
  - A temperature
- If you are symptomatic, living in a household with a possible COVID-19 infection or if you are classified as extremely vulnerable on health grounds, the guidance is that you should remain at home.
- Archers should notify the club should they develop symptoms after attending the archery range.
- After the session, archers should sanitise their hands, clean their equipment and anything else used at the session.

## ARCHERS

- We are advising clubs and coaches to use a booking system, which will support lane management to avoid disappointment and stagger timings to minimise encounters between people, including in car parks and at entrances. Turning up at the range without a slot should be discouraged.
- As an archer, you must practice social distancing at all times and maintain a distance of at least 2 metres apart. People from different households should not travel in the same car.
- Individual archers must shoot at a single target but archers from the same household may share a target.
- You should use target faces and target pins allocated to you by your club or provided by yourself. Please put up your own target faces and re-use or dispose of them at home.
- You must use your own equipment, or equipment loaned to you by your club (any loaned equipment should remain with you until the government restrictions are lifted further). Sharing of equipment is not permitted. Take all your equipment home.
- If your club is providing timed slots, please follow your club's guidance by arriving shortly before your designated time, wearing and with the correct gear and be ready to shoot. After your slot, you should leave as soon as you have packed away your equipment. Clubs are advised to stagger start times to minimise the risk of archers meeting others outside of their household.
- In order to minimise contact, there is no need to remain at the club if you are not shooting.
- **[UPDATED]** Toilets are to be used ONLY in an emergency, and therefore you should come prepared not to use the toilets. Toilets can be used in an emergency as long as the club can implement the [Government guidelines for keeping facilities and equipment clean](#).
- Clubs may ask archers to shoot as many arrows as possible during each end, reducing the number of times archers have to collect arrows.

**Field Archery** - In addition to the general guidance above only, field archery can take place with archers shooting with one other person not from their household (observing social distancing) or with members of the same household on each target, and at all times keep at least 2 metres from all other archers.

**Clout, flight and other disciplines** – As above, government guidelines and social distancing measures should apply all times. Any equipment should be handled as little as possible, and cleaned before and afterwards.

## **CLUBS**

These guidelines will cover the majority of archery clubs; however, we recognise that not all clubs will be able to open during Phase 1 for a number of reasons, and clubs should only open if they can confidently meet the guidelines. Please read the *Guidance Notes for Clubs* document for more information.

## **COACHING**

**[UPDATED]** One to five coaching can take place as long as the restrictions described within this guide are adhered to. Contact the club or your coach for more details.

Please see the *Guidance Notes for Coaches* for more information.

## **SPECTATORS**

Where attendance of a parent/guardian (non-participant) or a carer for a disabled archer is required, it should be limited to one per archer, with social distancing strictly observed while watching the sessions (consider marking out specific boxes/areas for this purpose).

Please note guidance can change quickly and we will respond to any changes made by government as soon as is practicable to do so. Keep up to date with the latest information at [www.archerygb.org/covid19](http://www.archerygb.org/covid19)