



Returning to Archery

Phase 2 - Competition

Guidance Notes for Archers (Competition)

Version 1.1
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FOR THE **LOVE** OF ARCHERY

INTRODUCTION

These guidelines currently apply to England. They have been produced in line with the English Government guidance published on 9 July 2020, which can be read on the Gov.uk website - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation>

Northern Ireland

Only outdoor shooting is currently allowed and everyone will need to follow the current [Northern Ireland Government guidelines](#). The indicative date for a return to indoor archery in Northern Ireland is the 7th August 2020.

Wales

Only outdoor shooting is currently allowed and everyone will need to follow the current [Welsh Government guidelines on social distancing and travel](#). Clubs in Wales will need to follow the Archery GB Guidelines on returning to archery.

Scotland

Scottish Archery has published their Phase 3 guidance for archery. Click [here](#) for more information.

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 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 safely, by following both the Archery GB guidelines and the current government advice.

STAY ALERT

Archers must ask themselves the following questions before going the competition.

1. Do you have a high temperature? Yes/No
2. Do you have a new, continuous cough? Yes/No
3. Do you have a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste? Yes/No
4. Are you in a household or bubble with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 in the past 14 days? Yes/No
5. Are you in a lockdown area? Yes/No*

* If you are in an area of a local lockdown/restrictions, you **must** follow the guidance for your area as these may be slightly different.

If the answer to any of these is yes, you **should not attend the competition**.

- Archers must bring their own sanitiser, face coverings or PPE, and any other item to enable them to feel safe and comfortable at the competition.
- If an archer lives in an area which has reverted back into lockdown they must not attend the competition.

ARCHER CONDUCT

In the event that an archer repeatedly contravenes rules – sport or social distancing measures – then the Tournament Organiser has the authority, and backing of Archery GB, to evict the archer from the field of play and disqualify their scores.

SUPPORTING DISABLED ARCHERS

Archery is an inclusive sport and Archery GB is proactively working on solutions to ensure people with disabilities or long-term health conditions can continue to participate safely in the sport. For people who are shielding, we strongly recommend you follow [the Government guidelines on shielding and protecting yourselves which can be found here](#).

It is an individual decision to return to archery which should be made in conjunction with the latest medical and government advice.

If an archer requires additional support, where possible their carer or a member of their family or household is the preferred solution to providing the support required. If this is not possible, then please talk to the tournament organiser

This is a recommended procedure for arrow collection:

- Prior to shooting, the arrows and other equipment are cleaned thoroughly.
- Agents to consider face coverings, and where possible avoid touching the target, pulling out arrows using an arrow puller, to reduce the direct handling of the archer's arrows.
- The agent would transfer the arrows in a tube quiver which will be used when carrying the arrows back from the target to the archer.
- The quiver to be safely positioned by the archer so they can access their arrows.
- The archer can then take the arrows from this quiver and place them into their own quiver for the next round of shooting. This further reduces the handling of the arrows by the volunteer.
- The archer and agent frequently wash/sanitise their hands, before and after the collection of arrows.
- Physical contact with anyone outside of your household is not permitted.

Activity Alliance have produced guidance [Reopening Activity: An inclusive response](#), in consultation with partners across sport, leisure and disability equality. The resource covers areas such as session planning, engagement, and workforce. It complements and builds on other guidelines from government, Sport England, professional associations, and governing bodies.

For further information or support please email membership@archerygb.org

SHOULD SOMEONE FALL ILL

If someone should fall ill at the competition, they should be advised to leave the event as soon as possible. If this is not possible, they should be isolated in their own car until arrangements can be made for their journey home. Advise them to call 111/119 once at home to follow the NHS clinical/testing pathway.

If a person falls seriously ill with suspected Covid-19 whilst at the competition (probably unlikely if they have followed all your other advice) then normal first aid procedures should be given wearing FFP3 mask, gloves and eye protection with the ambulance being made aware of 'suspected Covid-19'. There is also new guidance on resuscitation in cases where Covid-19 is suspected, so your club's First Aiders should be made aware of this, if they aren't already.

It is also advisable to run a track and trace system and then contact all of the attendees at the competition to ensure that they get tested following a positive test from another archer who may have gone home with symptoms.

Further advice on First Aid during the Covid-19 pandemic is available from [St John Ambulance](#).

ARCHERS

- We are advising tournament organiser to use online entry and electronic payment, if you are not able to pay online please contact the TO
- Numbers at the competitions will be lower than normal so please DO NOT push for a space if the competition is full and all competitions will be first come first serve for entry
- As an archer, you must practice social distancing at all times and maintain a distance of at least 2 metres apart. If this is not practical/possible, then other mitigating practices, such as face coverings or physical barriers such as protective screens, should be used as per the 1m+ guidance. People from different households should not travel in the same car

THE ENTRY FORM

Archers will be asked if they are a left / right-handed archer, this is to allow target assignments to be set so that LH & RH archers do not face each other on the shooting line.

TARGET LISTS AND INFORMATION

All archers will be sent the target list or link to ianse0 via an e-mail including information and arrangement for the day, you **MUST** read this information and it could differ from competition to competition.

ON THE DAY

As per a normal competition assembly will take place but socially distanced.

TENTS

Areas will be marked out for tents please be considerate to other archers and the organiser.

REGISTRATION

You will not be asked to hand over your AGB card but must have it ready if the TO needs any information please cooperate and read information.

It is likely registration will take place at your car on entry

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).

Due to numbers on the field parents/spectators may be asked to leave the field, to minimise the risk and to adhere to the Government requirements. If this is the case, contact details of the Tournament Organiser/Member of the Field Crew will be provided to them as a contact if they have any safeguarding concerns during the competitions. Children/Young People will also be made aware what is going to happen and who they can talk to if they have any concerns.

SHOOTING

The field layouts will be different and therefore archers are expected to adapt to stay safe and inline with government guidance. The layouts will be sent to you via the organisers and questions should be directed to the organisers.

When scoresheets are to be collected the scorers on each target should be made responsible for bringing their score sheets to a central location where they will be placed in a large box.

It is suggested that, at the end of competition, that no results/awards are given, and all archers are asked to leave as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary congregations of people. The results can be emailed out subsequently or on ianse0.

EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

Judges will not touch bows but you will be expected to converse with the judge to help them inspect your bow in a safe manner, please be accommodating and do as you are asked. If you have a compound bow this will not be weighed unless you feel it is needed.

SCORING

This will be different for all competitions, disciplines and types, please see specific TO guidance for the type of shoot or contact the TO.

Archers will be asked to amend the scores themselves and a judge will circle and initial to minimise the contact with the score sheet.

TOILETS

Organisers may need to implement a one in, one out system for their use, or if the corridors do not allow people to pass each other safely, then set an occupancy limit of the facility of one. Lengths of breaks may need to be adjusted accordingly.

Please adhere to rules set out by the organiser, note that this might be different for each competition you attend.

AFTER THE COMPETITION

- Archers should notify the TO should they develop symptoms after attending the competition.

Please respect the tournament organiser decisions – the majority of clubs are run by volunteers and they are managing a complex situation whilst doing their best to allow you to shoot.