



Returning to Archery

Phase 2 – Restricted
Shooting

**Guidance Notes for
Archers**

Version 3.01

Updated: 20 October 2020



FOR THE **LOVE** OF ARCHERY

INTRODUCTION

UPDATED FOR 14 OCTOBER 2020

We have indicated the key additions and updates to these guidelines with **[NEW]** and **[UPDATED]** on the following pages. They have been produced in line with the Government guidance, which can be read on the Gov.uk website -

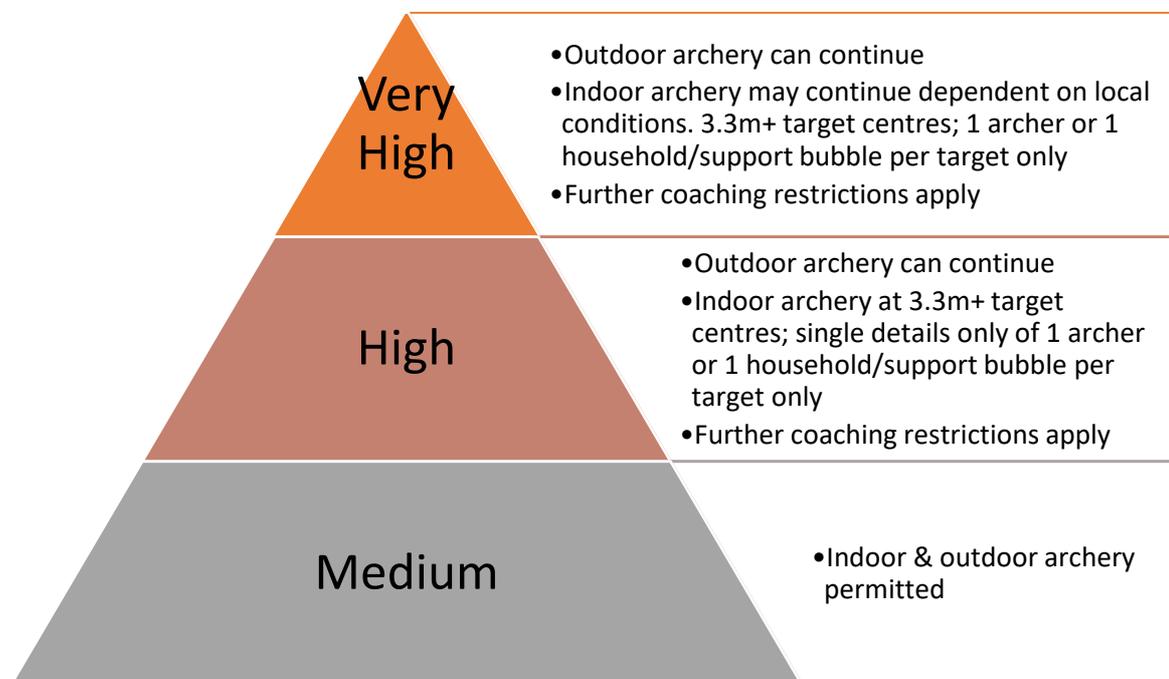
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation>

[NEW] The majority of this updated guidance issued by Archery GB applies to areas covered by the new COVID Alert Level 1 (Medium). If you are in an area covered by COVID Alert Level 2 (High) or 3 (Very High) please ensure that you check local restrictions as well.

[NEW] The Government's three-Level approach for England – Medium; High and Very High – has implications for indoor sport. As archery is a socially distance sport it can continue, but in Level 2 (High) and Level 3 (Very High) areas restrictions mean that archery indoors will need to be conducted with a single archer or one household/support bubble on a single target. [Government alert level descriptors are available HERE](#) and a [full list of local COVID alert levels by area HERE](#).

[NEW] In Level 3 (Very High) areas, archery may not be permissible indoors. This will be dependent on local restrictions.

[NEW] What the new Level system means for archery:



*Across all alert levels, local restrictions may override Archery GB guidance.

[NEW] Scotland - Scottish Archery are in dialogue with the Scottish Government and Sport Scotland and update their club/archer guidance regularly. For further information please visit their [website](#) for the most up to date guidance.

- [Local Advice & Measures in Scotland](#)

[NEW] **Wales** - The Chair of WAA is keeping clubs up to date with the information received from the Welsh Assembly and/or Sport Wales.

- [Local Lockdowns in Wales](#)

[NEW] **Northern Ireland** – From Friday 16 October, no indoor sport or organised contact sport involving mixing of households, other than at elite level. Outdoor archery can continue. Clubs are required to follow the regulations included in the Archery GB guidelines and fully conform to any N.I. legal requirements.

- [Localised Restrictions in Northern Ireland](#)

Regardless of location, all archers and volunteers should be aware of whether they are in an area with local restrictions, and what the restrictions are as they may impact on activities outside of the club/range, such as travel in/out of the area or socialising with people outside of your household.

ARCHERY

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.

PROTECT EACH OTHER

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

- **Wash hands** - keep washing your hands regularly
- **Cover face** - wear a face covering in enclosed spaces
- **Make space** - stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

Do not leave home 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 your club's members or visitors to the range test positive for coronavirus.

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. Coaching 1:5 allowed while maintaining social distancing.

[UPDATED] Phase 2 – Indoor and outdoor shooting. Shooting in two details or family households/support bubble* (outdoor only). Shooting singly or in two details (indoors). Limited numbers with appropriate social distancing between archers. Limited contact outside of shooting. Coaching 1: 5. Some competitions allowed but limited to social distancing.

(Covid Alert Level may affect some aspects of phase – please refer to page 2 for more information)

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

* A support bubble is a close support network between a household with only one adult in the home (known as a single-adult household) and one other household of any size.

[NEW] From 14 October, the sport remains in **Phase 2** and these guidelines have been updated to reflect this change. We will continue to update archery specific guidance as and when the government advice is updated.

If you have any questions then please email 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 longer than usual.

STAY ALERT

- **[UPDATED]** Archers and Members **MUST NOT** come to the range/club if they show symptoms of any illness but in particular of Covid-19. [These are highlighted on NHS Direct](#). The main symptoms of coronavirus are:
 - a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
 - a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
 - a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

- **[UPDATED]** What to do if you have symptoms

- If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:
 - Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
 - Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.
 - Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.
- **[UPDATED]** If you are symptomatic, living in a household with a possible COVID-19 infection then guidance is that you should remain at home. If you are classified as extremely vulnerable on health grounds, you should be especially careful and be diligent about social distancing and hand hygiene. For those shielding, you can now consider taking safe exercise outdoors and meeting up with one person outside your household, always maintaining social distancing and robust hand and respiratory hygiene.
 - Archers and other Members should notify the club should they develop symptoms after attending the archery range.
 - After the session, **everyone** should sanitise their hands, clean their equipment and anything else used at the session regularly.

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.
- **[UPDATED]** 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

OUTDOOR ONLY

- Targets may be used by two archers from different households, when shooting **outdoors**, in two single details (as long as 2m social distancing is maintained); one archer; or one group of archers of any size if from the same household.
- Where appropriate you may be provided with target faces and target pins to keep, and re-use or dispose of at home after use. If this not possible then ensure any shared equipment is cleaned/sanitised after contact.
- Archers should use their own equipment if possible (or equipment that is loaned to them by the club, which is kept by the archer for a period of time). Where this is not possible and is deemed a barrier to participation, clubs, coaches and archers need to do everything practical to minimise the risk of transmission. These include:

- The frequent cleaning of objects, equipment and surfaces that are regularly touched, ensuring there is adequate disposal arrangements for waste.
 - Sanitisation of all equipment after every use, before being used by someone from a different household.
 - Wash/sanitise your hands thoroughly before and after using, handling or cleaning equipment.
- **[NEW]** To support the NHS Test & Trace initiative, clubs, and coaches, should use a booking system for **all archery sessions (indoors and outdoors)**, to keep a temporary record of club participants for 21 days. You are not required to do anything until NHS Test and Trace contact you for further details.
 - 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.
 - Clubs may ask archers to shoot as many arrows as possible during each end, reducing the number of times archers have to collect arrows.

INDOOR ONLY

Guidance is applicable to Level 1 (Medium) areas and should be cross referenced if clubs are operating in Level 2 (High) and Level 3 (Very High) areas.

- Indoor archery can take place, as long as these guidelines are implemented. Activity can continue for children (under 18s), and organised activity for adults (including coached sessions and club nights held indoors) is permissible. These can take place in larger numbers in COVID-19 secure venues, provided sub-groups of more than six do not mix. There is an exemption for activity for disabled people, which can take place in any number.
- **[UPDATED]** Individual targets should be booked by an archer, a single household, or a maximum of two archers from different households share a target.
- **[NEW]** Archers and other members must **not** gather in groups of more than six before and after archery sessions. The club is responsible for ensuring this (including when arriving at or leaving activity or in any breaks or socialising) and if it cannot ensure this, then such activity should not take place. Archers and volunteers must avoid social interaction with anyone outside the group they are with, even if they see other people they know, at all times during their visit.
- **All members** must wear face coverings when shooting **indoors** and in all indoor environments, except when actively shooting. Anyone with a medical condition or

under 12 years of age is exempt.

- In some cases, archers should come prepared to start shooting. Toilets can be used as long as the club can implement the [Government guidelines for keeping facilities and equipment clean](#).

ARCHERY DISCIPLINES

Field Archery – In addition to the general guidance above, field archery can take place. It is preferred that practice/club shoots archers only shoot with one other person not from their household (observing social distancing) or with members of the same household on each target. At competitions, archers can shoot in groups of four, at all times keeping at least 2 metres from other archers. Refer to the Return to Competition documents for more information.

Clout, flight and other disciplines – All archery disciplines can take place, following the generic guidance above. Social distancing measures should apply at all times. Any equipment should be handled as little as possible and cleaned before and afterwards.

[UPDATED] ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

As the guidance is expanding, the following areas are covered in a separate document, and you should read those guides as well, where relevant.

Guidance is available for:

- **Coaches & Coaching**
- **Competition** – including discipline support & TO guidance
- **Archers** - The Guidance Notes for Archers should be circulated to all club members
- **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.
- **Implementing a Booking System**

SPECTATORS

Spectating should continue to be actively discouraged. Only essential volunteers should be at the range, and their roles during practice sessions should be logged in the risk assessment.

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 respect the club's 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.

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