



Returning to Archery

Phase 2 – Restricted
Shooting

**Guidance Notes for
Archers**

Version 4.01

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FOR THE **LOVE** OF ARCHERY

INTRODUCTION

UPDATED FOR 2 DECEMBER 2020

This guidance has been produced in line with the Government rulings and guidance, which can be read on the Gov.UK website - <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

This guidance is produced while being mindful of the diverse strategies developed within the Home Nations of the United Kingdom. You can find general guidance on remaining safe within each of the links below.

Scotland - <https://www.gov.scot/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance/>
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.

Wales - <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>
The Chair of WAA is keeping clubs up to date with the information received from the Welsh Assembly and/or Sport Wales.

Northern Ireland - <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-regulations>
Following an increase in coronavirus cases, additional restrictions have been introduced for people living in Northern Ireland. The latest regulations can be found by clicking on the link above.

England - <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>
The guidance in this document is mainly based on England regulations. Indoor or outdoor sport guidance can be found here - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation>

Each English county has been placed in a tier – check here:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area>

All archers and volunteers should keep up-to-date with which tier they are in and how this will affect their ability to travel between tiers or socialise outside of their household or bubble.

Please be ready to take action accordingly if your locality is affected and be aware that lockdown enforcement may happen at short notice. It may be necessary to notify your club members quickly of decisions taken by the committee to ensure public health and safety. There may be legal ramifications should your club or committee not adhere to local or national guidance.

ARCHERY

Archery GB has developed this set of practical guidelines for clubs, archer and coaches to follow so that shooting, albeit restricted in some cases, can take place where the local environment allows.

The choice to return to archery or remain open is one that needs to be made locally by clubs, after considering their own circumstances. We appreciate there will be those that have genuine concerns, or their local environment will make mitigating the risks imposed too difficult to address. It is the responsibility of each club to make their own assessment based on their local environment and circumstances.

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the guidelines for clubs and coaches, and all elements of the guidelines should be considered to ensure activity can be delivered safely, whilst mitigating the risks.

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 and we remain in Phase 2. Please note, these phases are subject to change as the government exit strategy becomes clearer.

We therefore ask you to read and consider the information below carefully, before making a decision to return to archery.

Please do not feel pressured to return to your club until you are confident you can do so whilst mitigating the risks imposed by the virus, by following both the Archery GB guidelines, the current national laws and government guidance.

PROTECT EACH OTHER

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other

- **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

At all times, archers need to remain flexible and follow updates from their clubs. Clubs are being challenged to respond quickly if there is an increase in the virus locally, nationally or if any club members, or visitors to the range, test positive for coronavirus.

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 a response may take longer than usual.

STAY ALERT

- 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 have 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.

- What to do 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.
 - Follow all current laws and government guidance.
- If you are symptomatic, living in a household with a possible COVID-19 infection you must follow all current guidance. If you are classified as extremely vulnerable on health grounds, you should be especially careful and be diligent about social distancing and hand hygiene.
- Archers and other Members should notify the club if they develop symptoms after attending the archery range.
- All clubs and coaches are asked to notify Archery GB using this simple survey, of any archer or volunteer that reports a positive test, where NHS Test and Trace have been in touch or other related incident – no personal information is required.

Click here to complete the survey - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/agbcovid-reporting>

TRAVEL

In general, the advice is to try and reduce the number of journeys we all make. For sport, archers may travel to their club if they and the club are located in tier 1 and/or 2. People from different households must not travel in the same car to or from archery.

Members are advised not travel into or from tier 3 areas to take part in sport. Each tier 3 area is separate and therefore you should avoid travelling from one tier 3 area to tier 3 area.

Exemptions are in place for:

- Volunteers and coaches (if they are integral to the activity taking place)
- Disability sport
- Sport for educational purposes
- Elite sport
- Supervised sport and physical activity for under-18s

For more information visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-restriction-tiers-what-you-need-to-know#all-tiers>

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 avoided.
- 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.

OUTDOOR ONLY

- In all Tiers, a target boss may be used by up to a maximum of 4 archers from different households, in two details, or one group of archers of any size if from the same household.
- Individual targets should be positioned a minimum of 3.66 metres from each target lane centre (depending on available space). If two targets are placed in a lane for use by a household, then 5 metres should remain between the centres of the adjoining targets. This minimum spacing temporarily is incorporated in **Rule 301**.
- In Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas, indoor spaces and facilities (apart from indoor shooting ranges) must close, except for toilets.
- 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.
- 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.

INDOOR ONLY

- For each Covid-level alert area the following restrictions apply:

Tier 1	2 archers from different households using a target face each per target boss, or; 1 single household/bubble per target boss
Tier 2	2 archers from different households using a target face each per target boss, or; 1 single household/bubble per target boss
Tier 3	A solitary archer per target boss, or; A single household/bubble per target boss

- Face coverings must be worn at all times when shooting indoors, except when actively shooting. Anyone with a medical condition or under 12 years of age is exempt.
- A minimum of 2 metre target boss centres should be used, however the preferred indoor target boss centres is 3.3m, however it is the responsibility of each club to make their own assessment based on their local environment, member preferences and risk assessment. On the shooting line use physical barriers such as protective screens between archers where boss centres are less than 3.3m.
- Target boss centre spacing of less than 2 metres is not permitted.
- Ensure hygiene rules are enforced and limit contact with other people by building in additional measure – e.g. targets 1, 3 and 5 collect arrows, then targets 2 and 4; separate archer's LH & RH so not to shoot face to face.

- There are exceptions for indoor disability sport, sport for educational purposes and supervised sport and physical activity for groups of under-18s. Please check details within your home nation.
- Archers and other members must **not** gather in groups 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.
- 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](#).

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

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

Guidance is available for:

- **Clubs**
- **Coaches & Coaching**
- **Competition** – including discipline support & TO guidance
- **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). Consideration should be given to single parents or carers, in order to enable participation by all.

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