

# TAC Open Tournaments

## General Rules of Shooting as of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2008

### 1. Targets:

- a. The highest scoring zone on every target will be clear of debris.
- b. Targets may be angled and partially covered.

### 2. Restricted Arrow Speed:

- a. Maximum arrow speed for all classes will be 300 feet per second.
- b. All classes are subject to random arrow speed tests carried out by an official at any time before, during and after a tournament. Competitors found to be in violation of the speed restriction rules immediately before a tournament will be allowed to make adjustments to his/her equipment to try to meet the speed restrictions before the start of the tournament - if they do not make the deadline they will be allowed to shoot on a non-competitive basis only and will not be eligible for any prizes or refund. Any competitor found to be in violation of the speed restriction rules during or immediately after the tournament will be disqualified from that tournament - but will be allowed to finish the tournament as a non-competitor and will not be eligible for any prizes or refund.
- c. Arrow speeds will be measured by a TAC approved chronograph.

### 3. Distances:

- a. Target distances and information may not be discussed between competitors at any time during a tournament, until the competition is officially over.
- b. All forms of mechanical and electronic range finders or any other devices that may be used for range finding are banned from use by competitors. "Framing" targets in any way will be viewed upon as using a range finder and the archer will be disqualified from the tournament.
- c. Binoculars are allowed, but must not be used for range-finding, binoculars with additional marks will not be allowed.
- d. Distances may only be judged naturally (with the naked eye).
- e. All distances to the targets will be unmarked.

### 4. Scoring & Score-cards:

Each archer will be given two score-cards. It is their responsibility to ensure that all the information on the card is correct. An official must be notified to correct any errors.

- a. No changes may be made to the score-card after the score-card has been signed by the group's designated score keeper and the archer.
- b. Any incorrectly filled out or unsigned cards will result in a zero score for the course.
- c. At the end of the course, all cards must correspond and be signed. The Target Captain will be responsible for handing in all score cards by the designated time. Any cards not handed in by the allotted time will result in a zero score for that course.
- e. All arrows must be clearly marked with the competitors name or initials.
- f. All arrows must remain in the target, and not be touched, until the scores have been marked on the official cards.
- g. Arrows may receive one of the following scores:  
Pro Ring = 12, Inner Ring = 10, Outer Zone = 8, Remainder of Target = 5, Miss = 0
- h. Misses are arrows that have:
  - I. Hit the incorrect target
  - II. Missed the target altogether
  - III. Hit a non-scoring part of the target (horn, antler, hoof, rock, background, etc).
  - IV. Glance offs.
- i. Exceptions to misses:
  - I. Pass Through. An arrow that partially passed through a target may be pushed back and scored. An arrow that has completely passed through the target and the group confirms that a pass through occurred. In this case the archer may take the score where the pass through occurred up to a maximum of an Inner Ring (ten points), no "Pro Ring" - "12" will be given.
  - II. (A "Robin-Hood"). Any arrow embedded in the nock of another arrow will be scored the same as the arrow it struck.
- j. Scoring lines are defined as being in the higher scoring zone, therefore arrow shafts that physically cut into or touch the zone line will be scored as the higher score.
- k. After the end of the 3D Qualifying round, if two or more archers have the same score then the results will be decided by the number of Pro Rings shot over the round, with the archer with the highest number of Pro Rings winning. If this is also the same then a "Sudden Death" round will be shot.

**5. Collecting Arrows:**

On the 3D and Marked Field Range archers must wait until the group either side of them has stopped shooting before collecting arrows and scoring their targets. A verbal acknowledgment between groups should be made to ensure it is safe to proceed.

On the Practice and Long Distance Target Range all shooting must stop before arrows are collected.

**6. Shooting Information:**

Archers must read all signs and instructions posted for them around the courses as at times it might be imperative to give specific instructions for a particular shot. If in doubt call a TAC Official.

**7. Prizes:**

Prizes will be distributed as follows:

**3D Qualifying Round:**

The 8 highest scoring archers of each class will go into the finals, where upon they will be rewarded for each round they get through.

**TAC League and Living Heritage Shooter of the Year Awards:**

Archer's scores from the 3D Qualifying Round and their best scores from the Long Distance Target and Marked Distance Field Round shot at each tournament will be calculated and their accumulated scores from their 3 best tournament totals over the 4 tournaments will give them a finishing league position. The top eight archers in each class will be awarded cash prizes and the winner will receive the "Living Heritage Shooter of the Year" Award.

**Long Distance Target Round:**

Archers shoot 6 arrows at each of the two targets scoring 10, 9, 8, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, or 0. Max score = 120 points. 60% cash payback to the top three archers in each class. Archers may enter as many times as they wish to each day only their highest score will count.

**Marked Distance Field Round:**

7 Field Archery Targets will be set at known distances, 4 arrows to be shot at each target, scoring 5, 4, 3 or 0. Max score = 140. Archers may enter as many times as they wish to each day only their highest score will count. Prizes will be given to the top three archers in each class

**Door Prize:**

One door prize will be randomly drawn and given to a competing archer.

**Raffle:**

3D Raffle – one Eleven 3D target will be raffled and drawn at each TAC Open – tickets will be on sale leading up to and at each event. The target will be new before each tournament and shot only for that event.

Eleven Target Board Raffle – 4 Target Boards and Inserts will be used on the practice range over the course of the four events. Raffle tickets will be sold and the draw for these targets will be pulled out one at each event – the target may only be collected at the end of the last event of the season.

The Great 3D Target Raffle – one very large Rinehart Target (eg an Elk) will be raffled off over the season – this target will be shot at over the four TAC events. The draw for which will be down on the last day of the last event of the season at which point the winner may collect the target.

## 8. Shooting the Ranges:

a. A time slot of 2 hours 40 minutes has been allocated for the Open Class for each 20 target 3D Qualifying Round. This equates to eight minutes per group of four archers per target and allows for shooting, scoring and collecting time. Groups will be timed randomly by judges. First offence will result in a warning, second offence will result in the group losing their score for the target. Time starts from as soon as the group arrives at the shooting peg.

b. Archers will alternate being the first shooter at the peg. Groups may chose to follow example 1 or 2, whichever is preferred by the majority of the group, but the order must be adhered to for the remainder of the course.

### Example 1:

Order	Target 1	Target 2	Target 3	Target 4
1st	Archer "A"	Archer "D"	Archer "C"	Archer "B"
2nd	Archer "B"	Archer "A"	Archer "D"	Archer "C"
3rd	Archer "C"	Archer "B"	Archer "A"	Archer "D"
4th	Archer "D"	Archer "C"	Archer "B"	Archer "A"

### Example 2:

Order	Target 1	Target 2	Target 3	Target 4
1st	Archer "A"	Archer "B"	Archer "C"	Archer "D"
2nd	Archer "B"	Archer "C"	Archer "D"	Archer "A"
3rd	Archer "C"	Archer "D"	Archer "A"	Archer "B"
4th	Archer "D"	Archer "A"	Archer "B"	Archer "C"

c. Groups will be drawn at random and may not be changed. Archer "B" & "C" will score, "A" will be the Target Captain and archer "D" & "A" will pull arrows.

d. The archer must be in contact with the relevant peg whilst making his or her shot.

e. Archers must not alter the ranges in any way and should approach the targets by following the marked route, so as not to alter the shot for archers still to come.

f. Archers with moveable sights, once set for a target and the bow has been drawn cannot reset their sight after a let-down. (Penalty of zero for the target). Also, once an archer has glassed the target, they may not reset their sight.

g. Arrows that have missed targets may not be searched for. If they are visible they may be collected, but archers should carry enough arrows to complete a day's course.

h. Only one arrow per archer per target will be shot. A dropped arrow which falls whilst being nocked onto the string in preparation for a shot may be retrieved and shot with no penalty.

i. Groups may not jump other groups unless instructed to do so by an official.

j. Equipment failure must be visible and reported to a tournament official immediately. If the equipment failure occurs during the act of shooting, the arrow will be scored as shot. The group will be required to wait and the archer with the equipment failure will be escorted from the range to replace or repair their equipment. The archer will have 45 minutes from the time of the failure to make the necessary repairs or exchange and report back to the range to rejoin the group. Each archer is limited to one repair or replacement. A second breakdown may be repaired or replaced, but the rest of the group must continue to shoot and the archer will not be allowed to make up the missed targets.

## 8. Competitors must attend their Class briefing.

### 9. Safety:

a. The onus is on the individual archer to ensure he/she is safe and fully up to date with the rules of shooting.

b. Every effort must be made by the competitor to ensure that their equipment is in safe working order.

c. Every effort must be made by the competitor to ensure that their conduct is safe - for example, loaded bows must be pointed down range at all times.

d. If necessary, competitors are within their rights to point spectators to safe positions, and must wait until they have a clear shot before proceeding.

e. In the interests of safety, one person using an aid such as an umbrella or a cap may shield an archer at full draw from the elements. Excessive sunlight, wind, rain and snow are examples of this.

f. Spot checks and scrutinizing by officials of archers' equipment will occur.

#### **10. Associations:**

All competing archers must be registered members of an official archery organisation and be able to prove current membership.

11. All competitors must agree to adhere to the "Rules and Regulations" as set out by The Archery Company.

12. The Archery Company retains the right to delay, shorten or cancel a tournament in case of severe weather conditions or unforeseen events. In the event of a shortened competition, results, prizes will be based on fully completed rounds. In the event of a cancelled tournament entry fees will be refunded.

#### **13. Acknowledgments, waivers, refunds, spectators:**

**a. Liability Release.** As participants in The Archery Company events, archers acknowledge they are VOLUNTARILY participating. Archers should be aware that participation in archery tournaments creates the risk of serious personal injury or death. By participating, they realize they may experience loss or damage to personal property. Archers assume all risk for themselves and their guests of injury, death and personal property that may result from their attendance at these archery tournaments and venues. By participating archers release and discharge The Archery Company, its sponsors, tournament sponsors and the tournament staff and volunteers (the released parties) from any liabilities for injuries, damages or other losses sustained by the archer as a result of competing in these events.

**b. Participation Agreement.** The Archery Company events are governed by rules. The Archery Company shall settle all disputes, and all decisions will be final and without legal appeal. The Archery Company reserves the right to restrict or deny entry into any event by any individual, or to designate their competitive class.

**c. Photo Release.** By registering to compete in a tournament, archers agree that photographs, video tapes and film of them may be taken whilst participating in the tournament. Archers agree that these photographs, video tapes and film may be used by The Archery Company, event sponsors, and the press without royalties or prior consent to help promote The Archery Company, its sponsors, or archery without the archer's prior consent.

**d. Refunds** may be requested subject to a deadline of no later than one week prior to the event. Entry fees may be transferred to another event at no charge, or a processing fee of 20% to cover The Archery Company's expenses will be deducted from any entry fee refunded. Entry fees will not be refunded after the deadline.

**e. Archers** are encouraged to invite spectators and guests to tournaments they must endeavor to explain the rules to them. The Archery Company accepts no liability for the safety of any spectator, guest and/or their belongings. Any spectator or guest found in violation of these rules will be asked to leave the tournament grounds.

**I.** No spectators or guests are allowed on the tournament ranges they must stay within the spectator designated areas.

**II.** Spectators and guests may not provide shooting and/or technical assistance to a competitor.

#### **14. Shooting Sections and Classes:**

There will be three main shooting Sections: Open, Barebow and Traditional. Within these three Shooting Sections allowances have been made for archers using different equipment and being of different gender. A handicap system has been devised taking the scores from the current English Field Archery Association Records that will give archers that are penalized by equipment choice a fair competitive chance against fellow competitors that are categorized into the same shooting section. This will show itself in the 3D Qualifying Range, the Marked Distance Field Range and the Long Distance Target Range as a bonus score to be added to the actual shot score, whilst in the Finals Round this will be achieved by a distance adjustment of the targets. Score adjustments will be published at the tournaments. However, the distance calculations will be kept confidential.

A junior section will run that will be open to all children under the age of 16. The parent and/or guardian must be present at all times. They will shoot at the same time as their parent or guardian and in the same group.

A novice adult section and a novice junior section will be run on 6 of the 3D Range targets and the two closest of the Long Distance Target Range targets and two of the Marked Distance Field Range Targets. All Novice competitors will be issued with the same equipment and will be accompanied by a member of TAC staff to advise and ensure safety.

**Open Section consists of the following recognized styles:**

FU - Male  
FU - Female  
FS Limited Compound - Male  
FS Limited Compound - Female  
Cross Bow - Male  
Cross Bow - Female  
FS Recurve - Male  
FS Recurve - Female  
Bowhunter Unlimited Comp - Male  
Bowhunter Unlimited Comp - Female  
Bowhunter Limited Comp - Male  
Bowhunter Limited Comp - Female

**Barebow Section consists of the following recognized styles:**

Barebow Compound - Male  
Barebow Compound - Female  
Bowhunter Compound - Male  
Bowhunter Compound - Female  
Barebow Recurve - Male  
Barebow Recurve - Female  
Bowhunter Recurve - Male  
Bowhunter Recurve - Female

**Traditional Section consists of the following recognized styles:**

Bowhunter Recurve Off the Shelf - Male  
Bowhunter Recurve Off the Shelf - Female  
Hunting Style Recurve - Male  
Hunting Style Recurve - Female  
Flatbow - Male  
Flatbow - Female  
Longbow - Male  
Longbow - Female

**Junior Section consists of all of the above styles.**

## **Style Rules:**

### **Open Section:**

**Freestyle Unlimited Compound (FU):** - Is defined as archers shooting a compound bow as commonly accepted by the archery fraternity. Moveable sights, release aids, stabilizers of any length (including front, rear, side and twins), any current dampening products, bowsling, arrow rests, clickers, plunger buttons, kissers, peep sights, scopes and any aluminium/carbon arrows are acceptable.

**Freestyle Limited Compound (FSC):** - Is defined as archers shooting a compound bow as commonly accepted by the archery fraternity. Moveable sights, finger release, stabilizers of any length (including front, rear, side and twins), any current dampening products, bowsling, arrow rests, clickers, plunger buttons, kissers, peep sights, scopes and any aluminium/carbon arrows are acceptable.

**Crossbow (X-Bow):** - Is defined as archers shooting a crossbow as commonly accepted by the archery fraternity. The maximum (or peak) draw weight of the prod is to be no more than 105lbs. The prod can be made from any materials except aluminium alloy. The maximum distance from the front of the prod to the string latch is to be no more than 16" (sixteen inches). Minimum bolt length is to be no less than 12" (twelve inches). All crossbows shall be fitted with a bolt retaining clip. No cocking aid other than a foot stirrup is permitted. Telescopic or magnifying sights are not permitted. Crossbow archers shall shoot off the hand, no rests of any description are permitted. Crossbow archers will only draw their bow at the shooting position and must keep them pointed in the direction of the target at all times whether loaded or not. It is an offence for a person under 17 years of age to have in their possession

- a. A crossbow which is capable of discharging a missile, Or
- b. Parts of a crossbow which together (and without any other parts) can be assembled to form a crossbow capable of discharging a missile

UNLESS the person is under supervision of someone who is who is 21 years of age or older.

**Bowhunter Compound Unlimited (BU):** - Is defined as archers shooting a compound bow as commonly accepted by the archery fraternity. To be shot off a release aid, a 12" or shorter front stabilizer only - as measured from the outside end of the stabilizer bushing when attached to the bow. Dampening products that attach to the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. An arrow rest, bowsling and any aluminium/carbon arrows. Pin Sights of a maximum of 5pins and a Peep Sight are acceptable. No clickers, side or rear stabilizers, may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable.

**Bowhunter Compound Limited (BHL):** - A compound bow, to be shot off the fingers, using one consistent hand position. A 12" or shorter front stabilizer only - as measured from the outside end of the stabilizer bushing when attached to the bow. Dampening products that attach to the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. An arrow rest, bowsling and any aluminium/carbon arrows. Pin Sights of a maximum of 5pins and a Peep Sight are acceptable. No clickers, side or rear stabilizers, may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable.

**Freestyle Recurve (FSR):** - Is defined as an archer shooting a recurve bow. To be shot off the fingers in any configuration (Mediterranean, three fingers under the arrow, two fingers under the arrow, string walking, etc) is acceptable. Moveable sights, stabilizers of any length (including front, rear, side and twins), any current dampening products, bowsling, arrow rests, clickers, plunger buttons, kissers and any aluminium/carbon arrows are acceptable. No electrical devices, release aids, peep sights and or scopes may be used.

## **Barebow Section:**

**Barebow Compound (CBB):** - A compound bow, to be shot off the fingers, string walking and face walking are acceptable. Stabilizers are permitted. Dampening products that attach to the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. An arrow rest, bowsling and any aluminium/carbon arrows are acceptable. No sights, may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable.

**Bowhunter Compound (BHC):** - A compound bow, to be shot off the fingers, using one consistent hand position. A 12" or shorter front stabilizer only - as measured from the outside end of the stabilizer bushing when attached to the bow. Dampening products that attach to the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. An arrow rest, bowsling and any aluminium/carbon arrows are acceptable. No electrical devices, sights, clickers, side or rear stabilizers, kissers, peep sights or sighting aids may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable..

**Recurve Barebow (BBR):** - A recurve bow, to be shot off the fingers, string walking and face walking are acceptable. Stabilizers are permitted. Dampening products that attach to the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. An arrow rest, bowsling and any aluminium/carbon arrows are acceptable. No sights may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable.

**Recurve Bowhunter (BHR):** - A recurve bow, to be shot off the fingers using one consistent hand position. Dampening products that attach to, but without screwing into, the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. The bow must be shot off the arrow shelf using aluminium/carbon or wood arrows. However there is a minimum arrow weight of 7grains per pound of draw weight. No electrical devices, sights, stabilizers, clickers, side or rear stabilizers, kissers, peep sights or sighting aids may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable.

## **Traditional Section:**

**Recurve Bowhunter Off the Shelf (BHRS):** - A predominantly wooden recurve bow (no alloy risers), be shot off the fingers using one consistent hand position. Dampening products that attach to, but without screwing into, the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. The bow must be shot off the arrow shelf using aluminium/carbon or wood arrows. However there is a minimum arrow weight of 7grains per pound of draw weight. No electrical devices, arrow rest, sights, stabilizers, clickers, side or rear stabilizers, kissers, peep sights or sighting aids may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable

**Hunting Style Recurve (HSR):** - A predominantly wooden recurve bow (no alloy risers), a Mongolian, Turkish, Hungarian bow, to be shot off the fingers using one consistent hand position and a "Mediterranean loose". Dampening products that attach to, but without screwing into, the string, riser or limbs are acceptable as long as they can not be used as a sighting aid. The bow must be shot off the arrow shelf, arrow rest or hand using wood arrows. No electrical devices, sights, stabilizers, clickers, side or rear stabilizers, kissers, peep sights or sighting aids may be used. All marks on the inside (belly) of the bow must be covered and/or indistinguishable

**American Flatbow (AFB):** - The limb cross-section may vary from oval to rectangular. The braced limbs are to curve in one direction only from the handle-riser to the string-nock. The bow must be free of stabilizers. The handle may incorporate a cut-away of less than centre-cut to provide an arrow-shelf and the shelf may have a protective cover. Arrows must be of wood fletched with natural feather. No form of arrow-rest may be attached to the side of the bow. Bows must be free from any sight, mark or blemish which could be used for aiming. The belly or face of the upper bow limb shall be free from any protuberance, mark (inc. trade mark), dent, blemish, bulge, chipping or wood grain or ends of laminated pieces of distinctive appearance. Where means are used to cover up such an aid, the covering must obliterate completely and not be put on in such a way as to create an aid in itself. Nor shall there be any such aid visible at either side of the belly face. The bowstring may be of different colours as long as they run continuously and evenly throughout the string's length, but the serving shall be of one colour. One nocking point is permitted. Brush buttons and string silencers are permitted but no other knots or attachments in addition to the serving which could be of use for sighting or location purposes. One anchor point must be maintained throughout the shot using a "Mediterranean loose".

**Longbow (LB):** - The bow must be of wood only, straight-limbed and of "D" section with nocks of self nature or made of horn, wood or plastic and must be free of stabilisers, sights, arrow-rests or cut-aways for the arrow to rest on. Arrows must be of wood fletched with natural feather but plastic nocks and metal piles may be used. No form of arrow-rest may be attached to the side of the bow. Bows must be free from any sight, mark or blemish which could be used for aiming. The belly or face of the upper bow limb shall be free from any protuberance, mark (inc. trade mark), dent, blemish, bulge, chipping or wood grain or ends of laminated pieces of distinctive appearance. Where means are used to cover up such an aid, the covering must obliterate completely and not be put on in such a way as to create an aid in itself. Nor shall there be any such aid visible at either side of the belly face. The bowstring may be of different colours as long as they run continuously and evenly throughout the string's length, but the serving shall be of one colour. One nocking point is permitted. Brush buttons and string silencers are permitted but no other knots or attachments in addition to the serving which could be of use for sighting or location purposes. One anchor point must be maintained throughout the shoot. No draw-checks of any kind are permitted. One anchor point must be maintained throughout the shot using a "Mediterranean loose".middle and ring fingers below the arrow-nock). Bows of Historical and Primitive design will be placed in the Longbow Style