

# SHOOTING RULES – 2010 - 11

The rules and guidance below came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 and replace all previous rules and guidance.

## General

- 1) All shoots held under the auspices of the NFAS will be over unmarked distances.
- 2) Shooting styles are: American Flatbow, Barebow, Bowhunter, Compound Limited, Crossbow, Freestyle, Hunting Tackle, Longbow, Primitive and Unlimited.

## Scoring

- 3) For Big Game scoring the use of pegs is that:
  - a) Adults (all archers of 16 years of age and over) shoot their first arrow from the red peg. If this arrow does not score a second shot is taken from the white peg. If the second arrow does not score a third shot from the blue peg. The use of 'wasp' pegs for sighted or compound archers is at the discretion of the course organiser.
  - b) Archers aged 14 years of age and under 16 ('Juniors - under 16') shoot their first arrow from the white peg. If additional arrows are required, both of these are shot from the blue peg.
  - c) Archers aged 12 years of age and under 14 ('Juniors - under 14') shoot their first arrow from the blue peg. If additional arrows are required, both of these are shot from the yellow peg. Yellow pegs should be suitably positioned to take into account the small stature and low bow weight of most young archers.
  - d) Archers 9 years of age and under 12 years of age ('Cubs over 9') shoot their first arrow from the yellow peg. If additional arrows are required, these are also shot from the yellow peg.
  - e) Archers aged under 9 years of age ('Cubs under 9') shoot their first arrow from the orange peg. If additional arrows are required, these are also shot from the orange peg. Orange pegs should be suitably positioned to take into account the small stature and low bow weight of the youngest archers whilst being aware of the risk of bounce-backs.

Scoring for other rounds is shown under 'Suggested Rounds'.

- 4) An arrow shaft must touch the line with no visible gap for a higher scoring zone to count.



- 5) If there are no kill zones marked on a target, the whole target counts as a kill.
- 6) Kill areas must be clearly marked on targets and drawn on by course organisers if necessary. There must be no ambiguity about which areas constitute inner kill (if used), kill and wound areas.
- 7) Double scoring must be used for all Championships and Open competitions (ie two score cards are filled out for each archer and regularly checked). No archer shall score both cards of the same archer. It is preferable that archers do not score their own cards and that scores are checked after every five targets to identify any inconsistencies in scores. At Championships archers are not allowed to score their own cards.

- 8) No scoring arrows should be touched by any archer until every score has been recorded by all scorers. The only exception is if another arrow needs to be removed before the score of an arrow can be determined. The removal of an arrow can only be done with the consent of all scorers.
- 9) All arrows must be shot in the correct sequence. If shot out of sequence, all people scoring for the archer must be informed of the order which the arrows were shot in before the archer approaches the target. Otherwise the out of sequence arrow does not score.
- 10) A witnessed bounce back (ie bouncing in front of the target) or complete penetration (a 'pass-through') can be scored. Its scoring value shall be that of the lowest scoring zone unless positive evidence of a higher score can be reasonably established.
- 11) Skids and ricochets into the target can be scored.
- 12) An arrow hitting another arrow and remaining embedded in that arrow without touching the target shall have the same score as that arrow. If the arrow ricochets off another arrow, it only scores if the arrow penetrates the target, as per a normal shot.
- 13) Unless the shoot organiser tells you otherwise in the pre-shoot briefing, the following rules apply:
  - a) All visible and marked kills count (see rule 6).
  - b) On 3Ds horns, hooves and bases do not count.
  - c) On paper faces only the outer line and zone inside the line counts (ie not 'fur and feather').
  - d) Inner kills are to be scored where used. First arrow inner kills count for 24 using 'Big Game' scoring. Inner kills are not scored on subsequent arrows.
  - e) No target jumping unless with the permission of the shoot organiser / marshals.

### **Arrows (including crossbow bolts)**

- 14) The arrow speed of any bow should not exceed 300 feet per second (fps), plus 3% tolerance for chronograph error. Bows may be randomly tested at any open or national event using a chronograph. The person carrying out the testing will select three or more of the archer's arrows to be tested and an average taken as the bow speed. No arrow should exceed a speed of 300 fps, (plus 3% tolerance for chronograph error). If the speed of any arrow is found to be over this legal speed, the archer has the right to shoot the same arrow again. If arrow speeds are found to be below 270 fps only two arrows need to be shot.
- 15) All arrows must bear the archer's name. This identification should be a minimum of the archer's initial and surname.
- 16) All arrows should be marked to show the order of shooting (first, second and third arrows) by having rings or other mechanisms that are visible from all angles to scorers.
- 17) Arrows which unduly damage targets, such as broad-heads, bodkins and blunts are not permitted and must not be carried during any shoots.

### **Distance judging and spotting**

- 18) No archer may make use of any mechanism for calibrating the distance to be shot. The use of rangefinders, binoculars, monoculars or other devices capable of being used as a rangefinder is prohibited. No archer is allowed to receive information from another person using such a device, nor from an archer waiting to shoot or having shot. Peg-to-peg and peg-to-target distances must not be paced.
- 19) Cameras may be used with the agreement of every archer in the group. Any use of a camera as a rangefinder or monocular is forbidden.

- 20) Archers must not discuss the distance to a target until all archers in the group have finished shooting. Archers should ensure that any subsequent discussion is not heard by other archers who have not yet shot the target.
- 21) No archer may record information regarding distance or positioning of targets or backstops.
- 22) The practice of spotting is restricted to another member of the group saying 'yes' or 'no' when asked if an arrow is scoring. Helping other archers to 'range-find' by identifying where misses have landed is not allowed in Open shoots or Championships.
- 23) No forward spotting is permitted (see 'Safety Rules', rule 18).
- 24) At no time in a Championship competition shall any archer be allowed to compete who has prior knowledge of the course layout to be shot over.
- 25) Archers may only refer to written sight marks and placement cards as a means of improving his or her score if shooting one of the following bow styles: (a) Crossbow (b) Freestyle (c) Unlimited. Compound Limited archers can only use placement cards, but not written sight marks as a means of improving scores.

### **Shooting**

- 26) The archer's leading foot or knee (eg left foot/knee if bow held in left hand) must touch the rear of the peg s/he is shooting from.
- 27) No coaching is allowed during Open and Championship competitions. The only exception is at Open shoots if every member of a group decides it is permissible to allow guidance to be given to inexperienced archers.
- 28) Archers suffering from a prolonged disability may be allowed to use appropriate aids and/or methods on production of adequate medical evidence to the General Committee.
- 29) In replacing or repairing broken equipment or bows, the archer must not disrupt other archers' shooting or break any safety rules.