

Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Project Archery Rules (2023)

The Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Program uses current rules of three archery governing bodies (World Archery - <http://www.worldarchery.org/HOME/Rules/Constitution-Rules> The National Field Archery Association (<https://www.nfaausa.com/sites/default/files/2013-14%20ConstByLaws.pdf>) and The National Archery in Schools Program- www.naspschools.org with some modifications to meet the objectives of the program or to increase the success rates of youth participating in the program. In 4-H events, 4-H rules and regulations supersede all other rules where differences exist. Coaches and parents, as well as archers, are encouraged to be familiar with these rules and those of related archery governing bodies.

For all 4-H events, the rules governing each will be posted with the event information and may vary in certain specifics. The event specific rules supersede any other rules. Be sure to always check event specific rules and procedures first. This document gives shooters and coach's basic familiarity with the rules used in most 4-H archery events. Events sponsored by other organizations may involve other rules and requirements.

Please refer to the listed General Rules for the Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Project to complement those listed below. Rules 1.0 and 2.0 are found with the general rules.

3. Equipment

3.1 Eye protection

All shooters and other persons on or in the immediate vicinity of the firing line, including coaches, range officials and any spectators are strongly encouraged to wear adequate eye protection.

- a. **Corrective lenses** Normal corrective lenses constructed of impact resistant materials may be used.
- b. **Shooting glasses**-Specifically designed shooting glasses may be used.
- c. **Sun glasses** Sun glasses may be used if desired in archery only.

3.2 Ear protection

Ear protection is not required in archery events, but plugs or muffs may be used to block out unwanted sound if the shooter desires.

- a. NO earbuds of any type may be used.

3.3 Bows

Any bow that does not violate the conventional meaning of the term in target archery may be used in 4-H archery events. Separate classes will be designated for recurve and compound events.

a. Recurve bows - Longbows or recurve bows of conventional design only may be used in any recurve division of archery events.

b. Compound bows - Compound bows of any conventional design may be used in compound bow divisions of archery events. Shooters may elect to use recurve bows or longbows in this event as well.

c. Crossbows - Crossbows may not be used in 4-H archery events.

d. Maximum draw weight - Unless otherwise specified, the maximum draw weight for 4-H target archery competitions is 60 pounds, nominal peak weight or listed draw weight. Bows may be subject to verification at the discretion of event management.

e. Draw weight (Flight Shooting) - Bows will be measured at either the shooter's draw length (recurve or longbow) or at the peak weight (compound) prior to shooting. Flight events will be based upon the distance shot divided by the actual draw weight.

f. Prohibition against "sky drawing" - Archers may not draw at an angle significantly above the line of flight to the target in any 4-H event. Sky drawing is a symptom of being grossly over-bowed, a condition leading to numerous form faults and potential injury.

g. Bowstring - A bowstring of adequate strength and composed of appropriate materials may not include any attachment or marking that may be used as a sighting device or aid except as permitted below. It may include the following attachments or components:

1) Servings - Center and end-loop servings are permitted, but no serving may terminate within the shooter's vision with the bow at full draw.

2) Nocking point indicator - One or more nocking point indicators may be used to position the nock on the string. The nocking point indicator may be of any conventional design, including materials that may be crimped, wound or heat shrunk to the center serving.

3) Lip or nose mark - One additional attachment with a diameter of one centimeter or less may be applied to the string to serve as a lip or nose mark ("kisser button").

4) String peep - String peeps are permitted only in the compound aided class.

h. Arrow rest - An arrow rest of any conventional design with or without adjustable or moveable pressure points, arrow plates or draw check indicator may be used as long as it is not electronic and offers no additional aid in aiming.

1) Over-draw arrow rests - The use of an over-draw arrow shelf or rest is permitted unless specifically disallowed. Overdraws are limited to a 6 cm or 2.5 inch maximum measured from the pivot point to bearing surface of the rest.

2) Over-draw arrow rests in 3-D and Field- All age classes in the aided class of 3-D and field competition may use an over-draw if they have displayed competence in shooting with that equipment.

3) Over-draw arrows rests in long-range compound target events - Over-draws are permitted in the compound aided division of the long range target events, but they may not exceed the limits above.

i. Stabilizers - Stabilizers or torque compensators may be used subject to the following provisions.

1) Contact with equipment - The stabilizer may touch only the bow.

2) String guide - The stabilizer may not act as a string guide. This rule shall not prohibit the use of a cable guide or cable guard on compound bows.

3) Obstacles to other shooters - The stabilizer may not present an obstacle or distraction to other shooters.

4) Bow quiver - A bow quiver with or without arrows may be attached to the bow in place of a stabilizer, provided it does not serve as a sighting device or contact any part of the equipment but the bow.

j. Bowsight - A bow sight may be attached to the bow except in divisions where sights are not permitted. (See rule 3.4)

l. Cable guard - Compound bows may use a cable guard, conventionally attached, to aid in vane clearance.

3.4 Sights

One bowmark, bowsight, or point of aim may be used as an aiming aid in the basic and NAA-type target events, but no more than one such device may be used at any time. The sight may allow for both windage and elevation adjustment. Either pin or aperture sights may be used.

a. Aperture sights - The length of any aperture sight loop, barrel or cone may not exceed the minimum 3 inside diameter of the aperture and in no case may exceed 1 cm regardless of shape.

b. Hunting sights - Hunting sights using one to five fixed or moveable pins may be used in all events where the use of a sight is permitted. A pin guard may be in place on the hunting sights.

c. Optical sights - Optical sights ("scopes") may be used in the compound aided division.

d. Sight attachments - A mounting device to which the sight is attached may be used, including a sight extension.

e. Levels - Because we are a youth development organization, a leveling device may be used in the compound unaided, compound aided, and recurve divisions.

f. Magnification - No lens system, prism or other magnifying device may be incorporated into the sight except as provided in rule 3.4.c above.

g. Electronic devices - No electronic sight or projection device, including laser sights or laser pointers will be permitted on the range with the exception of visually impaired shooters who may use a laser sight with a radio or quiet guidance from a sighted individual to guide them to the target and tell them when to release.

h. Bowmark - A single mark on the bow may be used as an aiming device. It may be with pencil, tape or another suitable material. A bowmark may not be used in conjunction with another type or sighting device or aid.

3.5 Shooting accessories

- a. Shooting tab or glove** - A shooting glove, tab or other protective device may be used on the string hand provided it is smooth and provides no mechanical aids for holding or releasing the string. No shape or design criteria are specified. Several layers of material may be used, and a separator to reduce finger pinch may be included.
- b. Bow hand** - An ordinary glove, mitten or similar item may be worn on the bow hand.
- c. Bow sling** - A bow sling may be used, and its use is strongly encouraged to promote excellent form.
- d. Arm guard** - An arm guard or stall may be used on the bow arm to prevent string slap and to hold clothing away from the string.
- e. Chest protector** - A vest or protector may be used to control clothing on the upper body.
- f. Clothing** - Shooters may wear any clothing suitable for the climatic and weather conditions.
- g. Release aids** - Release aids may be used only by compound shooters in the aided 3-D, Field, JOAD (18 meter), Clout, FITA, Modified 600 and flight competitors. Competence with the equipment must have been demonstrated before the release aid may be used. See also Rule 3.3 f. above.

3.6 Arrows

Arrows consist of a shaft with a head, nock, fletching and personal identification markings. Arrows must not be any larger in diameter than 23/64" including the point.

- a. Adequate supply** - Each archer must provide an adequate number of arrows to complete the required course of fire.
- b. Individual identification** - Each archer's arrows will be marked with his or her name, initials, other insignia or cresting to permit identification.
- c. Safety** - Arrows must be sound and properly spined for the bow.
- d. AMO standards** - Arrows must meet Archery Manufacturer's Organization standard of six (6) grains per pound of peak draw weight. Arrow weight may be checked at the discretion of shoot management or upon request of any competitor.
- e. Shaft materials** - Any safe shaft material may be used. All arrows must be inspected for soundness, particularly graphite shafts.
- f. Arrow points** - Only target or field points may be used in 4-H archery events unless other point types are specifically required.
- g. Illuminated nocks** - Illuminated nocks are not allowed.

3.8 Other equipment

Additional equipment that does not interfere with other shooters or the management of the firing line may be permitted.

- a. Quiver** - A ground quiver or one worn by the shooter or attached to the bow may be used to hold arrows and/or to act as a bow stand.
- b. Binoculars or spotting scope** - Binoculars or a spotting scope may be used to spot arrows, but no optical device containing a range finding device or reticle is permitted.
- c. Glasses** - Ordinary eye glasses, shooting glasses or sun glasses may be worn; but the glasses must not include any device or structure to aid in aiming.

d. Range finders - The use of range finders is specifically prohibited in 4-H archery events.

3.81 Electronic Equipment

There will be NO electronic equipment allowed on any shooting line.

3.82 There will be NO electronic equipment allowed on the 3-D course, with the exception of Range Officials equipment. This includes, but is not limited to, Cell Phones, Range Finders, two-way radio communication devices, or any other devices.

3.9 Inspection of equipment

Archery tackle to be used in a 4-H Archery event must be inspected by the judges or field captains prior to being used. In the event that equipment that has not been checked must be used, it is the shooter's responsibility to have it inspected. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.

4. Range Control, Operation and Safety

4.1 Safety

Maintenance of safety is the responsibility of every shooter and coach as well as the designated range officials.

a. Inspection of equipment - All equipment will be inspected by field officials prior to the tournament and at any time during the tournament when inspection is merited.

b. Control of shooting - All shooting will be under the control of range officials at all times.

c. Safe zone of fire - Arrows may be shot only when a safe zone of fire exists from the firing line to the ultimate impact zone of the arrow. Observing safety hazards downrange is the responsibility of each shooter as well as the range officials and coaches.

d. Practice shooting - No practice shooting will be permitted on the day of a shoot except as specifically permitted and in specifically identified areas.

e. Nocking arrows - Arrows may be nocked only after the appropriate command to fire is given.

f. Drawing bows - Bows may be drawn only on the firing line.

g. Restricted firing line - Only shooters in the flight or relay actually shooting and range officials may be present on the firing or shooting line during active firing.

h. Target group - Two or more shooters sharing a target butt.

i. Tampering - Shooters may touch or handle other shooters' equipment only if specifically authorized to do so by the other shooter or to prevent a dangerous situation or damage to the equipment.

j. Prohibition against "sky drawing" - Archers may not draw at an angle significantly above the line of flight to the target in any 4-H event.

4.2 Range control

Control over the range will be through verbal, whistle or light commands or a combination of those command types. Whistle or light commands are preferred for larger groups, while verbal commands are acceptable for small groups of shooters.

- a. Cease fire** - Multiple whistle blasts (4 or more, generally almost trilled), the verbal command to cease fire, or a red light requires all shooters to stop immediately and remove any arrow from the string. The command indicates the presence of an unsafe condition downrange or the end of the time period for that end. Any arrow shot after the cease fire command at the end of a firing period will result in the loss of the highest scoring arrow for that end by the shooter.
- b. Shooters to the line** - Two whistle blasts or a verbal command calls shooters to the firing line.
- c. Commence firing** - A single whistle blast a green light or a verbal command indicates the beginning of the shooting time period for each flight or relay.
- d. Flight completed** - Three whistle blasts, a red light or a verbal command indicate the completion of a flight. All archers should make their bows safe and ground them in preparation to score targets and retrieve their arrows.
- e. Score your targets and retrieve your arrows** - If the whistle or light commands are not used, a clear verbal command may be used to indicate that the range is clear and the flight may score and retrieve their arrows.
- f. Resume firing** - One whistle blast, a green light or a verbal signals the resumption of firing after any interruption.

4.3 Range Officials

A minimum of two range officials will be designated to control the shooting line and maintain high standards of safety at all times. Additional officials may be appointed at the discretion of the shoot or event coordinator.

- a. Field official** - One or more field officials will be appointed with the following duties.
 - 1) Safety** - The field official(s) will maintain control over safety on the shooting field and its environs at all times.
 - 2) Inspection** - The field official or a designated official inspects each archer's equipment for conformity with the rules and safety prior to and as needed during the tournament.
 - 3) Rule enforcement and interpretation** - The field official is responsible for enforcing appropriate shoot rules, resolving disputes over rule interpretation and responding to questions about interpretation of the rules.
 - 4) Squadding** - The field official will call squads to the line in an orderly and timely fashion.
 - 5) Time keeping** - The field official will act as the official time keeper, maintaining the official clock for each end. He or she has the authority to extend the five (5) minute time period for each end under extenuating circumstances.

6) Sighter ends - In Basic Archery, two ends of three arrows will be permitted. In USA Archery/World Archery events, two timed ends of unlimited shots will be permitted. One end of practice will be permitted in clout shooting.

7) Appointment of other officials - The field captain or field official may elect to appoint additional officials as needed to control the shooting line, assist in scoring, record scores, inspect equipment or conduct other duties related to the conduct of the shoot.

b. Target captain - One member of a target group may be appointed by the group as the target captain to assist in scoring. At least two members of each target group will score when shooters score their own targets. All scorers must agree before any arrow is touched or removed from the target. In the event of a disagreement, the appropriate official will be called to make a determination before any arrow is touched or removed.

c. Scorers - Two members of each target group may be appointed as scorers and score recorders by the target group members.

d. Official scorer - An official scorer may be appointed at the option of the field captain to score targets.

e. Official recorder - An official recorder may be appointed at the option of the field captain to record the scores for each shooter as they are scored.

f. Additional range staff - The field captain or event coordinator may appoint additional field staff with prescribed duties to assist in the operation and management of the archery range.

g. Field and 3-D officials - A minimum of one official scorer will accompany each flight of shooters on field and 3-D archery ranges, serving the functions of field captain, scorer and recorder. The event coordinator will arrange for officials and support staff as needed to conduct the event.

4.4 Shooter position

a. Established shooting lines - No shooter will shoot from a position down range of the established shooting line, and all shooters will honor the established shooting locations.

b. Target Archery - Shooters must straddle the shooting line while shooting. Any shooter completing an end before the expiration of the time limit may step back off the shooting line without disturbing flanking shooters and ground his or her bow in preparation for scoring and retrieving arrows.

c. Field Archery - Shooters must align themselves with the shooting stake for each target.

d. 3-D Archery - Some part of the shooter's body must be in contact with the shooting stake throughout the course of the shot.

e. Clout or flight shooting - Shooters must straddle the shooting line in these events.

5. Targets

5.1 4-H Basic Round

Targets used in the short-range archery contest are full color, 40 centimeter, FITA-style targets with ten equal and concentric scoring rings. The innermost gold area is scored a "ten" and the outermost white area is scored a "one."

5.2 4-H 18 Meter (JOAD Indoor) Round

Compound competitors in the 18 meter round will shoot the 40 cm FITA target as outlined in Rule 5.1. They will record each "X" they score as a "10X". Recurve archers will shoot the 60 cm FITA target. Scoring will be on the 10 to 1 basis from the innermost gold ring outward. If desired, first year juniors may elect to shoot a shorter course at 9 meters. 'First Year' is defined as beginning bow shooter new to archery in their first year. The 'First Year' class is for entry level archers. Entry in the 'First Year' class is optional. If this option is taken, the archer will be classified as a 'First Year' archer for every equipment class in which they register.

5.3 FITA Outdoor Round

Targets used in the FITA Outdoor Round will be full color, 122 centimeter and 80 cm FITA-style targets with ten equal and concentric scoring rings. The innermost gold area is scored a "ten" and the outermost white area is score a "one."

5.3.1 Modified 600

Targets used in the FITA Outdoor Round will be full color, 122 centimeter FITA-style targets with ten equal and concentric scoring rings. The innermost gold area is scored a "ten" and the outermost white area is score a "one."

5.4 Field Archery

NFAA 20, 35, 50, and 65 cm targets (or others as announced) may be used in the field archery round. Scoring will be 5, 4, and 3 from the innermost ring outward. Target selection and distances will be at the discretion of the event management, but will remain the same throughout the tournament. NAA Hunter's Round targets may be used if announced prior to the event.

5.5 3-D Archery

Any quality 3-D target designated by the shoot management may be used in this event. The target at any given shooting stations shall remain the same for the duration of the shoot, but each station may use a different type of target. Each target will have a center scoring area and an outer scoring area that cannot be observed with the unaided eye at the shooting stake.

5.6 Clout Round

This event uses essentially a 42.5 foot horizontal target on the ground. An aiming flag (the clout) will be provided marking the center of the target area. The target is scored using a rope marked with distances indicating the scoring rings (51" per ring). When possible, a full color target with concentric scoring circles will be painted on the ground.

5.7 Other targets

The use of the targets outlined above does not preclude the use of other targets for other events staged by state, regional, district, county or local 4-H Shooting Sports organizations. Target types and sizes shall be announced in the bulletins for the shoots.

5.8 Flight

No target used, shooting for distance only.

6. Scoring

6.1 Short-range Target Archery Events

In the short-range target archery events, the field officials will be appointed by the event coordinator and scoring will be conducted by the appointed field officials.

a. Scoring lines - The lines between scoring areas of the target are part of the higher value scoring area. A shaft touching a scoring line receives the higher value score. From the center of the target outward, the scoring areas are 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Shots outside the scoring area are scored as misses.

b. Shaft location - Point values will be determined by the location of the shaft as it rests in the target. Any shaft falling beyond reach of the shooter or the extended bow will be considered shot. The field captain has the option of allowing a replacement arrow to be fired.

c. Pass throughs or bounce outs - Any shaft that fails to remain in the target may be scored by the mark on the target face, provided all other holes have been marked.

d. Shooter position - Shooters must remain more than one arm-length away from the target and their shafts until scoring is complete and the official scorer has cleared them to pull their shafts.

e. Marking shots - All shots will be marked at the completion of the scoring for each end.

f. Scoring- NO ONE other than shooters may score, or assist in scoring, unless asked to do so by a range official. In addition, NO ONE other than shooters may touch the scorecard. The only exception to this rule shall be in Clout scoring.

g. Initialing the score card - Shooters and the scorer shall initial each score card to affirm agreement with the score awarded. Any dispute in the scoring must be settled by the field captain immediately. Once score cards have been signed, no appeal is permitted. Mathematical errors, however, may be corrected.

6.2 Olympic and Modified 600 Events

Shooters will score and record scores in the 18 Meter and Outdoor FITA Rounds. Scoring will be by the same mechanisms listed in Rule 6.1. All scores will be agreed upon and totals shall match before the shooters touch or remove any arrows from the target face. In the event of a disputed call, the Field Captain will determine the appropriate score. All shooters will initial their score cards before leaving the scoring area.

6.3 Field and 3-D Archery Events

An official scorer shall be appointed for each group of shooters on the Field and 3-D courses.

a. Scoring in 3-D – Twelve (12) points for an “inner center” or “X” ring shot. Ten (10) points for a hit in the inner vital area (“heart” ring). Five (5) points for a hit in the outer vital area (“outer ring”). Any other shot hitting the animal = “H” but scored a zero (0). Any shot missing the animal = “M” but scored a zero (0). Arrows that bounce out of the target, pass through the target, or miss completely will be scored a zero (0). Ethical Passes will not be allowed.

b. Field Target Scoring - Field targets are scored conventionally, scoring 5, 4, 3 from the center outward. The inner ring on the 5 zone is scored as a center shot (X).

c. Scoring lines - The lines between scoring zones on the target are part of the higher value area.

d. Shaft location - The location of the shaft in the target will determine the point value of the shot. Shafts touching a higher value scoring zone will receive the higher score.

e. Pass throughs or bounce outs - Any shaft that does not remain in the target for any reason will be scored as a miss. Shoot management will make every effort to maintain adequate and consistent target quality throughout the shoot.

f. Shooter position - Shooters must remain at least six feet away from the target until all scoring is completed and the official scorer has removed the shaft from the target. Any shaft removed from the target prior to scoring will be scored a minus five in 3-D or a miss in Field.

g. Initialing the score card - Both the scorer and the shooter will initial the score card to affirm their agreement on the score awarded.

6.4 Clout

The target is scored using a rope marked with distances indicating the scoring rings (51” per ring). When possible, a full color target with concentric scoring circles will be painted on the ground. From the center of the target outward, the scoring areas are 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Shots outside the scoring area are scored as misses.

7. Courses of Fire

7.1 Basic 4-H Round (Short-range Target Archery)

Prescribed courses of fire will generally govern shooting by each age group during 4-H target archery events. Additional or optional courses of fire may be designated at the option of shoot management or in other events.

a. Junior course of fire - Juniors will shoot a total of 24 arrows, consisting of two ends of six arrows at both 20 feet and 30 feet.

b. Intermediate course of fire - Intermediates will shoot a total of 36 arrows, consisting of three ends of six arrows at both 30 feet and 45 feet.

c. Senior course of fire - Seniors will shoot a total of 48 arrows, consisting of four ends of six arrows at both 45 feet and 59 feet (18 meters).

7.2 World Archery (FITA) Rounds

Prescribed courses of fire will govern shooting by each age group, although these courses of fire may be altered by publication in a match announcement or bulletin.

a. World Archery (FITA) Indoor - The FITA Indoor Round will consist of 20 ends of 3 arrows each. A short break will take place between the 10 and 11 ends. The 9 meter round used only with first year junior age division may be reduced to a 10 ends of 3 arrows each.

b. World Archery (FITA) Outdoor - In general, the FITA Outdoor for 4-H will be a half-course event as outlined below.

1) Junior course of fire - Juniors will shoot three ends of six arrows each at 30 and 25 meters at the 122 cm face and six ends of three arrows at 20 and 15 meters at an 80 cm face.

2) Intermediate course of fire - Intermediates will shoot three ends of six arrows each at 50 and 40 meters at the 122 cm target and six ends of three arrows each at 30 and 20 meters at the 80 cm face.

3) Senior course of fire - Seniors will shoot three ends of six arrows each at 60 and 50 meters at the 122 cm face and six ends of three arrows each at 40 and 30 meters using the 80 cm face.

4) Management Option - At the option of the management a full FITA may be used if time and prevailing weather permit.

c. Modified 600 –

Juniors will shoot 3 ends of 6 arrows at 30 yards, 3 ends of 6 arrows at 25 yards, and 8 ends of 3 arrows at 20 yards. **ALL** at the 5 color 122 cm target face for a total of 60 arrows.

Intermediates will shoot 3 ends of 6 arrows at 50 yards, 3 ends of 6 arrows at 40 yards, and 8 ends of 3 arrows at 30 yards. **ALL** at the 5 color 122 cm target face for a total of 60 arrows.

Seniors will shoot 3 ends of 6 arrows at 60 yards, 3 ends of 6 arrows at 50 yards, and 8 ends of 3 arrows at 40 yards.

All age divisions at the 5 color, 122 cm target face for a total of 60 arrows.

7.3 3-D Archery Match

3-D targets will be placed in natural cover and at unmarked distances from designated shooting stakes. One or more stakes may be placed for various classes and age groups of shooters at the option of the shoot management. Only one arrow will be shot from each shooting station by an archer.

a. Barebow and NASP equipment classes

1) Juniors - Juniors will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 20 yards or their metric equivalent.

2) Intermediates - Intermediates will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 25 yards or their metric equivalent.

3) Seniors - Seniors will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 30 yards or their metric equivalent.

(a) Stake Assignments:

- Junior - Pink (20 yd Max)
- Intermediate - Green (25 yd Max)
- Senior - Blue (30 yd max)

b. Recurve equipment class

- 1) Juniors - Juniors will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 20 yards or their metric equivalent.
- 2) Intermediates - Intermediates will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 25 yards or their metric equivalent.
- 3) Seniors - Seniors will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 40 yards or their metric equivalent.

(a) Stake Assignments

- Junior - Pink (20 yd Max)
- Intermediate - Blue (25 yd Max)
- Senior - White(40 yd Max)

c. Compound Aided and Unaided

- 1) Juniors - Juniors will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 30 yards or their metric equivalent.
- 2) Intermediates - Intermediates will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 40 yards or their metric equivalent.
- 3) Seniors - Compound Aided and Unaided will shoot a total of 30 targets at unknown ranges from 5 to 50 yards or their metric equivalent.

(a) Stake Assignments

- Junior - Blue(30 yd max)
- Intermediate - White(40 yd Max)
- Senior- Compound Aided and Unaided - Red (50 yd Max)

7.4 Field Round

All shooters will shoot a course of fire including ends of 4 arrows each at 14 targets from the indicated shooting positions including at least one fan and one walk-up targets at distances from 5 to 60 yards or their metric equivalent as determined by the shoot management. Bare bow shooters will be limited to a maximum shot distance of 55 yards. Shooters will align themselves with shooting stake during the shot. Stakes will mark the shooting points for each age class or equipment class, and distances from each stake will be posted. The shoot management may substitute a full 28 target course if time and prevailing weather conditions permit.

7.5 4-H Clout Round

All shooters will shoot six ends of six arrows for a total of 36 arrows. All shooting will take place at a distance of 110 meters. These distances may be modified at the discretion of the shoot management as announced in the shoot bulletin. Four minutes is permitted for each end of six arrows.

7.6 4-H Team Round

Teams of three shooters composed of one senior, one intermediate and one junior will shoot ends of 3 arrows each at a 122 cm target 30 meters from the firing line within a three (3) minute total time limit.

Only one shooter may be forward of the ready line at any time. Archers may be borrowed from other counties to make up a team if they do not have members in the appropriate age groups. This does not permit the construction of all-star teams.

7.7 Flight Round

Each shooter will shoot an end of six arrows. The distance from the firing line to the spot where the arrow sticks in the ground or the point lies will be measured for the longest shot. That distance divided by the actual peak or draw weight will be the score for the shooter.

7.8 Additional Courses of Fire

Any course of fire outlined in the 4-H Archery instructions or announced in the shoot bulletin or announcement may be offered with or without modifications at the discretion of the shoot management.

8. Time Limits

8.1 Target Archery

a. 4-H Basic Round - Shooters have a total of five minutes to fire each six arrow end. Under extraordinary conditions, the field captain has the option of permitting additional time for any given end to be completed. Arrows that remain un-shot will be counted as misses.

b.18 Meter Round - The time allotment for each end of 3 arrows is 2 minutes. There will be 10 seconds between the "Call to the line" whistle and the whistle to begin shooting.

Extended time may be granted at the discretion of the range management for extraordinary conditions.

c. FITA Round and Modified 600 Round - Shooters have a total of four minutes to shoot each end of six arrows and two minutes for each end of three arrows.

8.2 Clout Round

Four minutes is permitted for each end of six arrows.

8.3 Field Round

Each shooter shall move to the firing points and shoot in an expeditious manner. No shooter shall impose excessive delay on the event without cause. A maximum of 2 minutes searching time is permitted for any lost arrow.

8.4 3-D Archery

Although no posted time limits are set, shooters must make ready and shoot in an expeditious manner. Time to judge range, determine kill zone location, adjust sights and otherwise make ready must be provided; but no shooter will impose excessive delay without due cause. A maximum of 2 minutes searching time is permitted for any lost arrow.

8.5 Flight Shooting

Each shooter will have five minutes to shoot six arrows for distance.

8.6 Shooter responsibility - The shooter is responsible for pacing their shooting to meet the time limitations.

9. Shooter and Coach Responsibilities

9.1 Coaching

No coaching is permitted on the shooting line or station in 4-H archery events. Coaches may not advise or assist their shooters once they have started to shoot in any event except between ends or at the direct instruction of the field captain.

a. Replacement of equipment - A coach may provide replacement or additional equipment as needed after obtaining permission from the field captain.

b. Assistance - Coaches may be requested by the field captain to assist a shooter with a situation on the firing line.

c. Coach behavior - Coaches must conduct themselves in a quiet, supportive and cooperative manner at all times.

d. Removal of coaches - Range staff or the 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator may remove a coach from the vicinity of the firing line if they violate rules, distract other shooters or appear to distract their own shooters. In the event that a coach is removed, a replacement may be permitted at the discretion of the field captain. Continued disruption shall be deemed cause for disqualification.

9.2 Cross fires

No archer will knowingly shoot at the wrong target or shoot more than the required number of arrows at his/her own target.

a. Cross fires – All crossfires will be counted as a miss and scored a 0.

b. Excessive shots - Excess arrows shot will result in deduction of the highest value arrows on the target until the appropriate number is reached and a one point penalty for each excess arrow shot.

9.3 Dropped or misfired arrows

Arrows beyond the dropped arrow line will be considered as shot.

9.4 Behavior and sportsmanship

The spirit of 4-H sportsmanship and appropriate behavior is expected of all participants in the 4-H shooting sports program.

9.5 Knowledge of procedures and rules

Shooters and coaches will make an effort to understand the procedures used in each event and comply with the rules and standards of the events.

a. Questions - Questions are encouraged to clarify any areas of misunderstanding or ignorance.

b. Ignorance of the rules - Ignorance of the rules in any event does not obviate their existence.

c. Shooter responsibility - Shooters are responsible for knowing the rules of their event and staying within them. Learning the rules of the events is part of the educational process for shooting sports participants, but the intent is to aid shooters rather than entrap them.

9.6 Reporting

Shooters are responsible for knowing the proper time to report to each event and for reporting at least 30 minutes prior to their shooting time or at the posted orientation time and location.

9.7 Behavior of participants

Safe, circumspect and respectful behavior is expected of shooters, coaches and spectators at all 4-H shooting events at all times. Disorderly or unsafe conduct has no place on the shooting range and will not be permitted.

a. Staff discretion - All authorized range staff carry the discretionary responsibility to enforce behavioral guidelines.

b. Warning - Any shooter or coach displaying disorderly, destructive or abusive conduct may be warned a maximum of one time. Serious infractions may result in disqualification on the initial instance.

c. Penalties - Further instances of such conduct may result in the shooter being penalized by having an appropriate reduction in their score or disqualified.

d. Review - Disqualifications will be reviewed by the shooting sports coordinator and a jury assembled for the purpose of determining additional sanctions, if any, to be applied.

e. Purpose - The purpose of this section is to enforce the quality of 4-H shooting sports activities.

10.0 Equipment Classes

The following are the official bowclasses for the Texas State 4-H Archery program:

- **Bare Bow (longbow or recurve)** – Bows may not be equipped with sights or sighting marks. Must not have kissers, buttons, peep sights or cushion plungers. Mechanical release aids are not permitted. Bows may have weights added, but must be in compliance with USA shooting rules.
- **Recurve** – Bows may be equipped with a single sighting device, single pin, multiple pin, or hunting style sights; may not be equipped with string peeps or string marks for rear sights. Mechanical release aids are not permitted.
- **Compound Aided** – Bows may be equipped with magnified sights and stabilizers. Mechanical release aids are permitted.
- **Compound Unaided** – Bows may not be equipped with magnified sights or stabilizers. Bows may be equipped with single pin or multiple pin sights. Mechanical release aids are not permitted.
- **NASP** – Original Genesis bows (No Genesis Mini's or Genesis Pro's) with no sights or sighting marks and no stabilizers. Mechanical release aids are not permitted. Only Easton 1820 30" arrows are allowed.