

IRISH FIELD ARCHERY FEDERATION

# HANDBOOK

March 2004



The IRISH FIELD ARCHERY FEDERATION  
is affiliated to the  
International Field Archery Association



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On the 26th July 1992 the following six persons met and founded this Federation.

Ron Bell, Bill James and Andy Haggan  
members of Lough Cuan Bowmen, Co. Down  
Jim Boyle, Joe Coyle, and Ted Breslin  
members of Donegal Archers

The Federation was formed for the sole purpose of enabling Field Archery to be pursued as a sport throughout the island of Ireland. The International Field Archery Association (IFAA) Rules of Shooting were adopted and affiliation to this body by the Federation accepted.

The first officers of the Federation were

President - Mr. Ron Bell  
Vice President - Mr. Jim Boyle  
Secretary - Mr. Bill James  
Treasurer - Mr. A. Haggan

**TO NEW MEMBERS** - The Federation welcomes you and hopes that you will have a long, safe and fulfilling time in your chosen sport. If you have any questions or problems, please do not hesitate to contact other members, officials of your club, or committee members of the Federation. Much of this booklet is relevant to you, but the APPENDIX, although it may be of interest, is directed at club officials.

## **IFAF INFORMATION**

You can keep up to date and find detailed information using the IFAF website which is  
**[www.irishfieldarchery.com](http://www.irishfieldarchery.com)**

## **DOCUMENTS**

IFAF keep a number of documents which members may consult for more detail or clarification. They can be sourced on the IFAF website or alternatively, hard copy may be obtained from the secretary by phone by writing to -

**Bill James,  
General Secretary, I.F.A.F.  
30 Church Road, Moneyreagh,  
Co. Down BT23 6BB**

Or by email **[ifafsec@aol.com](mailto:ifafsec@aol.com)**

The documents are

- All of this Handbook, including this page, which will be updated when necessary.
- The Constitution of the Federation
- The full IFAA rules in pdf format.
- The full IFAF Code of Conduct for Children's Sport
- IFAF Health and Safety / Risk Assessment Statement.

These are referred to in the following pages by "**This is an IFAF Document**"

## **GENERAL SAFETY RULES for ALL ARCHERS**

1. Check your equipment before shooting. Check the limbs for cracks. Never shoot a cracked or bent arrow.
2. Never place an arrow in the bow until you are ready to shoot it.
3. Never loose an arrow when you cannot see where it will land.
4. No archer shall draw a bow with the bow hand higher than the head
5. Never loose an arrow straight into the air.
6. Never pull a loaded or unloaded bow in anybody's direction.
7. Never point an arrow at a person.
8. Never throw an arrow.
9. Never stand in the shooting line forward of an archer about to shoot, not only can you destroy the archers concentration but you place yourself in danger from a mis-nocked arrow which can flirt in any direction on release.
10. Whilst someone else is shooting keep your eyes and mind alert for possible danger, at the moment of loosing the archers concentration is solely on the target.
11. Where possible danger exists shout STOP! or FAST! If you have doubts of any nature, DON'T SHOOT!
12. At least one adult member of a group should always remain standing in front of the target if other members are searching for arrows. Alternatively, prop at least one bow or branch in front of target face.
13. Always keep to the marked path from each target to the next shooting stand. Don't just think things are safe. MAKE SURE.
14. Juniors/cubs should never leave a group without adult supervision.
15. Nobody should ever RUN on an archery range.
16. Check to see if anybody is in the way (behind you) when pulling arrows
17. Brightly coloured clothing is preferred over dark. **Note that camouflage clothing could be a contributory factor to an accident and should not be worn**

## **PROCEDURE & ETIQUETTE at COMPETITIONS**

A group shall consist of 3 to 6 archers, 4 being the normal number. Child Safety concerns must be addressed when groups are made up. There must be at least one experienced archer to be designated or elected Target Captain.

The Target Captain is responsible for safe, fair and correct procedure of those in the group, must know the rules for the event, and judges arrow values (except his/her own!). Procedure may vary depending on conditions and circumstances.

A group should stay together. Should a member need to temporarily leave the group, shooting is suspended until the group is complete. Juniors/cubs are not allowed to leave the group unless accompanied.

A group should not hold up another. One group may, by agreement, pass another.

Two scorers per group are needed if accuracy is required.

Scoring should precede finding missing arrows.

No arrows in the target should be touched until scorers give permission.

Order of shooting is in rotation unless otherwise agreed.

If course layout and safety permits, two archers in the group may shoot simultaneously.

Although an informal atmosphere is not discouraged, always allow the competitor shooting to have full concentration on the shot.

Leave no litter.

## IFAA SHOOTING STYLES

Shooting style describes the type of bow you use, how you shoot it and what accessories are permitted. This chart attempts to simplify an issue many beginners (and some experienced archers) find confusing.

Except for longbows section it applies to both **compounds** and **recurves**, thus making 13 styles.

### Longbow, American Flatbow and Traditional Recurve Bows

Starred items * have particular requirements as per the IFAA rule book	Sights + peep	Stabiliser	Draw check and/or level	Release aid	Anchor point	Any finger position	Brush buttons + silencers	Kisser button or string peep (not both)
BB Barebow	NO	any	NO	NO	any	any	NO	NO
FS Freestyle (limited)	any	any	NO	NO	any	any	NO	NO
UL Freestyle (unlimited)	any	any	Yes	Yes	any	any	Yes	Yes
BH Bowhunter	NO	12" max	NO	NO	one only	touch nock	Yes	NO
BL Bowhunter Limited	5-pin max*	12" max	NO	NO	one only	touch nock	Yes	Yes
BU Bowhunter Unlimited	5-pin max*	12" max	NO	Yes	one only	touch nock	Yes	Yes
LB Longbow	NO	NO	NO	NO	one only	Med loose	NO	NO

**IFAF have rulings for the following styles, which only apply nationally.**

#### All share these restrictions

No sights, no stabiliser, string one colour, one nocking point, one consistent anchor point, Mediterranean loose. (One finger above and two below the nock). All to shoot wooden arrows with natural feather fletching. No type of compound bow allowed.

**English Longbow.** One piece bow of "D" section, made entirely of wood (may be laminated) which, when strung, displays one continuous unidirectional curve. (No recurve at tips). No sight window or arrow shelf/rest.

**American Flatbow.** One piece bow of any material which, when strung, displays one continuous unidirectional curve. (No recurve at tips). The bow may have an arrow shelf.

**Traditional.** Any recurve bow, one piece or takedown, made entirely of wood or having a wooden riser.

## CLASSIFICATION

Classification is a means of recognising the current scoring ability of an archer. The archer shoots a standardised shooting range which consists of 28 targets (or 14 targets twice) with round black/white field faces set at specified distances. The object of gaining this classification is so that those entering a competition can be grouped according to their ability. This means that a good but not expert archer won't be competing against the experts.

This will not (as yet) happen in Ireland, as the numbers are too small (unless we hold an international competition). An unclassified archer will, at competition, be classified as A

Classification can be an end in itself or as preparation for a big tournament. It is not mandatory.

Classifications are A, B, and C, determined by the archer's two highest scores in a 12 month period going back no more than two years prior to the tournament. This table shows which scores needed for a classification.

It applies to men, women and juniors, compound and recurve.

Style	Class C	Class B	Class A
<b>Freestyle UnLtd</b>	<b>Up to 399</b>	<b>400 - 499</b>	<b>500 or more</b>
<b>Freestyle Ltd</b>	<b>Up to 349</b>	<b>350 - 449</b>	<b>450 or more</b>
<b>Bowhunter UnLtd</b>	<b>Up to 324</b>	<b>325 - 474</b>	<b>475 or more</b>
<b>Bowhunter Ltd</b>	<b>Up to 299</b>	<b>300 - 449</b>	<b>450 or more</b>
<b>Barebow</b>	<b>Up to 299</b>	<b>300 - 399</b>	<b>400 or more</b>
<b>Bowhunter</b>	<b>Up to 224</b>	<b>225 - 374</b>	<b>375 or more</b>
<b>Longbow</b>	<b>Up to 149</b>	<b>150 - 249</b>	<b>250 or more</b>

**A brief description of the ROUNDS**

The rounds for classification are the Field and Hunter.

**FIELD**

The standard unit shall consist of the following shots at field faces having 3 zones scoring 5,4 and 3  
Faces are black and white and are 65, 50, 35 and 20 cm diameter

Face	Pegs	Adult / Veteran	Junior
65 cm	4	80-70-60-50 yds	50 yds
65 cm	1	65 yds	50 yds
65 cm	1	60 yds	45 yds
65 cm	1	55 yds	40 yds
50 cm	4	45-40-35-30 yds	45-40-35-30 yds
50 cm	4	35-35-35-35 yds	35-35-35-35 yds
50 cm	1	50 yds	50 yds
50 cm	1	45 yds	45 yds
50 cm	1	40 yds	40 yds
35 cm	1	30 yds	30 yds
35 cm	1	25 yds	25 yds
35 cm	1	20 yds	20 yds
35 cm	1	15 yds	15 yds
20 cm	4	35-30-25-20 ft	35-30-25-20 ft

**HUNTER**

The standard unit shall consist of the following shots at field faces having 3 zones scoring 5,4 and 3  
Faces are black and with a centre white spot and are 65, 50, 35 and 20 cm diameter

Face	Pegs	Adult / Veteran	Junior
65 cm	4	70-65-61-58 yds	50 yds
65 cm	4	64-59-55-52 yds	50 yds
65 cm	4	58-53-48-45 yds	45 yds
50 cm	4	53-48-44-41 yds	41 yds
50 cm	1	48 yds	48 yds
50 cm	1	44 yds	44 yds
50 cm	1	40 yds	40 yds
50 cm	4	36-36-36-36 yds	36-36-36-36 yds
50 cm	4	32-32-32-32 yds	32-32-32-32 yds
35 cm	4	28-28-28-28 yds	28-28-28-28 yds
35 cm	2	23-20 yds	23-20 yds
35 cm	2	19-17 yds	19-17 yds
35 cm	2	15-14 yds	15-14 yds
20 cm	4	11 yds	11 yds

For all detail of these and other IFAA rounds consult their rulebook. **This is an IFAF Document**

## IFAF INSURANCE GUIDELINES

**Insured** Irish Field Archery Federation, Activities Association, Clubs, Events, Members, Voluntary Helpers Field Archery & associated activities

**Renewal Date** 1st August annually

**Civil Liability** £5,000,000

### **Insurer**

**Royal & Sun Alliance** Broker Perkins-Slade Ltd.

The policy provides cover to the IFAF, Events, Committees, Newsletter, Officials, Clubs (for social, recreational and sporting activities), Members and Voluntary Helpers.

Civil Liability is a very wide wording that includes Public Liability (damage to third party property or persons), Product Liability (goods supplied), Errors & Omissions (advice given or not given), Member-to-Member Liability, Trespass, Libel, Slander and all other matters under Civil Law. Voluntary Helpers, Directors & Officers Liability and the Interest of Principals are also included within the insurance.

Please note that the policy specifically excludes equine activities and activities involving the use of mechanically propelled vehicles (including off road) and waterborne craft over 3 metres in length and with a maximum speed over 7 Knots.

This policy does not cover the liability of any landowner whose property you may be using for archery activities. Injury to a member or non member caused by activity not related to archery e.g. a falling tree branch, a deep hole in the ground, is, or should be, covered by the landowner's public liability policy.

The Civil Liability policy is written on a claims made basis. This means that a claim will be notified under the policy which is in force at the time you first become aware that a claim may be made against you and not at the time the alleged error occurred. Therefore, should policy cover cease and a claim subsequently arise from activities undertaken in the past, that claim would be uninsured.

From 26 April 1999, the Civil Justice System has changed in the manner in which claims are dealt with. These changes are known as the Woolf Reforms and their intention is to resolve disputes more quickly and efficiently. Strict timescales are now in place to direct the handling of claims. You must, therefore, report every incident, to the IFAF Secretary immediately it happens, particularly any involving personal injury

### **Activities covered**

- a) Any archery event, whether indoors or outside, formal or informal, including competition, practice, training sessions, demonstrations, "Have-a-Go's" and any social event or promotional activity and conducted in an approved manner at approved locations in accordance with the rules of the Federation
- b) Any of these activities where any fees charged minus reasonable expenses are for the benefit of the Federation or its members.
- c) Coaches and Officers receiving expenses for travelling or subsistence will not be considered as a fee in this context and cover will not be prejudiced.
- d) The activity of maintaining and repairing of club equipment and premises used by the club.

### **Persons and bodies covered**

- ◇ Members of the Federation shooting at approved locations and in an approved manner in accordance with the rules of the Federation
- ◇ Members of any other recognised Archery Society or Association entering as competitors in shoots run by members of the Federation should be asked for proof of such membership, and enrolled as Federation members by filling out the Federation standard application form and paying the appropriate fee for full/temporary membership, before shooting commences.
- ◇ Any non-member who is helping at any club activity. Non-members are not permitted to shoot, except as beginners under training.
- ◇ Beginners receiving tuition from the club. The club, for such tuition may make a charge. Beginners must become members of the Federation within six weeks of their first lesson or before their first inter-club competition
- ◇ Members of the public participating in "Have-a-Go's"
- ◇ Any Federation members visiting other countries as competitors at events run by other IFAA clubs or IFAA associations. N.B. Those proposing to compete at such events must notify the IFAF Secretary who will advise the insurers in advance of their intent to compete in a foreign event such that cover may be extended.

## Conditions

These conditions are in addition to or are a reflection of those given in the current Federation Rules

- \* While there are no lower age limits with regard to this insurance, persons under the age of eighteen (juniors), whether they are shooting alone or in a group, must be supervised by a least two adults, one of whom must be an experienced archer. The other may be a parent or guardian.
- \* All beginners must be supervised by an experienced archer at all times when shooting.
- \* A coach or instructor should not undertake to coach a junior in isolation.
- \* An experienced archer must individually supervise any member of the public at "Have a Go's".
- \* All beginners must wear armguards and have finger protection.
- \* Coaches or other persons working entirely for their own account will require separate insurance.

## INCIDENT NOTIFICATION GUIDELINES

As advised by Perkins Slade Limited

It is important that all incidents that may give rise to a claim are reported to us (Perkins Slade) as soon as possible after the event. This will enable the Insurers to carry investigations at an early stage whilst information relating to the claim remains fresh in the mind. This will also ensure that you are complying fully with your policy terms and conditions.

In order to achieve this, we would ask that you notify us immediately of any incident that involves:

A fatal accident, an injury involving either referral to or actual hospital treatment, any allegations of libel/slander, any allegations of Professional Negligence i.e. arising out of tuition, coaching or advice given, any investigation under any child protection legislation. any circumstance involving damage to third party property.

An injury is defined as:

- any head injury that requires medical treatment (Doctor or Hospital).
- any fracture other than to fingers, thumbs or toes.
- any amputation, dislocation of the shoulder, hip, knee or spine.
- loss of sight (whether temporary or permanent).
- any injury resulting from electrical shock or burn, leading to unconsciousness or requiring resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours.
- any other injury leading to hypothermia, heat induced illness or to unconsciousness which requires resuscitation or admittance to hospital for more than 24 hours.
- loss of consciousness caused by asphyxia or by exposure to a harmful substance or biological agent.

Please note the above list is not exhaustive and if you are unsure as to whether an incident should be reported, then do so.

We would remind you that in NO circumstances should you admit liability or agree to pay for any damage caused as this may prejudice the position of Insurers and COULD result in the withdrawal of any indemnity.

Finally, please note that this is a liability policy where Insurers decide if negligence attaches to you. Therefore any payments you make to any third parties will not necessarily be reimbursed.

## Every club should have

**A copy of the insurance Confirmation of Insurance and display it at every event**

**At least one member with a 1st Aid qualification**

**An Accident Report book at every event and at club practice.**

In the case of an injury the following information should be entered

A description of the incident

Names and addresses of all involved

Witness statements with signatures

Immediate action taken and subsequent action taken

Details and signature of person making the report.

A copy of the report should be sent as soon as possible to the IFAF secretary.

Refer to the IFAF Health and Safety Policy for more detail. **This is an IFAF Document**

## **The IFAF Code of Conduct for Children's Sport**

Based on principles and guidelines within the Irish Sports Council's

**"Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport".**

### **Policy Statement**

**The IRISH FIELD ARCHERY FEDERATION is fully committed to safeguarding the well being of its members. Every individual in the organisation should at all times show respect and understanding for members rights, safety and welfare and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the organisation and the guidelines contained in the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport.**

**The aim of this code is to promote good practice by everyone involved in the sport of archery and to provide a safe, healthy, enjoyable environment for young members**

## **Core Values in Young People's Sport**

### **Integrity in relationships:**

Adults interacting with children in sport should do so with integrity and respect for the child. There is a danger that sporting contexts can be used to exploit or undermine children. All adult actions in sport should be guided by what is best for the child and in the context of quality, open working relationships. Verbal, physical, emotional or sexual abuse of any kind is unacceptable within sport.

### **Fair Play:**

All children's sport should be conducted in an atmosphere of fair play. Ireland has contributed, and is committed, to the European Code of Sports Ethics, which defines fair play as "much more than playing with the rules. It incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing with the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just behaving. It incorporates issues concerned with the elimination of opportunities, excessive commercialisation and corruption. (European Sports Charter and Code of Ethics, Council of Europe 1993).

### **Quality Atmosphere and ethos:**

Children's sport should be conducted in a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere. A child centred ethos will help to ensure that competition and specialisation are kept in their appropriate place. Too often, competitive demands are placed on children too early and results in excessive levels of pressure on them and as a consequence, high levels of dropout from sport.

### **Equality:**

All children should be treated in an equitable and fair manner regardless of age, ability, sex, religion, social and ethnic background or political persuasion. Children with disability should be involved in sports activities in an integrated way, thus allowing them to participate to their potential alongside other children.

**Leaders in children's sport should strive to create a positive environment for the children in their care. They have an overall responsibility to take the steps necessary to ensure that positive and healthy experiences are provided.**

The full code is an IFAF Document.

**Paraphrased here is a relevant section that applies to all adults in our sport.**

**Guidelines for Coaches:**

A coach of juvenile archers has a duty of care, which is more onerous than that of a coach to an adult.

A coach must act as a role model and promote the positive aspects of sport and of archery and maintain the highest standards of personal conduct.

The use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco must be actively discouraged as being incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity.

Remember your behaviour to other adults will have an effect on the children in your care.

Be generous with praise and never ridicule or shout at children for making mistakes. They are all entitled to respect.

Each child deserves equal time and attention.

Care must be taken not to expose a child intentionally or unintentionally to embarrassment or disparagement by use of sarcastic or flippant remarks.

Never punish a mistake - by verbal means, physical means, or exclusion.

Insist that children in your care respect the rules of the game. Insist on fair play and ensure that they know that you will not tolerate cheating or bullying behaviour.

Remember that young archers play for fun and enjoyment and that skill and playing for fun have priority over highly structured competition.

Never make winning the only objective.

Encourage the development of respect for adults and avoid criticism of fellow archers.

It is important to realise that certain situations or friendly actions could be misinterpreted by the participant or by outsiders.

**Child Protection Officer**

Every club must have a Child Protection Officer. Although the person appointed has overall responsibility for the well-being of children he or she meets in the sporting environment, this in no way absolves the general responsibility of all adults in these circumstances. The C.P.O. should be prepared to be subject to any appropriate vetting procedure.

The defining responsibilities are -

To make it known, to all in the club, and to parents, that he/she is the person to approach with any problems, complaints or allegations concerning children in the club. When relaying information to children this needs to be done with content and language appropriate to the circumstances.

To receive and have available all documentation concerning this subject.

To have a working knowledge of current guidelines and regulations on the subject.

To be prepared to extend this knowledge by attendance at training meetings or seminars run by the appropriate authorities.

To keep a record of any incidents which arise and to be judgemental in how to resolve and/or pursue the matter.

## **APPENDIX**

### **IFAF SAFETY RULES for COURSE LAYOUT & RUNNING EVENTS**

#### **Approvals and Procedure for IFAA sponsored events.**

1. All courses shall be inspected and approved. No alterations are permitted without prior consent of the Range Inspector.
2. At an I.F.A.A. World and Regional Tournament or any other special tournament sponsored by the I.F.A.A., course approval by the I.F.A.A. is required. Official approval will be through the Vice-President of the I.F.A.A. or his designated representative.
3. For sanctioned I.F.A.A. tournaments, course approval shall be by the Committee member for that particular nation and approval shall be for that particular tournament only.

#### **Applicable to all field archery courses**

No course shall receive approval until all hazards to safety, in the opinion of the Range Inspector have been removed

A map of the course, showing the target layout and the paths available, is an asset to inspection

Clear warning notices, along with warning tape or rope, must be placed anywhere around the course where there is any likelihood that members of the public may enter.

The route to be followed by competitors must be clearly marked. Targets must be clearly numbered. There must be no possibility of a group wandering about looking for the next target. The route to the next target should take competitors away from the current target at 90 degrees to the current arrow flight path or as close to this ideal as possible.

Leaving the course. An ideal course layout is one where competitors can walk the designated route in complete safety, passing other groups without hindrance. They may, however have to wait for other groups to finish in order to exit the course. Any safe exits from a course should be clearly marked.

Targets should not be placed where an overshot arrow can disappear from view e.g. on the skyline.

Competitors at field events are prepared to cope with some physical difficulties as they negotiate a course, but hazards (items which could be regarded as dangerous) need to be avoided or made safer. Such hazards include -

- Very steep banks. Provide substantial reinforced steps cut into the slope or a knotted rope or both.
- Ditches. Provide a knotted rope or a bridge. Bridges need to be substantial and, if high off the ground, will need a hand rail.
- Brambles. These pernicious weeds, designed to trip the unwary, need to be cleared as much as is practicable.
- Conifer branch stubs. These stick out from the trunks at right angles and are extremely dangerous, especially if other difficulties are keeping a competitor's attention or the light is failing. They should be knocked off.
- Extreme hazards, which are near but not on the course, should be marked off with tape or rope.

#### **Course Layout (Field round and Hunter round)**

1. All butts must be stable so there is no danger of tipping.
2. Shooting lanes must be cleared so the arrows will not strike foliage or branches.
3. Any person, regardless of height, must have a clear view of the full face of the target.
4. Paths must never pass directly behind a target butt, it is preferred that paths should leave the butt at such an angle that archers leave the line of shooting quickly. Paths and target lanes must be clearly marked and adequate direction signs placed.
5. Target butts must be placed so that misses do not constitute a hazard to other groups of archers.
6. Bales or butts must not leak arrows or be reinforced with any material, which will damage arrows or be likely to cause bounce-outs.
7. If a target butt is situated so that any path, target, road or building is behind at an unreasonable distance, then the target must be provided with adequate backstop.
8. The practice area must be placed so that no paths or roads pass behind the practice butts.
9. A minimum of 25 feet is necessary between any paths or shooting lanes parallel to another shooting lane This minimum permits a tolerance depending on terrain and length of shot, but the distance used must preserve absolute safety.

## **Bowhunter Course Layout (Animal)**

### **General**

1. All target butts must be stable with no danger of tipping.
2. Any competitor, regardless of height, must obtain a clear view of the target. Take into consideration the heights of the competitors, especially cubs
3. Target lanes, areas, etc., are not required to be maintained at the same level of a Field Course. i.e. targets may be placed in a reasonably representative area of natural growth. The target must not be purposely obscured from view. While realising some hunters will take a more difficult shot, the organiser must not accept that as a norm. We are presenting representative and competitive rounds, not constructing an obstacle course or a test of acrobatic skills. Some degree of difficulty is permissible, tempered with a balance of consideration for the average and the non-hunting archer.
4. In all cases the leading foot must touch and not be forward of the peg. An extra peg may be provided for use by compound bow shooters.
5. Any competitor likely to shoot from any particular peg must, by altering shooting stance if necessary, obtain an uninterrupted view of all of the wound area of the target face. The competitor's arrow, whatever its likely trajectory, must have a clear path to the target face. Any light foliage, grass or ferns may be left close to but not obstructing this path. Branches, trunks of trees, rocks etc. may act to impair judgement of distance, but must never be where they are likely to be struck by arrows.

### **Moving Targets**

1. So that moving targets will not create an obstacle to the flow of traffic through the ranges, only one arrow is to be shot and scored by each archer on these targets.
2. Moving targets must be planned and created with the utmost consideration of safety, both of the archer and of the operator of the moving target mechanism.
3. Operators must not be in the line of fire. Their position must not be at a point between the archer and the target. If the position of the operator is behind the archer, away from the target, no special precautions may be necessary. If the position of the operator is other than behind the archer, the operators position must be shielded from a possible stray arrow. A shielded position is defined as a constructed barrier that will prevent a stray arrow from penetrating the position. The operator must not allow himself/herself to be exposed to harm from the time the animal is released until it has completed its run AND an "all clear" signal has been relayed from the shooting line.

### **Shooting Platforms**

1. Shooting platforms may be used to simulate Tree Stands. When used, the platform must be sturdy and solid so as to present no safety hazard to the competitor who must use it. A shooting platform should be constructed to readily accommodate two archers, of any size, at one time. Even then it is recommended that only one archer be allowed to use the stand at any one time; certainly, never more than two.
2. The Platform must be constructed so as to provide safe and easy access. Steps must be sturdy, solid and have the ability to be used safely by any competing archer. A hand rail should be provided in most cases to assist in mounting the steps. No rung ladder or other rudimentary device will be acceptable for gaining access to the raised platform.
3. A railing of no less than three (3) feet in height, must encircle the actual raised platform except for the space required for entry by the steps.
4. No Commercial or Home made actual Tree Stands will be used. Tree Stand shots may be simulated through the use of Shooting Platforms
5. NOTE: A platform built against the side of a hill may allow straight access to the platform from the target trail. In such a case, the requirement for steps could logically be waived.
6. The Organiser of the tournament should keep in mind that the purpose of the platform is to provide an elevated shot, simulating a tree stand shot, and not to construct an obstacle course. Shooting platforms that are not considered to be safe by the inspecting I.F.A.A. Official, will not be used. Instead, that shot shall be converted to a ground level shot.

### **Game Trail Rounds**

1. The Organiser must exercise extreme caution in determining the shooting zones.
2. A Game Trail Round should utilise an elevated rope or other device to mark the trail.
3. The beginning of the shooting zone should be marked with a flag, of a bright colour, tied or attached securely to the rope and the end of the shooting zone should be similarly marked. It is suggested the entry and exit flags be of pre-designated colours such as green (start) and red (stop or end).
4. No Shots are to be taken except from between the two markers.
5. Special attention must be given to assure that no archer on the trail will come within the safety zone of an archer shooting from any point on the marked shooting area of the trail.
6. The normal consideration to a safety zone behind the target must be amplified due to the greater angles involved with shots from different points of the trail.
7. It is recommended that Game Trail Rounds, whenever possible, be set up on the perimeter of the range area so that no activity takes place in the direction of the shooting. (No trails or targets behind the shooting and safety angles to the target).

## 3D Course Layout

1. 3D targets shall be freestanding and securely anchored.
2. Targets may be placed at a point which reasonably represents the natural setting. Targets are not to be purposely obscured from view. Some degree of difficulty is permissible, however the total score area must not be obscured.
3. The 3D target will be positioned so that the scoring area is face on to the archer. For group 1 and 2 targets, the target may be angled towards or away from the archer, however such angle shall not exceed 15 degrees. (i.e. a facing away or towards archer) "Up-hill" or "down-hill" shots, ideally, should not exceed 45 degrees.
4. A target butt (a butt to which the IFAA paper targets is attached in other IFAA Rounds) shall not be set up with the free-standing 3D target.
5. To ensure minimal arrow damage and/or arrow loss, a back-stop either natural or man-made shall be provided behind each target as follows:
  - The natural back-stop shall be the natural terrain which shall be free, as far as is practicable, of rock or stone.
  - One alternative to the natural back-stop is the man-made version using carpet off-cuts, which can be suspended in 2 layers. The first layer when hit by the arrow will move with the impact with, in most cases, the arrow falling to the ground. In the occasional occurrence where the arrow passes through the first layer, the second layer, and reduced arrow velocity incurred through passing through the first layer, will stop the arrow.
  - The carpet may be suspended between trees, or over a constructed frame, with layers set at 2 feet apart. The height of the suspended carpet should be at least 8 feet from the ground, with the carpet reaching the ground and loosely anchored to still allow the carpet to move under arrow impact. The back-stop should be camouflaged, where practicable, to blend in with terrain.

## IFAF LAYOUT RULES for CLOUT SHOOTING

1. The distance shot is 180 yards for gents. 140 yards for ladies, 100 yards for juniors and 80 yards for cubs. Depending on the status of the event, these distances may be reduced. The course may consist of one target with up to 4 shooting lines or up to 4 targets with one shooting line. The latter greatly reduces the time to shoot an end.
2. An overshoot of a minimum of 75 yards to the boundary should be provided. Should the boundary adjoin a public area, overshoot length should be increased to 100 yards. The left and right boundaries of the course must be such that inaccurate shots and/or strong winds will not cause arrows to leave the course.
3. A two-way course may be provided, both courses having safety margins to these specifications.
4. The target or clout may be any clearly visible marker or flag on a pole.
5. A target captain, being a person of experience must be nominated to oversee the shoot, act as judge, and to ensure the safety of all
6. Before commencing the shoot the target captain must make all competitors aware of the possible hazard of walking into or onto arrows. The clout should be approached parallel to the shooting lane not directly along it.
7. Any bow may be used. Carbon only arrows may not be used. Compound bows must not exceed 40 lb maximum draw weight and arrows shot from compounds must be no thinner than 21/64" shaft. Should such a combination prove inadequate for the distance required, the bow weight may be increased at the target captain's discretion.
8. The number of arrows shot for each end shall be decided by the target captain and may be either 3 or 6. This depends on the number of competitors and the number of targets. An indicator is that if more than ten competitors are shooting at any one target they shoot 3 arrows per end. The number of ends shot is also at the organiser's discretion.
9. The scoring rope will be 7\_ yards long, plus extra for handling. It will be divided into 5 scoring zones, each of 1\_ yards. The scoring will be 5 for the zone nearest the flag down to 1 for the furthest zone. The arrows score at the place they enter the ground. Arrows lying on the ground score by the position of their points. An arrow in the clout scores 5.

### **IFAF LAYOUT & SAFETY RULES for “HAVE-A-GO’s”**

1. One person, the Field Captain, is responsible for the safe running of the event.
2. The shooting distance must not exceed seven yards.
3. Should the overshoot area extend towards any public area then the overshoot distance should be not less than 100 yards. The overshoot area must be roped off if there is any likelihood of persons wandering into it.
4. A backstop must be provided having a margin of a minimum of 3 ft above and to the left and right of the target area. Any suitable material may be used.
5. Members of the public, unless shooting, must not be allowed nearer than 6 feet of the shooting line nor to any position which allows them to 45 degrees to any of the shooting directions. Should any person or animal stray into these areas, shooting must stop by a previously agreed method until the area is clear.
6. One archer should have no other responsibilities other than crowd control and general safety. Should awkward situations arise, e.g. pushing or rowdiness, shooting must be stopped until the problem is resolved.
7. All archers supervising shooting must be trained for this task which is responsible and demanding. They need to concentrate fully and yet appear relaxed, putting members of the public at ease. They need to be able to cope with all the likely and less likely aspects of behaviour, physical characteristics and mental attitudes.
8. An archer in charge of supervising the public must do so to the exclusion of all other tasks and should supervise on the shooting line for not more than one hour before taking an adequate break
9. Any supervising archer may refuse to allow a member of the public to take part if they deem it necessary .
10. No members of the public should be physically touched without their permission.
11. Members of the public should
  - not be allowed to shoot their first shot without the supervisor holding the riser.
  - never be left unsupervised with or near a bow and arrows.
  - never move forward of the shooting line for whatever reason.
11. Compound bows may not be used. Neither glass fibre nor carbon arrows may be used. No bows should exceed 30lb draw weight. A left hand bow is a useful addition. All bows must be in good condition, especially the strings. “Hooked” robust plastic arrow rests are recommended. Tabs must be worn or alternatively, rubber “finger savers” may be used on the strings. Armguards must be fitted. However, for speed and convenience, a thick elastic “sleeve” may be devised for this purpose.

### **SAFETY RULES for “POPINJAY” TYPE SHOOTS**

1. A “popinjay” is any target fixed to a high point to be shot at an angle approaching but not attaining the vertical.
2. The nature of such targets is not within the scope of these rules but they must be affixed to prevent any possibility of the target or parts thereof falling. Lightweight targets are recommended.
3. An experienced archer shall be appointed to ensure that shooting is conducted in a safe and proper manner.
4. Competitors must shoot from a position to ensure that overshoots fall in a safe area.
5. Only arrows with rubber blunts will be used, the arrows will be supplied and maintained by the organisers. No other arrows will be used.
6. Only one archer shall shoot at a time, all others waiting outside any overshoot area.
7. All archers will use the same light draw-weight bows (maximum draw-weight 20 lbs.), supplied and maintained by the Club/Organisers.

### **IFAF LAYOUT RULES for INDOOR ARCHERY**

1. Sufficient archery backstop netting to accommodate all the targets in use is essential
2. Senior archers or safety officers must observe from the left most shooting position or from an elevated position behind the line.
3. Beginners and those shooting shorter distances will be at the right of the shooting line where they can be observed by the maximum number of archers
4. After scoring and recovery care must be taken to see that all archers have returned behind the shooting line before the signal to shoot is given.
5. A Senior archer should be appointed to take control of the Archers movements to and from the targets and be prepared to halt shooting on an agreed command if Safety is in doubt.

**GENERAL SAFETY RULES & GUIDELINES for  
RUNNING a FIELD ARCHERY EVENT**

1. It is the responsibility of all competitors to ensure that their equipment is in safe working order. Equipment may be inspected at any event.
2. Every group of competitors (3 to 6 competitors, normally 4) must have a designated Target Captain, an archer of proven experience who is responsible for safe, fair and correct procedure, must know the rules for the event, and will judge arrow values (except his/her own!), and whose decision is final. (Procedure may vary depending on conditions and circumstances). Target Captains from different groups may consult. Whatever problems are encountered during the event, it is the responsibility of the Target Captain to resolve them in as safe a manner as possible.
3. Groups must know where to start or be guided to their start positions.
4. Groups must know when to start shooting. This will be by a long blast on either a whistle, an air horn or other suitable device. Another blast is a signal for all to stop shooting. (Very rarely needed but might be used if, for example, lightning is around).
5. All competitors must register their presence at the event.
6. The organisers for future reference should retain the list of names of those present.
7. It is the duty of every course organiser to have a First Aid Station, supervised by a competent person, established to cater for all situations likely to occur. In addition a means of communication **must** be present, to enable help to be summoned from emergency Services such as Fire, Police and Ambulance.