

Guide to  
Target Archery Rounds,  
Scoring ,  
Handicaps and  
Classifications

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## Guide to Target Archery Rounds, Scoring , Handicaps and Classifications

This note provides a guide to target archery rounds, and how they are scored. It also describes archery handicaps and classifications.

### 1 Target Archery Rounds

Target archery rounds provide a standardised method for archers to compare scores. There are many different rounds each with its own name and consisting of a set number of arrows at one or more distances and target sizes.

There are two basic types of rounds imperial and metric. Imperial rounds are also known as GNAS or English rounds, whilst metric rounds are also known as FITA rounds.

All rounds use four main face sizes, they have a diameter of 122cm, 80cm, 60cm and 40cm. The 122cm face fills a boss, one 80cm face fits on a boss, two 60cm faces fit on a boss, finally four 40cm faces can be fitted on a boss.

## 1.1 Imperial Outdoor Rounds

All imperial outdoor rounds are measured in yards, and use a 122cm diagram face (they fill an entire boss) at all distances. The following table lists all the recognised imperial outdoor rounds. It shows the number of dozen at each distance. For example a Western round is 4 dozen at 60yds and 4 dozen at 50yds both distances shot at a 122cm face. The Gents and Ladies columns shows the age at which the round is usually shot.

ROUND	100y	80y	60y	50y	40y	30y	20y	10y	Total	Gents	Ladies
YORK	6	4	2						12	Adult	Adult
HEREFORD / BRISTOL I		6	4	2					12	U18	Adult
BRISTOL II			6	4	2				12	U16	U18
BRISTOL III				6	4	2			12	U14	U16
BRISTOL IV					6	4	2		12	U12	U14
BRISTOL V <sup>1</sup>						6	4	2	12	-	U12
St. GEORGE	3	3	3						9	Adult	Adult
ALBION		3	3	3					9	Adult	Adult
WINDSOR			3	3	3				9	Adult	Adult
SHORT WINDSOR				3	3	3			9	U16	U18
JUNIOR WINDSOR					3	3	3		9	U14	U16
SHORT JUNIOR WINDSOR <sup>2</sup>						3	3	3	9	-	U12
NEW WESTERN	4	4							8	Adult	Adult
LONG WESTERN		4	4						8	Adult	Adult
WESTERN			4	4					8	Adult	Adult
SHORT WESTERN				4	4				8	U16	U18
JUNIOR WESTERN					4	4			8	U14	U16
SHORT JUNIOR WESTERN						4	4		8	U12	U14
AMERICAN			2.5	2.5	2.5				7.5	Adult	Adult
St. NICHOLAS					4	3			7	U14	U16
NEW NATIONAL	4	2							6	Adult	Adult
LONG NATIONAL		4	2						6	Adult	Adult
NATIONAL			4	2					6	Adult	Adult
SHORT NATIONAL				4	2				6	U16	U18
JUNIOR NATIONAL					4	2			6	U14	U16
SHORT JUNIOR NATIONAL						4	2		6	U12	U14
NEW WARWICK	2	2							4	Adult	Adult
LONG WARWICK		2	2						4	Adult	Adult
WARWICK			2	2					4	Adult	Adult
SHORT WARWICK				2	2				4	U16	U18
JUNIOR WARWICK					2	2			4	U14	U16
SHORT JUNIOR WARWICK						2	2		4	U12	U14

1 This round was changed for the 2010 season. Some older guides will show different distances for this round.

2 This is a new round for the 2010 season.

## 1.2 Metric Outdoor Rounds

All metric outdoor rounds are measured in metres and use 122cm and 80cm faces. The following table lists all the recognised metric outdoor rounds. It shows the number of dozen at each distance and face size. The Gents and Ladies columns shows the age at which the round is usually shot.

Dozen at each distance	122cm Face							80cm Face					Total	Gents	Ladies	
	90 m	70 m	60 m	50 m	40 m	30 m	20 m	50 m	40 m	30 m	20 m	15 m				10 m
FITA (Gents)	3	3						3		3				12	Adult	Adult
FITA (ladies) / METRIC I		3	3					3		3				12	U18	Adult
ITA (Cadet Ladies) / METRIC II			3	3					3	3				12	U16	U18
METRIC III				3	3					3	3			12	U14	U16
METRIC IV					3	3					3		3	12	U12	U14
METRIC V						3	3					3	3	12	-	U12
LONG METRIC (Gents)	3	3												6	Adult	Adult
LONG METRIC (Ladies) / LONG METRIC I		3	3											6	U18	Adult
LONG METRIC II			3	3										6	U16	U18
LONG METRIC III				3	3									6	U14	U16
LONG METRIC IV					3	3								6	U12	U14
LONG METRIC V						3	3							6	-	U12
SHORT METRIC								3		3				6	Adult	Adult
SHORT METRIC I								3		3				6	U18	-
SHORT METRIC II									3	3				6	U16	U18
SHORT METRIC III										3	3			6	U14	U16
SHORT METRIC IV											3		3	6	U12	U14
SHORT METRIC V												3	3	6	-	U12
Half FITA (Gents)	1.5	1.5						1.5		1.5				6	Adult	Adult
Half FITA (Ladies) / HALF METRIC I		1.5	1.5					1.5		1.5				6	U18	Adult
Half FITA (Cadet Ladies) / HALF METRIC II			1.5	1.5					1.5	1.5				6	U16	U18
HALF METRIC III				1.5	1.5					1.5	1.5			6	U14	U16
HALF METRIC IV					1.5	1.5					1.5		1.5	6	U12	U14
HALF METRIC V						1.5	1.5					1.5	1.5	6	-	U12
FITA. Standard Bow				3		3								6	Adult	Adult
Olympic Round		1												1	Adult	Adult
FITA. 900			2.5	2.5	2.5									7.5	Adult	Adult
FITA 70m (FITA 720)		6												6	Adult	Adult

### 1.3 Indoor Rounds

Again there are metric and imperial rounds when shooting indoors but there are far fewer rounds when compared to outdoors. The following table lists all the recognised indoor rounds. It shows the number of dozen at each distance and face size. There are a variety of different faces but the most common are the 60cm and 40cm faces.

Dozen at each distance									
Distance	18m	18m	25m	30m	20y	20y	25y	20y	
Face Size	40cm	40cm special	60cm	80cm	60cm	40cm	60cm	16in special	Additional Rules
<b><u>GNAS Rounds</u></b>									
Bray I						2.5			Full size face only
Bray II							2.5		Full size face only
Stafford				6					Full size face only
Portsmouth					5				Full face or 6 zone face
Worcester								5	5 arrows per end. 1 end of sighters
Vegas		5							2 ends of sighters. One arrow at each target
<b><u>FITA Rounds</u></b>									
FITA 18	5								Full size or triple face
FITA 25			5						Full size or triple face
Combined FITA	5		5						Full size or triple face
Match Round 1	1								Triple face only

The most popular round in the club is the Portsmouth as it is used in many competitions.

### 1.4 Shooting a Round

For all rounds, imperial or metric, you shoot the longest distance first and then moved down the distances finishing with the shortest distance. You generally get six arrows of sighter's at the first distance shot, you do **not** get more sighter's when you change distances. This means it is important to have sight marks for all the distances contained in a round you intend to shoot.

Junior and beginners are not expected to shoot distances they are not capable of. Generally archers should be capable of scoring 200 on a 122cm face with 3 dozen arrows before moving up to the next distance.

It should be noted that juniors are not expected to shoot long distances even if they are shooting well at shorter distances. The table below lists the maximum distances each gender/age group is expected to shoot. The reason for the maximum distances is that it avoids juniors drawing a higher poundage than they are physically capable of holding without damaging their body's development.

Gent	Ladies	Maximum Distances
U18	-	80 yards/70 metres
U16	U18	60 yards/60 metres
U14	U16	50 yards/50 metres
U12	U14	40 yards/40 metres

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Gent	Ladies	Maximum Distances
-	U12	30 yards/30 metres

There are numerous competitions run throughout the country for all standards of archers by senior and juniors. If you are interested in shooting at competitions please talk to a club coach or an experienced club member who will be able to suggest competitions for beginners/juniors and some of the rules/etiquette you should be aware of.

## 2 Scoring

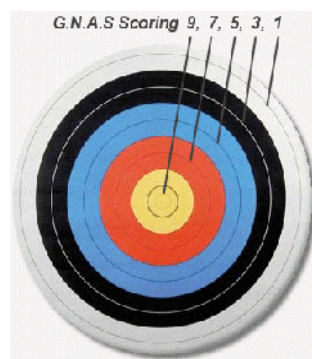
This section describes how a round is scored. First it describes how points are scored for outdoor and indoor rounds, it then describes how a score sheet is completed.

For all scoring schemes, if an arrow hit is touching the line between two scoring zones then the higher score is recorded.

### 2.1 Scoring Outdoors

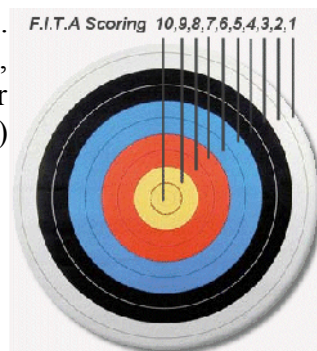
#### 2.1.1 Imperial Rounds (Five Zone Scoring)

For Imperial (GNAS) rounds, five zone scoring is used, and is illustrated opposite. The gold scores 9, red 7, blue 5, black 3, and the white 1.



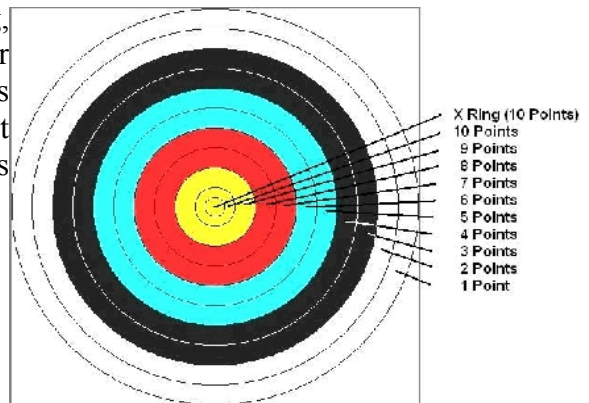
#### 2.1.2 Scoring Metric Rounds (Ten Zone Scoring)

For metric rounds, ten zone scoring and is illustrated opposite. The inner gold scores 10, outer gold 9, inner red 8, outer red 7, inner blue 6, outer blue 5, inner black 4, outer black 3, inner white 2 and the outer white 1. Within the 10 ring (inner gold) there is another ring which scores 10 but is recorded as an 'X'.



## 2.2 Scoring Indoors

Scoring is similar to outdoor metric scoring. However 'X's are only recorded for FITA indoor rounds and not GNAS rounds. Also archers shooting a compound only score 10 if they hit the inner 10 ring, and the inner gold only scores 9 points.



## 2.3 Completing a Score Sheet

The figure below illustrates a typical archery score sheet. As each end is shot the arrows are scored the highest scoring arrows first. All misses are marked as an 'M'. The rest of the score sheet is recorded as follows:

- If the distance/face shot is not a formal round just record the distance and face size.
- The 'End' is the total of the arrows in a single end usually 3 or 6 arrows.
- The 'Doz' is the total for a dozen arrows.
- The 'Hits' are the number of scoring arrows in the dozen.
- The 'Golds' are the number of 10's in the dozen. Note this does not include 9s.
- The 'Total' is the running total.
- The distance totals record the same information but for all arrows at each distance.
- The round total record the same information but for all arrows in the round.
- Once completed the scorer signs followed by the archer.

<b>Name:</b> Archer													<b>Bow Type:</b> Recurve					
<b>Date:</b> 3/6/2009													<b>Round:</b> Short Metric					
<b>Age(if under 18):</b> N/A																		
													<b>End</b>	<b>Doz</b>	<b>Hits</b>	<b>Golds</b>	<b>Total</b>	
9	8	8	7	4	4	40	10	8	7	6	6	5	42	82	12	1	83	
10	6	6	5	4	3	34	10	9	9	5	5	M	38	72	11	2	155	
8	8	6	5	5	5	37	7	7	6	3	M	M	23	58	10	-	213	
Distance Total for 50m													213	33	3	213		
10	9	8	7	5	5	44	X	10	7	6	5	M	38	82	11	3	82	
10	9	9	8	7	6	49	9	9	9	8	7	7	49	98	12	1	180	
8	8	7	7	7	6	43	X	9	9	6	M	M	34	77	10	1	257	
Distance Total for 30m													257	33	5	257		
Round Totals:													470	66	8	470		
<b>Archers signature:</b>													<b>Scorers Signature:</b>					



### 3 Handicaps

An archery handicap is a number between 0 and 100, it indicates the ability of an archer. The lower the handicap the better the archer. Every archer has one outdoor handicap and a separate indoor handicap for each bow style they shoot.

Handicap tables are produced by GNAS which give a handicap for every possible score for every round irrespective of the archer's age, gender or the bow style used. The handicap tables can be purchased from GNAS.

The archery handicap system has three uses:

1. It helps archers to monitor their progress
2. Enables scores to be compared between different rounds.
3. Enables archers of different abilities to compete on equal terms.

The definitive definition of the handicap scheme is defined with the handicap tables purchased from GNAS.

The rest of the section describes how to calculate a handicap.

#### 3.1 Calculating a Handicap

Calculating a handicap is the same for both indoors and outdoors. This section describes how a handicap is calculated for an archer without a handicap, how a handicap is modified during the season and then what happens at the end of a season.

##### Initial Handicap

For archers without a handicap their initial handicap is the average of the handicaps for the first three rounds recorded. All handicaps are quoted in whole numbers and the average must be **rounded up** to the nearest whole number.

For example if an archer shoots 3 outdoor rounds with handicaps of 64, 70 and 69 then the initial handicap is 68.

##### During a Season

When an archer has established a handicap it can be improved after each round shot. If a round is shot with a handicap at least 2 handicap points better than their current handicap, then the archer's new handicap is the average of the current handicap and the handicap for the round just completed. As with the initial handicap this must be **rounded up** to the nearest whole number.

For example:

- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 68, the handicap remains 68.
- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 70, the handicap remains 68 .
- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 67, the handicap remains 68.

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- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 66, the handicap becomes 67.
- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 65, the handicap becomes 67.
- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 61, the handicap becomes 65.

### End of Archery Season

At the end of an archery season, i.e. 1st January for Outdoors, 1st July for Indoors, each archer's handicap is re-calculated. If the archer has shot at least three rounds in the previous season then the new handicap is the average of the best three rounds in the previous season, **rounded up** to the nearest whole number. For example the best three handicaps listed above are 66, 65 and 61; this gives a handicap at the start of the new season of 64.

The only way an archers handicap can go up is if the average handicap of best three rounds in a season is higher than the average handicap of the best three rounds in the previous season.

## 3.2 Using Handicaps in Competition

Handicaps can be used to enable archers of all standards to compete against each other. This is achieved by adding a certain number of points onto an archers score at the end of the round. The lower an archer's handicap, the fewer points get added to his score. The winner is the archer with the most points after the handicap has been taken into account. The number of points to be added is included in the GNAS handicap tables.

## 4 Classifications

Archery classifications are similar to handicaps in that you must shoot at least three rounds to gain a classification, and there are separate indoor and outdoor classifications for each bow style an archer shoots. However unlike handicaps, classifications take into account an archer's, gender, age and bow style. They therefore give an indication to an archer's ability taking these factors into account.

The outdoor classification is widely recognised by other archers, unlike the indoor classification. As with handicaps, GNAS produce classification tables which state what score must be obtained for a given round to qualify for a given classification. Unlike the handicap tables, classification tables can easily be found on the internet or from GNAS's Shooting Administrative Procedures which can be downloaded from the GNAS website. You can work out your own classification or submit your scores to the Records Officer and they will work it out for you.

Section 7 of the GNAS's Shooting Administrative Procedures provides the definitive description of the classification scheme.

### 4.1 Outdoor Classifications

Outdoor classifications are (the easiest to obtained are listed first) 3rd class, 2nd class, 1st class, Bowman (BM), Master Bowman (MB) and Grand Master Bowman (GMB). Juniors can gain Junior Bowman and Junior Master Bowman instead of Bowman and Master

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Bowman respectively. You can achieve 3rd, 2nd, 1st classes or BM (Bowman) classification at any club shoot or competition.

You can only qualify for MB (Master Bowmen) and GMB (Grand Master Bowman) having submitted 3 scores to GNAS, from Record Status competitions.

Badges are awarded for all outdoor classifications.

To get an idea of the difficulty of getting these classifications they are designed so that the top 1% will get GMB, the top 4% MB and top 15% Bowman.

### 4.2 Indoor Classifications

Indoor classifications are different to the outdoor scheme in that they run from A to H, A being the best. As with outdoor handicaps, classification tables are produced by GNAS and three qualifying scores are required before a classification can be obtained. No badges are produced for indoor classifications.

## 5 Further Information

This note provides a level of information to get you started on rounds, handicaps and classifications. Further information can be found from:

- Rule 308 of “Rules of Shooting”, April 2004, describes the formally recognised rounds.
- The definitive description of the handicap scheme is purchased with the tables.
- Section 7 of the “Shooting Administrative Procedures”, April 2008 provides the definitive description of the classification scheme

The “Rules of Shooting” and “Shooting Administrative Procedures” can be downloaded from the GNAS website ([www.gnas.org](http://www.gnas.org)).