



Guide to Target Archery Rounds, Scoring, Handicaps and Classifications

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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 or WA 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 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.

Round	100yd	80yd	60yd	50yd	40yd	30yd	20yd	10yd
York	6 doz	4 doz	2 doz					
Hereford - Ladies Bristol 1 - Gents		6 doz	4 doz	2 doz				
Bristol 2			6 doz	4 doz	2 doz			
Bristol 3				6 doz	4 doz	2 doz		
Bristol 4					6 doz	4 doz	2 doz	
Bristol 5						6 doz	4 doz	2 doz
St. George	3 doz	3 doz	3 doz					
Albion		3 doz	3 doz	3 doz				
Windsor			3 doz	3 doz	3 doz			
Windsor 50				3 doz	3 doz	3 doz		
Windsor 40					3 doz	3 doz	3 doz	
Windsor 30						3 doz	3 doz	3 doz
New Western	4 doz	4 doz						
Long Western		4 doz	4 doz					
Western			4 doz	4 doz				
Western 50				4 doz	4 doz			
Western 40					4 doz	4 doz		
Western 30						4 doz	4 doz	
American			2.5 doz	2.5 doz	2.5 doz			
St. Nicholas					4 doz	3 doz		
New National	4 doz	2 doz						
Long National		4 doz	2 doz					
National			4 doz	2 doz				
National 50				4 doz	2 doz			
National 40					4 doz	2 doz		
National 30						4 doz	2 doz	

Round	100yd	80yd	60yd	50yd	40yd	30yd	20yd	10yd
New Warwick	2 doz	2 doz						
Long Warwick		2 doz	2 doz					
Warwick			2 doz	2 doz				
Warwick 50				2 doz	2 doz			
Warwick 40					2 doz	2 doz		
Warwick 30						2 doz	2 doz	

AGB IMPERIAL ROUNDS: All imperial rounds are shot on a 122cm target face, using 5 zone scoring.

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.

Round	90m	70m	60m	50m	40m	30m	20m	15m	10m
WA 1440 (90m)	3 doz	3 doz		3 doz		3 doz			
WA 1440 (70m) Metric I		3 doz	3 doz	3 doz		3 doz			
Metric II			3 doz	3 doz	3 doz	3 doz			
Metric III				3 doz	3 doz	3 doz	3 doz		
Metric IV					3 doz	3 doz	3 doz		3 doz
Metric V						3 doz	3 doz	3 doz	3 doz
Long Metric (Men)	3 doz	3 doz							
Long Metric (Women) Long Metric I		3 doz	3 doz						
Long Metric II			3 doz	3 doz					
Long Metric III				3 doz	3 doz				
Long Metric IV					3 doz	3 doz			
Long Metric V						3 doz	3 doz		
Short Metric				3 doz		3 doz			
Short Metric II					3 doz	3 doz			
Short Metric III						3 doz	3 doz		
Short Metric IV							3 doz		3 doz
Short Metric V								3 doz	3 doz
WA Standard Bow				3 doz		3 doz			
WA 900			2.5 doz	2.5 doz	2.5 doz				

Round	90m	70m	60m	50m	40m	30m	20m	15m	10m
WA 70m		6 doz							
WA 60m			6 doz						
WA 50m (Barebow) Metric 122-50				6 doz					
Metric 122-40					6 doz				
Metric 122-30						6 doz			
WA 50m (Compound) WA 50m (80cm)				6 doz					
Metric 80-40					6 doz				
Metric 80-30						6doz			

AGB METRIC ROUNDS: All metric rounds use 10 zone scoring. For the metric rounds, the furthest two distances are shot on a **122cm target face**, while the closest two distances are shot on an **80cm target face**.

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. There are a variety of different faces but the most common are the 60cm and 40cm faces.

Round	Distance	Arrows	Target Face	2nd Distance	Arrows	Target Face
Portsmouth	20 yds	5 doz	60 cm			
Worcester	20 yds	5 doz	Worc			
Bray I	20 yds	2.5 doz	40 cm			
Bray II	25 yds	2.5 doz	60 cm			
Stafford	30 m	6 doz	80 cm			
Vegas	18 m	5 doz	Vegas			
WA 18	18 m	5 doz	40 cm			
WA 25	25 m	5 doz	60 cm			
WA 18/25 Combined	18 m	5 doz	40 cm	25 m	5 doz	60 cm

INDOOR ROUNDS: Indoor rounds generally use standard 10 zone scoring, though some unusual rounds such as a Worcester or a Vegas use different target faces.

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 sighters 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.

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 recommended 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. This is reflected in the classification awards (see later).

Male	Female	Max Distance
U18	-	80yds / 70m
U16	U18	60yds / 60m
U14	U16	50yds / 50m
U12	U14	40yds / 40m
-	U12	30yds / 30m

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)

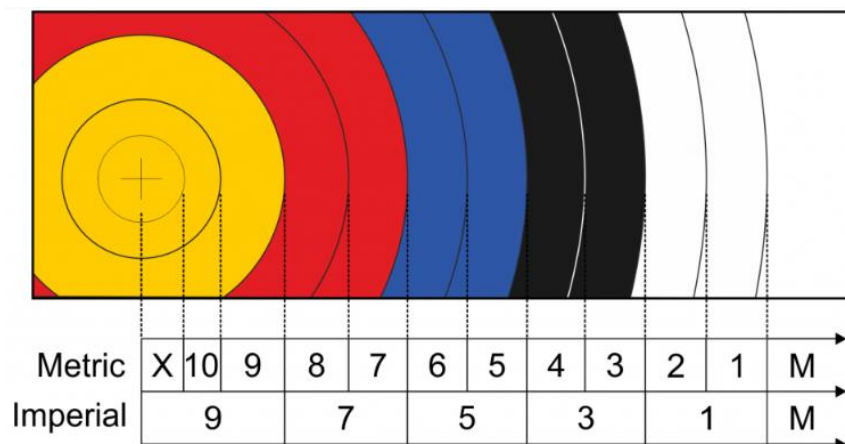
For Imperial (GNAS) rounds, five zone scoring is used, and is illustrated below. The gold scores 9, red 7, blue 5, black 3, and the white 1.

2.1.2 Scoring Metric Rounds (Ten Zone Scoring)

For metric rounds, ten zone scoring and is illustrated below. 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 WA indoor rounds and not imperial 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.

Name: Archer														Bow Type: Recurve				
Date: 3/6/2009														Round: Short Metric				
Age(if under 18): N/A																		
														End	Doz	Hits	Golds	Total
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	
Archers signature:														Scorers Signature:				

3 Handicaps

An archery handicap is a number between 0 and 150, it indicates the ability of an archer irrespective of age and gender. 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 ArcheryGB which give a handicap for every possible score for every round cited in tables 1 & 2 of the January 2023 Handicap Tables, irrespective of the archer's age, gender or the bow style used. The handicap tables downloaded from the ArcheryGB website (<https://archerygb.org/files/outdoor-handicap-tables-200123092252.pdf>).

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 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 qualifying rounds recorded. All handicaps are quoted in whole numbers and the average must be **rounded down** 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 67.

During a Season

When an archer has established a handicap it can be improved after each round shot. Please ensure that all rounds are supplied to the records officer so that they may administer the handicap (and classification), rounds shot at other clubs and competitions are also valid. Please ensure that an appropriate location is entered into the ExpertArcher app for each round added.

If a round is shot with a handicap at least 1 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 down** 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 Reduces to 67.
- 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 66.
- An archer with a handicap of 68 shoots a round with a handicap of 61, the handicap becomes 64.

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 down** 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. Please note, a new indoor handicap and classification scheme will commence 1st July 2023.

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 considered. The number of points to be added is included in the ArcheryGB handicap tables.

<https://archerygb.org/files/outdoor-handicap-tables-200123092252.pdf>.

4 Classifications

Archery classifications are similar to handicaps but you must shoot a certain number of arrows to attain a specific classification, and there are separate indoor and outdoor classifications for each bow style an archer shoots. However, unlike handicaps, classifications consider an archer's bowstyle, gender and age. They therefore give an indication to an archer's ability taking these factors into account. The outdoor classification is widely recognised by other archers. As with handicaps, ArcheryGB produce classification tables which state what score must be obtained for a given round to qualify for a given classification. Classifications are defined on bowtype, gender and age. The classification tables can easily be found on the ArcheryGB website but are linked here for ease:

- Barebow - <https://archerygb.org/files/outdoor-classifications-amp-handicaps-barebow-190123111828.pdf>
- Compound - <https://archerygb.org/files/outdoor-classifications-amp-handicaps-compound-190123111916.pdf>
- Longbow - <https://archerygb.org/files/outdoor-classifications-amp-handicaps-longbow-190123111853.pdf>
- Recurve - <https://archerygb.org/files/outdoor-classifications-amp-handicaps-recurve-190123111801.pdf>

Section 7 of the ArcheryGB Shooting Administrative Procedures

(<https://archerygb.org/files/shooting-administrative-procedures-240123161155.pdf>)

provides the definitive description of the classification scheme.

4.1 Age Definition

An archer may compete, or is be assigned a classification based on their age at their birthday within the year of competition\classification e.g. if they turned 17 in a year, they can compete or are assign classification in the U18 category, but they cannot turn 18 in the year.

An archer may compete or be assigned classification in the 50+ division when in the year of their 50th Birthday and thereafter.

4.2 Outdoor Classifications

Outdoor classifications are (the easiest to obtained are listed first) 3rd class, 2nd class, 1st class Archer, 3rd class, 2nd class, 1st class Bowman (BM), Master Bowman (MB), Grand Master Bowman (GMB) and Elite Master Bowman (EMB)

Bowman respectively.

To claim a classification, you need to shoot a number of rounds above a certain threshold score. The total number of arrows changes as you move up the tiers (archer, bowmen, master bowman). You can mix and match rounds of different lengths to make up the total.

- Archer – 12 dozen arrows
- Bowman – 18 dozen arrows
- Master Bowman – 36 dozen arrows

You can achieve Archer or Bowman classification at any club shoot or competition.

You can only qualify for MB, GMB & EMB having submitted scores to AGB, from Record Status competitions. Badges are awarded for all outdoor classifications.

4.3 Indoor Classifications

Indoor classifications follow the same principles as the outdoor classifications but are managed and attained independently. E.g. you may be an outdoor 2nd Class Archer and an indoor 3rd Class Bowmen. The number of arrows to attain an indoor classification is also different:

- Archer – 10 dozen arrows
- Bowman – 15 dozen arrows
- Master Bowman – 15 dozen arrows

5 Further Information

Further information can be found at the Archery GB website,

<https://archerygb.org/resources/outdoor-classifications-and-handicaps>

<https://archerygb.org/resources/indoor-classifications-and-handicaps>

With thanks to several UK archery clubs for their wonderful explanations of rounds, handicaps and classifications.