

The Bowmen Bulletin

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield Bulletin. Our aim is to keep you up to date with news, forthcoming events, results and anything that we think might be of interest to members of the club.

Please feel free to give us your feedback and get in touch with articles and content you would like to see here.

March 2024

Dust off the other 3 arrows as we move to 6 arrow ends!

The Outdoor season commences on Sunday 31st March

Also, the start of the annual Grand Prix. All you need to do is submit a score (any outdoor round – but not 252's or progress awards) onto Golden Records and we will do the rest.

With this in mind you might want to think about tuning your bow. Keep a look out for some organised tuning sessions, date tba.

Coaching Sessions

Coaching sessions are scheduled for the **18th March** and **22nd April**.

Please register for these events online in the Members Area / Coaching / Coaching Sessions.

Membership Survey

We had a fabulous response to the membership survey this year with feedback from 65 people. Many comments referred to the friendly and welcoming atmosphere at the club and the feedback appeared very positive about the club, the events held and the facilities provided.

It was disappointing that the inactive members didn't contribute, so we still have little idea why about half the membership do not participate.

As we were hoping, there were many suggestions for how we could make improvements to the Club. The items that received the most comments include, the car park, providing more support for new/novice members and coaching.

There are plans afoot to provide some structured training sessions for novice members (including better signposting to information that is relevant/useful for new members) and are working to organise a coaching session, to be led by a County Coach, for "intermediate" archers. In addition, the entertainment "team", i.e. John, is already planning more social events for the coming year. Watch for announcements regarding all the above in the coming weeks.

A couple of easy fixes have been to prepare a Tournament checklist to help competition days run more smoothly and hopefully you might have noticed a new light above the key safe that should make things easier when locking up late at night.

If you missed the report detailing all the feedback from the survey, it is available in the Resources section of the web site.



Did you know? The Valley Bowmen of Huddersfield were founded in 1963 as a breakaway from the Huddersfield Archers. Our Pavilion is named in honour of one of the founding members Ricky Farrar. The first shooting venue was at the police rugby club at Armitage Bridge Lockwood. It was there for a couple of years until it moved to a field next to the Sands House pub at Crosland Moor. In 1971 the club moved to its present location at a field on Knowle Lane between Honley and Meltham. In 1991 the field was put up for sale and the club bought it with a combination of membership funds and a grant from Kirklees Local Authority. The land is held in trust for the club and can only be used for archery. If the club ends the field must go to another archery club or the national governing body of the sport. As the Valley Bowmen recently celebrated the 60th anniversary of their founding we are confident that whatever the future brings the club will continue to bring exercise and comradeship to its members and a taste of the sport of archery in all its forms to visiting archers and the public alike.



One of the earliest photos of members at the Knowle Lane site. Anyone recognise these faces?

Of Particular Interest to New Members

The Archery GB Progress Awards Scheme is for new and current archers who wish to boost their skills and knowledge. The scheme is a great motivator, encouraging archers to go further in the sport while having fun – with certificates and badges awarded for achievement along the way.

The nice thing about the awards is that it doesn't matter which Bowstyle you use, all archers are welcome. It also doesn't matter about your gender as there's not a separate scheme for women and men.

There are five badge colours you can receive – White, Black, Blue, Red and Gold – each colour depicting a particular skill level, and you can gain them in any order you like. So, if you have a particularly good session and get the scores for a Red or Gold before you've received your White? Then that's perfectly fine. You just can't claim more than one badge from one set of scores.

There's a separate set of badges for indoors and outdoors, so you can also chart your progress across both seasons.

OUTDOORS 122cm 5 Zone	U12						U14						U16						U18						Seniors					
	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow
Gold	30	178	136	104	74	Gold	40	182	134	86	52	Gold	50	202	140	76	46	Gold	60	220	154	82	44	Gold	60	266	208	130	74	
Red	20	228	196	174	140	Red	30	206	170	128	96	Red	40	212	160	110	72	Red	50	228	172	98	62	Red	50	270	222	148	98	
Blue	20	196	166	150	116	Blue	20	248	222	196	166	Blue	30	236	200	154	112	Blue	40	240	190	126	86	Blue	40	274	236	176	126	
Black	15	224	204	190	160	Black	15	266	244	230	204	Black	20	266	244	216	188	Black	30	256	220	176	136	Black	30	286	256	214	176	
White	10	256	248	240	220	White	10	288	276	268	252	White	15	280	262	244	224	White	20	282	260	234	202	White	20	304	284	258	234	

6 Sighters, 3 dozen arrows per round, 3 rounds to qualify for each badge. Indoor Compound use the inner 10 ring to score 10. All distances in yards

INDOORS 60 cm 10 Zone	U12						U14						U16						U18						Seniors					
	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow
Gold	20	160	124	96	72	Gold	20	220	182	138	102	Gold	20	266	228	176	138	Gold	20	294	264	216	176	Gold	20	314	290	250	210	
Red	20	130	96	78	56	Red	20	188	154	118	90	Red	20	244	202	160	124	Red	20	280	250	196	160	Red	20	306	280	234	196	
Blue	20	96	72	62	44	Blue	20	160	124	96	72	Blue	20	220	182	138	102	Blue	20	266	228	176	138	Blue	20	294	264	216	176	
Black	15	110	88	78	60	Black	15	172	136	112	88	Black	20	188	154	118	90	Black	20	244	202	160	124	Black	20	280	250	196	160	
White	10	126	108	98	82	White	10	186	154	132	110	White	15	198	168	134	106	White	20	220	182	138	102	White	20	266	228	176	138	

6 Sighters, 3 dozen arrows per round, 3 rounds to qualify for each badge. Indoor Compound use the inner 10 ring to score 10. All distances in yards

OUTDOORS 80cm 10 Zone	U12						U14						U16						U18						Seniors					
	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow	Badge	Distance	Compound	Recurve	Barebow	Longbow
Gold	20	192	153	122	92	Gold	30	172	125	81	52	Gold	40	178	115	61	37	Gold	50	191	120	59	31	Gold	50	248	176	97	53	
Red	20	161	122	99	72	Red	20	219	184	145	114	Red	30	202	149	102	68	Red	40	208	147	79	50	Red	40	260	201	123	79	
Blue	15	186	155	139	108	Blue	20	192	153	122	92	Blue	20	248	212	169	130	Blue	30	234	180	117	81	Blue	30	273	228	164	117	
Black	15	155	131	116	87	Black	15	220	186	163	131	Black	15	263	238	207	178	Black	20	267	231	192	153	Black	20	300	267	225	192	
White	10	204	190	182	152	White	10	256	235	223	197	White	10	292	274	256	235	White	15	284	259	226	193	White	15	311	287	254	226	

6 Sighters, 3 dozen arrows per round, 3 rounds to qualify for each badge. All distances in metres

You'll need three qualifying scores to be awarded each badge. To gain a qualifying score, you will need to shoot 36 arrows in a single session – no splitting it across multiple sessions. Everyone gets six sighter arrows, and extra sighters can be given by your club, though a scoring starting point does have to be decided.

All the scores you need to know are in the tables above – they're separated by age category so make sure you're shooting the right score. If you're having a brilliant session and arrows are flying into the gold, there's nothing to stop you from shooting more than one round in the same session.

The Valley Bowmen operate a **252 scheme**. Another great way for club members (**particularly novices**) to improve whilst shooting a quick short round.

At any imperial distance from 20 to 100 yards, shoot 3 dozen arrow. If you score more than 252 you will qualify for a badge. For **novice archers** this is a great way of working on your arrow grouping as you increase the distance being shot.

As an unofficial round you do not need to have your score verified by a target captain, simply sign the sheet in the target shed and take the relevant badge from the box. Your first badge is free, thereafter either return your previous badge or leave £2 in the honesty box for your next badge. If you want to track your progress the 252 rounds are included in Golden Records. Whilst this award scheme is generally called the (252 Awards Scheme), be aware that each bow style has its own qualifying score.

Please consult the table below for your bow style.



REGULATIONS

- ⦿ Archery GB rules of shooting apply.
- ⦿ Arrows to be shot at the specified distance using a 122cm face and Archery GB 5 zone scoring.
- ⦿ 6 sighters are permitted which do not count to the final score.
- ⦿ The 3 dozen arrows may be shot alone or as the first 3 dozen of a longer imperial round.
- ⦿ These scores do not count towards a handicap or classification.

Please Note: It is advisable to be able to achieve a qualifying score consistently before moving onto the next distance.

Distance	Recurve	Compound	Longbow	Barebow (and other)
20 yds	252	280	164	189
30 yds	252	280	164	189
40 yds	252	280	164	189
50 yds	252	280	164	189
60 yds	252	280	164	189
80 yds	252	280	126	164
100 yds	252	280	101	139

**Of Particular
Interest to New
Members**

Just joined the club – What Next?

So, the enthusiasm from your beginner course hasn't yet worn off, you've joined the club, but don't know what to do next? Well, here are some pointers.

Make archery a habit. Find a regular slot when you can come and shoot. We have several "gangs" of members that shoot together regularly, but for the first few weeks I suggest you try our Saturday morning sessions – there is always at least one coach available between 9 and 12 to help you. We can then point you at other times when people shoot regularly.

In your first weeks of shooting don't run before you can walk. Don't push a target up to 60yds and expect to hit it (at least not every time!). Start at 20yds and use the 252 and Progress Award schemes to hone your accuracy and increase the distance you shoot at over time.

Set yourself a "target" (excuse the pun). A good objective to set is to get a handicap. To do this you need to have shot and submitted scores for three "official" rounds (i.e. an Archery GB round other than 252 or progress award). To shoot a round you ideally need to be able to shoot at 30 (yards or metres). So, get working on those 252's!!

Don't rush out to buy kit. A very common question I get asked is what poundage bow should I buy? First let me say everyone is different, however, a good rule of thumb is 28lb for men and 24-26lb for women BUT please don't rush out and buy a 28lb bow. This path leads to injury or disappointment – both of which usually end up with giving up archery. The club has equipment you can use/borrow and we will help you build up the poundage from the 18lbs used on beginner courses over a (short) period of time.

Don't be shy, come and join in. Over the summer 3 out of 4 weekends there is some event or another at the field. We always make sure our events are open to all abilities. Almost all events are informal (including our club competitions) and there will be a warm welcome awaiting you.

Dates for the Diary (External and Inter-Club Events)

Saturday 9th March 2024. Archers of Bridlington and Burton Agnes.

12th Abba Dabba Do Longbow Competition. One way Western.

First Arrows – 11:00. Entry Form: <https://www.archersbba.co.uk>

Saturday 23rd March 2024. Yorkshire Archery Association Indoor Championships.

Entry Form: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#YAAIndoor>

Saturday 30th March 2024. Audry Lawrence Memorial Tournament 2024.

Entry Form: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#Audrey>

Sunday 14th April 2024. De Notton Bowers Archery Club. Wakefield.

One way Western. Catering is mobile Fish 'n' Chips van.

Entry Form available via Yorkshire Archery Association Website.

<http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html>

Saturday 27th April 2024 Phoenix Bowmen Novice Competition 2024.

Entry Form: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#PhoenixNovice>

Sat & Sun 27th & 28th April 2024 Thirsk Bowmen WRS WA720 Weekend.

Entry Form: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#ThirskWA>

Sunday 28th April 2024. The Saint George Longbow Tournament.

Entry Form: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#StGeorge>

Sat & Sun 4th & 5th May 2024. Bronte Archers Spring Weekend Tournament.

Entry Form: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#BronteSpring>

Saturday 11th May 2024. "Pandamonium" Longbow Tournament.

Panda Bowmen. Poole Bank. One Way Western. First Arrows – 11:00.

Entry Forms: <http://www.panda-bowmen.co.uk/pandamonium.htm>

Saturday 18th May 2024. The Antient Scorton Arrow. Harrogate RUFC.

<https://www.scortonarrow.com> Entry forms emailed to previous participants.

New applicants please contact Alan Hoddinott. alan@hoddinott.co.uk

Sun 19th May 2024. Selby Archery Club 46th Annual Open Westerns Tournament.

Entry Forms: <http://www.yorkshirearchery.co.uk/upcoming.html#SelbyOpen>



St George's Archery Club logo featuring a red cross on a white shield.	Entry Fee Seniors £10 Juniors £5
Bill Spencer Open Western Sunday, 23 rd June 2024 Assembly 10:00am Sights 10:30am Judge in Charge Allan Shaker Lady Paramount Carol Spencer	Entry Date 31 st May 2024 No entries will be given for cancellations after closing date
Non-record Status Western Round Long Western Western Western 50 Western 40 Western 30 4 Discus arrows, at set distances on a 122cm face and 5 score scoring Valid AGB Membership required! AGB dress code applies.	Archers of all ages, experience levels and abilities are very welcome!
Bacon/sausage bottles and tea/coffee will be available for purchase before sights. BBQ lunch included in entry fee. Raffle and awards presentation at the end of the day. Adults may shoot a shorter round, if they wish. Please indicate on the entry form which round you would like to shoot.	Any questions, please email: Karl Walker Tournament Organizer events@stgeorges-archery.co.uk
Entry Form tinyurl.com/bill-spencer-western	St. George's Archery Club Alton Road, Knaresborough HG5 0SE
Podium logo Target Face logo St. George's Archery Club logo	www.stgeorges-archery.co.uk

Dates for the Diary (Internal Events)

Saturday 22nd June – Summer Ceilidh @ Field. £30 per adult. From 6pm, family friendly. Band and Food included.

Saturday 14th September – Last night of the Proms @ Field.

Saturday 2nd November – Bonfire Night @ Field Frostbite and Bonfire from 6pm.

Saturday 7th December tbc – Christmas Party. Venue The Huntsman Inn. Greenfield Road

Contact John Pawson for further details of the above events: Entertainment@valleybowmen.co.uk 07866 366060

Friday 5th April – AGM at the field 7:30pm

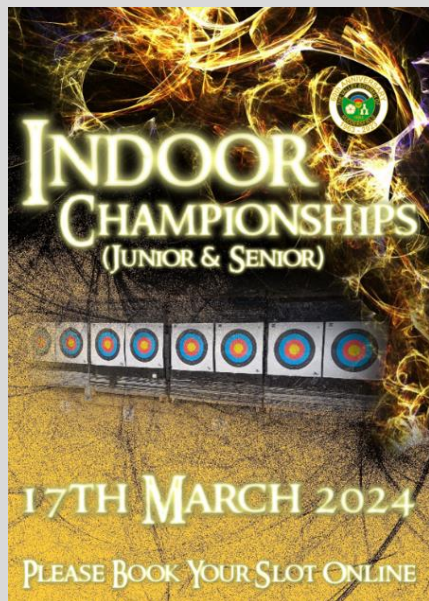
Sunday 7th April – Taster Session. Volunteers needed for the morning and afternoon sessions.

Sunday 14th April – Field Tidy. The old saying that “many hands make light work” is never more appropriate.

There are always lots of jobs to do from emptying, sweeping and re-filling all the room/stores through to raking all the debris from the field. We ask for people to arrive about 10am and we are usually finished by 12:30. Please try to come along and help, even if only for an hour. You could make it a day of it and shoot in the afternoon. Please get in touch with Paul if you can make it.

Sunday 12th May – Big Weekend. Most years we host about 80 people at the field across four one-hour sessions. Your help is needed! Please volunteer via the website even if just for part of the day.

Dates for the Diary (Internal Shoots)



PLEASE NOTE: The Indoor Championships and Indoor Handicap require you to book one of three slots online: 10:00 to 12:00, 12:00 to 2:00 and 2:00 to 4:00.



If you're wondering why the Indoor Handicap flyer has a Matrix look it's because I didn't have any idea of what theme I could do for this. After checking out the handicap tables online, their layout reminded me of the Matrix, so the background you see is Page 3 of Archery GB Imperial Outdoor Round – Score for Round, (slightly modified).

Age	Gender	Event	Date	Time	Start	End
18	M	WA70	23	10:30	11:00	11:30
18	M	WA60	23	10:30	11:00	11:30
18	M	Metric 122	23	10:30	11:00	11:30
18	F	WA70	23	10:30	11:00	11:30
18	F	WA60	23	10:30	11:00	11:30
18	F	Metric 122	23	10:30	11:00	11:30
18	M	WA70	28	13:00	13:30	14:00
18	M	WA60	28	13:00	13:30	14:00
18	M	Metric 122	28	13:00	13:30	14:00
18	F	WA70	28	13:00	13:30	14:00
18	F	WA60	28	13:00	13:30	14:00
18	F	Metric 122	28	13:00	13:30	14:00

For Sale / Wanted

68-16 Recurve Bow	Full ILF Kit 66-18 (RH)	Full Junior Kit 66-22	Full ILF Kit 64 - 30 (RH) + 6 Arrows	Full ILF Kit (left-Handed) 68 - 30 Inc. 8 Arrows	One Piece Recurve 69" - 38lb	Full ILF Kit 68 - 34 (RH) + 24 Arrows
£125.00	£225.00	£100.00	£175.00	£200.00	p.o.a.	£200.00
Beginner Bow	66-30 WNS Elite-Alpha Carbon Foam Limbs	66-26 ILF Premium Fibre Limbs	11x Easton ACE Arrows (620)	12x Easton ACE Arrows (670)	11x Easton ACE Arrows (570)	12x Easton ACE Arrows (570)
£80.00	£130.00	£110.00	£250.00	£275.00	£250.00	£280.00
			<p>Full details of all items for sale can be found on the club website in the Members section.</p> <p>Any member who is looking for something archery related, why not let Alan know and we can include it in the wanted section of the next bulletin.</p>			
9x Easton ACE Arrows (470)	8x Easton ACC Arrows (750)	8x Easton ACC Arrows (1100)				
£200.00	£65.00	£80.00				