



Cheltenham Archers: Back to Shooting

Cheltenham Archers is now able to offer all day shooting, seven days a week. This is based on a new system of operation and relies on all members following the rule laid out below.

The system that the club has put in place for this first step back to normal shooting is done so based on regulations from Archery GB and Sport England. It is designed to give all members the opportunity to shoot at Oakleaf Field safely. All of the new shooting rules that have been implemented have been taken from Archery GB's guidance for clubs and are done so to ensure everyone can enjoy the club's facilities again.

It is hoped that these rules are seen as a safe way forward, and that all members will help the club and their fellow archers by adhering to this new (and hopefully temporary) way of doing things.

This is how the club will enable shooting to restart:

- 1) Shooting is available throughout the day, 7 days a week.
- 2) All members must book a target before arriving at the field. There are 16 targets permanently laid out at the field, all at different distances. These make up one large range; there are no separate imperial and metric ranges as previously.
- 3) Each target is to be used by one archer, unless booked by a couple or family who live together.
- 4) Parents/guardians can book targets for juniors only if they are shooting members themselves and stay to supervise the junior throughout the session.
- 5) Shooting slots are all an hour long but members can book several back-to-back slots to have a longer practice session. Each hour-long slot has an extra 15-minute allowance to help maintain distance between archers while arriving and leaving.
- 6) Booking is via Bookwhen. The link can be found on the home page of the club website.

NOTE: By booking a target you are agreeing to abide by the rules set out below. Anyone booking a target is expected to take responsibility for their own safety in accordance with these guidelines and to act on behalf of the club to encourage fellow archers to do the same. Formal agreement to this will be required (by check box) before the booking can be made.

The club respectfully asks that all members follow the below rules to enable us to continue shooting:

- 1) Please aim to arrive 5-10 minutes early for your slot.
- 2) Make your way to the designated shooting area for your booked target, which is marked out as a box behind the shooting line.
 - If you do not have your own target face and target pins, these can be obtained from the undercover space between the two containers. Please keep these for all of your shooting sessions and do not take more than you need.



- Hand sanitiser dispensers have been installed on the outer walls of the clubhouse and on the inner gatepost. Please feel free to use this liberally.
 - Please do not enter the clubhouse.
 - Please do not use the toilets unless it is an emergency. If you must use them it is essential that you wipe down all surfaces with disinfectant wipes (provided) and dispose of those wipes in the provided bin.
- 3) Please stay within the marked tramlines for your target when pinning up your target face and collecting arrows.
 - 4) Please try to stay within your shooting box during your practice session.
 - Maintain 2m distance between yourself and others.
 - Do not touch anyone else's equipment, including arrows.
 - 5) Clout shooting is not available at present, however it will be reinstated as soon as it is feasible for the club to do this.
 - 6) **All shooting will commence in two details: odd numbered targets shooting on the first end and even numbered targets shooting on the second end, and so on. The non-shooting archers on each end must act as field captains.**

NOTE: Up to now, field captain duties have been left to the discretion of those at the field at any one time. Archery GB rules do clearly state, however, that a non-shooting field captain is required whenever shooting takes place (unless solo shooting). In order to adhere to this regulation and still be able to provide all day, flexible shooting, the responsibility for this must fall on the archers present. As such, this rule has been put in place to alleviate the necessity for a non-shooting volunteer to be present whenever anyone is shooting but to allow members still to shoot when it is convenient for them.

In light of the above change in the way we shoot, it is advised to consider shooting more than 6 arrows per end to maximise time shooting and minimise trips to the target.

- 7) All other normal shooting safety rules apply.
- 8) Please leave the shooting area promptly when your session is over and take everything you have brought back with you. The target face and pins should be removed from the boss and taken with you for next time you shoot.

These procedures will be reviewed regularly and relaxed when the club is given the go-ahead to do so from Archery GB. Until then, we hope that everyone recognises the need for continued restriction and appreciates the difficult position all archery clubs now find themselves in. The committee has worked hard to bring these plans together to ensure everyone has the chance to get back to doing what we all enjoy. We therefore ask that all members respect these changes and adhere to them so that we can continue to fulfil Archery GB's requirements allowing us start shooting again.

Sadly, anyone ignoring or found shooting in contravention of these rules will put any continued shooting at Oakleaf Field in jeopardy for all. The full support of the membership is essential and greatly appreciated.