“Strengthen the spirit of archery through fellowship and competition.”

**Apache Bow Hunters Buckle Series Rules 2024**

-For important information and short notice announcements-

Facebook - Apache Bow Hunters Archery Club/Apache Bow Hunter Inc.

Website - [www.apachebowhuntersinc.com](http://www.apachebowhuntersinc.com)

Event Dates

Leg 1 - February Sat. 10th & Sun 11th

Leg 2 - March Sat. 16th & Sun 17th

Leg 3 - April Sat. 27th & Sun 28th

Leg 4 – May Sat. 18th & Sun 19th Top 5 Shoot Off

\*\*Attention\*\*

Archers (individual, parent/guardian of a minor) should check-in and confirm registration with event staff **PRIOR** to participation in event activities.

“Integrity and Discipline is Expected of Every Archer”

1. **Performance Limits Adult and Youth Compound Classes (Excluding Known Yardage Classes)**

Speed limit of 310 feet per second (3% for equipment variances – 320 fps).

Absolute maximum of 320 fps (Penalty: Disqualification for the applicable leg – listed as 1 point for each day). The rule is 310 fps; 320 fps is to compensate for temperature, altitude, equipment variations, etc. If an archer is flirting with 320 fps, the archer is doing so by choice. No excuses if an archer shoots ABOVE 320 fps.

Archers must present their equipment for inspection if their course score is ABOVE the daily course inspection score for their applicable class. Archers are well aware of their course score and are responsible for presenting their equipment. If an archer does NOT score above the daily course inspection score, no inspection is required for the applicable day.

Archers with scores above the daily course inspection score on both days must present their equipment on both days.

Archers who are required to present their equipment for inspection must proceed directly to the inspection area after turning in scorecards (preferably as a group).

ABH chronograph official has the option of selecting the arrow to be shot during the inspection.

Archers must come to full draw and HOLD until told to release. No quick releases allowed. If chronograph official believes that the archer quick released, the official has the authority to make the archer shoot again.

1. **PERFORMANCE LIMITS**

Class Daily Course Inspection Score

Extreme, Male Pins, Male Open, Senior & Youth Male Inspection Score >270

Female Open, Female Pins, Youth Female Inspection Score >250

KNOWN, TRAD, CUBS & PEEWEE No Inspection Required NO SPEED RESTRICTION FOR KNOWN YARDAGE CLASSES.

Cub Classes

All Cub shooters (100% inspection) must present their equipment on both days to be eligible for awards.

Draw weight limit of 40 pounds (3% for equipment variances).

Absolute maximum draw weight of 42 lbs. (> 42 lbs., draw weight must be turned down and rechecked).

Draw weight must NOT be re-adjusted after inspection (Penalty: Disqualification for the applicable leg). Inspection Equipment and Procedures

ABH is responsible for equipment (chronograph, draw weight scale, etc.) and personnel (chronograph official) required to check for compliance.

For consistent chronograph readings, archers will shoot with their lead foot on a line in the front of the chronograph. The line will be five feet from the closest leg of the tripod.

**COURSES**

Adult and youth classes will shoot 2 rounds of 15 target course per day. 15 targets total for the event

Peewee and Cubs classes will shoot 1 round of 15 target course.

**AWARDS**

The 1st,2nd,3rd places of each “unknown yardage” and “known yardage” classes will be awarded a belt buckle.

A top 5 shoot off of each class will take place at the end of the 4th leg to determine the overall winner. Buckles will not be given out early. If you are not present for the shoot off the next highest score will take your place.

**BUCKLE SERIES CLASSES**

-Extreme

-Known Extreme

-Male Senior

-Known Male Senior

-Female Senior

-Known Female Senior

-Male Bowhunter Open

-Known Male Open

-Female Bowhunter Open

-Known Female Open

-Male Pins

-Known Male Pins

-Female Pins

-Known Female Pins

-Male Traditional

-Female Traditional

-Youth Male

-Known Youth Male

-Youth Female

-Known Youth Female

-Cub

-Pee Wee

**Maximum Yardages** (color of markers to minimize confusion)

Red- 80 yards possible out to 100-yard targets Known Extreme

Red- 60 yards Extreme

Blue - 50 yards Male Bowhunter Open & Known Male Open

Green - 45 yards Male Pins, Senior, Known Female, Female Bowhunter Open

Pink - 40 yards Female Pins, Youth Female & Youth Male

Orange - 30 yards Male Traditional & Youth Female

Purple - 25 yards Female Traditional & Cubs

White - 15 yards Peewee

**TARGETS**

Targets shall consist of 3D type animal targets having an official IBO and/or ASA scoring areas (If multiple rings are within the 10 rings, the center ring will be used and scored a 12).

Targets shall be set at unmarked distances, except for the known yardage courses.

Personnel who intend to participate in the applicable leg (competition) and assist with competitive course are **NOT** allowed to set the competition yardage markers.

Targets should be set so they are distinguishable with the vital area (8 ring) unobstructed and visible to **ALL** adult and youth archers (consider left-handed archers, short and tall archers, etc.).

Care shall be taken by the club when setting targets not to over rotate or excessively lean the targets to ensure that the entire vital area can be shot safely. If a target is leaned back (extreme angle) and the target cannot be adjusted by the shooters (correct a safety issue), the shooters must then notify an official (do not shoot the target).

ABH has the option of resetting the targets to different distances between day 1 and day 2.

**SCORING AREAS**

Scoring will be as follows:

Circle within the 10 ring = 12 points If multiple circles are within the 10 rings, the CENTER RING will be scored a 12.

Circle inside the vital area = 10 points

Vital area = 8 points

The remainder of the animal = 5 points Some animals have material surrounding the actual outline of the animal. This material = 0 points

Failure to hit target (arrow does not stick in target) = 0 points - Horns or Hooves (If applicable) = 0 points

If more than one scoring area is visible on a target, the forward or center scoring area will be scored.

**GENERAL EQUIPMENT**

 Arrow Weight

It is the individual competitor’s responsibility to ensure that their arrows meet the manufacture recommendations for minimum arrow weight per pound of draw weight. It is the individual competitor’s responsibility to know and follow the limitations on arrow weight.

Maximum Draw Weight Cub Classes: 40 pounds (42 lbs. max.)

 Overdraws are permitted in all classes except MTRD and FTRD.

Sights

There is no limit to the number of pins on a sight. -- Sights that project a laser light or other aiming dot on the target are not allowed.

 A verifier or clarifier style peep sight will be allowed in all classes that permit the use of sights. -- Sights with a built-in ranger finder must shoot a Known Class.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS BY CLASS**

Peewee (PW), Cubs (C)

 A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with or without sights.

A sight shall have fixed pins, cross hair, or circle style pins without lens or magnification. A sight may have a rear aperture (i.e., peep sight or fixed rifle type sight). Sights may **NOT** be adjusted after entering the shooting course.

Only **ONE** stabilizer may be used. The stabilizer shall be no more than 12-inches long and extend no more than 12 inches from the point of attachment to the riser of the bow. Additional counterbalances or weighted attachments are prohibited. (For the purposes of this rule, any device adding length or weight to the stabilizer shall be considered part of the stabilizer and shall be subject to the 12-inch rule.).

Un-weighted vibration dampeners are not considered to be stabilizers; however, un-weighted vibration dampeners attached to the stabilizer are measured as a part of the stabilizer and are subject to the 12-inch rule above. Equipment in this class may be shot with any manner of release.

 **SAFETY RECOMMENDATION** use a “field quiver” (arrows pointed to the rear of the body), a bow quiver, or parents carry the arrows.

Youth Male (YM) and Youth Female (YF)

 A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with or without sights.

A sight shall have fixed pins, cross hair, or circle style pins without lens or magnification. A sight may have a rear aperture (i.e., peep sight or fixed rifle type sight). Sights may NOT be adjusted after entering the shooting course.

 Only **ONE** stabilizer may be used. The stabilizer shall be no more than 18-inches long and extend no more than 18 inches from the point of attachment to the riser of the bow.

Additional counterbalances or weighted attachments are prohibited. (For the purposes of this rule, any device adding length or weight to the stabilizer shall be considered part of the stabilizer and shall be subject to the 18-inch rule.) Un-weighted vibration dampeners are not considered to be stabilizers; however, un-weighted vibration dampeners attached to the stabilizer are measured as a part of the stabilizer and are subject to the 18-inch rule above.

Equipment in this class may be shot with any manner of release.

Known Yardage Classes

 Individuals will **REQUIRE** a rangefinder. Yardage will **NOT** be marked by the club. If needed, archers in the same group are allowed to share range finders.

Male Bowhunter Open (MBO), Female Bowhunter Open (FBO), Extreme (EXT), Known Male Open (KMO),

Known Female Open (KFO), Known Extreme (KEXT), Youth Male (YM) & Youth Female (YF)

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release.

Male Pins (MP), Female Pins (FP), Known Male Pins (KMP) & Known Female Pins (KFP)

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on stabilizers or style of release. A sight shall have fixed pins, crosshair, or circle style pins without a lens or magnification. Sights may **NOT** be adjusted after entering the shooting course.

Male Bowhunter Seniors (MBSR), Female Bowhunter Seniors (FBSR), Known Male Bowhunter Seniors (KMBSR) & Known Female Bowhunter Seniors (KFBSR)

Archers 55 years of age or older. A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sight, stabilizers, or style of release.

Male Traditional (MTRD) and Female Traditional (FTRD)

A recurve or longbow shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers.

Archers may use up to two (2) knock locating devices, but they must use the same nocking point and anchor point for each shot and the index finger must contact the string in the same place for each shot. The index finger must touch the knock of the arrow. **Face or string walking is not permitted**.

No sighting device of any kind may be used. There shall be no markings on the bow or bowstring (intentional or accidental) that could be construed as sighting marks.

No type of draw check will be allowed. No stabilizers, counterbalances, or weights of any kind may be attached or built into the bow, except a quiver clearly designed to hold arrows.

Recurve or Longbow will use only one quiver during competition.

Hip, Back, Pocket or bow quivers are allowed. If a bow quiver is used it will have a maximum of 7 arrows that will be the only arrows used during the competition. If necessary, said quiver will be subject to inspection by an official.

Extra added weight to bow quivers or bows will be treated as a stabilizer and archer will be disqualified.

**SHOOTING RULES**

Competitive courses must be shot in sequential order. Example: start on target #3, finish on target #2.

In a group that contains archers shooting from different markers, the archers shooting from the farther markers must shoot first. No archer shall approach a target prior to the entire group shooting.

When shooting, the archer must touch the appropriate marker with some part of his or her body or stand directly over the yardage marker (straddle). At times, yardage markers will be set to challenge the archer with various shooting positions.

Each archer shall be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes to complete his or her shot.

Time will begin for the first archer when the previous group clears the target. Time will begin for the next archer when the previous archer releases his or her arrow.

After shooting, the shooter must immediately clear the marker for the next shooter. Using binoculars from the shooting marker after the shot is prohibited.

No more than two letdowns within the time limit. Archers must shoot on the third draw. (Penalty: Zero) - There shall be no discussion of yardage while on a competitive course.

No more than ONE umbrella may be used to assist a shooter at the marker. The maximum umbrella size will be a 70” arched top (typically used in golf).

All competitive events are based on a "free hand" style of shooting. No archer shall use any device such as shooting sticks, slings or other such accessories or shooting positions to create a "braced" shot.

An archer may not use parts of his or her body, the bow, or any other accessories or equipment to calculate yardage. Archers using adjustable sights may not adjust their sight elevation after drawing the bow and sighting the target.

Once an archer begins a shooting course, he or she must finish with his or her group unless given permission to leave by a range/event official or his/her group (equipment failure). Any archer that leaves a course without the authorization from a range/event official or his/her group will NOT be allowed to continue.

**No spectators are allowed on competitive courses. Exceptions: 1) Accompanying an archer in the Cub or Peewee classes.** **It is required that parents accompany archers in the Cub and Peewee classes.** Both parents are shooting competitive classes with the same start times. In this case, a young child (13 and under) would be allowed to accompany the applicable parent. Other exceptions will be handled on a case-by-case basis (for example: an archer is hearing impaired.)

RANGEFINDERS, CELL PHONES, AND BINOCULARS RULES

An integral part of 3D competition is the archer’s ability to judge yardage without the assistance of range finding devices or assistance from others. Therefore, **ANY** devices that may be used to calculate yardage and/or angles to the target are not allowed. Exception: Known Yardage Classes.

Cell phones are ONLY to be used on a course when the group decides there is an emergency (injury, equipment failure, etc.) requiring such use OR an archer who is “on call” may answer an incoming phone call. Cell phone “texting” is NOT allowed. (Penalty: Disqualification for the applicable leg) Primary concern is communicating yardages to other archers.

Hand-held binoculars are allowed in all classes. Binoculars with rangefinder capability are **NOT** allowed. Exception: known yardage classes. (Penalty: Disqualification for the applicable leg).

Any scribed mark (other than factory marks) on otherwise legal binoculars that could be construed as a reference point for range finding is prohibited.

Binoculars are to be inspected by all archers within a group before the first shot of the day. - An archer with an adjustable sight may **NOT** readjust his or her sight after using binoculars at the shooting marker. - Archers may utilize binoculars from behind the shooting marker to view the target while waiting their turn or behind a group that is in the process of shooting the applicable target.

**SCORING RULES**

On all legs, a minimum of two scorecards must be completed for each archer.

Scorecards must be split between two scorekeepers so that each scorekeeper has one card for each archer. Scoring will be judged by **EVERYONE** in the group (all archers must go to the target). If agreement for the higher scoring ring by the majority of the group is not possible (a spilt decision), the shooter will receive the higher score. Both scorekeepers must mark ALL scorecards BEFORE ARROWS are pulled from the target. Archers should not touch arrows until the scoring is complete. Arrows pulled early will receive a zero.

If more than one scoring area is visible on a target, the forward or center scoring area will be scored. An arrow touching the line (no visible gap) of a higher scoring area shall be given the higher score. Archers **CANNOT** lift up a target off the stake for scoring. Arrows must stick in the target in order to receive a score other than a zero with the exception of a complete pass-through, “robin hood”, or bounce-back. An arrow that passes completely through a target may be scored if witnessed and agreed upon by the majority of archers in the group. A pass-through is an arrow passing completely through the target with material 360 degrees around the arrow (no bounce off), leaving a separate entrance and exit hole. If the pass-through was witnessed by a member of the group other than the shooter, and the group cannot agree, the archer may re-shoot the target before the group advances to score the target. All whole arrows or partial arrows that include the point that are sticking in the target shall be scored where they penetrate the target. An arrow embedded into another arrow (Robin Hood) in the target shall be scored the same as the arrow embedded into the target. An arrow that hits another arrow and sticks in the target will be scored independently. If the arrow does not stick, the arrow will be scored a zero. A bounce-back is an arrow that squarely strikes the target and bounces back toward the shooter. An arrow that glances off the target is NOT considered a bounce-back. A bounce-back may be scored if the score can be agreed upon by the majority of archers in the group. If a member of the group other than the archer witnesses the bounce-back and the group cannot agree, the archer may re-shoot the target before the group advances to score the target. This rule (bounce-back) typically applies to Cub or Peewee classes.

An arrow released accidentally will be scored a zero unless the archer is able to retrieve the same arrow while remaining in contact with the appropriate marker with some part of his or her body and re-shoot the arrow within the two-minute time period.

If the two scorekeepers for a group mistakenly record different scores, the inconsistent scores must be corrected as agreed upon by the majority of the group. The error must be crossed out and initialed by both scorekeepers and the correct score will be marked accordingly.

**Scorecards**

Must be legible, complete (total score and number of 12s), and signed or initialed by the archer and scorekeepers to be accepted. Scorecards with Xs or marks other than numbers in the appropriate boxes will not be accepted. Scorecards cannot be changed by a competitor or scorekeeper after submitting the scorecards to a range/event official. Each group’s scorecards must be turned in together by the **ENTIRE** group. Any attempt by an archer to knowingly falsify a score, or knowingly allow another person to falsify his or her score, shall result in a disqualification of those involved for the applicable leg. It is up to each archer to ensure that his or her scorecard meets the listed requirements. Duplicate scorecards will not be issued to replace lost or damaged scorecards, except in unusual circumstances approved by the club officials. The club reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to correct unintentional errors including but not limited to, score tabulation, lack of initials or signature, posting, etc., which in the opinion of the club are clearly not a result of an attempted inflation or deflation of the archer’s score. Clubs should keep scorecards until the end of the applicable calendar year.

 TIE SCORES (Leg Events)

The total number of 12s will be used to break ties at each leg. The archer with the most 12s will be higher placed. If a tie still exists, we will go to 10s, 8s, etc. A shoot-off will consist of a 3D animal set at an unknown distance (unless the tie is in a Known distance class), within the limits of the relevant class. The archer with the highest score will be declared the winner. This process will be repeated until a winner is declared. If only one archer is present at the shoot-off, he or she will be declared the winner. A shoot off between the top 5 shooters in each class will be at the end of the 4th leg to determine overall winners.

**RULE VIOLATIONS, SCORING DISCREPANCIES, UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT, AND DISQUALIFICATION**

ABH Officials are to be respected and have the authority to disqualify an archer from an event for unsafe behavior and/or violations of the rules.

Integrity and discipline are expected of every archer.

Compliance with the RULES is the responsibility of each of the archers.

Protests -- In the event that an archer feels that a rule violation has occurred, the archer must submit an official protest in writing along with a $20 administration fee to the club officials within 1 hour of turning in scorecards.

The club board members who are present at the applicable shoot will decide the outcome of the protest.

Scoring Discrepancies

In the event of a scoring discrepancy as a result of a simple error or mistake, the club can correct the scoring.

In the event a scoring discrepancy is received after the awards ceremony, officials can correct the scoring but will NOT be held responsible for awards given based on the results of the event at the awards ceremony.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Will **NOT** be tolerated. Any action considered unsportsmanlike by the club will be grounds for disqualification. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include, but are not limited to:

1. Projecting any illuminated aiming point onto a target

2. Throwing equipment (bow, release, arrow, etc.)

3. Littering or improper disposal of trash (broken arrows shall NOT be left on the courses)

4. Communicating verbally or nonverbally to another archer the yardage of a particular target

5. Disobeying or disregarding the orders of an official, or chronograph official.

6. No alcoholic beverages may be carried or consumed on any shooting course, range, or practice area by anyone during shooting hours. If in the opinion of an official, an archer who is under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs attempts to enter a course, range, or practice area, the archer will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the applicable event (competition or fun).

 **EQUIPMENT FAILURES**

Equipment failures must be visible and agreed upon by the majority of the group (throwing your equipment is NOT equipment failure). The procedure for dealing with equipment failures shall be as follows:

 1. The scorekeepers will tabulate the archer’s score to that point, write “equipment failure” on the back of the scorecards of the archer with the equipment failure and sign or initial the back of the scorecards.

2. One scorecard will remain with the group and the remaining scorecard will be given to the archer.

3. If three or more archers remain in the group, they may continue shooting. If two or fewer remain, they must join the following group (so long as it does not result in a group of six or more) or step aside and wait for an official before proceeding.

4. The archer with the equipment failure shall then cautiously proceed FORWARD through the course and immediately notify an official. The archer will be given a time by the range official of when the repair must be completed in order to complete the course.

5. An official will arrange for the archer to be escorted back onto the course to complete the course. \

6. Both scorecards will be collected and marked by an official.

 **COMPLIANCE**

Integrity and discipline are expected of every archer. Compliance of the RULES is the responsibility of the archers. **Club range and officials are not expected to be at every target for every shot**.

Performance limits and weight limits will be inspected and enforced by the club.

 Equipment requirements (bow, arrows, binoculars, etc.), scoring, and shooting rules must be enforced by the individual competitors.

ABH is responsible for obtaining liability insurance for the applicable event.

The board is responsible for the competition rules and format, posting event results, and presenting the awards.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, RELEASES, AND WAIVERS**

All participants and/or spectators (hereinafter referred to as Releasor) acknowledge by registering or signing/ initialing a scorecard the Releaser is VOLUNTARILY participating, allowing participation, and/or attending the applicable event. The Releasor should be aware that an archery tournament creates the risk of serious personal injury and/or death. The Releaser assumes ALL risk of injury, death, and/or loss of personal property that may result from participation in these archery tournaments. By registering to participate and thereby agreeing to abide by the rules herein, Releasor releases the clubs, tournament directors, tournament sponsors, host organizations, property owners, and the tournament staff and volunteers (herein collectively referred to as “Releasees”) from liabilities or injuries, damages, or other loss sustained as a result of negligence or strict liability of the released parties. Liability Release: Releasor, being of lawful age, (or, in the case of a minor, through his/her parent or guardian) in consideration of being permitted to participate in various shooting disciplines and activities, either as a member or guest, do for themselves, their spouse, legal representatives, heirs, assigns and subrogees, hereby release, waive and forever discharge Releasees from any and all liability for any and all losses and damages of any type or kind, and from any and all claims, suits, demands, actions or rights of actions, of whatever kind, either in law or equity, arising from or by reason of death, personal injury known or unknown, or property damage resulting from any incident which may occur during Releasor’s presence at the event site, and/or participation in any activity, whether caused in whole or in part by the Releasees or any other person or thing at the host while Releasor is present. Releasor, and his/her parent or guardian in the event Releasor is a minor, agree to fully indemnify, defend and hold Releasees harmless for all Releasor’s actions or omissions while at the host. There is no limit to this indemnity. Releasor assumes full responsibility for the risk of bodily injury, death or property damage due to the negligence of the Releasees or any other third party or thing while at the Releasees event site, and while competing, officiating, working, spectating, or for any purpose at the Releasees event site. Releasor fully and completely releases the Releasees and any of its related parties or and from all liability to Releasor and to anyone or any entity claiming by, through or under Releasor, by subrogation or otherwise, it being Releasor’s intent to fully waive and release all subrogation rights. Releasor agrees that this Release Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by law and that if any portion hereof is held invalid, the balance hereof will continue in full force and effect. Releasor agrees that this release constitutes the entire agreement between Releasor and Releasees and the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital, and the same shall continue in full force and be applicable to any and all activities Releasor attends while at the Releasees event site. The releaser has carefully read this release and understands all of its terms. Releasor accepts the same voluntarily and with full knowledge of its content and significance as a condition of competing and/or spectating. Registering for the applicable event (competitive or fun), signing or initialing a scorecard act as my signature and confirms my release of liability and my understanding of the rules and format.