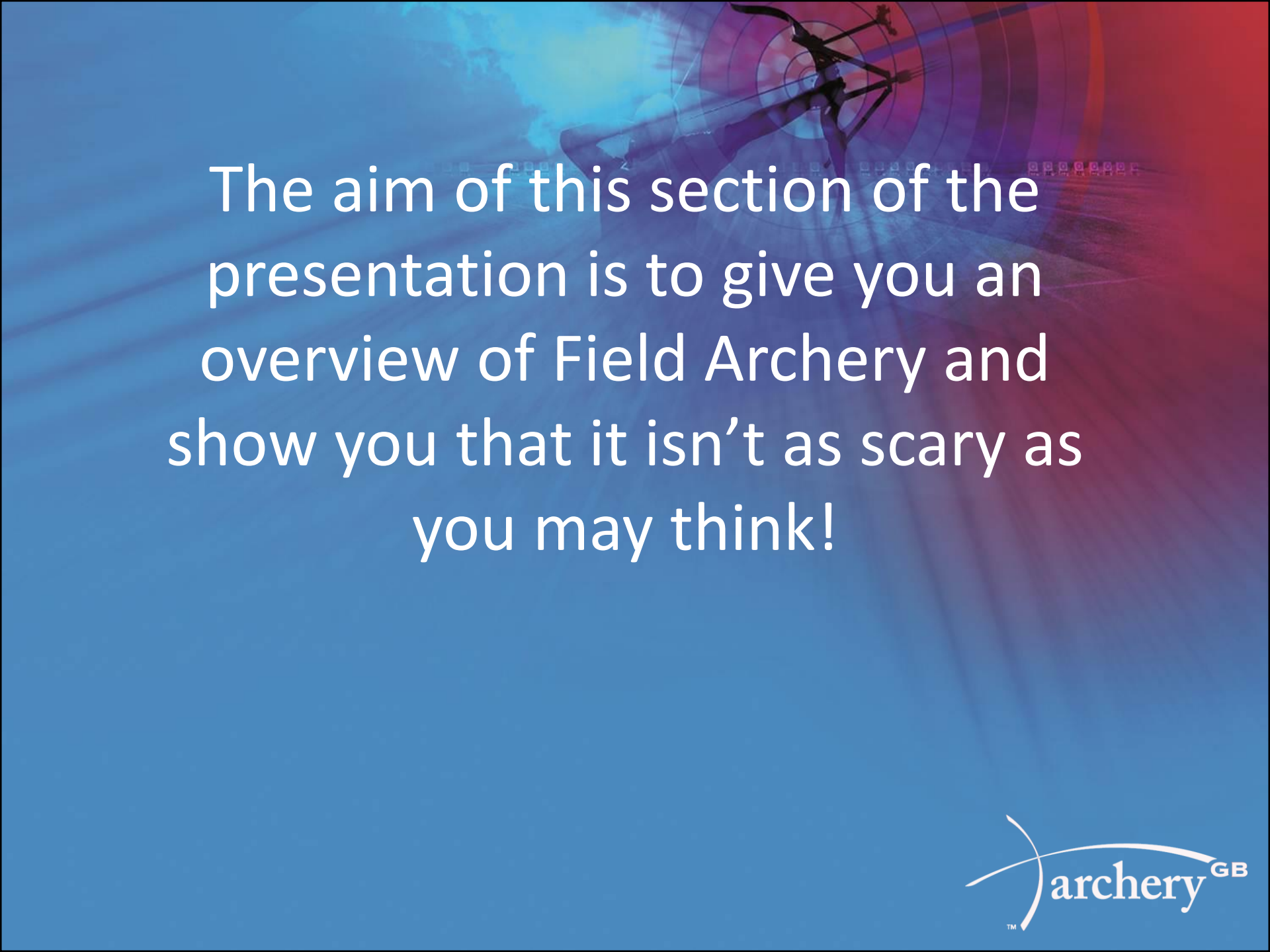




Field Archery

The background of the slide features a composite image. On the left, there's a blue-tinted image of an archer in a dynamic pose, aiming a bow. On the right, there's a red-tinted image of a target with concentric rings. The text is overlaid on this background.

The aim of this section of the presentation is to give you an overview of Field Archery and show you that it isn't as scary as you may think!



Field Archery

Field Archery comes in several forms. The most common shot by members of Archery GB/GNAS is FITA Field. This is the form that this presentation will concentrate on, the others are very similar with only minor variations on timing, distances and arrows.

Field Archery is best likened to golf – groups of archers move around the course, shoot one target and move on to the next.

What will you need?

Everything that you need for a target shoot, you will need at a field shoot.

Tape measure (60m) or measuring device.

Stout shoes – on some courses, trainers might not be suitable.

Bow ring (not initially, but could be useful later).

A sense of humour (Field archers are a mad bunch)!

The Round

The number of targets in a round depends on the shoot and the space available to the organiser. This number though will be between 12 and 24 and be a multiple of 4 (12/16/20/24).

The FITA round consists of 24 targets.

The round can be “unmarked”, “marked”, or “mixed”

As it suggests, in the unmarked round the distances are unknown. In the marked the distances are known. In the mixed round there is a mixture of both marked and unmarked targets.

Arrowhead Rounds are equivalent to FITA Star status and must be at least 24 targets.

The Target

In field Archery, as in Target, there are different size target faces. All sizes are shot within one round. The size of the face depends on the distance of the target (see page on “units”)

There are four sizes of face used: 20cm, 40cm, 60cm, 80cm.

No matter what the size face, the bottom face must be 15cm from the ground. It must also be 5cm from the edge of the butt.

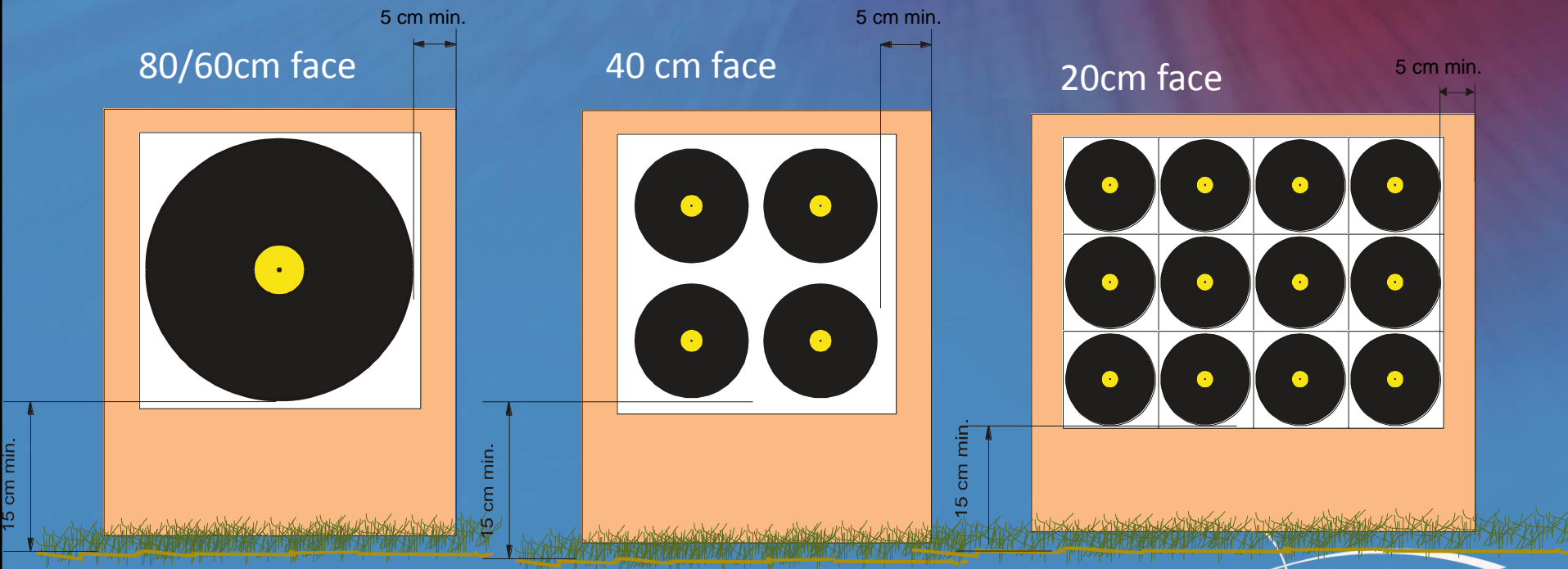
All targets must be as perpendicular to the archer as possible (allowing the archer to see the whole target)

Face set-up on the butt

The 20cm face columns must be vertical.

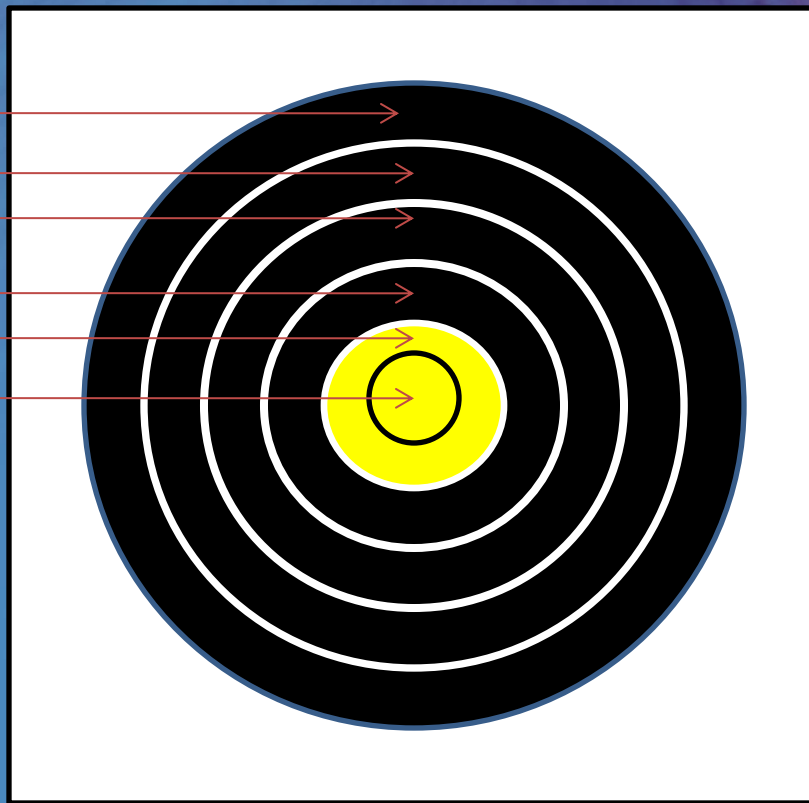
The 40cm should be as close to vertical as possible.

The only requirement for the 80/60cm face is the 5cm boundary – so small and large butts can be used to increase the judging difficulty.



Scoring

1
2
3
4
5
6



The Shot

Each shot must accommodate all the bowstyles and age groups.
To do this there will be a number of shooting pegs placed on each shot.

Red pegs are placed for all compound and recurve archers.
Blue pegs are placed for barebow, traditional and longbow archers.
Yellow pegs are placed for the cadets.
White pegs (UK only) are placed for archers under 12.

An easy way to remember is that unless the archer is a junior recurve – all bows with sights will shoot from the red peg. All “unsighted” archers will shoot from the blue.

When checking the shot, make sure that it is even for archers on either side of the peg.

Make sure that the shorter archer can see the face – the white peg archers will be small so ensure the peg is not in a dip!

Shooting the Shot

There will be a minimum of 3 archers per target, a maximum of 4.
As soon as the target is safe the 1st 2 archers will approach the peg.
Archer A on the left, Archer B on the right.
Both archers shoot together 3 arrows at each target.
The second detail, CD, then shoot.
Arrows are collected.
Move on quickly to the next target.
Next target, C and D shoot first, AB second

For multiple faces – who shoots what?

40cm face

First detail,

Left=top left/Right=top right

Second detail,

Left=bottom left/Right=bottom right

20cm face

First detail,

Left=column 1/Right=column 3

Second detail,

Left=column 2/Right=column 4

This will vary dependant on the detail on each target.

The Rules...

The main rules to grasp for field archery are in relation to:

- Safety
- Course set-up
- Distances
- Timing
- Equipment
- Judging



Safety.

As the judge the safety of the course is paramount. This is more critical in Field archery as the archers shoot unsupervised. Archers can be moving from and to targets whilst other archers are shooting. You will never see all of the archers all of the time – unlike in target. You must check that the approach paths and paths from the target do not cross any overshoot areas. You must ensure that the shooting pegs are not in any overshoot areas. You should ensure that the paths are safe and the course can be navigated safely. Watch out for public footpaths, boundaries, bridal ways etc. Shots should not cross these or shoot directly towards the boundary.

Remember-if in doubt-ASK. Your CoJ or the course organiser will know the answers, and if you compromise safety-you compromise the sport!



Course Set-Up

- The course should be set up so that it is challenging for the archer – it should not be impossible...
- The course should consist of a variety of shots. Uphill, downhill, cross slope, water shots.
- The more obstacles in front of the target the harder it is for the archer to judge the distance BUT the whole face must still be visible.
- The course must be a “complete” course, made up of several “units”.
- A unit is 12 targets.
- Each unit will comprise all 4 face sizes, and all face distances.



The “Unmarked unit”

Unit for Unmarked Course

Number of targets 12 targets in a unit max-min #	Diameter of Field Faces in cm.	Distances in meters		
		Yellow peg Cadet Barebow (*)	Blue peg Barebow Cadet recurve and Cadet Compound (**)	Red peg Recurve and Compound
2 - 4	Ø 20	5 - 10	5 - 10	10 - 15
2 - 4	Ø 40	10 - 15	10 - 20	15 - 25
2 - 4	Ø 60	15 - 25	15 - 30	20 - 35
2 - 4	Ø 80	20 - 35	30 - 45	35 - 55

(*).- It may be used for Long Bow Division on FITA Recreational Rounds

(**).- It may be used for Bowhunter Division on FITA Recreational Rounds

The “Marked unit”

Unit for Marked Course

Number of targets	Diameter of Field Faces in cm.	Distances in meters		
		Yellow peg Cadet Barebow (*)	Blue peg Barebow Cadet recurve and Cadet Compound (**)	Red peg Recurve and Compound
3	Ø 20	5 - 10 - 15	5 - 10 - 15	10 - 15 - 20
3	Ø 40	10 - 15 - 20	15 - 20 - 25	20 - 25 - 30
3	Ø 60	20 - 25 - 30	30 - 35 - 40	35 - 40 - 45
3	Ø 80	30 - 35 - 40	40 - 45 - 50	50 - 55 - 60

(*).- It may be used for Long Bow Division on FITA Recreational Rounds

(**).- It may be used for Bowhunter Division on FITA Recreational Rounds



Distances

The maximum distance shot on a FTIA field round is 60m.

Red peg archers shoot between 5 and 60m

Blue peg archers shoot between 5 and 50m

When you conduct your course check, you will be provided with the distances by the TO. You need to check that these are correct and that they are within tolerance.

The tolerance is:

For distances up to and including 15m = +/- 25cm

For distance greater than 15m = +/- 1m

You have seen from the “unit” that for the unmarked round there is a range that the distance can be. Therefore if the TO says the shot should be 45m on an 80cm face and it measures 47- does it matter?

On the marked course, you may vary the distance by up to 2m providing it is marked as such.

Our field committee have produced course check sheets which are downloadable from the gnasfield website.

Timing

Timing of the shot starts when the archer take the peg-which they must do as soon as the target is available.

The archer then has 3 minutes to shoot 3 arrows.

Once all archers have shot they move to do the scoring and onto the next target.

If an archer is causing “undue delay to the shoot” then you may warn them that they are likely to be timed. You can then time the archers. Communicate this to the other judges so all are aware.

Timing is not about hiding behind a tree and pouncing when they go over time. It is far less formal that Target and open to far more interpretation of what constitutes a delay. Usually though, if there are groups continually waiting behind this particular group, you know you have a problem.

Equipment.

There are several styles shot in the UK. The most common are:

- Compound
- Recurve
- Barebow
- Traditional
- Longbow

The basics are the same as Target archery, so these will not be covered here – only the differences will be looked at.

Sights

Compound and Recurve are the only 2 categories that are permitted to use a sight.

For all divisions no device that will assist in estimating distances or angles is permitted.

This could be multiple rings on a sight, rings and cross in the sight, marks on the riser, marks on the limbs.



This sight is was not permitted at the World Championships – it consists of 2 rings and a cross – it will assist the estimation of distances.

Check the number of sight scales – archers are permitted the manufacturers plus one other. Look for a second set of marks other than the sight marks- it could be a ranging system.....

Stabilisers

No restrictions are placed on Recurve and Compound.

Barebow does not permit stabilisers of any sort.

Barebow archers are allowed to attach weights directly to the riser provided the bow still fits through the 12.2cm ring.

Traditional and longbow archers are not permitted any stabilisers.



This weight was prohibited at the World Championships because it does not fit directly onto the riser.

Binoculars/Aide Memoire/other bits.

Binoculars are permitted.

Range finders are prohibited.

Shooting glasses are permitted.

Look for marks that could be used to assist estimation of distance/back sights etc.

Archers can carry aide memoire in relation to the distances that the targets can be set at.

Recurve/compound archers can have their sight marks written down.

Barebow/Traditional/Longbow are not permitted any aide memoire in relation to sight marks.

Archers may carry a copy of the rules.

If they need, archers can shade there target companions-but the shade cannot be bigger that an A4 sheet and cannot be used during the finals rounds.

Judging.

The majority of the incidents where penalties are incurred are the same as target with a few major differences.

Timing Offences:

Once the archer has been verbally warned that they may be timed, the next occasion they exceed the 3 minutes they will receive a written warning on the back of their score card. Any subsequent occasions will result in them losing the highest scoring arrow.

Scoring:

If a mistake is made on the score sheet the archers may correct it. They will cross the whole score through on the front of the card (double scoring always takes place), the target number and the correct score will be recorded on the back of the card and all archers will sign it.

Arrow values:

As you cannot guarantee being near a target when a value needs calling, the archers decide the value. If 2 say it is higher and 2 say lower, then it goes in favour of the archer. The same is true for bouncers and pass throughs – if the archers agree it has happened, they also agree on the score.



FIELD ARCHERY RED CALL

WHY?

During at least 2 shoots this year archers have needed to be removed from the course quickly due to a medical emergency.

In both cases it took time to communicate this to someone with a radio who could then arrange the medical assistance.

The archers raised the fact that there was currently only one call for assistance “JUDGE Target”

When a judge hears this, they go to the target, waiting for groups to shoot, taking the paths. This takes time.

This doesn't distinguish between “JUDGE we need a line call or there is a twig in the way” and “We need help now”.

The archers felt vulnerable and discussed a solution before coming to the committees.

The process is not a rule change.

It is a procedure to be used in emergencies.

Emergencies being the normal meaning of the word – it does not include arrows stuck in trees, overhanging branches.

Archers should ask themselves - does someone need help quickly, would you normally call 999 in this situation?

If the answer is YES to either, then Call RED.



THE PROCEDURE

An incident occurs and the archers on the target decide they need EMERGENCY help.

The group call "TARGET..... RED"

EG "TARGET 15 RED"

This call is heard by other archers who
IMMEDIATELY STOP SHOOTING
and
REPEAT THE CALL

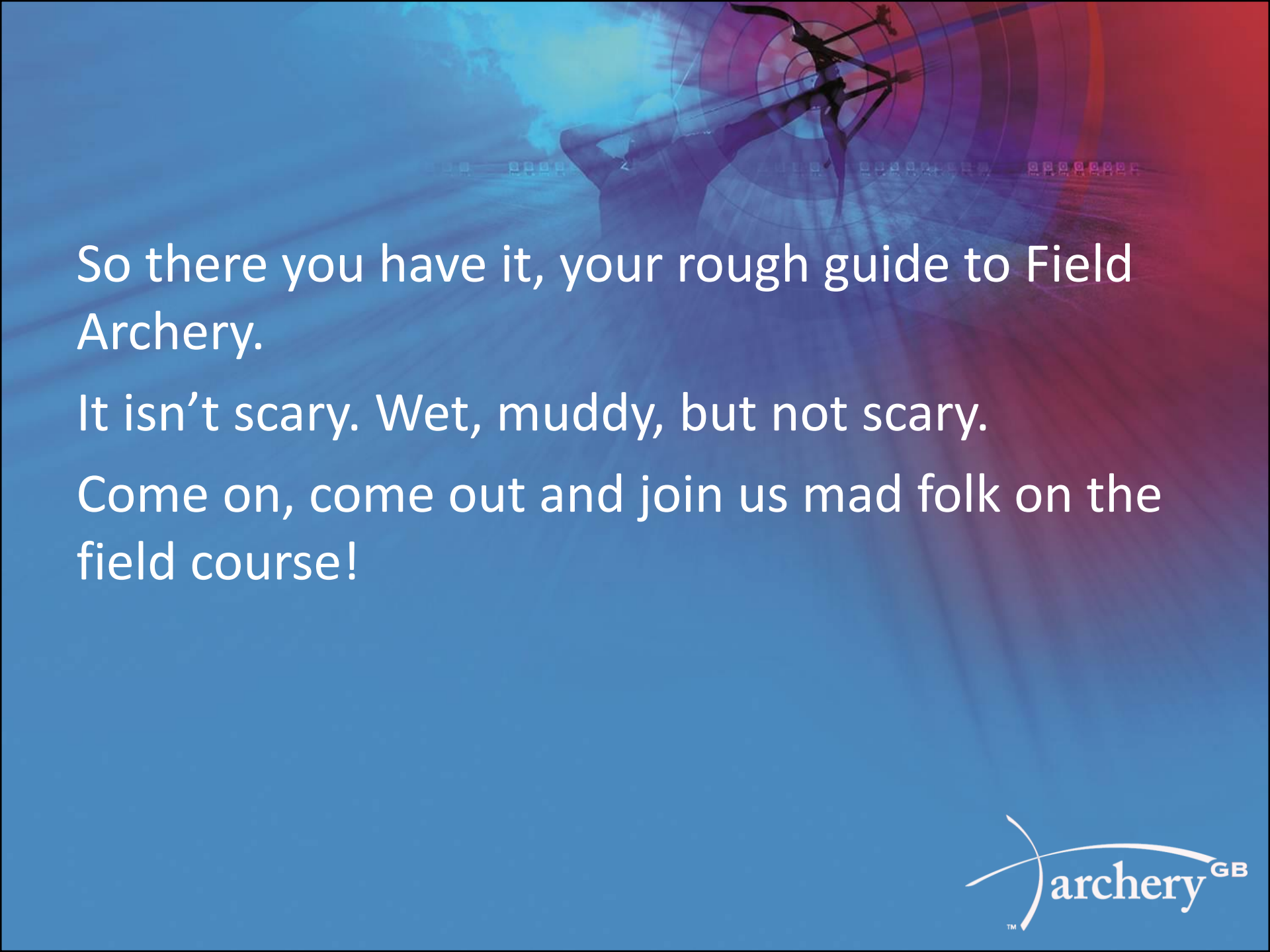
The course has now stopped shooting and is clear for Judges, First Aiders, Organisers etc to make their way to the target by the shortest and quickest route.

The incident is dealt with.

Judges will re-start the shoot on WHISTLES.

No one will shoot until this re-start is signaled.





So there you have it, your rough guide to Field Archery.

It isn't scary. Wet, muddy, but not scary.

Come on, come out and join us mad folk on the field course!