



Bowmen of Danesfield

Archery General Risk Assessment

Created April 2019 updated April 2021

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Risk.	Those at risk.	Level of harm	Likelihood of Harm (with control measures).	Risk Level.	General Control Measures.
					These assessments should be read in conjunction with the Field Plan on page four.
People entering the range from buildings and public ingress and public ingress points.	Members of the public and users of the field.	Extremely harmful.	Very Unlikely.	Slight.	See note 1. 1. Before the start of each session, people setting up the range must place a portable Keep Out sign up the field facing the cricket nets in line with the marked running track or rugby pitch, and another facing the drive from the main entrance by the green locker.
People entering the range from the tennis courts, the First School field gate.	School staff and members of the public.	Extremely harmful.	Very Unlikely.	Slight.	See note 1. 1. Archers noting any person accessing the range from any access point. (See note 1) should call FAST.
Drawing arrows before the whistle and or stepping over the shooting line.	Club members and helpers.	Moderately harmful.	Unlikely,	Moderate.	See note 2. 1. All new archers should have safety knowledge from their beginners' course. 2. Club members are expected to be familiar with the Archery GB 'rules of shooting'. 3. Senior archers are required to intervene and correct bad practice when noticed. Consider disciplinary action of persistent offenders.
Injury from pulling arrows from the target.	Archers, coaches, judges, and guests.	Harmful.	Unlikely,	Moderate.	See note 2. 1. All archers will have been trained in a beginner's course, which includes safe arrow pulling practice. 2. People to stand back from the target when arrows are pulled. Senior archers are required to intervene and correct bad practice when noticed.

Risk.	Those at risk.	Level of harm.	Likelihood of Harm (with control measures).	Risk Level.	General Control Measures. Note there are permanent signs at the main entrances.
Target boss being pulled from stand whilst pulling arrows.	Archers, coaches, judges and guests.	Harmful	Unlikely.	Slight	See note 2. 1. All archers will have been trained at a beginner's course, which includes the practice of safe arrow pulling. 2. Archers to check that stands are correctly set up, the top bolt is tight, targets and stands are pegged down, and boss pegs are tight to the stand and level..
Equipment failure, worn string, faulty arrow rest.	Archers.	Slightly harmful.	Unlikely.	Slight.	See note 4. 1. Archers (and the parents or guardians of juniors) are responsible for ensuring their equipment is maintained in good condition and that worn and damaged fittings are replaced. 2. Archers are responsible for ensuring that their bows are assembled correctly.
Setting up and taking down targets.	Archers and helpers.	Harmful.	Highly unlikely.	Moderate.	1. Target stands to be set correctly and the pivot bolts tightened with the stand legs securely on the ground. 2. Ideally two people to handle bosses on and off the stand. If only one person is present wait for help or prop the bottom of the boss onto the pegs and lift the top of the boss from the ground. 3. Before shooting, the field captain to ensure targets are secure.
Splinters from target stands.	Archers and helpers.	Slightly harmful.	Unlikely.	Moderate.	1. Target stands can be struck by arrows, so splinters will occur. 2. Archers, etc. to take care when handling stands, wear gloves when possible and try to avoid snagging clothing. 3. Gaffer tape can be used to cover the less severe splintering. 4. Severely damaged stands should be replaced.

Notes

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1. Dynamic assessments – these need to be carried out before each shooting session and always throughout a session where applicable.
Be aware of the access points onto the field: See the print of the field for locations.
From the First School field gate.
Persons loitering behind the end of the far hedge.
Persons entering the property from the far school gate to the far left and using the footpath from the school behind the cricket nets. Users of the cricket nets may run out onto the field to collect a ball. This is very likely, and a quiet word before they start playing, that it is wise for them to wait for the collect whistle, and to then collect their ball.
From time to time people will walk the path and cross the field to the garden and make their way around the buildings, toward the tennis courts and main gate. Just be aware that they are there and are behaving in a safe manner. This is a favourite route for the disabled on mopeds.
 2. All archers are responsible for safety, not just the Field Captain. If any archer is aware of circumstances that they feel could jeopardise safety then they should not shoot, they should shout 'FAST' and if necessary indicate their concerns to the Field Captain.
 3. The Field Captain can be any senior, experienced archer from the club or a visiting archer, judge or coach, who controls the session, using a whistle to signal when shooting can start and when to stop to allow arrow collection. The Field Captain should also ensure that the dynamic assessments before each session are carried out – either personally or by delegation.
 4. All archers are responsible for the equipment they are using especially their own. Where the equipment is on loan for a Beginners Course any defects should be brought to the attention of the coach who will seek assistance from the Equipment Officer.

References

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1. Archery GB 'Range Health and Safety Guidelines' - <http://www.archerygb.org/tools/documents/G0802ArcheryRangeHealthSafetyGuidelines-%5B13884%5D.pdf>
 2. Archery GB 'Rules of Shooting' - <http://www.archerygb.org/tools/documents/G0604RulesofShooting-%5B19641%5D.pdf>

