



NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT – EFFECTIVE 1ST APRIL 2021

Fellow Archers and Members,

After a long, cold, wet and substantially archery-free Winter, Committee are pleased to announce that Archery GB have confirmed a return to outdoor archery can commence from 29th March 2021, subject to restrictions relating to control of the Coronavirus.

Whilst the notification and attendant revisions to regulations and advice have come at relatively short notice work has been put in hand to ensure that the range at Six Gold End will be open as from 1st April 2021.

A review of the guidance notes and the Risk Assessment committee conclude that for the time being, operational procedures will be substantially the same as were used over the 2020 Summer Season.

For the safety of everyone involved in our Club, their families and the general population it is imperative that each member refreshes their understanding of the procedures and maintains the necessary social distancing and hygiene measures. All members will be deemed to have read, understood and agreed to comply with all revised rules. If you have any questions then please refer them to the committee. It is vital we protect ourselves and others from potential infection so if in doubt, do not go to the range and/or do not shoot.

Appended to this Notice are new guidance notes from Archery GB “**Guidance Notes for Clubs** Parts 1 & 4, Version 5.00 Issued: 24 March 2021”.

BEFORE READING FURTHER....

For many of you it is likely to have been several months since you last shot an arrow so please follow the advice below.

- Review all your equipment and make sure everything is bolted up properly and shows no signs of damage, especially arrows.
- Check fletchings are secure as the glue may have become brittle or lost adhesion.
- Assemble bows and check bracing heights, etc.
- If you haven't shot for some time, DO NOT expect to be able to pick up where you left off!! Consider, for instance, reducing bow weight to limit muscle strain.
- If possible, do some strengthening exercises to awaken dormant muscles before your first session.
- Before any session but especially your first attendance, warm up muscles thoroughly. There's plenty of advice on the web from the likes of World Archery, AGB, Jake Kaminski, etc – just type in “archery warm up exercises” to Google.
- Start at shorter distances and don't shoot too many arrows at one time.
- Remember to take water or fluids to keep hydrated.
- Keep calm and try not to get frustrated its unlikely you will match your scores from last summer for a few sessions at least – and tightening up will only make things worse!
- Shoot blank bales for several ends before scoring – maybe don't score at all for the first attendance.

General overview

The following highlights the main issues, but please also make sure you have read the background information attached.

1. **Only members who have registered with the Club AND paid their subscription fees are allowed to shoot.**
2. No visitor shooting is allowed until further notice.
3. No spectators are allowed unless assisting a Junior or disabled person.
4. For the time being the range layout will be set to 5 metre spacings and metric distances.
5. Although all target stands have now been fitted with wheels and the field marked with both metric and (in the near future) imperial distances, target stands **MUST NOT BE MOVED** or handled under any

- circumstances. As and when restrictions are further eased the ability to move stands will be confirmed in a formal notice.
6. To use the range, you must use the booking system that operated last season. This will be live from Monday 29th March. There will be inevitable pressure on the evening slots during the week so if at all possible, use the sessions in the afternoon.
 7. Shooting is divided into sessions as defined on the booking system and will change periodically to reflect seasonal daylight hours.
 8. Weekday mornings are reserved for Anytime members only.
 - a. Anytime members are still required to book all sessions and can book unlimited morning sessions in a week (Monday-Friday), plus 4 'normal' sessions in any one week.
 - b. All other members can only book up to 4 afternoon and/or weekend sessions in any one week (Monday-Sunday).
 9. Do not share a target with anyone other than a household member.
 10. Archers are advised to "turn up, shoot, go home". Any non-shooting time before, during and after booked sessions should be limited and members must observe the wearing of face masks, social distancing and 'rule of 6' regulations.
 11. There are no facilities available at the ground - the toilet is locked off and only accessible in emergencies via the Field captain.
 12. Every session MUST have a Field Captain or similar responsible person. Where no official FC is available then a **responsible adult** must take control of the session and operate the safety requirements, especially with regard to start, finish times, shooting and arrow collection. Field Captain duties are attached and are also displayed on the Range Notice Board.
 13. Use only your own archery equipment – do not share.
 14. Should any previously issued target face no longer be serviceable, Archers will be provided (on request to the Field Captain) with a 122cm reinforced paper target face (and/or an 80cm target face) with 4 pins for their own use. *Note that due to flood damage some of the targets will be water marked but remain serviceable.*
 - a. Please MARK TARGETS with your name.
 - b. DO NOT share target faces except with members of the same household.
 - c. Use of gloves is of limited and dubious benefit in controlling infection – use **your own** hand sanitising gel **both before and after** contact with the target stands, i.e. when putting up or taking down target faces.
 - d. Own purchased target faces can also be used – all weather faces are simply too expensive to provide on an individual basis.
 15. Do not leave anything on site when you leave - remove your own rubbish as there is no waste bin provided.
 16. Lost arrows – you will, subject to Field Captain control, have only 4 minutes maximum between ends to recover lost arrows. No time is allowed between sessions to find arrows so report identification details and approximate location to the Field Captain who will inform the Equipment Officer who in turn will recover them and leave in the Field Captain's box.
 17. There will be limited coaching, if any, due to limited resources and limitations on contact. This will be kept under review.
 18. Shooting in these restricted conditions requires the full cooperation of all members and the Club expects an element of self-policing to ensure we all enjoy our sport in the safest way possible. Any abuse of the above requirements may lead to sanction by the Club such as removal of booking rights for appropriate periods.

I look forward to seeing you at 6 Gold End in the future and if you have any queries or observations in the meantime, please let me know at chair@droitwicharchery.co.uk and I will endeavour to help.

Peter Sargent, Chair, Droitwich Archery Society

Attached:
Field Captain Guidelines
AGB Guidance Notes for Clubs Parts 1 & 4
AGB Summary Regulations