



Canterbury Archers' Society Inc Course Safety Rules 2026.

- Do not draw the string back on a bow unless an arrow is properly nocked on the string and especially, don't release the bowstring with no arrow on it. Doing so is called dry firing and can damage the bow, hurt yourself or others.
- Never point a bow at another person whether loaded or unloaded.
- Archers must always ensure that the specified target and visible overshoot are clear of other archers before shooting. **If you have concerns about the safety of a shot, do not shoot.**
- Never nock an arrow until ready to shoot from the appropriate shooting peg or line, **do not** walk between targets with an arrow nocked on the string.
- Never point or loose an arrow in any direction other than at the intended target.
- Keep your archery equipment well maintained and never knowingly shoot a damaged arrow.
- Never shoot an arrow straight up into the air. You can end up hitting another person or yourself.
- If you are looking for a lost arrow behind a target, always ensure one member of your group stands in front of the target visible to another group approaching the shooting pegs and let them know arrows are being searched for, only as a last resort put bows in front of the target to indicate arrows are being searched for.
- Be sure to stay on the marked path while shooting is in progress, always travel in a clock-wise direction except in the compound loop which is anti-clock wise, always walk to the next target as a group, always follow the path direction between targets until the central track is reached to exit the course safely, **never back track to the previous target.**

- Whilst someone else is shooting be alert for possible danger. Where possible danger exists shout “STOP”. On hearing “STOP” all members of the group must stop shooting immediately.
- At the practice target butts, the only safe place is behind the shooting line, never walk to the target butts until all archers have finished shooting.
- Don't stand in front of a bow while it is being shot, even if you are to one side of the shooter.
- Be aware of your arrows flight path in the event of a missed target carefully follow the instructions given by the Range Captain or a Club Member.
- Report any accident, injury or near miss to the range Captain or Committee Member, these must also be recorded in the health & safety Accident Register.
- Anyone shooting on a non-club day does so at their own risk and must abide by all rules.
- Any shooting from the carpark side of the container boundary fence is strictly forbidden.
- For all competitions run by Canterbury Archers Society Incorporated, **specialty targets will not be shot by compound bows**, due to health and safety concerns.
- All competitors are to apply in writing on the appropriate forms, for that competition.
- Competitors will be accepted for any competition at the pleasure of Canterbury Archers Society incorporation committee.
- Trophies are for Canterbury Archers Society Incorporated member only, although certificate may be given by way of acknowledgment to non-members.