

Kingdom of the Outlands Target Archery Handbook AS XLVI

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This document is the official reference for Target Archery in the
Outlands.

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Earl Mika
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Outlands Archer General

Gilliana
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I. Target Archery Rules

A. Overview

1. Outlands uses the Society Target Archery Rules, found at <http://sca.org/> with the following changes and clarifications:

B. Range Safety and Rules of the Line:

- 1) All participants should be in suitable physical and mental condition: not impaired by alcohol, recreational drugs, medication, excessively tired or dehydrated.
- 2) Youth archers are archers under the age of 18 and must be accompanied at all times on the archery range by a parent or legal guardian with the proper paperwork as outlined by the Minister of Children's Handbook Found at <http://www.outlands.org/portals/0/rulebooks/MoC%20Guidelines-Final.PDF>
- 3) Youth archers may participate in all practices and tournament shoots with adults so long as their equipment allows them to safely reach the targets and with the permission of the Marshal in Charge (MIC), or may participate in any shoots specifically designed for children.
- 4) All youth archers will report to the MIC to ensure proper youth procedure is followed.
- 5) All paid members (Youth and Adults) are eligible for full range of prizes and honors available to a given archery competition. When signing up for tournament, the archer must produce proof of membership to the list minister/marshal. If the archer is a paid member, but does not have proof of membership a waiver must be signed and with consent of the MIC they will be allowed to compete as a paid member.
- 6) All non-members (Youth and Adults) who wish to participate at a tournament, local practice, or an event practice must sign a waiver. (See Minister of Children's Handbook for youth waiver details.) They will not be eligible to win positions of honor such as a Baronial Champion, prize tourneys where the prize was donated by paid members, or any tourney of consequence, or receive rank advancements.
- 7) Listen to the instruction of the MIC or designated Target Archery Marshal (TAM)
- 8) The MIC shall make an announcement before the start of a tournament or the start of formal practice rounds (Royal rounds, etc.) to insure that all archers have inspected their equipment.
- 9) The Marshal will call the archers to the line, look to see the range and line are clear and safe, before calling "Range is open", or equivalent command.

- 10) At shoots where many of the archers are inexperienced it may be necessary to increase the ratio of marshals to archers. This increase need not be as great if experienced archers, as well as TAMs are used to supervise the inexperienced archers. If extra marshals are not available the MIC will limit the number of inexperienced archers on the line at any one time to better observe and control the inexperienced archer.
- 11) Ask the Marshal for permission before filling in on the line unless previously instructed to fill in the line as space dictates.
- 12) If "Hold" is called all archers should lower their bows remove their arrow or bolt and pay heed to the marshal's instruction. The MIC will then reopen the line when the reason for the hold has been remedied.
- 13) Do not nock or loose an arrow unless on the firing line and only when instructed to do so. If you have an arrow nocked, it should always point down range toward the targets or down range at the ground.
- 14) Firing more than one shaft at a time is allowed. Archers must demonstrate competency in this technique to the marshal prior to performing it on an open range with other archers on the line.
- 15) The line should be set to allow a minimum of 3 feet between each archer. No more than two archers per target at a time unless authorized by the MIC.
- 16) When an archer has completed shooting, the archer is to lower his/her bow, step back a safe distance from the firing line and wait until the order to retrieve is given.
- 17) Spectators and archers not shooting should stand a safe distance behind the firing line.
- 18) When the end is complete the marshal will call out "Range is closed retrieve and score your arrows" or equivalent. Bows will be placed safely behind the line or carried in a safe manner in such a way that both hands are free for shaft retrieval. Proceed to score and retrieve your shafts as instructed by the Marshal. Marshals may request that bows be left behind the line if a safety hazard is perceived.
- 19) Each archer scores his/her own arrows, while the scorer concurs with the scoring, records the points and the archer pulls his/her own arrows. If the pair does not agree on the arrows score, the MIC scores the arrow. The rule of scoring is "an arrow which breaks the line of a higher scoring band gets the higher score." If a shaft is seen to shoot through, falls out of, or bounces off the scoring portion of the target face, it is counted as 3 points (4 points on the period target). In order for a pass through or bounce off to be accorded its witnessed value someone other than the archer that launched the shaft must attest as to its value.

C. Traditional Rulings:

Archery has a long tradition in The Outlands. Many standards have developed that archers are used to obeying. When these standards are changed without warning, situations may occur. Therefore the following rulings shall be considered always in effect, UNLESS the marshal running the particular shoot specifies otherwise. Marshals are encouraged but not required to publish any changes to these rulings in advance.

- 1) Archers may toe or straddle the line, as is specified by the Marshal in Charge (MIC), according to local custom or range limitations. Those that sit, kneel, etc. are to keep the point of their ammo in the same line as the standing archers when at full draw. The key point is that everyone does it the same way on any particular shooting line.
- 2) On speed/ timed shoots, the call shall begin with Nock, Draw, Loose or 5,4,3,2,1, Loose and end with 5,4,3,2,1, Hold. The call may include the 15 second time. Archers may fire from the "L" on loose to the "D" on hold. For each arrow let loose before or after this time, the archer will forfeit the highest scoring arrow on each target.
- 3) When archers are grouped by their Outlands Rank, it is by the archer's current average (not permanent rank) for the bow type that the archer is shooting that day. An archer who knows that they are shooting better than their average indicates, should let the marshal know this and place them in a higher category.

- 4) Archers are not allowed to switch bows during competition. This is only allowed in the event of a bow failure.

II Equipment Specification:

A. General Standards:

- 1) All equipment should be consistent with pre-17th century archery in looks and function. The construction, use, and knowledge of period-style equipment and its safe use are among the primary goals of SCA archery. However, the use of modern equipment is permitted provided it meets the equipment standards spelled out below. Modern equipment such as compounds, aluminum arrows, plastic fletching, bow sights, kissers, and bow-mounted quivers are not allowed. To shoot in the Period Handbow division, you must have both a bow without a cut in shelf and self nocked arrows.
- 2) Each archer has the ultimate responsibility for the proper care, inspection and safe use of their own weapons, and for knowing and following the SCA and Kingdom Target Archery Rules:
 - a) An archer shall not knowingly use unsafe equipment.
 - b) If an archer is unsure of the safety of his/her equipment, he/she shall request the assistance of a TAM in inspecting the equipment.
 - c) The TAM assisting in the inspection shall make a reasonable attempt to locate any unsafe conditions or violations of Kingdom rules and inform the archer of what is found and how to correct it.
 - d) The inspection by the TAM may not find all equipment faults and is conducted as a service to all the archers on the line. It does not remove all the archer's primary responsibility for the safe condition of his or her equipment.
 - e) Any equipment observed by a TAM to be unsafe shall not be used until it is made safe and is re-inspected by a TAM.
- 3) Exceptions to the use of prohibited equipment may be allowed as follows:
 - a) The Archer General (AG), or his/her designated representative, may approve the use of prohibited equipment by class, such as the use of plastic vanes or non-wooden arrows for new archers or children's archery. Any such exceptions shall be reported to the AG who in turn will report in Kingdom archery marshal's quarterly report to the SCA Archery Marshal.
 - b) The MIC of an event may allow the temporary use of prohibited equipment for an archer on an event-by-event basis, such as permitting a new archer to use aluminum arrows with plastic vanes. The scores achieved while using prohibited equipment will not count toward Kingdom Rankings.
 - c) The MIC shall make necessary allowances for handicapped archers, provided that range safety is not compromised by these allowances.
- 4) The Archer General, on a case-by-case basis, shall determine whether experimental equipment is acceptable. Experimental equipment shall follow the kingdom rules and forms for testing.

B. Specific Equipment:

- 1) Open Handbow and Arrows: Handbow maybe made of wood, fiberglass, or a combination of similar materials. Breakdowns are legal, arrow rests are allowed, but must be fixed. Very powerful bows may be barred if target butts will not stop arrows. The MIC will determine this. Thumb rings, finger tabs, and shooting gloves are allowed. Arrows must be wood and fletched with period materials such as feathers or parchment. Only "field" points are allowed. – NO Broadheads, compound bows, fixed or adjustable sights. Sighting and/or ranging marks on the limbs or risers are allowed.

- 2) Period Handbow: Period handbow cannot have a cut in shelf. Arrows must be fletched with period materials. Nocks must be self or reinforced. The bow may not contain ranging marks. Strings may be made of any material and metal nock rings are permitted.
- 3) Open Crossbows: Crossbows must be wooden stocked with a fiberglass or metal prod. Only a simple fixed rear period sight is allowed. Compound crossbows are not allowed. Draw weights over 150 lbs are not allowed. Very powerful crossbows may be barred if target butts will not stop bolts. The MIC will determine this. The locking and release mechanism may be of any material. Bolts are made of wood and are fletched with any period material. Only "field" points are allowed. – NO Broadheads. Nocks will be self or reinforced (no plastic). The crossbow will be held and not shot from rests or slings.
- 4) Period Crossbows: Stock must be made of wood with no rifle style butt. Mechanism must include a nut and bar release or other period method. It may not have an "out of period" style lock or trigger.

III Marshallate Rules:

All candidates for Marshal in Training, Target Archery Marshal, Captains of Archery, Deputies to the Archer General need to be familiar with the Society Archery Rules, and the Outlands Target Archery Rules. Archers are no longer required to test or need to have authorization cards for archery. All archery marshals will be required to meet the requirements as stated below and must reauthorize every two years. These officers will serve under the authority of the Archer General. Marshals may be removed by the AG for unsafe practices or repeated failure to report.

A. Marshal In Training (MiT):

- 1) Individuals not yet warranted as a Target Archery Marshal but may assist in marshaling for specific events or practices under the supervision of a warranted TAM.
- 2) The supervising TAM should ensure that the MiT understands the rules and responsibilities of the line. The TAM should remain aware of the field to provide support and advice to the MiT as needed. Under no circumstances should a MIT be left unsupervised on the line.
- 3) The MiT will help run, under the supervision of a TAM, a minimum of 1 event and 1 practice. To include range set up, range break down, running the line, knowledge on inspecting equipment, safety zones, and target scoring before becoming a TAM.
- 4) The MiT must take a marshals training class run by the AG or his/her representative before becoming a TAM.
- 5) The MiT must be recommended by a TAM to the AG at which time the AG will determine the qualifications of the MiT to become a TAM.

B. Target Archery Marshals (TAM):

- 1) Should have a minimum of one year experience as an Archer and be a current member of the SCA.
- 2) Will have knowledge of range safety and target archery.
- 3) Are required to read and understand the SCA and Outlands Target Archery Handbook and Officers Guide and to demonstrate the knowledge and maturity to set up and run a safe SCA outlands archery range.
- 4) Monitor and control a safe archery line.
- 5) Assist archers in conducting safety inspections on their archery tackle. Please note that each archer is responsible for the condition of their own equipment.
- 6) Understand the rules, proper scoring and the reporting of archery scores in conformance with the rules of the competition.
- 7) Submit the scores in a timely manner to the Captain of Archers and/or the Outlands Score Site for IKAC or RR.
- 8) Report to the AG any archery incidents in which an archer had to be disciplined or removed from the line because of safety or major rules violation.
- 9) Assist in the training of new archers or TAMs.

- 10) Will reauthorize every two years.

C. Marshal in Charge:

The Marshal in Charge (MIC) is the warranted individual in charge of archery practice or archery at an event. The MIC is in charge of the line or can delegate the line responsibility to a TAM or a supervised MiT.

- 1) The MIC must be an authorized Target Archery Marshal (TAM). As a TAM, the MIC's responsibilities include all the duties of the TAM as well as the following items.
- 2) The MIC is responsible for selecting and setting up a SAFE archery site in a location where it is legal to practice archery.
- 3) The MIC will maintain a safe archery line and archery field. They will suspend the archery if they determine that an unsafe condition exist until the unsafe condition has been corrected.
- 4) The MIC will insure that, at practices and events, all archers are "blue card" members or that a wavier has been signed.
- 5) The MIC (or a designated TAM) should remain visible and attentive to the line at all times. If the MIC wishes to participate in the tournament, a secondary TAM should be arranged to watch the line while the primary is shooting.
- 6) The MIC (or a designated TAM) should clearly identify whether the line is open for firing or is closed to permit arrows to be retrieved or for a safety concern.
- 7) The MIC may remove an archer from the range and prohibit participation during that tourney or event if the MIC deems the archer's actions are unsafe. If this occurs, the MIC must notify the AG after the event of the identity of the archer and the cause of the removal, and include a recommendation as to whether further action should be taken.
- 8) The MIC needs to send a report, on the archery at the event, to the AG.

D. Captain of Archers (CoA):

The Captain of Archers is the local SCA Group Archery Officer. They are responsible for the operation and reporting of the local group. To become a CoA, an individual must send a letter of introduction to the AG stating their desire to assume the office, along with a supporting letter from the group Seneschal and/or Coronet.

- 1) The CoA must be an authorized Target Archery Marshals (TAM).
- 2) The major responsibility of the CoA is to establish and promote a safe archery practice in their local group within the rules of Kingdom of the Outlands. The CoA is responsible for selecting and setting up a safe archery site in a location where it is legal to practice archery and conducting regularly scheduled practices. The location, dates and times of these practices should be published in the local newsletter and/or web site, and the AG should also be notified for publication on AG website.
- 3) The CoA will provide regular training for local archers to insure that they understand and comply with the Kingdom Archery rules.
- 4) The CoA will provide regular archery practices at which archers can shoot official Royal Rounds or IKAC, and report these scores to the Scorekeeper. These scores must be reported within two (2) weeks of the shoot.
- 5) The CoA will work with the TAMs and DAGs to provide training and recommendations of local participants for MiTs and /or TAMs.
- 6) The CoA must maintain a list of the archers in the local group. This list should include: Archer's SCA name, their mundane name, address, phone number, SCA membership number and expiration date, and any other pertinent information. This information should be reported to the AG in the annual Doomsday report. Any changes should be reported as needed. If an archer does not wish to have their phone number or street address listed it may be omitted.

- 7) CoAs are encouraged to recognize the rank advancement of archers within their group through the presentation of tassels of appropriate colors
- 8) The CoA must report any injuries, damage to property, or incidents to the AG and their local Seneschal as soon as possible.
- 9) The CoA must report on activities of their group to their regional DAG and the AG every month. These reports are due by the 25th of each month. An annual Doomsday report summarizing the group's archery activities for the past season is due by December 1st.
- 10) All baronial CoA's are required to take and train a deputy. The deputy must turn in reports twice per year, in May and October, to the AG. The deputy's report can be sent in place of the CoAs report. CoAs of all groups are encouraged to take and train deputies.
- 11) During the first three (3) months, the office of CoA is considered Provisional, and the AG has the right to remove the individual for failure to perform duties. After the three (3) months, should it be required, the CoA can be placed back into Provisional status.

E. Archer General:

- 1) The Archer General (AG) must be an authorized Target Archery Marshals (TAM).
- 2) The AG will set, maintain, and enforce safety standards of the Kingdom Archery Community.
- 3) The AG will collect and summarize the reports from the CoAs and DAGs. This summarization will be sent to the Society Archer Marshal and the Kingdom Earl Marshal quarterly. It will also be sent to the DAGs and CoAs. Courtesy copies may be sent to the Crown and Kingdom Seneschal. In lieu of "local" mailings, it may be published in the Outlandish Herald and/or on the Kingdom archery web site.
- 4) The AG will help to organize and monitor IKAC and Royal Rounds.
- 5) The AG will appoint deputies to help with the monitoring of safety procedures within the Kingdom and may assign others to assist with the day-to-day operation of the office.

F. Regional Deputy Archer Generals (DAG):

- 1) Must be authorized Target Archery Marshals (TAM) and are appointed by the AG.
- 2) Must regularly communicate with the CoAs in their areas.
- 3) Must report quarterly to the AG.
- 4) Must assist CoAs in maintaining safe archery procedures when attending events or practices, and monitor the training of archers and MiTs in their area so that they can make recommendations to the AG on who should be warranted as TAMs.
- 5) Must encourage and help train new archers.
- 6) Should speak with the MIC to work on resolving any observed safety problem. They should report to the AG that a problem was identified and what action was taken to resolve it.
- 7) Should contact the AG, concerning any safety problems that persist after initial steps to resolve the problem have failed, who will determine further steps to resolve the problems..

G. Scorekeeping Deputy Archer General (DAG):

- 1) Must be an authorized Target Archery Marshals (TAM) and is appointed by the AG.
- 2) Assists the CoAs in maintaining and reporting scores for the Royal Rounds, Short Royal Rounds, IKAC, IKCAC competitions or any shoot that requires scores for more than one event or scores that must be sent outside the Kingdom.
- 3) Tracks the status of the members of the Archery Community as to whether they are paid member archers and/or TAMs.
- 4) Provides and/or tracks the IKAC and IKCAC scores to the IKAC Marshal.
- 5) Tracks the ranked archers of the Outlands and provides a list to the local COA and AG when an archer advances in rank.
- 6) Coordinates with the Kingdom Scribe's office to provide scrolls from the Crown for Bowmaster, Grand Bowmaster, and Royal Bowmaster.

H. **Period Deputy Archer General (DAG):**

1. Promotes and encourages period archery within the Kingdom by teaching period practices.
2. Works with interested archers in making or obtaining period equipment.
3. Submits quarterly reports to the AG on the state of period archery.

I. **When deemed necessary the AG may appoint special DAGs such as:**

- 1) A Skrifari (secretary) to assist in the processing of paper work.
- 2) A Thrown Weapons DAG to oversee the Thrown Weapons community.

IV. Appendix:

A. **Archery Shoots:**

Official archery scores, such as Outlands Kingdom Ranking scores, must be shot at official SCA events or practices. This means that the practices are sponsored by an SCA group and held at the time and place published in the Outlandish Herald, on the Archer General web site or in your local SCA group newsletter. Events are listed on the official Kingdom Calendar. There must be two or more archers to count scores from the event or practice - one to shoot, one to witness the scores. One of them must be an Outlands Target Archery Marshal acting as Marshal In Charge. (Sorry, but No Marshal = No Scores!) These are the official shoots that are used for ranking purposes. There are many others possible. Variety and novelty are encouraged to ensure we achieve the fullest benefit of our archer's creativity and skills. Do not limit yourselves to these few shoots. The main thing is to be safe and have fun.

- 1) **Royal Round:** The Royal Round is shot on a 5-color, 24 inch (60 cm) FITA target. It is composed of four ends. The first three regular ends of six arrows at your leisure are shot at each of 40, 30, and 20 yards. The fourth is a 30 second timed end at 20 yards. Rangefinders arrows are prohibited. A maximum of 2 royal rounds per division can be shot per day.
- 2) **Short Royal Round:** The Short Royal Round is shot on a field that is not able to accommodate all three distances. This variation is exactly the same as the Royal Round but some ends, for which distances are not possible, are not shot. Report 0's for any end that cannot be shot.
- 3) **IKAC:** The IKAC is a SCA-wide Inter Kingdom Archery Competition. It is shot on the same field and target as the Royal Round. It is composed of 12 ends; 4 ends each at 40, 30, and 20 yards. The 4 ends at each distance are two 6 arrow ends shot at your leisure, and two 30-second timed ends, usually in that order. For the Children's Division, the distances are 10, 15 and 20 yards respectively.

B. **Standard SCA Targets:**

There are two standard target faces used in SCA archery. The 24-inch (60 cm) five-color target (also known as the Las Vegas style or FITA target) is the required target for Royal Rounds and Inter-Kingdom Archery Competition (IKAC) tournaments. The other is also a 60 cm target, but is a more "period" adaptation of the first, used to score those competing in the PERIOD division. The FITA target is a 24 inch (60 cm) round target with five circular bands of colors. The colors are gold in the center, followed in turn by red, blue, black, and ending with white as the outer band. The agreed SCA scoring values are:

- Gold 5 points (6cm Radius or 12cm Diameter).
- Red 4 points (from Gold to 24cm Diameter).
- Blue 3 points (from Red to 36cm Diameter).
- Black 2 points (from Blue to 48cm Diameter).
- White 1 point (from Black to 60cm Diameter).

The "Period" target is also 24 inches (60 cm), and can easily be made on the obverse of a regular FITA target by using the colors and dimensions given here:

- Gold 8 points (3cm Radius or 6 cm Diameter)
- Green 4 points (from Gold to 24 cm Diameter)
- White 2 points (from Green to 60 cm Diameter)

C. Outlands Archer Recognition and Ranking:

Archers of the Outlands are ranked on target archery skill. The kingdom measures the archer's skill by the average of their best three Royal Round scores shot over a rolling year. Once a ranking is earned an archer holds it for future seasons. All rank advancements go through the Archer General's office by way of the Scorekeeping DAG to allow Captains of Archery more time to shoot and teach. Scores are reported to the Scorekeeping DAG. The Archer General is notified when an archer's average merits advancement in rank. The AG will then contact the COAs. COA's are encouraged to make and present tassels in local courts. Bowmaster rank and above will be presented a scroll by the Crown. The Scorekeeper requests scrolls from the Scribes Guild for these ranks but the timing of their issue is entirely dependant upon the Scribes Guild and the whim of the Crown.

Levels of Recognition are:

- **Novice:** (White Tassel) Royal Round scores average from 1-24.
- **Bowman:** (Black Tassel) Royal Round scores average from 25-44.
- **Yeoman:** (Blue Tassel) Royal Round scores average from 45-64.
- **Forester:** (Red Tassel) Royal Round scores average from 65-84.
- **Bowmaster:** (Gold Tassel) Royal Round scores average 85-99.
- **Grand Bowmaster:** (Gold & Green Tassel) Royal Round scores average 100-119.
- **Royal Bowmaster:** (Gold, Green & White Tassel) Royal Round scores average 120+.
- The purpose of the head-binding knot used on the archer's tassel is to identify in which of areas tassels were earned:
- **Youth Division:** (white knot) This division is scored same as the Royal Round (RR) except that it is shot from 15, 20, & 25 yards, with a 15-yard speed end. Children able to safely handle a bow through age 16 may shoot in this division. At the discretion of the Marshal in Charge, any child may be permitted to shoot with adults with appropriate supervision.
- **Open Crossbow:** (black knot) Shot with "modern" SCA legal equipment including a trigger mechanism.
- **Open Handbow:** (blue knot) Shot with "modern" SCA legal equipment.
- **Period Crossbow:** (red knot) Shot with SCA legal equipment that includes a nut and bar release mechanism or other period method of release.
- **Period Handbow:** (gold knot) Shot using "self-nocked" arrows and a handbow without a cut in shelf.