



QLHF Archery By-Law

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to set out the guidelines for the use of archery in general training and events. The guidelines set down a minimum standard for the Membership to follow. Members are encouraged to exceed these guidelines as they see fit. These guidelines represent a mandatory set of base rules for QLHF interclub combat.

Use:

This document is to be used in conjunction with the General Guidelines for Re-Enactment Activities QLHF Marshal Accreditation, QLHF Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines and other Guidelines as appropriate.

This guideline will be subordinate to the Constitution and By-laws of the QLHF. Where an inconsistency occurs, the constitution or by-law will be enforced. GUIDELINES

IMPORTANT NOTE: At all times, members are subject to relevant state and federal law. Where there is an inconsistency, the relevant law will be enforced.

These guidelines are for the Range, Combat and Scenario use of archery in Re-enactment involving predominately members of the Queensland Living History Federation Incorporated (QLHF).

Range Use: Archery carried out for practice at a closed group meeting or a public event in Range format i.e. waiting line, shooting line, static or moving targets.

Combat Use: Archery carried out in a controlled environment involving specially prepared blunt arrows fired from a bow **30lb draw weight** or less at suitably armoured participants.

Scenario Use: Archery carried out in a performance based environment to re-enact an historical event or other public performances.

1. MINIMUM AGE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1.1. Minor Under 12 years:

May attend events or training providing the minor is supervised by a parent or guardian or has written permission from a parent or guardian and the group provides supervision.

The minor is not to participate in any combat training or combat activity.

The minor may participate in noncombat activity, group training or performances at an event providing the minor is appropriately supervised.

1.2. Minor Under 16 years:

May attend events providing the minor is supervised by a parent in attendance or has written permission from a parent or guardian and the group provides supervision.

The Minor may participate in archery training within the group or archery training while at an event. The Minor MAY NOT participate in a public Combat performance.

1.3. Minor Under 18 years:

May attend events providing the minor is supervised by a parent in attendance or has written permission from a parent or guardian and the group provides supervision.

The minor may fully participate in all group activities as the group see fit.

2. ALCOHOL AND OTHER PERFORMANCE ENHANCING SUBSTANCES

2.1. No participant shall train or enter a range while under the influence of alcohol or other performance effecting substances.

2.2. A participant found to be under the influence of alcohol or other performance affecting substance will be removed from the range and suspended from further participation at group training or events pending the result of an investigation. The archer will then be referred to the group and QLHF committee for review and potential disciplinary action. The QLHF committee reserves the right to expel the combatant from the Federation under this circumstance.

2.3. Should any participant has a pre-existing medical condition or require medication that may affect the performance or safety, it is the participant's obligation to inform a marshal prior to commencement of the event. The participant should provide sufficient information about the medication to allow the Marshal or Range Captain to make an informed decision or to refer to a medical officer or 1st aider.

3. INSURANCE AND REGULATION

3.1. It is the duty of group to insure that all participants are suitably insured (public liability insurance) for the activity being conducted (Note: QLHF members are provided insurance coverage as part of being a member).

3.2. QLHF members are NOT considered insured if the member has membership fees outstanding

3.3. It is the duty of the group to inform the QLHF committee of events that they are attending, preferably via E-mail.



- 3.4. If in doubt about any activity, the group is to contact the QLHF committee for clarification regarding clauses within the insurance policy.
- 3.5. A number of weapons are regulated under State and Federal law.
- 3.6. It is the individual's responsibility to be familiar with which weapons require a valid license. Individuals in possession of regulated weapons are required to hold a relevant weapons license which must be able to be produced on demand (preferably on the person or in the camp site). Failure to do so will result in a demand for the individual to cease using the weapon immediately and the weapon secured until a license can be produced.
- 3.7. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action being taken against the individual and/or group.

4. INJURIES

- 4.1. Should a participant suffer an injury that results in bleeding, the participant should cease their activity and remove themselves as soon as it's safe to do so.
- 4.2. Should a participant suffer an injury that may affect their safety or the safety of others in continuing, the participant should cease and assess the injury. The participant should only return to the activity once it's safe to do so.
- 4.3. Should an injury be serious or life threatening, all combat and performance activity is to cease immediately and medical attention sort.
- 4.4. The QLHF committee reserves the right to investigate any injury with the view to instigating disciplinary action as it sees fit

5. QLHF Marshal

- 5.1. Please refer to the QLHF Marshal by-Law for information on marshals. All marshals must be accredited by QLHF or their association.
- 5.2. This By-Law must be read in conjunction with the Marshal by-law.
- 5.3. Throughout this document where the following terms are used the relevant person must also be an QLHF Accredited Marshal. Where marshal is used refer to QLHF Marshal:
 - Range Captain
 - Archery Captain
- 5.4. A Range or Archery Captain may also be a Senior, Group or Assistant Marshal.

5.5. In all instances the Range Captain or Archery Captain must be QLHF Marshal or equivalent if not a QLHF event.

6. AUTHORISATION OF ARCHERS

- 6.1. As with all martial disciplines, safety at tournaments and performances is of the utmost importance. Accordingly, if an archer wishes to compete in an archery tournament or perform as an archer at an event, they will need to be authorised by the Range Captain **prior** to the event.
- 6.2. To obtain authorisation, an archer must attend training to demonstrate to the Range Captain a suitable degree of competency and safety with their weapon. In general terms, competency is deemed to be the ability to consistently hit a standard archery butt (not the individual target) at a distance of about 10-15 paces, showing a degree of safety.
- 6.3. Authorisation is required and must be renewed for each performance session.
- 6.4. Exceptions to the requirement to attend a prior training session may be made by the Event Marshal in circumstances subject to their discretion, i.e. interstate or overseas guest re-enactor who may come to a separate arrangement with the Range Captain and/or archery Marshal for a tournament.
- 6.5. It will be the responsibility of the Group Marshal / Range Captain to assess, record and vouch for each individual's competence with regards to the safe use of archery equipment.
- 6.6. Hobby shooting and other social events involving commercial operators and the public are in no way affected by the requirement to be authorised.

8.0 RANGE COMMANDS

Standard commands and directions are given by the Range Captain , which all archers are expected to understand and comply with:

- **“RANGE OPEN”** Archers may commence shooting into the range.
- **“LAST ARROW”** Archers who have already nocked or drawn their bow may release their arrow, but no new arrows may be nocked.
- **“RANGE CLOSED”** Archers are prohibited from shooting. Archers may not nock arrows or draw their bow at this time.
- **“HOLD!”** All archers must **immediately** cease shooting and release the tension on their bow. This is generally a safety related command, e.g. a person on the range or approaching too close.

8.0 SAFETY RULES

There are a number of safety rules which all archers must comply with at all times. Failure to do so may result in the re-enactor being asked to cease training/participation, or in the case of repeated offences, may be banned from participating:

- 8.1 Instruction from the Range Captain must be complied with at all times.
- 8.2 All equipment must be of serviceable condition, ie arrow nocks must click onto or hold snugly onto bowstring; strings and servings must not be frayed or need of repair etc.
- 8.3 New archers will be required to shoot under supervision until they can establish a reasonable level of competency
- 8.4 All arrows must be directed down range at all times.
- 8.5 No shooting outside the boundaries of the range.
- 8.6 Unless under specific control of the Range Captain e.g. clout archery (see below for further details), no arrows are to be lofted.
- 8.7 Where the Range Captain calls for arrows to be lofted, bows must not be drawn more than to half draw.
- 8.8 No person is permitted to enter the range whilst it is open.
- 8.9 All shooting is to take place from the firing line

- 8.10 Unless conducting combat archery under the strict control of the Archery Captain, no nocked bow is to be pointed at another person.
- 8.11 Where combat archery is being conducted by the Archery or Range Captain, the target must be suitably armoured, including a visor with an opening of less than 1/2 inch. No archer is to have any form of sharp arrow on their person during combat archery.
- 8.12 Although not an actual rule, it is considered polite to assist other archers to retrieve their arrows while collecting your own.
- 8.13 All archers are expected to behave in a reasonable manner towards one another. Offensive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- 8.14 Clout Archery is a traditional archery event, where archers lob their arrows onto imaginary opponents. Clout Archery can only be undertaken under the strictest authority and supervision by the Range Captain and only where the circumstances of the range provide adequate safety for participant and the public due to the increase potential impact of wind and other factors associated with this activity.

NOTE: If at any time a person attending a performance believes that either a person, animal life or property may be injured or damaged by shooters on the Range, they must yell "HOLD!" immediately. The Range Captain will only recommence firing after the situation has been verified or cleared.

NOTE: The use of **crossbows** requires the archer, Range Captain and the range to be appropriately licensed/certified. Unless all of these conditions are met, the use of crossbows is prohibited.

END

Contact Officer	QLHF Marshal
Date Approved	26th March 2004 Combat Archery 13 March 2007 General Archery
Dates Updated	4th August 2013 Combined Combat and General Archery Guidelines and updated information. 18 December 2021 Archery By-laws
Approval Authority	Queensland Living History Federation Committee
Related Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Forms or Templates	This by-law works in conjunction with all other QLHF by-laws
Date for Revision	December 2024
Version	3.0