

Academy Archery Club

2026 Triple Crown Tournament Rules and Class

Definitions (based on IBO guidelines)

Membership at the Academy Archery Club is NOT required to participate in Organized Shoots held at the Air Force Academy unless specified.

Triple Crown Classes:

1. Professional
2. Men's Bowhunter (fixed site)
3. Men's Open (moveable site)
4. Senior Open (Men & Women 55-69)
5. Master Open (Men & Women 70 +)
6. Women's Bowhunter (fixed site)
7. Women's Open (moveable site)
8. Traditional (Men & Women) No string walking allowed
9. Recurve Open (Men & Women)
10. Cubs (11 years and younger)
11. U15 (12-14 years)
12. U18 (15-17 years)

General Information:

- Classes that are eligible for buckle must have 3 participants in each Leg, to qualify for Buckle.
- Classes that don't meet the minimum entry requirements of 3 participants per leg may be combined with other classes.
- The first 3 places will receive an award at each leg, except for the Professional class.
- The Professional class will receive added monies determined by the number of archers competing in each leg.
- Ribbons or medals will be presented to all Cubs who attend at each leg.
- Legs 1 & 2 will be known distances (except for Traditional and Recurve Open classes which will be unknown distances).
- The top 8 in each class will shoot with their peer group in legs 2 and 3.
- All classes will be unknown distance in Leg 3.

Targets and Scoring Areas

Targets shall consist of 3D type animal targets having scoring areas as follows:

1. 11 ring consisting of a circle centered within the 10 ring.
2. 10 ring consisting of a circle inside of the vital area
3. Vital area (8 ring) that roughly approximates the heart, lung, and liver area of the appropriate animal.
4. The remainder of the animal shall be considered a body and will score a 5.
5. An arrow embedded in the horn, antler, or hoof of an animal (not touching body color) is considered a miss and is scored a zero.
6. Some targets have material surrounding the actual outline of a target animal. This additional material will NOT be counted for scoring.

Targets shall be set at unmarked distances. The approximate maximum distance for each stake shall be as follows:

1. Blue Stake: 50 yards - Professional
2. Green Stake: 45 yards - Men's Open/Men's Bowhunter/Senior Open (Men & Women 55-69)
3. White Stake: 40 yards-Women's Open/Women's Bowhunter/Master Open (Men & Women 70+)
4. Yellow Stake: 30 yards- Recurve Open/Youth

Shooting Rules and Etiquette

1. Shooting groups shall not consist solely of friends and relatives, Such groups shall be "busted" by including at least one outsider who will keep score, whenever possible. A group of friends and or relatives must be aware that good sportsmanship requires an additional competitor/scorekeeper to be added to their group.
2. All shooting groups shall establish a shooting rotation. Groups that contain archers shooting from different stakes will follow the shooting rotation while ensuring that no archer advances beyond their assigned stake before shooting. No archer (or spectator) shall approach a target before the entire group shoots.
3. When shooting the archer must touch the appropriate stake with some part of his or her body.
At times, stakes are set to challenge the archer with various shooting positions. Alterations to the ground around the shooting stake, using any tools or leveling aids, natural or otherwise, are not permitted.
4. Each archer shall be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes to complete his or her shot.

This rule shall operate as follows:

- a. Time will begin for the first archer when the previous group clears the target. Time will begin for the next archer when the previous archer releases his or her arrow.
- b. Archers should be sensitive to the time concerns of the groups behind them and make every attempt to shoot promptly and on time. Repeated violations of this rule will result in a five-

- c. point reduction in the shooter's score.
 - d. To support the two (2) minute time limitation, an archer at the shooting stake may not let down more than three times. If an archer lets down more than three times, he or she shall receive a score of zero for that target.
5. When shooting unknown yardage, there shall be no discussion of yardage until all arrows have been scored. Discussion of yardage is permitted only among archers who have shot the subject target and must be done in a manner to ensure that other archers who have yet to shoot the target will not be assisted.
6. No more than one umbrella may be used to assist a shooter at the stake.

Scoring

1. Two scorecards must be completed for each archer.
2. Scorecards must be split between two scorekeepers so that each scorekeeper has one card for each archer. Both scorekeepers must agree on a score, compare the scores and record the score **before** the arrows are pulled from the target.
3. Arrows can't be touched or removed until after the scoring process.
4. Arrows pulled early will receive a zero.
5. If the two scorekeepers for a group mistakenly record different scores, the inconsistent scores must be corrected as agreed upon by the majority of the group.
6. Scorecards must be legible, complete, and signed by the archer to be accepted. No scorecard may be changed by a competitor or scorekeeper after submission.
7. Archers are responsible for their own scorecards. It is up to each archer to ensure that his or her scorecard meets the above requirement.

Scoring Arrows

1. Scores will be tabulated as follows:
 - a. 11 points: 11 ring or "X" ring centered inside the 10 ring
 - b. 10 points: 10 ring
 - c. 8 points: Vital area
 - d. 5 points: Body
 - e. 0 points: Miss or arrow not touching body color.
2. An arrow shaft touching the line of a greater scoring area shall be given the higher score.
3. Arrow parts that extend beyond the shaft such as feathers, vanes, or nock collars, cannot be used to score the arrow.

4. An arrow must stick in the target to receive a score other than zero except for a pass-through, Robinhood, or bounce-back as defined.

a. An arrow that passes through a target may be scored if witnessed and agreed upon by the majority of archers in the group.

b. An arrow embedded into the nock end of an arrow embedded in the target (Robinhood) shall be scored the same as the arrow embedded in the target.

c. A bounce-back is an arrow that squarely strikes the target and bounces back toward the shooter. An arrow that glances off the target is not considered a bounce-back. A bounce-back may be scored if the score can be agreed upon by the majority of the archers in the group and if a member of the group other than the shooter witnesses the bounce-back. If the group can not agree, the archer may re-shoot the target before the group advances to score the target.

d. An arrow released or dropped accidentally will be scored a zero unless the archer can retrieve it while touching the stake and re-shoot within the archer's two-minute time limit.

5. Any attempt by an archer to knowingly falsify a score, or knowingly allow another to falsify his

or her score, shall result in a disqualification of that archer.

6. The AAC reserves the right to correct harmless errors including but not limited to, score tabulation, lack of initials, or signature, posting, etc. which are clearly not a result of attempted inflation of the archer's score.

7. In the event of a tie, the highest number of 11s will be used to break ties. However, if two or more archers still finish with identical scores, then the highest number of 10s will be used to break the ties. If the scores are still identical, the archers may choose to have a shoot-off or flip a coin to determine the winner. A shoot-off will consist of a 3-D animal. The archer whose arrow is closest to the 11 will be declared the winner.

Binoculars and Rangefinders

1. When shooting known distances Binoculars and Rangefinders are allowed.

2. When shooting unknown distances the archer's ability to judge yardage without the assistance of range-finding devices or assistance from others is an integral part of the competition. Therefore rangefinders and other devices that may be used to calculate yardage to the target are prohibited.

Categories

1. Professional: A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on stabilizers or style of release. (shoot from the blue stake).

2. Bowhunter (Men's /Woman's): A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on stabilizers or style of release. A sight shall have fixed-pin, cross-hair, or circle-style pins. Sights

Bowhunter cont'

may not be adjusted after entering the shooting course. No magnification/lens allowed (Men shoot from the green stake, Women shoot from the white stake).

3. Open (Men's/Woman's): A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with a moveable site. (Men shoot from the green stake, Women shoot from the white stake).

4. Traditional Bow: (Modified IBO Rules)

- a. Styles include Selfbow, Longbow, Recurve, and Modern Bow.
- b. No stabilizers, counterbalances, or weights of any kind may be attached or built into the bow, except a quiver clearly designed to hold arrows.
- c. Plungers must be fixed.
- d. There shall be no markings on the bow or bowstring (intentional or accidental) that could be construed as sighting markings.
- e. No type of draw check will be allowed (ie: clickers).
- f. A bolt can be used as a side plate in a fixed position. A hard shelf and side plate modular system can be used (ie. Hoyt's Satori modular shelf system). An arrow side plate (if used) may only extend (1) inch above the arrow. The archer cannot adjust the side plate while competing.
- g. A hard material may be used on the shelf or on the side of the riser under a hair or leather strip.
- h. The shelf and side plate can be covered with a material not exceeding 1/8" thickness.
- i. A fixed arrow rest may be used.
- j. The arrow must be shot off the shelf or rest.
- k. The bow must be shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers.
- l. Archers may use up to two (2) nock locating devices, but they must use the same nocking point and anchor point for each shot, and the index finger must touch the nock of the arrow.
- m. Face walking, fixed crawl, or string walking are not permitted.
- n. No sighting device of any kind may be used.
- o. Shoot from the yellow stake.

5. Recurve Open: (Modified IBO Rules)

- a. Olympic Recurve: (a.k.a. Freestyle Limited Recurve, Open Recurve) This style is limited to recurve or longbow. Any type of site may be used, providing the sighting mechanism has no magnification. Nocking points and kisser/nose button are allowed. Levels, string peep sights, marks, ties or other attachments to the string and electronic devices are not allowed. Release aids shall be limited to gloves, tabs, and fingers. In the case of physical disability of the arms or hands, a chew strap may be used in place of fingers. Any stabilizer configuration is allowed. Any clicker or draw check is allowed. (Shoot from the yellow stake)
- b. Bare Bow: (IBO rules)
 - i. A recurve or longbow shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers.
 - ii. No sighting device of any kind may be used. A rest and plunger are all that may reside within the sight window of the bow.
 - iii. A clicker is allowed but must not be mounted in the sight window of the riser.
 - iv. There shall be NO marking on the bow or bowstring (intentional or accidental) that could be construed as sighting marks.
 - v. All arrows shall be of the same material and be of uniform length and weight.
 - vi. String walking and face walking are permitted.
 - vii. Weights may be added to the lower part of the riser.

Bare Bow cont'

- viii. Weights regardless of shape must mount directly to the riser without rods, extensions, angular mounting connections, or shock-absorbing devices.
 - ix. The unstrung bow must pass completely through a hole or ring 12.2 cm inside diameter +, or – 0.5mm.
 - x. Shoot from the yellow stake.
6. Senior Open: for those men & women archers who are 55-69 on the day of the shoot. (Shoot from the green stake).
7. Master Open: for those men & women archers 70 year of age or older on the day of the shoot. (Shoot from white stake).
8. Youth (12-17): Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restrictions on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. (Shoot from yellow stake).
9. Cubs (11 and younger): Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restrictions on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. (Shoot from any spot).

Equipment

1. A maximum draw weight for each class shall be as follows:
 - a. Cub: 40 pounds
 - b. All female and Youth Classes: 60 pounds
 - c. All other classes: 80 pounds
2. A maximum arrow speed for each class shall be as follows:
 - a. Archers competing in the Pro class shall be limited to a 300-fps arrow speed
 - b. Archers competing in the Youth/Cub class shall be limited to a 260-fps arrow speed
 - c. All other archers shall be limited to a 290-fps arrow speed
3. It is recommended that archers do not exceed the manufacturer's recommended limits on arrow weight and draw weight
4. Arrows:
 - a. An arrow of any material may be used.
 - b. The Arrow and tips must be identical in weight.
 - c. Fletches can be 2" up to 6" in length.
 - d. Arrows must weigh at least five (5) grains per pound of the bow's maximum shooting weight.
 - e. If the archer's equipment, when shot at five (5) grains per pound, does not generate 290fps, that archer may shoot arrows weighing less than five (5) grains per pound.

Violations and Protests

1. Any person in violation of the above rules may be disqualified from the event in which they are participating and may be suspended from membership in the Academy Archery Club.
2. Range and event officials are to be respected and have the authority to disqualify an archer from an event for unsafe behavior and/or violations of the above rules.
3. An archer, upon good faith belief of a rule violation, may file a protest with the Tournament Committee. No protest shall be heard by the Tournament Committee unless the protest is accompanied by a \$25.00 and a written request for consideration that clearly outlines the basis for the protest. Protests must be turned in no later than one hour after the close of the shooting range

