

Academy Archery Club

Safety Rules

General Safety Rules:

Safety is of paramount importance to everyone using the ranges and it is the top priority of Academy Archery Club (AAC). Any person utilizing the ranges must adhere to the safe handling and use of archery equipment. The following rules and safety procedures apply to all shooters and enforced by all members and guests. Any member violating AAC safety rules may have their membership suspended and the Board will consider permanent membership revocation.

- NEVER point a bow and arrow at another person.
- NEVER Sky Draw or shoot an arrow straight up into the air.
- NEVER shoot arrow into an area where you cannot see where it will land.
- NEVER draw a bow that was set up for someone else.
- INSPECT all equipment for serviceability each time before shooting.
- NEVER pull the bowstring beyond the length of the arrow it is meant for.
- DO NOT draw or release the bowstring without a properly nocked arrow. This is called dry firing and can result in injury.
- DO NOT knock an arrow until verifying the area down range is clear and you are standing at the established line or position.
- Once the arrow is nocked the bow will always be pointed down range.
- ALWAYS keep your arrows in your quiver until you are standing at the line or position.

IN GENERAL

- **ABSOLUTELY NO CROSSBOWS.**
- BROADHEADS, whether for practice or hunting, may only be used at the Broadhead Range.
- ABSOLUTELY no alcohol and drug use are allowed at AAC.

- ABSOLUTELY no smoking and vaping are allowed anywhere at AAC, except inside your personal vehicle.
- DO NOT relocate targets once they have been positioned.
- DO NOT feed, hunt, or shoot animals on the range.

Any person who found breaking any of the rules will have their membership suspended and the Board will consider permanent membership revocation.

PETS

- Pets must be on a leash or electronic collar.
- Owners must always have control.
- Pet must never disturb/distract other shooters.

The only exception is for **service dogs** under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA stipulates that the service animal must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered while in public places, unless those devices interfere with the service animal's work or the person's disability prevents use of these devices. In that case, the person must use voice, signal, or other effective means to maintain control of the animal

Pet owners are responsible for picking up after their animals.

Emergency Procedures

In the event of an emergency the following guidelines should be followed:

- Call 911 for emergencies and tell them you are on the USAF Academy Archery Range near building 5342 Sumac Dr USAFA. Provide coordinates, description of location (Range/Target number). Members should advise the authorities to help address the situation.
- Report the incident or issues ASAP to the AAC email (aac@academyarcheryclub.org).

In the absence of any specific rule, common sense must prevail while shooting on the range.

Static Range Safety Rules

At the Static Ranges the only safe place is behind the shooting line.

- NEVER shoot an arrow until you are positive that no one is in front of you or behind the targets.

- DO NOT stand in front of a bow while it is being shot, even if you are to one side of the shooter.
- Arrows should only be nocked on the shooting line and pointed in the direction of the targets.
- No one will proceed past shooting line until everyone in the group has finished and a verbal “All Clear” is given.
- WALK do not run toward the targets. Remember that the arrows are sticking out and can injure you.
- When pulling arrows out of a target, stand to one side and ensure that no one is directly behind you.

Olympic Range Safety Rules:

Only traditional/recurve/bare bows are allowed, period.

Protective gear is suggested for safety and comfort. The basics: arm guard and finger tab are recommended. At the Static Ranges the only safe place is behind the shooting line.

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- DO NOT stand in front of a bow while it is being shot, even if you are to one side of the shooter.
- Arrows should only be nocked on the shooting line and pointed in the direction of the targets.
- No one will proceed past shooting line until everyone in the group has finished and a verbal “All Clear” is given.
- WALK do not run toward the targets. Remember that the arrows are sticking out and can injure you.

Field/3D Range Safety Rules:

1. On Field Archery or 3-D courses be sure to stay on the marked path and travel only in the direction in which the targets are laid out while shooting is in progress. Going backwards on the trail or across an unmarked area could place you in the path of a flying arrow, resulting in serious injury.

2. All targets should be good enough to prevent an arrow from passing through the vital area of the target and score rings should be defined and scoreable. In the case of a target reaching the pass-through state (arrows passing completely through the target and/or burying beyond the nock) or becoming un-scoreable, range officials should be notified ASAP for the appropriate target replacement, repair, angle change, etc.

3. If you are looking for a lost arrow behind a target, always leave your bow or an article of clothing leaning against the target face so that it will be seen by other archers approaching shooting position. If possible, have one archer from your group stand in front of the target to prevent anyone from shooting.

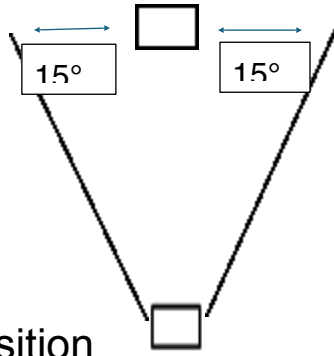
4. No one will proceed past shooting position until everyone in the group has finished.

3D Range Safety Setup Rules:

When designing a 3D archery course, safety is crucial, so ensure that shots are set away from paths and that exit routes are clear. Looking at the course as a whole and not just a collection of individual shots is vital.

- Map the course to understand how targets interact with the terrain and each other.
- Ensuring safety is the top priority. Avoid placing targets where arrows can glance off, or where a miss can travel a long way before impacting terrain.
- All walk-offs (exit routes) from targets are to be at least 90 degrees from the targets, so at no point should anyone walk off behind the 3D to the next target.
- No shots are to be set towards parking lots, buildings, paths, roads or walking tracks.
- Targets are to be set at distances not less than 3 yards.
- When setting targets ensure there is at least a 15-degree offset between targets. i.e.

Target



Shooting Position

We are all guests at the academy, and we must do our part to ensure a safe environment for all.

WE ARE A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION. IT IS NOT A PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OR ANY OF ITS COMPONENTS. IT HAS NO GOVERNMENTAL STATUS.