

Archery Study Guide

History

Archery, one of the oldest sports still practiced, is closely linked to the development of civilization. As a cultural advance, it was comparable to the discovery of fire and the invention of the wheel.

In target archery competitors shoot a specified number of rounds, each round consisting of three arrows shot from a certain distance. Each arrow that hits the target scores points according to its distance from the center. There are team and individual competitions.

Vocabulary

Bow – the bow's draw weight is 15 to 20 pounds at MacArthur.

Longer bows are steadier but shorter bows shoot the arrow faster.

Arrow – arrows are generally made of a cedar shaft and either 26 or 28 inches long. They usually weight less than one ounce.

Armguard – a guard that, when the arrow is shot, protects the arm from being hit by the bowstring.

Bowstring – the string of a bow. Most strings are made of high-tech polyethylene fibers, which are stronger than steel.

Fletching – the real or artificial feathers at the back of an arrow designed to make it fly straight.

Nock – the attachment on the rear end of an arrow that holds it in place on the bowstring.

Target – the target is made of straw that is rope-stitched together. The target face is usually made of paper and divided into five different colored rings. Each colored ring is divided in half by a line, making ten scoring rings.

Scoring – scoring occurs after each round of shooting. An arrow that is touching the dividing line on the target will score the higher value.

Scoring values are:

Inside yellow = 10 points

Inside red = 8 points

Inside blue = 6 points

Inside black = 4 points

Inside white = 2 points

Outside yellow = 9 points

Outside red = 7 points

Outside blue = 5 points

Outside black = 3 points

Outside white = 1 point