



Stafford Archers

Handicaps and Classifications

An archer's handicap enables the participation in handicap competitions on equal terms with archers of all abilities. The handicap also helps with the monitoring of personal progress in the sport. Handicap ratings range from 100 to 0, with 0 being the ultimate objective.

Handicaps are calculated and maintained by the club Records Officer, based on scores achieved in recognised GNAS rounds AND SUBMITTED to that Officer.

Handicap Rules

1. Outdoor and Indoor handicaps are separate and also for each recognised bow type (i.e. Recurve, Compound, Longbow, Barebow).
The Outdoor season runs from 1st Jan to 31st Dec.
The Indoor season runs from 1st July to 30th June.
2. The very first handicap (for a new archer) is calculated from the average of the first 3 handicap rounds (rounded up).
3. Subsequent handicaps are reduced by the average of the current and better (i.e. lower) handicap (rounded up).
4. At the end of the season, each handicap is re-assessed from the average of the best 3 handicap scores (rounded up) and this is then used to start the next season (from Rule 3).
If less than 3 handicap scores are submitted over the season then the average of those shot plus the previous re-assessed handicap are used.
If no handicap rounds are submitted and the archer has not shot over the whole season then we start again at Rule 2.

There are two things to note from the above rules :-

- i) Handicaps can only reduce (i.e. get better) during a season. Scores which are worse than the current handicap have no effect on the handicap!
- ii) Handicaps can increase (i.e. get worse) at the end of the season if less than 3 scores have achieved or bettered the current handicap during the whole season!

The current handicap should be an indication of the current ability. Thus, a loss of form may be making the current handicap unachievable, which is pointless, and so please submit all scores to your Records Officer rather than throw them away in disgust (see ii) above) !

Classification Scheme

The classification scheme marks the performance of an archer during the shooting season.

Classification Rules

1. Outdoor and Indoor classifications are separate and also for each bow type.
Outdoor classifications run through :-
3rd Class, 2nd Class, 1st Class, Bowman(B), Master Bowman(MB), Grand Master Bowman(GMB) for seniors
3rd Class, 2nd Class, 1st Class, Junior Bowman(JB), Junior Master Bowman(JMB) for juniors.
(Note that MB, GMB and JMB classifications have to be applied for from GNAS)

Indoor classifications run through :-
H, G, F, E, D, C, B, A
2. A classification is achieved by shooting 3 qualifying or better scores during the season.
3. The current best classification is held for up to a year.
(However, in Stafford Archers, that classification will only be recorded until a new classification is achieved in the next season!)

Note that, unlike the handicap, classifications have to be earned all over again in the following season!

Records Officer
Stafford Archers
February 2010