

# Tournament and Practice Etiquette



Archery is a sport of focus. As such, there are a number of considerations all archers need to have when shooting together in practice or a tournament. The following is a list of considerations for proper etiquette (behavior) while shooting. We would expect all WMAC archers to behave in a manner that respects the sport and one's fellow archers. This includes exhibiting the following manners and practices.

## **Any Time:**

- Always follow appropriate range rules, including attention to whistle-commands or warning lights, shooting lines, and other rules for practice.
- Stay behind the shooting until shooting by all archers is complete, and the "clear range" (three whistle-blasts) signal is given.
- Never nock an arrow or shoot while someone is downrange, even if on the other side of the range.
- Always shoot from the shooting line.
- Do not engage in play that is inappropriate, or could result in injury or damage of equipment.
- Do not talk in a loud voice or make unnecessary noise or movement while other archers are shooting.
- Do not make any exclamation or movement on the shooting line that might affect another archer during shooting. This includes stepping away from the line when shooting is done, not swinging equipment in ways that may touch other archers, or making movements that push an archer out of the way or into other lanes through either physical contact or taking personal space.
- Check equipment for loose connectors, strings, malfunctioning parts, or other safety hazards on a regular basis (generally every shooting end). Check for cracks in arrows or limbs.
- Do not stand and watch everyone get out or put away equipment. All archers should make a point of assisting where possible.

## **Tournament Considerations**

- Always follow appropriate rules for safety commands.
- Watch behavior during all aspects of the tournament, including breaks. Do not engage in play that potentially disrupts archers or equipment, or that simply represents unsafe, unkind, or other inappropriate behavior. Your actions reflect on you and your archery club.
- Do not talk in a loud voice during shooting, or make noises that could disrupt archers. This is true of both archers and spectators.
- Do not call out scores loudly for others to hear. The only person who needs to call arrow scores is the caller for each target bale. Spectators should not be calling out scores to archers.
- Do not talk to another competitor/archer who obviously prefers to be silent or keep to themselves.
- Do not ask about scores of archers except when doing scoring on your own target bale. Similarly, do not talk about scores repeatedly to others.
- Do not swear or cheer. Do so inwardly, not to the rest of the world.
- Do not touch the target bale or arrows while calling scores.
- Mark all arrow holes. Do not use the bale to "even" out arrows after being pulled, as this can dimple the target, which can impact scores in the event of a bounceout.
- Do not walk up and down the line calling scores, or checking on other archers' scores.
- Focus on the scoring at your own target bale. Do not check out arrows or scores of competitors.
- Do not offer advice on form, equipment, or any aspect of shooting to another archer unless asked.
- Do not touch other archers equipment, arrows, or scoresheets. This can result in disqualification.
- Do not comment on your placing relative to other archers, or share scores with other archers beyond your target bale.
- Do not continually look for stray arrows and hold up the shooting line. Have extra arrows so that you can shoot if an arrow is lost.
- Do not collect arrows until a target has been scored.
- If scoring, make sure to check your scores with your fellow scorer before adding totals, and definitely before leaving the target bale and shooting another line. Misprints are marked as the lower score.
- Check addition during and at the end of the tournament. Mistakes that result in misprints in score result in the lower score.
- Wear appropriate clothing for the tournament rules.
- Do not seek to hurt the experience of any archer in the tournament, either through inappropriate scoring, embarrassment, trash-talk, or physical harm to the archer or equipment. Make sure archery is fun for all!