

**2019 Virginia 4-H Archery Championship**

**General Rules**

**October 5 – 6, 2019**

**Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center**

If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Holiday Lake 4-H Center at 434-248-5444 (TDD 800-828-1120) during the business hours of 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM by the deadline.

By entry in these events, the team coach verifies that those youth entered are *bona fide* members of the 4-H program in their respective club/county, knowledgeable and proficient in the safe use of the equipment, and knowledgeable of the general rules of the events. Match and/or range officials may dismiss or disqualify any participant if he/she believes the participant does not demonstrate the basic proficiency and knowledge required. Violation of any of these policies and/or rules is grounds for disqualification and dismissal from the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship.

The Virginia 4-H Archery Championship consists of 2 disciplines with 3 events in each:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Discipline** | **Event 1** | **Event 2** | **Event 3** |
| Archery Compound | FITA Round (½ FITA) | Field Round (½ course) | 3-D Round |
| Archery Recurve | Field Round (½ course) | FITA Round (½ FITA) | 3-D Round |

The above listing is not a shooting order. Shooting orders will be provided upon check-in prior to the actual start of the matches. Every effort will be made to provide practice or warm-up time on the day prior to each event.

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**General Rules**

**I. Participation**

1. **4-H Membership** – All 4-H Shooting Sports members in good standing and meeting the criteria below are eligible to compete in 4-H shooting sports events, subject to limitations imposed by the specific event and the rules for active membership instituted by Virginia 4-H. Official 4-H enrollment is required.
2. **Age Requirements** – Participants must be 14 to 18 years of age on January 1st of 2019, Eligible to shoot in the match if born anytime in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, or 2005.
3. **Individual Participation** – All individuals participating as team members are competing concomitantly as individuals. Where teams cannot be formed, individual competitors may compete in the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship for individual awards and recognition.
4. **Team Composition for the VA 4-H Archery Championship** - Teams are composed of no less than 3 and no more than 4 individuals.
5. **Team Representation** - No participant may be a member of more than one team or represent more than one 4-H Shooting Sports program in the state event. This does not preclude individuals who change residences and are otherwise eligible from participating as members on any team in 4-H events after meeting the eligibility requirements of the sponsoring 4-H Shooting Sports program.
6. **Event Participation** – Each of the two disciplines in this competition includes three different events. A given team or individual is restricted to participation in the events in only one discipline in the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship, i.e. no individual may compete in more than one discipline in the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship. Participants are expected to complete all individual events in the discipline they represent.
7. **Amateur Status** – Participants must have amateur status in the discipline they are competing in at the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship. Individuals engaging in any of the following practices would disqualify the individual from competing in related events at the National Championship. Amateurism requirements do not allow:

* Contracts with professional teams
* Salary for participating in athletics
* Prize money above actual and necessary expenses
* Tryouts, practice or competition as a professional team
* Benefits from an agent or prospective agent
* Agreement to be represented by an agent
* Delayed initial full-time collegiate enrollment to participate in organized sports competition

**II. Conduct**

**1. 4-H Image and Honor -** The Virginia 4-H Archery Championship is a youth event showcasing a major component of the 4-H program in Virginia and nationally. Its nature demands that all of us involved in the event from the match directors and state coordinators to the young people, parents and coaches participating must put forward the best image of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program and the 4-H program generally. To protect that public image, use of alcoholic beverages and any use of tobacco products by minors is not permitted on the grounds of the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship. Violation of this policy is grounds for disqualification and dismissal from the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship.

**2. Knowledge of Rules and Procedures** – Where possible, each event in this program has been associated with the appropriate National Governing Body (NGB) for that event. Exceptions to NGB rules are noted in the “Synopsis”. Participants and coaches are responsible for reading the rules, understanding procedures used in each event, and complying with the rules and standards involved. Questions are encouraged to clarify areas of confusion or misunderstanding. Ignorance of the rules does not obviate their existence. Participants are responsible for knowing the rules of their events and complying with them. Learning the rules is part of the educational process for shooting sports competitors.

**3. Dress Code** - Participants and coaches are expected to dress appropriately for the events in which they participate. This dress code should be followed at all times during the event – from check-in to closing ceremonies including practice time. Team uniforms or shirts are encouraged, but not required. Both young people and adults should wear attire appropriate for the weather while remaining modest. While these codes can leave a lot to interpretation, it is important to recognize that individual choices can at times, bring unwanted attention either to an individual or to the group as a whole.

* Shorts, skorts, and skirts must be at least finger-tip length, with arms extended and shoulders relaxed, while standing, so that modesty is maintained in all shooting positions.
* Tank tops with spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, bare midriffs, low necklines, or otherwise revealing clothing will not be allowed.
* Clothing with sexually suggestive wording or graphics; and alcohol or tobacco advertisement is not appropriate.
* Leggings (tight fitting/yoga-type stretch pants) are allowed when worn underneath compliant shorts, skorts or skirts.

Range officials and shoot organizers will enforce dress codes, if required. All competitors, coaches, parents, and family members must remember that they may be photographed or interviewed for use by local, regional, or national media. Let’s do all we can to make sure that is a positive image for 4-H!

**4. Footwear Policy -** Participants are required to wear shoes that completely cover the foot at all practices and events during the State Contest.  Examples of footwear **not** acceptable, but not limited to, include: open-toe shoes, sandals, clogs, crocks, flip-flops, and bare feet.

**5. Behavior and Sportsmanship** - All competitors, coaches, and spectators will demonstrate the highest levels of sportsmanship, supporting the objectives and ideals promoted by the 4-H program in general and the 4-H Shooting Sports Program in particular. Participants or coaches will render aid and/or testimony if asked to do so by any match official. All competitors, coaches, and observers are expected to conform to appropriate state 4-H Code of Conduct, expectations, or volunteer agreements, as well as to the National 4-H Shooting Sports Program Code of Conduct, not only to the letter, but in its intent.

**III. Range and Facilities**

1. No dogs or other pets allowed on the premises of Holiday Lake 4-H Education Center.
2. The use of alcohol is prohibited at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center premises.
3. Smoking is prohibited in any 4-H Center buildings. Smoking is allowed on the decks of the dining hall and on the porch of the office. Butts must be disposed of in the butt cans.
4. Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center prohibits the transportation of persons in non-passenger vehicles (*i.e. in the back of pick-up trucks or vehicles without seat*)
5. Damage to the property or premises of Holiday Lake 4-H Education Center is the responsibility of the group. Cost of repairs and/or replacement will be included on the final billing, or sent to the contact person once an appropriate estimate has been conducted. The group will be held responsible for payment.

**IV. Equipment Check-in**

1. Sharing of Equipment: Sharing equipment is allowed, but no more than two people on a team may share a piece of equipment. This is an allowance that helps those teams and individuals with limited resources, while at the same time, helps match efficiency by limiting the number of relays that must be conducted.
2. All archery equipment must be checked prior to the start of official competition. Equipment certification will start during the check-in period, and stickers will be attached to verify that equipment was checked-in. Spot check of equipment may take place on the range prior to, during, or after any match. Chief Range Officers may verify check-ins on the range. Spot checks prior to or following any competitive event are permitted and likely. Competitors whose equipment does not meet the event standards will be given an opportunity to adjust or to modify equipment to bring it into compliance prior to a second check. Check-in staff may be able to assist in that process if needed. Equipment failing to meet specifications during on-range spot checks will result in disqualification.
3. Competitors are limited to checking in a maximum of three bows during the official equipment check-in period. Chief Range Officers may verify backup archery equipment, if needed, on the practice range.
4. Competitors are encouraged to bring an ample amount of arrows as there will be a strict two minute period to search for arrows that have gone past the intended target. Any arrows not found within the two minute period must be left behind. If time, weather and lighting conditions permit, the competitor and coaches may return to the range with a Virginia 4-H Archery Championship staff agent once all shooting for that day has been completed.
5. **Equipment check-in is scheduled for Saturday only, from 7-9 a.m. No equipment check-in is scheduled for Sunday.**

**V. Practice Rounds**

1. Practice on all ranges, where permitted, will be supervised by the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship Range Officers. The Chief Range Officers will make a concentrated effort to allow all competitors an opportunity to practice if desired. Monopolization of ranges will not be permitted. All competitors and coaches are requested to be courteous and respectful in this regard.

2. Where practice on competition ranges is not permitted, shoot management will attempt to provide an alternative practice site.

3.Where practice is not permitted on competition ranges, no shooter, coach or other individual aside from

authorized range staff shall preview, walk, scout, use range finding devices, or attempt to inform competitors of shooting distances, shot placement, or other information designed to give the shooter an advantage.

**VI. Health and Safety**

1. **Medical Consent Form and Adult Supervision**

It is the responsibility of each team to have the appropriate state health consent and release forms for each participant. An adult supervisor or coach must be present at each event site with immediate access to those forms during events. They must also have access to them in off hours. The VA 4-H Shooting Education Program and Holiday Lake 4-H Center are not responsible for medical authorizations or health histories of the competitors.

**2. Safety**

Safety is the first priority for range staff, competitors, coaches, and spectators. Standard and accepted range and shooting safety rules will be followed at all times. Any site-specific safety considerations will be announced at the appropriate venues. Match Directors, Range officers, or other event staff may caution, warn, or eject any person on any range for unsafe behavior. Such ejection may result in forfeited scores, disqualification or ejection from the grounds. Any spectator contributing to unsafe behavior or rules violations may be barred from the ranges by Virginia 4-H Archery Championship staff or event management at any level.

**3. Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices**

a. Except in emergency situations, cell phones, radios, or other electronic communication devices may not be used on or in the immediate vicinity of competitive ranges during active competition.

b. Essential communication may take place off the ranges where the process will not interfere with competitors in any venue or compromise safe operation of the range.

**4. Ranging, Walking or Previewing Ranges**

In any contest where estimating ranges is inherent in the contest, use of range finders, previewing ranges, communicating distances to later competitors or similar actions is not allowed. These actions are grounds for disqualification for any individual or team involved.

**5. Eye Protection Requirement**

**Eye Protection:** Adequate eye protection (shooting glasses, safety glasses or safety goggles, or hardened prescription glasses) is strongly advised for the archery events. Coaches or spectators on or near shooting lines are subject to the same advisement.

**VII. Reasonable Accommodation**

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship, the individual or club/county coordinator **MUST** contact the host Event Director, James Bass, before completing the registration process and prior to the registration deadline of October 2, 2019. Those instances require a written petition supported by a physician's written statement detailing the accommodation, the issues preventing the use of standard position or positions, or modifications in equipment required to permit participation in the event.

**VIII. Coaching**

1. **Coaches** – Each team must have one (and only one) adult coach, designated on the registration form, and present during practice and competition. The designated coach is the only adult permitted to discuss procedures, ask questions, or advocate for his or her team with range officials. The coach must be designated on the official entry form and approved by the appropriate club/county 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator or their official representative.

**2. Coaching** – As a general rule, limited coaching is permitted as described in this section; but some events and some Chief Range Officers may have different guidelines for coaches.  It is each coach’s responsibility to know what is allowed in the discipline/event they are coaching. Coaches may not create a disturbance, upset either their competitors or others, create unnecessary delays, or otherwise interfere with the safe and efficient operation of the range and execution of the matches. Coaches may assist competitors during prep time, setting up equipment, spotting sightseer shots, and offering positive advice and support. Unless called to the line by range officials, coaches will remain in the coaches’ area. The coach’s area will be set up behind the competitor ready line. Coaches will remain behind that line once preparation time ends, unless called to a shooting point by the referee. Once record shooting begins, no coaching is permitted unless initiated by the shooter through the range officer and with his or her permission. Coaches may NOT initiate contact with their shooters. Coaches may not handle equipment once the match has begun, nor may they advance to the shooting line unless authorized by the range officer. Coaches may use spotting scopes to observe shot placement. Specific coaching instructions may be issued on the ranges for each event.

**IX. Questions and Disputes**

**Only** competitors may review their targets and challenge scoring. Any competitors on the target butt shall refer any questions about the value of an arrow in the target face to a Judge before any arrows are drawn.

A mistake on the scorecard may be corrected before the arrows are drawn, provided that all the competitors on the target agree on the correction. The correction shall be witnessed and initialed by all the competitors on the target. Any other disputes concerning entries on a scorecard shall be referred to a Judge.

Once any arrows are drawn, the right to challenge expires, and scores will be deemed correct as posted.

**X. Awards and Scoring Procedures**

**Awards**

* Overall Recognition – High overall individuals and high overall teams will be recognized based upon results from all three (3) of the events. Members of top 3 teams and top 10 individuals in each discipline are recognized.
* **Type Of Award To Be Determined** - 1st, 2nd, 3rd place team members/individuals
  + If at least 4 teams compete in an event, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place team award(s) will be awarded
  + If 3 teams compete in an event, 1st and 2nd place team award(s) will be awarded
  + If 2 teams compete in an event, only 1st place team award(s) will be awarded
  + If only 1 team competes in an event, no team award(s) will be awarded

**Type Of Award To Be Determined** - 4th-5th place team members; 4th–10th place individuals

**Scoring**

* Overall Individual Awards - are determined by percentage points (%) score in all 3 events, not by cumulative raw scores. Scores from any “Finals” match will not be included in overall individual awards.
* Overall Team – will be determined the total of all three (3) daily team percentage points. Scores from any “Finals” match will not be included in overall team awards.

**Percentage Points (%)**

Percentage scoring can help equalizes the point differences between events. For example: a raw score potential of 720 points in the FITA event compared to 330 points in in the 3D event.

It also better reflects the relative excellence of competitors compared to placement points. Most people feel that relative excellence should be considered when determining High Overall Awards within a shooting discipline/category. The percentage scoring method permits this.

A modified % will be used at the Virginia 4-H Archery Championship. Using the highest score recorded for a particular event as the baseline rather than the “perfect” score helps in equalizing the various difficulties of different events.

Modified % Formula: Individual Score = % score

Highest Score

Percentage scoring is also a better alternative for determining for High Overall Individual awards because tie-breakers will not affect the result as does placement points. Breaking ties does not handicap an individual (or team) when figuring High Overall Awards.

**Ties**

Ties will only be broken to determine top 10 individual awards and top 5 team awards. Each event has its own specific method for breaking tie scores. Ties for high overall individuals and high overall teams by percentage points will be broken using the placements in events.