Australian Bowhunters Association Inc.

Rules of Shoot

Australian Bowhunters Association Inc.

ABN 79 750 431 225

ABA National Field Round ..... - 4 -

Rule 1. Philosophy ..... - 4 -

Rule 2. Application ..... - 4 -

Rule 3. Eligibility ..... - 4 -

Rule 4. Entry Qualification ..... - 5 -

Rule 5. Competition Status ..... - 5 -

Rule 6. Competition and Shooting Styles: ..... - 5 -

Rule 7. Fees ..... - 8 -

Rule 8. Official Shoots ..... - 8 -

Rule 9. Shoot Divisions and Grades ..... - 9 -

Rule 10. Adjustments of Grading ..... - 10 -

Rule 11. Targets ..... - 11 -

Rule 12. Shooting Position ..... - 12 -

Rule 13. Scoring ..... - 13 -

Rule 14. Course Approval ..... - 14 -

Rule 15. Safety ..... - 14 -

Rule 16. Shoot Rules ..... - 14 -

Rule 17. Special Attention ..... - 15 -

Rule 18. Awards ..... - 15 -

Rule 19. Host Club ..... - 16 -

Rule 20. Operation ..... - 17 -

DEFINITIONS ..... - 17 -

National 3D Round ..... - 22 -

The Aussi Field Round ..... - 25 -

National Indoor Round ..... - 27 -

Knife Throwing ..... - 29 -

Tomahawk Throwing ..... - 31 -

Guidelines for Safe Use of Practice Butts ..... - 33 -

Bowcheck Policy ..... - 34 -

Rules for Amateur Status ..... - 37 -

Professional Rules ..... - 43 -

Policy for Non-ABA Member Participation ..... - 47 -

These Rules are accurate as at the 24th May 2011. Any subsequent amendments will be included as at the notified effective date of operation following amendment to the Master Computer File.

ABA National Field Round

Rule 1. Philosophy

It is the philosophy of the Australian Bowhunters Association Inc. that field archery is the natural and logical extension of bowhunting, each supporting the other for the benefit of both, having origin in the historic form of instinctive archery. It is the policy of this Association that the A.B.A. National Barebow Round shall in all respects encourage, preserve and maintain the practices of the instinctive format of field archery. The Association also acknowledges the increasing technology of archery equipment and in accordance with the Associations objectives provides a National Sighted Round to recognize the development of modern archery equipment. In so providing, the rules for the National Sighted Round, other than for equipment used, shall mirror that of the National Barebow Round

Rule 2. Application

These rules are designed for maximum application in Branch, State and National Title tournaments.

Where it is impracticable to provide full division of competition grades and shooting divisions, the Club, Branch, State or National organisers shall exercise such discretion as necessary, and adapt such grades and divisions in any combination or combinations, as is desirable and necessary.

Rule 3. Eligibility

These rules shall be the standard requirements for Official Competitions recognised by A.B.A. Inc. and are to be complied with in all respects, other than where discretion is granted by the Shoot Director or their representative.

All competitors in Branch, State, and National Titles must be members of an affiliated Club and members of the Association. This Rule does not apply to A.B.A. Inc., members who for reasons of location or occupation and lifestyle are unable to join an affiliated Club.

A person, who is not a financial member of A.B.A. Inc., at the time, shall not be permitted to compete in an Official A.B.A. Inc. Shoot/Competition at any level. Proof of membership must be provided if asked for by the shoot director or their representative.

Rule 4. Entry Qualification

No restriction shall exist, other than as provided under the eligibility Rule, for qualification to enter the A.B.A. Inc. competition program at any level whatsoever.

Rule 5. Competition Status

All A.B.A. competition shall be of amateur status, except that should a need arise to recognise professional competitions or competition division in Australia, definition of status shall be according to:

a) the Rules governing amateur competition as defined under Chapter 10

b) the Rules governing professional competition as defined under Chapter 11

Where professional competition is introduced, the names of all persons competing as professionals shall be entered in a National Register maintained for that purpose.

No Branch, State or National Australian A.B.A. Title competition will be recognised without the competition being approved as such by the National Vice-President, Field Division. Application to hold a Title competition shall be made at least six (6) months prior to the event. No approval shall be granted where all requirements of A.B.A competition have not been met.

Rule 6. Competition and Shooting Styles:

Official Shoot: An Official Shoot shall include:

a) Inter-Club Shoots conducted as part of the A.B.A. Inc. Branch program under control of Branch A.B.A. Inc., on a monthly basis.

b) Branch Championships.

c) State Championships.

d) Australian Championships.

e) One shoot per month by a Branch or Club where an Official A.B.A. monthly inter-club shoot program has not been introduced.

f) Such other shoots as approved by the A.B.A. Inc.

Shooting Grade: A representative measurement of skill against determined levels of scoring, based only on results of scores shot at Official Shoots, other than for a Clubs initial grading or allocation of flight to a member.

Shooting Styles:

Barebow:

Equipment shall conform to the basics of instinctive barebow archery and shall be limited to:

a) Bow, arrow, string and accessories shall be free from sight marks, blemishes, and/or laminations which could be used for aiming.

b) No device of any type that may be used for sighting may be used or attached to the archer's equipment.

c) One consistent nocking point only is permitted, which may be indicated by 1 or 2 nock locators. If 2 locators are used, the arrow must be nocked between the locators**.**

d) One consistent anchor point is required. String walking and/or face walking are not permitted.

e) All arrows used shall be identical in length, weight, diameter, fletchings and nocks, without regard to colour and allowance for wear.

f) Bow weight shall not be adjusted during a round unless instructed by the Shoot Director or their representative.

g) Brush buttons and/or string silencers no closer than 12" above or below the nocking point, and bow quiver installed on the opposite side of sight window. Stabilisers not exceeding 12" are permitted. The measurement of the stabiliser shall be defined as the total length of the stabiliser including all other attachments (e.g. vari-weight systems and compensators), and shall be measured from the back of the bow.

h) An archers arrows must be clearly identified with one, two or three rings on the back half of the arrow. Arrows should be shot in the correct numerical sequence (1, 2, 3)

i) Draw checks, manufactured or home-made, which are not an integral part of bow manufacture, or design, are not permitted.

j) Target identification cards may be carried. These should be without sight marks or indicators.

Sighted Division:

Equipment shall conform to that provided as follows and shall be applicable for all Adult and Junior Sighted Division archers.
Cub Sighted Division archers may only shoot Freestyle Limited – Recurve & Compound (F.S.) or Freestyle Unlimited. (FU)

Freestyle Limited - Recurve & Compound (F.S.)

a) Any type of sight is permitted.

b) Release aids are not permitted.

Freestyle Unlimited (FU)

a) Any type of bow, sight or release aid is permitted.

Bowhunter Unlimited (B.U.)

a) Any type of bow and release aid is permitted. A sight with a maximum of 5 and a minimum of 3 pins that must not be moved during a round will be allowed.

b) Pin sights are to be of straight stock from point of anchor to sighting points with only one sighting reference possible from each pin or reference point. Hooded pins or scope sights are not permitted.

c) Release aids are permitted.

d) A kisser button or string peep sight will be permitted but not both. No form of magnifying device may be incorporated in, or attached to, the peep sight.

e) Pin Guards/brush guards may be used provided that the distance between the bottom of the top guard and the top pin must be greater than the distance between the top pin and the next highest pin. The same clearance as for the top sight pin applies also to the bottom pin and the bottom guard.

f) A levelling device is not permitted.

g) One permanent nocking point only, is allowed on the string. Nocking point may be marked by one or two nock locators. A D-Loop is permitted.

h) All arrows used shall be identical in length, weight, diameter, fletchings and nocks, without regard for colour, with allowance for wear and tear.

i) A bow quiver installed on the opposite side of the sight window with no part of the quiver visible in the bow window is permitted. One straight stabiliser, coupling device included, if used, not exceeding twelve inch as measured from the back of the bow may be used. No forked stabiliser or any counter balance will be legal. The plunger (where the stabiliser is screwed in) is part of the stabiliser.

j) Bow weight shall not be adjusted during any one round.

Bowhunter Limited - (B.L.)

a) Same rules apply as for Bowhunter Unlimited except that the release aids are not permitted.

Rule 7. Fees

Nomination fees charged at Official A.B.A. shoots shall be at the discretion of the Branch or Club concerned.

Prospective members are provided with ABA Inc. Insurance for a period of three months prior to joining the association.

Non-ABA Inc archers are able to participate, but not compete, in ABA activities with full insurance coverage as outlined under the "Non-ABA Participation Policy".

Rule 8. Official Shoots

All Official Shoots, whether conducted as part of a Branch Inter-Club Program or by a Club, shall be notified in advance to the Vice-President of the Field Division and any Shoot, not so notified, shall not be recognised as an Official Shoot.

Rounds for Official Shoots shall be:

Club and Inter-Club Branch Program

1 round, complete and separate, by 20 official A.B.A. target faces using 3 arrows, and 1 round, complete and separate, by 20 official A.B.A. targets faces using 1 arrow.

Branch and State Titles

2 rounds by 3 arrows and 2 rounds by 1 arrow as above, provided that a Branch Title may comprise 1 round by 3 arrow and 1 round by 1 arrow and the format of such other rounds as recommended to and approved by the Vice President, Field Division.

National Titles

As determined by the National Field Executive, from time to time.

The score results for all Official Shoots are to be listed and forwarded to the National Score Recorder showing the scores for the 3 arrow and 1 arrow rounds as separate scores within 14 days after the completion of the event. Where results are not forwarded to the National Score Recorder recognition as an Official Shoot shall be withdrawn.

Rule 9. Shoot Divisions and Grades

The application of official Divisions and Grades shall be at the discretion of the Shoot Director, subject to numbers participating in a particular competition, and subject to:

Divisions for all Official A.B.A. Barebow Shoots shall be:-

Adults, Juniors and Cubs

Barebow Compound, Recurve, Traditional Longbow, Modern Longbow each providing for male and female divisions.

Veterans

Veterans Barebow providing for male and female divisions.

Divisions for all Official ABA Sighted Shoots shall be:-

Adults and Juniors

Freestyle Limited, Freestyle Unlimited, Bowhunter Limited and Bowhunter Unlimited, each providing for male and female divisions.

Cubs
Freestyle Limited, Freestyle Unlimited each providing for male and female divisions.

Veterans
Veterans Sighted providing for male and female divisions.

Where agreement has been reached by majority decision, a Branch may elect to combine male and female divisions for official shoots.

Age for Veterans Division is 55 years. The decision to participate in the veteran division is not binding on subsequent competitions.

Juniors: All persons under 17 years of age and over 13 years of age, as of date of commencement of a competition, shall compete in the Junior Division and this Division shall be graded/ flighted .

Cubs: All persons under 13 years of age, as of date of commencement of a competition, shall compete in the Cub Division and this division shall be graded / flighted.
Cubs are permitted to use release aids on the proviso that they have deemed to be proficient in the use of a release aid. This shall be judged by the Club Coach, or in their absence, the Branch Coach.

A member may be graded in each Shoot Equipment Division, where Grades shall be:

Barebow Division Grades	**Adults**	**Juniors and Cubs**	
Award Status only			
Grand Master	700 plus		
Competition Status			
Master	650 plus	Advanced	650 plus
A Grade	550 plus	A Grade	550 plus
B Grade	450 plus	B Grade	450 plus
C Grade	350 plus	C Grade	350 plus
D Grade	-350	D Grade	- 350

Sighted Division Grades	**Adults**
Award Status Only	
Grand Master All Divisions	780

Adults and Juniors

Flight	Freestyle Limited	Freestyle Unlimited
1	720 plus	760 plus
2	720 minus	760 minus

Flight	Bowhunter Limited	Bowhunter Unlimited
1	720 plus	740 plus
2	720 minus	740 minus

Cubs

Flight	Freestyle Limited	Freestyle Unlimited
1	720 plus	760 plus
2	720 minus	760 minus

Where it is impractical for a Club or Branch to provide the full scope of grades and divisions, Shoot Organizers shall adopt such grades and divisions in any combination, as is desirable and necessary.

Rule 10. Adjustments of Grading

a) A score for grading purposes shall be the combined total score of scores shot on a 3 arrow round and a 1 arrow round of an Official Shoot, other than for a Club's initial grading of a member.

b) A member shall initially compete in 3 grading shoots at Club level. Results of these shoots shall be recorded by the Club and forwarded to the Branch Score Recorder for determination and registration of official grade. The member shall be notified of their official grade by the Branch Score Recorder. Where a Club has not had an opportunity to initially grade a member prior to an official competition that member shall participate in the first day of competition and be graded on the first day's score and shall then complete the competition in that grade.

c) Regrading of a member shall occur on the basis of scores shot at Official Shoots only. Where no Branch or Inter-Club Shoot program is in operation, grading shall be adjusted on the results of the Official Club Shoots.

d) Upgrading of a member shall occur automatically when that member shoots scores higher than that attached to his or her present grade at 3 Official Shoots over any 12 month period. In the case of the Grand Master Award, the Official Shoots must be consecutive.

e) Downgrading of a member shall occur automatically when that member shoots three (3) consecutive scores of a lower grade, than that attached to his or her present grade at Official Shoots for a period of 12 months. If a member does not record any scores in any 12 month period then they shall be regraded using the grading methods as provided at Rule 10(a).

f) Progression from Cub to Junior and Junior to Senior Divisions shall be automatic on exceeding the age limit. Those progressing on Age will be classified as ungraded and will be graded on their first grading score at competition.

g) The issue by Clubs or Branches of a card stating a member's grade is recommended.

h) Any archer, who completes a National, State or Branch Championships in a medal position, will be regraded accordingly using the completed round scores, for future competition.

Rule 11. Targets

For all Official Shoots, targets must be approved A.B.A. targets, set at distances laid down herein for series used. Social or fun shoots organized by a Club or Clubs may use targets at the discretion of the organisers, however such targets must conform to A.B.A. policy in regard to the use of contentious targets or animal faces.

Target distance for all designated Official Shoots shall be as follows:-

Series	Seniors Min - Max	Juniors Min – Max	Cubs Min - Max
1	5.6m to 8.4 m	5.6m to 8.4 m	5.6m to 8.4 m
2	12m to 18m	9m to 13.5m	6m to 9m
3	16m to 24m	12m to 18m	8 m to 12m
4	24m to 36m	18m to 27m	12m to 18m
5	32m to 48m	24m to 36m	16m to 24m

Targets may be set at any distance within the minimum and maximum adjustment, and no more than one target per series shall be set at the minimum and maximum distances allowed.

The Official Round shall provide 20 targets, being four targets of each of the 5 series approved. A round may include, subject to the approval of the Shoot Director, a maximum of 2 positional shots. i.e. tree stands (see page 19)
All field archery target faces when erected on the butt shall be vertical or within 10 degrees of vertical.
All field archery target faces when erected on the butt shall be within 10 degrees of square of the shooting peg.

Rule 12. Shooting Position

The Shooting Position shall be suitably identified by a marker which shall carry the following identifying colours:

Seniors: = Red; Juniors: = Green; Cubs: = Yellow.

The shooting positions for Official Shoots must be changed for each and every shoot.

Where competitor numbers require, two shooting positions for each target may be adopted, provided that in the case of series 1 and 2 targets, 2 target faces will also be provided and be positioned side by side on the target butt. Those competitors who shoot from the left marker for the first 10 targets shall shoot from the right marker for the last 10 targets, and those who shoot from the right for the first 10 shall shoot the last 10 from the left marker.

The shooting position shall be such that NO part of the body trunk shall be forward of the Marker. In the standing position one (1) foot MUST touch the marker. A radius of positions adopted shall be the distance of spread used in a normal standing stance.

Shoot Directors shall ensure that in setting out an Official Course that all shots are possible from this position. Particular attention is to be given to Juniors, Cubs, Left-handed competitors, Light-weight bows and Longbows.

Stretching outside this shooting position radius, for what might appear to be a better arrow flight path, is not permitted.

Range Captains are to ensure that the shooting position for a Cub is such that Cubs will have a level footing.

Rule 13. Scoring

Scoring shall be on the diminishing score system:-

1A = 20	2A = 14	3A = 8
1B = 18	2B = 12	3B = 6
1C = 16	2C = 10	3C = 4

No arrows in the target butt may be touched until the arrows have been scored.

Designation of responsibilities for Shoot Groups shall be at the discretion of the group members. A suggested method for designating roles shall be:

Group Captain	1st name on card
Scorer	2nd name on card
Arrow Puller	3rd name on card
Checker	4th name on card

All scores are to be totalled and checked on completion of each round. The total score is to be initialled as correct and the score card handed in to the Shoot Director or Official controlling the Shoot. No corrections to the score card will be permitted once the scores have been officially recorded.

Arrows passing through the target face but still in the butt may be pushed back by the Group Captain, and scored accordingly.

Skids or glances off the ground, or significant deflections from other surfaces, into the target shall not be scored. "Bounce-outs" believed to have hit the scoring area shall be re-shot if agreement cannot be reached as to the score of the arrow.
Arrows believed to have passed through the scoring area but not retained in the butt shall be re-shot.
An arrow hitting another within the target and remaining embedded in that arrow shall have the same score as that arrow.

Where a line separates one scoring zone from another, the line shall be in the lower scoring area. The higher score zone must have been actually penetrated by the arrow, however minimally to record the higher score.

In the case of tied scores all archers achieving that score shall be recognised with equal ranking.

An archer who shoots arrows in excess of the prescribed number shall lose the score of the arrow or arrows of the highest value.

Rule 14. Course Approval

All courses for an Official Shoot shall be inspected and approved by the Shoot Director and no shoot shall be recognised as an Official Shoot without such approval being granted.

In the case of an Official Shoot the course shall not have been previously shot.

Rule 15. Safety

The Shoot Director shall adjudicate on safety issues on the course and in all matters the Shoot Director's decision shall be final.

Group Captains shall be responsible for the conduct of the group during the shoot and shall ensure that each member of the group observes requirements of shoot conduct and format. Officials shall assist as required by the Shoot Director.

Rule 16. Shoot Rules

Shoot Groups shall not be less than 3 persons and not more than 6. The preferred number is 4. Numbers may be increased where 2 shoot positions are provided.

One group shall not hold up a following group by looking for lost arrows. Enough arrows shall be carried so that each member may continue shooting and return to find missing arrows when shooting is finished.

In the case of a group looking for lost arrows, one archer shall remain in clear view in front of the target face.

If for any other reason a group is holding up another group, the following group may be permitted to pass through.

No person shall move forward of the shooting marker without the permission of the Group Captain. No person may move forward to inspect the location of score zones, prior to shooting the target. No person shall return to the shooting position other than in the case of an arrow passing completely through the butt or a bounce out, and shall do so under the direction of the Group Captain.

No member may practice on any target of a course that is to be used for an Official Shoot, other than in the interests of safety, the Shoot Director or Delegate may shoot any part of the Course to check for safety aspects.

The host Club shall initially lay out the Official Course/s according to the requirements.

Prior to an Official Shoot, all equipment shall be checked by the Shoot Director and/or delegates to ensure that equipment complies with the requirements and that the equipment is in good order and repair. Responsibility for equipment compliance for a shoot division remains the sole responsibility of the archer.

An archer is not permitted to consume alcohol from the commencement of their day's shooting until the archer has completed all shooting activities. This includes all practice butt and warm-up activities as well as specialty and novelty events.
An archer transgressing this rule shall be disqualified from that day's competition.

No broadhead arrows are to be brought onto the course except as prescribed for a particular event as determined from time to time.

Clothing suitable for the sport is to be worn with safety, including visual safety, being the most important consideration and particular attention is to be given to the choice of footwear, that is, covered in shoes.

Arrows must be carried in an appropriate quiver.

Rule 17. Special Attention

Special attention by all Clubs and Branches is to be directed to the physical ability of members to draw a bow with due consideration to all aspects of safety and to any possible adverse effect to the user.

Particular attention is to be given to bow weights used by Juniors and Cubs, and where any Junior or Cub is considered to be unable to effectively control his or her bow, because of weight factors, the matter is to be discussed with the Junior or Cub's parents.

It shall be at the absolute discretion of the Shoot Director whether bow weight shall be reduced, or a lighter bow is to be used, or whether the member involved is permitted to continue shooting.
A minimum test of ability to control bow weight shall be to draw the bow to full draw, 3 times, in the correct method, to the satisfaction of the Shoot Director or their representative.

Rule 18. Awards

Non-A.B.A. persons shall not be permitted to compete in official ABA Shoots at any level. They may participate under the guidelines for "Policy for non-ABA Participation".

Standing awards for the field competition shall be the score Proficiency tab, the Master Bowman Badge, and the Grand Master Badge.

The Grand Master Badge shall be obtained by achieving the required grading score in three consecutive Official grading rounds.

The Grand Master Award shall only be made and presented by A.B.A. National. No award will be made where satisfactory evidence is not presented that all competition requirements have been met. Application for Grand Master shall be endorsed by the Branch Management Committee that all requirements for an Official Shoot were met.

National Record Scores may only be shot at the National Title Shoot.

Rule 19. Host Club

The following minimum standards are to be provided before an Official Shoot may be allocated to an accredited Club as Host Club for a Branch Inter-Club Shoot, a Branch or State or National Title:-

a) provide adequate ranges to host the particular tournament as appropriate

b) provide adequate practice ranges/butts and practice target faces suitable for the shoot to be hosted

c) provide adequate parking space; provide adequate camping space.

d) provide adequate toilet and shower facilities for numbers attending. (Simple bush type is acceptable subject to hygiene requirements.) and provide an adequate fresh water supply.

e) provide adequate Canteen facilities. Prices are to be reasonable.

f) provide a separate covered area for shoot control point together with tables as required by the Shoot Director.

g) to be a Club affiliated/associated with the Australian Bowhunters Association and to comply with A.B.A. policy in all respects.

h) to obtain prior approval of the Branch Controller for all media publicity of Club activities as such publicity affects National Policy regarding Field Archery and Bowhunting.

i) acceptance of nomination to host an Official A.B.A. Shoot carries automatic acceptance of requirements. A plea of ignorance of the Rules for Shoots will not be accepted. Additional funds may be available for national events with prior approval from the National Executive.

j) where a Club fails to observe these Rules for Shoots, the Branch Management Committee may require the Club to show cause why the Club should not be recognised as a Host Club and may, on a majority decision of that Committee, suspend the Club as a Host Club for a period not exceeding twelve months or to recommend to the National Executive such recommendations as considered necessary.

Rule 20. Operation

Applications for amendment to the Rules for Shoots are to be forwarded to the Vice-President of the Field Division and must carry the recommendation of the Branch Management Committee.
The Rules for Shoots may be amended from time to time by the National Executive as provided by the Constitution and Rules of the Association.

DEFINITIONS

1. The Veterans Division shall have no grades and shall make no distinction in bow type.
2. Range Finders may not be used in any Division in the A.B.A. National Round.
3. **Traditional Longbow Division** (short name "TLB") The definition of a TLB shall be:-

a) A one piece straight ended bow of any material, whether glued up of one or more laminations of materials, which when strung displays one continued unidirectional curve from the riser ends to the tips, which is measured as follows: When the strung bow is placed in a vertical position the angle as measured between the tangent of any point on the limb and an imaginary horizontal line must always decrease as this point is moved further away from the bow grip or riser ends. If there are any doubts about the curve being continuous and unidirectional then a string line stretched on the back of the bow from the riser ends to the commencement of the limb tip overlays will not show any gaps under it. If there are any gaps then the bow will fall into the MLB or Recurve Division.

b) The tip reinforcing may not exceed 25 mm in height, measured from the surface of the back of the bow limb, and may not exceed 50 mm in length , measured from the centre of the string groove towards the bow centre.

c) The bow may contain a window and an arrow shelf. The side of the window shall be curved over the full length of the window and rounded off at the point where the window intersects with the top of the riser or top bow limb. The window must not be cut past centre shot. The window and arrow shelf may be padded with leather or other material.

d) The arrows, belly, bow grip, bow window, string and arrow shelf shall be free of any marks or blemishes that may be used as sighting aids.

e) Any additions to the bow for the purpose of stabilization, levelling, sighting or draw checking are not permitted, and the inclusion of any of these items may cause the bow to be assessed as falling within the MLB or Recurve Division.

f) Only one knocking point shall be allowed on the string, which may be by one or two nock locators; if two nock locators are used the arrow must be nocked between them.

g) Arrows shall be wooden shafted. Fletched with feathers, and must be of the same length fletch and pile, with due allowance for wear and tear. The arrow must be free of any marks or blemishes that can be used as sighting aids. If the bow weighs over 50 pounds of draw weight (at the archers draw length) then the arrows shall carry at least 12 inches of fletching and have a point of at least 125 grains weight.

h) The bow must be shot with the " Mediterranean '' loose. In the case of physical deformity or handicap special dispensation shall be allowed.

i) One consistent anchor point shall be used and face walking is not permitted.

4. **Modern Longbow Division** (short name MLB): - the definition of a MLB under this sub–section shall be:-

a) A generally straight ended bow assembled from one or more sections of any material, whether glued up of one or more laminations of materials, which when strung displays a curvature from the riser ends to the limb tips. When strung the bow may display a slight reflex/deflex in the curvature of the limbs. PROVIDED the string ONLY touches at the string groove nocks. Any following of the string along the belly side of the bow limbs will classify the bow into the Recurve Division.

b) The tip reinforcing may not exceed 25mm in height, measured from the surface of the back of the bow limb, and may not exceed 50mm in length, measured from the centre of the string groove towards the bow centre.

c) The bow may contain a window and an arrow shelf. The window and Arrow shelf may be padded with leather or other material. An arrow rest may be fastened to the window and/ or arrow shelf. A finger or wrist sling may be used when shooting.

d) The arrows, belly, bow grip, bow window, string and arrow shelf or rest shall be free of any marks or blemishes that may be used as sighting marks.

e) Any additions to the bow for the purpose of stabilization, levelling, sighting or draw checking are not permitted, and the inclusion of any of these items may cause the bow to fall within the Recurve Division

f) Only one knocking point shall be allowed on the string which may be marked by one or two nock locators, if two knock locators are used the arrow must be knocked between them.

g) Arrows may be of any material and fletched with any material , and must be of the same length , fletch and pile, with due allowance for wear and tear . The arrow must be free of any marks and blemishes that can be used as sighting aids. If the bow weighs over 50 pounds of draw weight (at the archers draw length) then the arrows shall have a pile of at least 125 grains weight.

h) The bow must be shot using a finger release, and the index finger must touch the nock. In cases of physical deformity special dispensation shall be allowed.

i) One consistent anchor point shall be used, and face walking is not permitted.

5. **Historical Equipment Division** the definition under this sub–section shall be:-

a) In this division there shall be no distinction between the different configurations of bow design and material used. There shall be no grades or classes.

b) A Historical Bow is a bow recognised as such by the Association and is of known accepted usage during the period preceding the year 1900 and shall be either a self wood or a composite bow, which is made to a configuration which has established historical precedence. The inclusion of a form of arrow rest/shelf and a sight window cut-in are permitted provided such meet the historical configuration for that bow design. A bow constructed of historical materials, but having no historical precedence shall not be permitted.

c) The maximum draw weight of the bow shall not exceed its historical usage. Materials used to construct the bow must be materials historically used during the period of the bow's historical usage. However, modern glues/adhesives shall be used. Historical glues/adhesives are not permitted.

d) Historical string materials such as flax, hemp, sinew and other such materials are not permitted. Modern bow string material is not permitted, however B-50 material shall be the standard material.

e) Arrow shafts shall be made of wood and fletched with natural feather, attached by historical means. Modern arrow points/piles are permitted as are nocks. Arrow nocks cut into the shaft are not permitted.

f) Accessories such as thumb rings, woven nock positioners etc are permitted provided that such accessory was used in the historical sense. The onus of fact of historical usage shall rest with the shooter.

g) The onus shall rest with the shooter to ensure that equipment used is historically correct, and is that recognised by the Association. Documented evidence of authenticity shall be provided by the shooter on request.

6. All Official Shoots, defined under Rule 8, may be used for grading purposes except :-

a) the National Titles, where the format is not the official 3 arrow and 1 arrow rounds; and

b) subject to that where a Branch Title and a State Title fall in the same month, only one Shoot may be counted for grading purposes.

7. "Tree stands" shall be limited to no less than 1.2 metres square and shall be of safe construction. The shooting position shall be no closer than 300 mm from the forward edge. Access to the stand must be of safe construction, and provide tread with a minimum tread width of 200 mm. In a tree stand, the theory and principle of that of the standing position shall be adopted.

8. Binoculars/Monocular can be used in the ABA national Round, subject to the following:
   a) Binoculars/Monocular must not be able to be used as a range finding device. (i.e. there must not be any etching in the lenses nor have a device built-in, or otherwise, that would allow an archer, when focusing on the target, to be able to read a meter, dial or similar apparatus which will give a reading indicating the distance from the archer to the target.
   b) Archers intending to use binoculars/monocular in an ABA National round are to present them for inspection.
   c) Shoot Directors are to ensure that those members detailed to conduct bow equipment checks identify binoculars/monocular with similar identification as used in the bow checks. That identification of having been checked is not to be placed in a position which would limit the normal use of the binoculars or monocular.
   d) Binoculars/Monocular may be used at anytime.
   e) Archers with binoculars/monocular shall not use them to call the fall of arrows for other archers/shooters, except when asked to do so by the competitor.

9. The host Club is responsible for setting distances for an official shoot, and the host Club shall ensure that distances used are within the authorized parameters for designated target series.

   No person other than the Club Range Captain shall have knowledge of target distances. The Shoot Director shall be responsible for checking safety aspects of a range.

10. A Grading Round (consisting of a 3 arrow round followed by a 1 arrow round) shall be the first 3 and 1 arrow rounds conducted on the one day. Where other approved rounds are included in a shoot format, such other approved rounds shall be time-framed to ensure the grading round is conducted on the one day.

11. A Cub or Junior, with parent's consent, and on written notification approved by the Vice President, Field Division, may elect to compete in a higher age Division of competition. On so electing, and on being approved and competing in a higher age Division, the Cub or Junior shall not be permitted to return to previous age Division.

12. It is the expectation that an archer will maintain his/her equipment within the manufacturer's safety specifications. It is the responsibility of the archer to ensure that they comply with these specifications for the safety of themselves and the people that they shoot with.

    The Shoot Director shall have sole responsibility in any questions relating to equipment safety and it shall be the responsibility of the archer to provide the

manufacturer's specifications, and the archer's compliance with these, should their equipment be called into question.

If a Shoot Director believes that an archer's equipment does not comply with these requirements they can ask the archer to modify their equipment before they continue shooting or disqualify them from competition.

National 3D Round

The National 3D round has been designed for use for all levels of competition within the A.B.A. and its affiliate, and associate clubs.

The National 3D round is an alternative round to the IFAA 3D round and does not remove the IFAA round from official competition, but is provided as an alternative to it. The National 3D round shall consist of rounds as defined in the National Barebow Rules. The new A.B.A. National 3D round will come into effect as at the 1st. of January 2005, and shall be, and will remain the principle national competition 3D format for members of the A.B.A.

Rule 1. Eligibility

As Defined under the Rules for the National Barebow Round

Rule 2. Entry Qualification

As defined under the Rules for the National Barebow Round

Rule 3. Competition Status

As defined under the Rules for the National Barebow Round

Rule 4. Definition

Amateur and Professional status: see Chapters 10 & 11. As defined under the Rules for the National Barebow Round, and the National Sighted Round

Rule 5. Shooting Styles

As defined under the Rules for the National Barebow Round, and the National Sighted Round

Rule 6. Fees

Nomination fees charged at official A.B.A. shoots shall be at the discretion of the National, Branch or Club Committees concerned.

Rule 7. Grades and Flights

Current National Barebow Round and National Sighted Round grades shall be used. Ungraded archers will compete in the highest contented grade.

The application of official divisions, grades and flights shall be at the discretion of the shoot director subject to participating numbers in a particular competition.

Where it is impractical for a Club or Branch to provide the full range of Grades, Flights and divisions, subject to the special conditions of this rule, adopt such Grades, Flights and divisions in any combination as is desirable and necessary. However Veterans Division shall be provided in all Branch, State and National Title competitions.

Rule 8. Adjustment to Grades or Flights

National 3D round shall not be used for adjusting grades or flights.

Rule 9. Targets

Target sizes will be sizes 1, 2, and 3 as defined in the IFAA rules, and may be of any manufactured type. Score zones will be those as defined for Mackenzie targets under the IFAA rules.

Targets will be set out in any order of sizes without reference to a target size/distance ratio, and will be set between 20 metres and 48 metres. Junior distances shall be between 15 and 36 metres. Cub distances shall be between 10 and 24 metres.
All distances will be unmarked.
Where possible a picture of the target to be shot will be placed adjacent to the first shooting peg of each target, and will show the scoring zones for that particular target.

Rule 10. Course Set Up

3D targets will be freestanding and well-anchored.

Targets may be placed at a point reasonably representing the natural setting. Targets are not to be purposely obscured from view. Some degree of difficulty is permissible, however no part the total score area may be obscured.

The 3D target will be positioned so that the scoring area is face on to the archer. For group 1 and 2 targets, the target may be angled towards or away from the archer, however such angle shall not exceed 15 degrees. Uphill or Downhill shots ideally, should not exceed 45 degrees.

Courses may be set up in ten target increments. A ten-target course may be shot twice to provide a full round. Each ten target course shall include 3 group 1 targets, 3 group 2 targets, and 4 group 3 targets.

Targets may be placed in front of existing course butts, or be provided with a suitable type of backstop.

There shall be no set distance between the target and butt/backstop.

The Shoot Director prior to the start of competition shall inspect all 3D courses.

Shooting positions shall be marked as follows;
Seniors: = Red; Juniors: = Green; Cubs: = Yellow.

Courses may be double pegged where possible.

Rule 11. Equipment

Equipment for 3D Nation Round shall be the same as defined under the Rules for the National Barebow Round and the National Sighted Round.

Rule 12. Other Items

All other items not covered in these Rules shall be as defined by the Rules for the National Barebow Round and the National Sighted Round.

The Aussi Field Round

Rule 1. Philosophy.

The Aussi Field Round is designed to offer an alternative game which incorporates the principles of both the A.B.A. National Round and the International Round.

The Round provides for maximum flexibility in shooting Divisions, without the need to establish additional ranges, and at the same time increasing the number of arrows shot during a round.

Rule 2. Range Construction.

The AUSSI Field Round distances and Shooting Peg identification shall be that which apply to the A.B.A. National Round.
Note that distances shall not be marked.

Rule 3. Competition Grades.

The use of competition Grades shall be at the discretion of shoot organisers, but where so provided, the Grades of the A.B.A. National Round shall apply.

Rule 4. Official Shoots.

The Standard Aussi Field Round

The Standard Aussi Field Round shall consist of 20 official circular Aussi Field Round target faces.
Three (3) arrows shall be shot at each target.

Scoring for the Standard Round shall be :

Bull Color	5
Inner Color	4
Outer Color	3

The Expert Aussi Field Round.

The Expert Aussi Field Round shall consist of 20 official circular Aussi Field Round target faces. The number of arrows shot at each target shall be as follows :

Series 1 Target	1 arrow
Series 2 Target	2 arrows
Series 3 Target	3 arrows
Series 4 Target	4 arrows
Series 5 Target	5 arrows

Scoring for the Expert Round shall be :

Bull – Inner Ring	5
Bull – Outer Ring	4
Inner Colour – Inner Ring	3
Inner Colour – Outer Ring	2
Outer Colour – Inner Ring	1
Outer Colour – Outer Ring	1

The maximum possible score for both the Standard Round and the Expert Round is 300.

Rule 5. Target Faces.

Target faces for the Aussi Field Round are based on the A.B.A. Animal Round, in as much that the size of the Bull, Inner and Outer colour score rings are that of the A,B, and C Zones of the animal faces. Official Targets will be used for all official shoots of the Aussi Field Round. Target faces are available from Action Graphics.

Rule 6. Shooting Style Divisions.

Whilst the Aussi Field Round is able to be shot according to both the A.B.A. and I.F.A.A. divisions, and choice of division is essentially at the discretion of the shoot organisers, where either Aussi Field Round is included as a Shoot of the Official Shoot Calendar, then the I.F.A.A. Divisions will be used.

An official shoot of the Aussi Field Round may comprise either 2 rounds of the Standard Round, or 2 rounds of the Expert Round, or 1 round each of the Standard and Expert Rounds.

The Aussi Field Round is not able to be used for Grading purposes

National Indoor Round

Rule 1. General Rule

All principle provisions of the A.B.A. Inc National Field Archery Round shall apply with the addition of:-

Rule 2. Definitions

Round : a round shall consist of 4 Games (or ends) of 5 arrows each.
A minimum break between games shall be five minutes.

Rule 3. Targets and Distances

A minimum of 4 target butts shall be provided. Distance between target butts, from the centre of the shooting lanes, shall be a minimum of 2.4 metres.

Each round shall consist of the following targets set at the distances indicated, for each game in order.

Game	Target	Distance
1 Series	1	7 metres
2 Series	2	12 metres
3 Series	1	9 metres
4 Series	2	15 metres

Target butts shall be numbered from left to right, as the shooter faces the target.

The centre of the target shall be set at a height of 1.2 metres above the floor/ground.

Rule 4. Scoring

As for A.B.A Field Round.

Rule 5. Range Captain

The Range Captain shall be responsible for safety on the indoor range and shall exercise control of the shooting line. Indication shall be given by the Range Captain for the commencement of shooting and cessation of shooting for each game.
A maximum period of five minutes shall be allowed for each game.

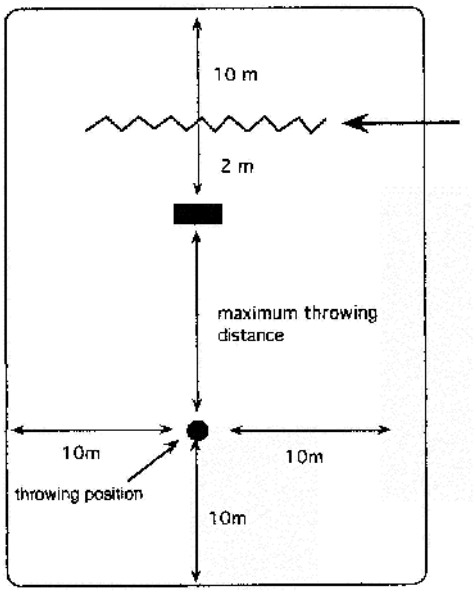
All arrows shot before (other than for one practice end) or after the time allowed for each game shall not be counted for scoring purposes.

No person, other than at the Range Captain's discretion, shall be permitted forward of the shooting line during Games and no spectator shall be closer than 10 feet behind the shooting line.

Knife Throwing

Rule 1. Throwing Area

The throwing area shall be to the following plan and description:-



Earth bank or suspended carpet/alternative to a height of 1 metre above the height of the butt.

N.B. DISTANCES ARE THE MINIMUM PRESCRIBED

If a 30m safe area provided behind the butt the safety back-drop may be deleted from the layout.

Where more than one target butt is used a minimum of 12 metres shall be provided between each butt. The throwing range shall be clear of all obstacles, and its boundaries shall be identified by a rope or similar fence.

The Range Captain and no more than one competitor shall be permitted inside the throwing area while throwing is in progress.

All spectators and competitors shall remain outside the throwing area.

The Throwing Range Captain shall be responsible for safety on the throwing range, and shall exercise control of the throwing line.

Rule 2. Equipment

All competitors must own the knife being thrown.

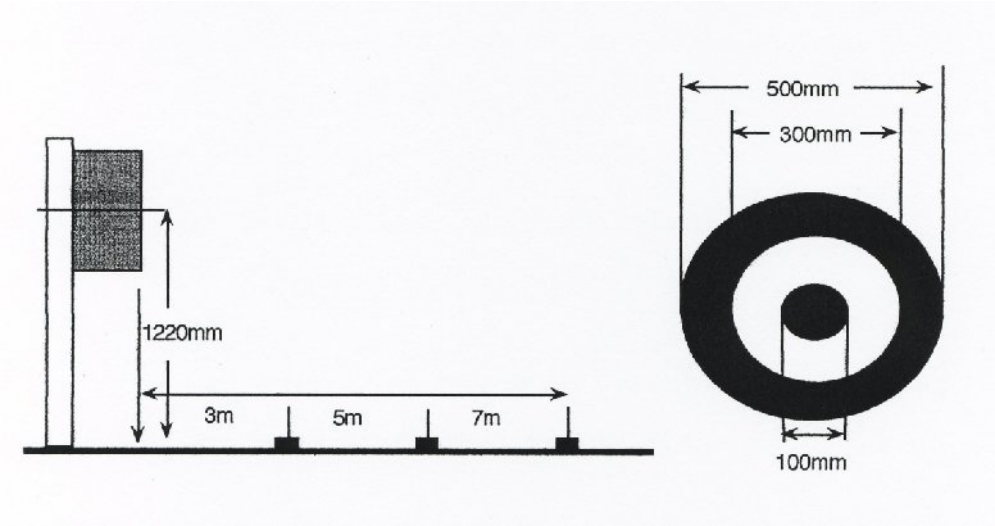
All knives are not to exceed a maximum overall throwing length of 350mm and a maximum width at their widest point of 50mm. No double ended blade knife is permitted.

Rule 3. Targets and Distances

Target butts shall be of suitable material to be able to hold a blade. End grain timber is preferred. The target centre shall be set at a height of 1220mm from the ground/floor.

The scoring areas of the target face shall comprise a centre ring (or bull) of 100 mm diameter, an inner ring of 300mm diameter, and an outer ring of 500 mm diameter.

Throwing position distances shall be 3, 5, and 7 metres, respectively.



Rule 4. Scoring

Scoring shall be 5 for the centre or bull ring, 3 for the inner ring, and 1 for the outer ring.

Rule 5. The Throwing Round

The Competition shall consist of 2 rounds, with each round comprising :-
One practice throw to be nominated prior to the start of each competition round, which can be taken from either the 3, 5 or 7 metres mark. This throw shall be the first throw taken at the start of each round.

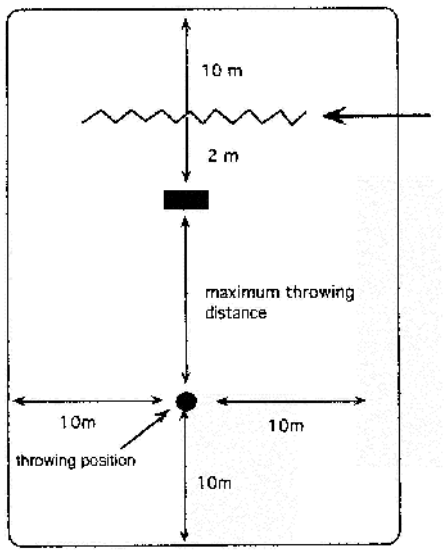
3 throws at a minimum of 3 metres but less than 5 metres.
3 throws at a minimum of 5 metres but less than 7 metres, and
4 throws at a minimum of 7 metres.

The score of the 2 rounds shall be totalled to determine the winner of the competition. In the event of a tie, the competitors involved shall participate in a sudden-death throw-off from the 7 metre position, until a winner is determined.

Tomahawk Throwing

Rule 1. Throwing Area

The throwing area shall be to the following plan and description :-



Earth bank or suspended carpet/alternative material to a height of 1 metre above the height of the butt
N.B. DISTANCES ARE THE MINIMUM PRESCRIBED

If a 30 metre safe area is provided behind the butt, the safety back-drop may be deleted from layout.

Where more than one target butt is used a minimum of 12 metres shall be provided between each butt.

The throwing range shall be clear of all obstacles, and its boundaries shall be identified by a rope or similar fence.

The Range Captain and no more than one competitor shall be permitted inside the throwing area while throwing is in progress. All spectators and other competitors shall remain outside the throwing area.
The Range Captain shall be responsible for safety on the throwing range, and shall exercise control of the throwing line.

Rule 2. Equipment

All competitors must own the tomahawk being thrown. All tomahawks must be suitable for throwing. No half or full axes are permitted.
All tomahawks are to have one (1) primary or main blade only, however a small balancing blade opposite the primary blade is permitted. The Primary Blade must be easily distinguishable from the balancing blade. Only the primary blade will score. The length along the cutting edge of the primary blade shall not exceed 100 mm in length.

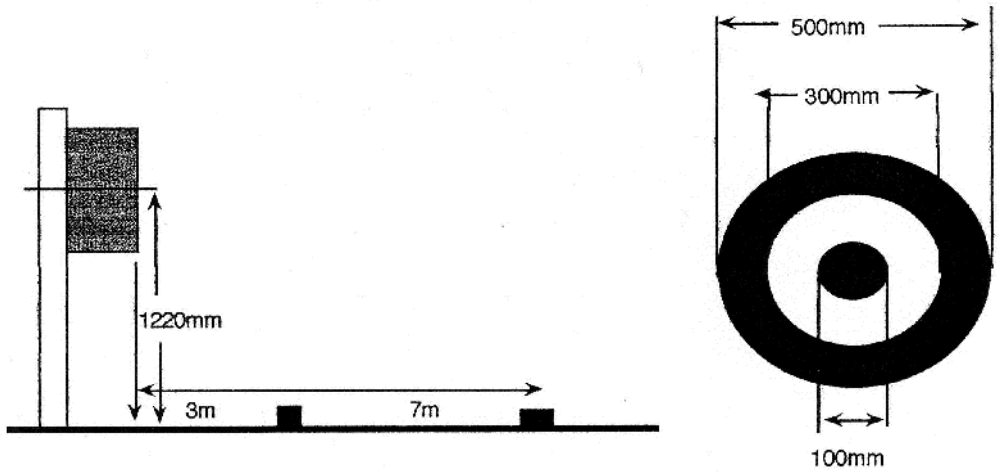
Rule 3. Targets and Distances

Target butts shall be of suitable material to be able to hold a blade. End grain timber is preferred. The target centre shall be set at a height of 1220 mm from the floor / ground.

The scoring areas of the target face shall comprise a centre ring (or bull) of 100 mm diameter, an inner ring of 300 mm diameter, and an outer ring of 500 mm diameter.

The centre (or bull) ring and the outer ring should be coloured dark (black), and the inner ring, light (white).

Two throwing distances shall be used, which will be a minimum of 3 and 7 metres, respectively.



Rule 4. Scoring

Scoring shall be 5 for the centre or bull ring, 3 for the inner ring and 1 for the outer ring.

Rule 5. The Throwing Round

All competitors must pass a qualifying round of 3 throws at a minimum of 7 metres, scoring at least 1 point to continue in the competition.

The competition shall consist of 2 rounds, with each round comprising :-

One practice throw from any distance within the distance limits prescribed.

5 throws at 3 metres but under 7 metres.
5 throws at 7 metres.

The scores of both rounds shall be totalled to determine the winner of the competition. In the event of a tie, the competitors involved shall participate in a sudden death throw – off from the 7 metre position, until a winner is determined.

Guidelines for Safe Use of Practice Butts

In the conduct of official ABA Shoots, the following Rules shall apply for the safe use of Practice Butts. Where a field range is provided for practice, the safety provisions of the Rules for the ABA National Round shall apply.

1. The host Club will provide a member to act as a Practice Butt Captain control the use of the Practice Butts.
2. Practice Butts will be controlled by the use of a whistle which will be provided by the host Club.
3. The Practice Butt Captain (at the discretion of the Shoot Director) has authority over the operation of the Practice Butts and his/ her word is final.
4. The Practice Butt Captain may limit the time and number of arrows which may be shot.
5. If there are more shooters than space on the shooting line, the Practice Butts will be shot in relays. Arrows may be collected after each relay.
6. When collecting arrows a reasonable time will be allowed to find lost arrows, but those people looking for them must not keep others waiting unduly.
7. JUNIORS and CUBS have as much right as adults on the Practice Butts. Show them courtesy and teach them the same.
8. No person is to start shooting until the Practice Butt Captain blows his/ her whistle once.
9. No person is to continue shooting after the Practice Butt Captain blows his/ her whistle twice.
10. If the Practice Butt Captain blows his/ her whistle THREE TIMES all shooting must stop immediately. This is for immediate safety and danger reasons only.
11. All ABA Rules must be followed at all times while using the Practice Butts.
12. These rules are to apply during the times the Practice Butts are declared open.
13. The Practice Butt is closed during the duration of a round and may only be used during that time to rectify major gear failure at the discretion of the Shoot Director.
14. The Practice Butts will be closed 15 minutes prior to the assembly time or as nominated by the Shoot Director.

Bowcheck Policy

"Prior to an Official Shoot, all equipment shall be checked by the Shoot Director and/or delegates to ensure that equipment complies with the requirements and that the equipment is in good order and repair"

Who can complete a Bow Check?

The Shoot Director is the sole person responsible for the administration of bow checks.
The Shoot Director has the prime responsibility for selecting appropriate personnel for completing bow checks.
Bowcheck should be completed, where possible, by an accredited coach or senior archer with a good understanding of the requirements of safety and bow division equipment.

Elements of Bow Check

1. To ensure that an archer's equipment complies with basic safety requirements. This includes, but is not limited to, inspection for faulty limbs/laminations, missing circlips, frayed strings and/or cables,
2. To ensure that an archer's equipment complies with the equipment specifications for the division that they intend to shoot.

On successful completion of the Bow check the archer will be presented with a receipt that he/she has successfully completed the Bow Check requirements. This may include an indicating adhesive (sticker) attached to the archer's equipment or the signature of the 'bowchecker' on the archer's registration or score card. It is this 'receipt' that the archer requires showing they have completed bowcheck successfully.

Actions for Failure at Bowcheck

1. Should an archer's equipment fail any **safety** element of bow check, the bowchecker must not complete the bow check or provide a "completed bowcheck receipt". The bow checker must request the archer complies with the safety requirements and then resubmit the bow for rechecking. Wherever possible, in the case of multiple bowcheckers, the bow must be presented to the same bowchecker. (Bowcheckers must note which archers they have 'failed' to ensure correct resubmission)

2. Should an archer's equipment fail any element of a "compliance with division" check then the bowchecker will explain to the archer the reasons for the 'failure' and provide the archer with two options;

a) the archer should change the equipment so that it complies with the division required, or,
b) the archer should change to a division for which his/her equipment complies

Requirements for Bowcheck

All archers **must** present their equipment, including arrows, for bowcheck. It is a mandatory requirement to compete in any competition that an archer's equipment has successfully completed an official bowcheck.

An archer that has not completed a satisfactory bowcheck shall be disqualified from the competition.

It is solely the responsibility of the archer to comply with the bowcheck requirements. Should an archer experience equipment failure during the competition and chose to change his/her bow or arrows, these must be presented to the Shoot Director, or his delegate, for bowcheck.

Please note: Successful completion of bow check does not safeguard an archer from protest in relation to the equipment he/she is using.
It is always the responsibility of the archer to ensure that the equipment that they use is safe and complies with the rules and regulations of the Australian Bowhunters Association or the International Field Archery Association as required.

Grievances

Should an archer present for bowcheck and be dissatisfied with the outcome of the bowcheck they may present their equipment to the Shoot Director for further scrutiny. The Shoot Director shall ensure that they communicate with the 'bowchecker' to ensure they understand the reasons for the failure.
The Shoot Director has the final decision as to whether equipment complies or non-complies with the Rules for Shoot.

Bow Check Equipment:

It is important that the personnel completing the bow checks have the correct equipment to ensure that they are able to complete the checks accurately and professionally. The following is a list of essential equipment with which to complete bow checks.

- Bow square
- Ruler that measures inches and centimetres (at least 12 inches)
- A tape measure
- Notebook
- Pen/pencil
- Stickers/dots for indicating completed bowcheck
- IFAA Rule Book
- ABA Rule Book

Rules for Amateur Status

1) Principle

The principle of these rules is to maintain ABA Inc's philosophy of free competition and equal participation.

2) Definitions

2.1 These Rules for Amateur Status will apply to all competitions, irrespective of the format of the game, conducted under the auspices of the Association and to all members of the Association, as a principle element of membership. Ignorance of these Rules shall not be a defence in the case of a breach of these rules.

2.2 All competitors, men and women, who observe and abide by the Associations Rules, and who have not received any financial rewards or material benefit in connection with his or her sports participation except as provided herein, shall be amateur competitors, except those who have:

a) Been registered as professional athletes or professional coaches within the ambit of the Association's defined purpose;

b) Signed a contract as a professional athlete or coach in this sport;

c) Accepted without the knowledge of the Association material advantages for their preparation or participation in sports competition;

d) Allowed their person, picture or sports performance to be used for advertising, except where the member has notified the Association of a contract for sponsorship;

e) Carried advertising material on their person or clothing, other than for manufacturer's trademarks, logos on equipment or clothing as addressed herein except where the member has notified the Association of a contract for sponsorship;

3) An Amateur may

3.1 earn his/her living either wholly or in part as an employee or owner of a bona fide archery business, provided he/she does not use his/her name, image or shooting ability to benefit the business; provided further that such prohibition on the use of

name, image and shooting ability may be set aside by the Association, upon application by the member, subject to negotiation of appropriate terms;

3.2 be paid reasonable expenses for teaching archery to novices/cubs

3.3 be provided financial and/or goods and services assistance for preparation, travel and participation in the Sport, whether by grant, sponsorship or other means, provided that all such assistance, irrespective of its source, has been notified to the Association, and subject to:

a) assistance includes the purchase of and equipment used for the participation in the Sport at purchase prices not available to all Association members.

b) Requests for assistance, by a member to any source, shall be in a written format and provide detailed estimates of costs; a copy of such written request shall be forwarded to the Association at the time of seeking approval of the Association of the assistance;

c) Such assistance shall advise the stated purpose of assistance provided, and where stated shall not be used for any other purpose unless approved by the person/body providing such assistance.

3.4 compete for competition Awards and competition prizes, including cash awards and prizes which may be retained by the member, subject to:

a) the prior approval of the President or Executive Director of the Association; and
b) Competitions are authorised as Association activities;

3.5 may allow their person, name, picture or performance to be used for advertising, as a requirement of a sponsorship arrangement, provided that such sponsorship and requirement has been notified to the Association.

Members may wear sponsor/s advertising on competition clothing, as provided at 4.1, in addition to any normal manufacturer trademarks of the article worn, provided such requirement has been notified to the Association.

Members may have sponsor/s advertising on their personal and technical equipment (bows, bags etc) in addition to the items' normal trade mark.

3.6 All monetary awards, grants, sponsorships, assistance and competition awards/prizes, irrespective of value or source, must be notified by the member to the Association.

3.7 Sponsorship of competition fees is not permitted.

4) Subject to that the advertising material shall conform to the following requirements

4.1 advertising material of sponsors may be carried or worn by competitors participating in tournaments

4.2 normal manufacturer's trademarks on clothing and personal technical equipment (i.e. bows and arrows etc.) are permitted

4.3 other equipment or cases, bags etc. carrying trade advertising shall not be taken onto the field course;

4.4 the emblem, flag and/or name of the competitors' country or Association may be worn on uniforms and/or shooting clothes without restriction as to size or shape, unless otherwise specified by I.F.A.A. or the Association;

4.5 commercial facilities and sponsors advertising signs except as detailed in sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 above shall not be permitted on the field course, and are confined to non-competition areas, provided that one (1) sponsor advertising sign may be located adjacent to each target of a field range, subject to:

a) the overall size of each such sign shall not exceed 1.5 square metres;
b) the sign shall not be placed on the target face or target butt, or butt back stop;
c) the sign shall not impede, to any extent, a competitor's vision of the target, nor shall the sign hamper in any manner the competitor's preparation for the shot;
d) the sign shall not be placed at an angle to arrow flight path so as to create an unacceptable ricochet deflection trajectory;
e) Ideally, the sign shall be erected adjacent to the shooting position for the target.

All such signs shall be provided by the advertiser and no such sign shall be erected on any field range except where an appropriate fee has been paid by the advertiser to a Club, in the case of Club ranges, or to the event organisers, in the case of a particular event.

The Club, or event organiser, shall notify the Association of the range sponsorship and the intention to erect such signs and shall certify that all conditions for such signage have been complied with.

4.6 An official competition emblem, including the name of the venue, and the name of the competition sponsors may be shown on:

a) competition clothing by temporary fastening on back of clothing, or competition equipment
b) competition officials' clothing
c) commercial facilities and equipment
d) score cards

provided that such emblem, name, mark etc., shall be limited to sizes prescribed for each particular use, as defined herein.

5) Responsibility

It shall be the member/s responsibility to become fully conversant with the Rules for Amateur Status and to comply, in all respects, with the provisions of such Rules. It shall also be the member/s responsibility to notify, where such notification is required, the designated Association authority of any and all assistance/benefit gained for the preparation and participation in the Sport.

Notification shall be in the form as shown at Annexure 1 to these Rules.

Ignorance of the provision for Amateur Status shall not be a defence for failure to comply with such Rules.

6) Definition of a Professional

These rules should be read in conjunction with "Professional Rules"

7) Appeal

Any member, who considers himself/herself aggrieved by a decision of application of the Rules for Amateur Status may appeal the grievance, as provided by Section 19(c)(v) of the Constitution of the Association.

8) Exclusions

a) A sponsored member shall not coach for any sponsor except where the member is an accredited coach and where such coaching activity has been authorised by the Association. In such cases, the sponsor shall indemnify the Association against any and all actions which may arise from such coaching activities.

b) A sponsored Cub shall not provide any service to the sponsor for such sponsorship.
c) A Cub shall not compete for cash prizes of any amount.
d) Association Branches and member Clubs shall not offer cash prizes in any official Association competition, or in any Association sanctioned competition, except where such prizes have been formally approved by the National Executive.

The Association's Rules for Amateur Status is essentially a matter of notification of assistance. Compliance with notification requirements rests with the member and not the sponsor. The simplicity of the process negates any grounds for failure to comply with these Rules.

Form of Notification of Sponsorship

The Executive Director
Australian Bowhunters Association Inc
P O Box 442
Aspley, QLD, 4034
Dear Sir

Re: Notification of Sponsorship
Please be advised that, I _____
ABA Number _____
Have accepted a sponsorship from _____
(print name of Sponsor)
The sponsorship is for: (X in box if applicable)

- Funding assistance ☐
- Equipment ☐
- Clothing ☐

Note: The purchase of equipment at reducible prices, not available to other Association members or to the general public, is a sponsorship within the meaning of these rules.

In terms of the sponsorship: (delete that not applicable)

- I **am/am** not required to permit the sponsor the use of my person, name, picture or performance for advertising purposed.
- I **am** required to wear sponsor's advertising on competition clothing, and I certify that sponsor's logos/signage etc complies with sizes prescribed by the Amateur Rules;

or

- I **am not** required to wear sponsor's advertising on competition clothing.
- I **am/am not** required to perform services for the sponsor (if required state services required to perform)

_____
member's signature and date

Professional Rules

Intent:
The Professional Division rules are intended to provide an opportunity for Professional archers to compete in fair competition between like-minded individuals within the rules and by-laws of the Australian Bowhunters Association's games and activities.

Application:
In no way should the Professional Division disadvantage the activities or rules and by-laws of the Amateur archers or the standing of the Australian Bowhunters Association Inc.

These rules should be read in conjunction with;

a) Rules for Amateur Status

b) ABA National Field Round.

Professional Division status will be applicable to all competitions held under the umbrella of ABA Inc. This includes, but is not limited to, all ABA paper, 3D, Indoor and IFAA events.

Definition :
A professional archer shall be defined as an archer who satisfies one or more of the following criteria;

a) One who proclaims himself or herself as a professional.

b) Anyone who competes for a professional pot or award at any tournament, other than as prescribed for an amateur, or

c) Anyone who competes for cash or prizes in any event which has not been sanctioned by the Association for member's participation, or

d) An amateur who fails to comply with the provisions of Amateur rules.

Eligibility:
An archer may apply to the Association for Professional status provided that;

a) ABA Inc. is notified in writing, with signature, of the archer's intent to become a professional. A minimum of thirty (30) days notice is required before coming into effect.

b) The archer has been a member of ABA for a minimum of one year.

c) The archer has been a member of good standing.

d) Only adult archers above the age of 17 years are eligible for Professional status. No Junior or Cub archers are permitted to participate in professional competition.

e) International Archers, whether they have been granted professional status within their own country or not, shall not be permitted to compete in Professional competition without permission, or invitation, by the National Executive. Such permission/invitation must be received in writing prior to the event.

Fees:

All Professional archers shall pay the Annual Renewal fees and Competition entry fees as required by all members of ABA Inc. and in conjunction to this will be required to pay:

- A nomination fee appropriate to the standing of competition , ie: Competition Nomination fee plus:

$50.00	at Branch Level
$75.00	at State Level
$100.00	at National Level

5% of the total Professional Purse fee shall be held by the appropriate level host body (Branch or National) to assist with administration purposes.
Revision of appropriate nomination fees shall be at the discretion, and responsibility, of the National Executive.
Should there be less than three (3) archers, no Professional Nomination fee shall be required or a purse competed for.

Association Branches and member Clubs shall not offer cash prizes in any Official competition, or in any Association sanctioned competition, except where such prizes have been formally approved, in writing, by the National Executive.
Without exception, Membership fees and Association funds shall not be used as part of a Professional Purse.

Distribution of the Purse:

The Purse shall be the total amount of the combined professional fees less the 5% administration fee.
Distribution of the purse amount, according to participant numbers, shall be:

a) Three competitors - First 70% and Second 30%

b) Four or more competitors - First 60%, Second 25% and Third 15%

Shoot Divisions and Grades:

a) There shall be only one shoot division in the Professional Division – Unlimited. This may be divided between Men's and Women's Divisions at the discretion of the Shoot Director.

b) There must be a minimum of three (3) competitors for a Professional Purse to be offered.

c) In the event of there being less than three (3) competitors in the Professional Division; it shall be at the discretion of the Shoot Director whether a trophy/medal is awarded.

d) Provision of a Professional Division, irrespective of the number of competitors, shall be solely at the discretion of the Shoot Director or National Executive.

Key Points:

a) The thirty (30) day notice comes into effect once the written application is received by either Vice-President Field Division or the Executive Director

b) Rules pertaining to sponsorship shall be as for those contained in Addendum 4: Rules for Amateur Status

c) The Executive Director, Vice President Field Division, National Score Recorder and National Membership Secretary shall keep accurate records of those eligible to compete in the Professional Division.

d) Professional Membership cards shall be issued to all eligible archers and these cards must be shown when requested.

e) The onus and responsibility for registration shall rest solely with each individual member.

f) Members of the Professional Division shall not actively seek to recruit members to the Professional Division.

g) All Professional Division awards shall be prior to all other awards being presented at Official Tournaments.

h) Professional shall not be graded but may be ranked within the National Ranking System.

i) Professionals are not eligible for selection to any Branch, State or National Team and shall not be eligible for any Association funding assistance.

j) A copy of the approved guidelines shall be issued to members prior to acceptance of registration as a Professional, or on request from a member considering entering professional ranks.

k) All onus relating to income earned and professional purse in relation to Australian Tax Law rests solely with the archer.

Responsibilities:

a) It is the total responsibility of the archer to be conversant with the rules of ABA Inc. in relation to all activities pertaining to the Professional Division and the conduct of Official Shoots held under the auspices of the ABA Inc.

b) Professional Archers shall only nominate in their respective professional division in all events. Failure to do so shall be grounds for immediate expulsion from the Association.

c) Professional archers must indemnify Australian Bowhunters Association Inc., and its Officials, against any loss of income.

d) A professional archer will always conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the advancement of the sport of archery and as an ambassador of ABA Inc.

e) A professional archer will always compete within the rules and by-laws of the Australian Bowhunters Association Inc.

Reverting to Amateur Status:

A professional archer may apply to the Association for restoration of Amateur status. Application must be in writing, with signature and stating reasons, as to why reversal should be granted.
Restoration to Amateur status shall be granted on one occasion only

Policy for Non-ABA Member Participation

The promotion of archery is a fundamental element of the philosophy of the Australian Bowhunters Association
In an effort to promote "better understanding" of the Australian Bowhunters Association, and its games, participation is invited for members of recognised archery associations to 'join in' the games and activities of the ABA.

This invitation is made on the provision that:

a) Only financial members of recognised archery associations will be permitted to participate under these rules; hereafter these archers shall be known as a "Visiting Archer".

b) A Visiting Archer wishing to participate must be a current financial member of the 'recognised association' and must produce a current membership card to the Shoot Director. The Shoot Director shall have the final decision as to the Visiting Archer's participation in the activity.

c) A Visiting Archer must pay the appropriate entry fee to participate in the activity. This will be equal to the entry fee paid by an ABA member to enter the competition.

d) In paying the appropriate entry fee the Visiting Archer agrees to abide by all of the Rules, By-Laws and Policies of the Australian Bowhunters Association and, furthermore, agrees to abide by the rulings, directions and decisions of the Shoot Director. This includes 'Bow Check' and using equipment that complies with the ABA Rules.

e) A Visiting Archer may participate in the chosen activity but cannot compete in any competition. The Visiting Archer is not eligible for any trophies, medals, prizes or prize money associated with the activity.

f) The addition of a "Participant Division" to a competition's Shoot Divisions is not permitted.

g) Wherever possible, a Visiting Archer should be placed in a shoot group under the guidance of a senior archer.

h) A Visiting Archer that contravenes the rules and policies of the association or fails to comply with the directives of the Shoot Director shall be disqualified from further participation on the day and may, at the discretion of Vice President Field Division, be ineligible from future participation in any ABA activities.

i) These guidelines shall be applicable to all levels of Australian Bowhunters Association Inc activities including National, State, Branch and Club shoots and tournaments.

NB: Currently "recognised associations" are Archery Australia and 3DAAA only.