

NEW AWARDS ANNOUNCED BY ARCHERY AUSTRALIA

The Archery Australia Board is pleased to announce the introduction of new annual awards available to members.

Australian 720 Star

Many years back prior to the introduction of compound bows and later Masters and Veteran, World Archery (FITA) presented FITA Star awards only to recurve archers.

These awards were achieved only once in an archer's life when shooting a designated score in a 144 Arrow FITA Target Round.

When compounds were introduced by Archery Australia this left a disparity between recurve and compound who were at that stage not eligible for FITA Star awards.

For this reason Archery Australia introduced the Australian Star. These were presented to compound archers by Archery Australia under the same guidelines as the FITA Star.

About 10 years later when World Archery (FITA) accepted compound and then started to award the Compound FITA Star the Australian Star was no longer used for Compound but was introduced for divisions that were still not eligible for World Archery (FITA) awards in Target archery.

With the introduction of the 720 rounds and the growing popularity of these shorter and quicker rounds, the Board has decided to introduce new Australian 720 Star awards.

The Australian 720 Star will be based on the current Australian Star with different coloured inserts, wording and score levels that reflects the 720 round.

The Australian 720 Star will also be awarded annually, this will enable archers to annually achieve or exceed their performance from last year proving an incentive for constant improvement.

The Australian 720 Star would be awarded for both recurve and compound at this stage, and other divisions could be catered for in the future.

There will be 5 scores levels available –

Recurve		Compound	
Men	Women	Men	Women
660	645	685	675
645	630	675	665
630	610	665	645
610	590	645	630
590	570	630	615

High score awards such as 700 for compound or 680 for recurve may also be introduced in the future.

The Australian 720 Star will be come in two colours –

White for recurve and Black for compound.



Australian 720 Star will be introduced from 1st January 2015 and will be available for purchase by RGB and Club Recorders in November of 2014.

Australian Field Star

For many years the only recognition for Field Archery performances has been the FITA Arrowhead. These can be awarded only once in an archer’s life but most importantly eligibility for these awards is limited to only a few divisions.

The Archery Australia Board has decided to introduce the Australian Field Star. These will be available to all divisions allowing for a greater number of archers to have their field archery performances recognised.

Like the Australian 720 Star the Australian Field Star will be based on the Australian Star with different wording and coloured inserts. The awards can also be achieved annually. This will enable archers to annually achieve or exceeds their performance from last year proving an incentive for constant improvement

The Australian Field Star would be awarded for recurve, compound, barebow (recurve and compound) and longbow.

Award score levels would be –

Recurve	Red pegs	Compound	Red Pegs
Men	Women	Men	Women
365	355	390	380
355	345	380	370
340	330	365	355
310	300	335	325
270	260	295	285

Barebow	Blue Pegs	Longbow	Yellow Pegs
Men	Women	Men	Women
290	250	280	240
280	240	270	230
265	225	255	215
235	195	225	185
195	155	185	145

Recurve - Black writing on a yellow background and

Compound - White writing on a Red background.

Barebow - Black writing on a blue background

Longbow - Black on a green background

Age divisions; all Youth, Master and Veteran divisions will be eligible for the awards shooting their respective distances.



It is hoped that the introduction of these additional field awards will further encourage the participation in field archery in Australia.

In what events can you shoot the Australia 720 and Field Stars?

Any World Archery and Archery Australia registered tournament or a QRE, which has an Accredited Judge officiating and is listed on the Archery Australia Calendar.

ARCHERY ALLIANCE

The Archery Alliance has recently approved a new member organisation, Traditional Archery Australia, also known as TAA.

In line with the current cross participation and visitor policies of the Archery Alliance, Traditional Archery Australia members may engage in cross participation tournaments which are registered on the AA web site as cross participation events, and may also visit clubs permitting their participation.

The usual Archery Alliance rules will apply with one additional requirement.

1. TAA members can participate no more than 4 times in a year, if they wish to participate more than 4 times a year they are required to join the club at which they have been shooting and subsequently the Association.
2. TAA members must be a current financial member of Archery Australia or ABA or 3DAAA. They must be able to provide proof of such membership before they are permitted to participate.
3. As is the current practice all Alliance visitors are required to sign a Temporary Membership form each time they visit a club.

If you have any question please contact the Archery Australia Office at info@archery.org.au

PARA and VI NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Archery Australia Board excitingly announces the introduction of a separate Para and VI (Vision Impaired) National Championships.

The first Para and VI Championships will be introduced in stages. First stage will be a postal competition with the Second stage evolving into a face-to-face National Championships.

The Archery Australia Para and VI Committee will oversee the introduction of the new Championships.

Further information will be coming from the Para and VI Committee shortly.

TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT POLICY

An update to the Archery Australia Tournament Management Policy was approved by the Board and all tournaments listed on the Archery Australia Calendar are to be conducted in line with this policy.

A copy of the policy can be found on the Archery Australia website at the following link – <http://www.archery.org.au/Portals/22/1026TournamentManagementGuidelinesJuly2014.pdf>

THE NATIONAL CLUB CHALLENGE

The Archery Australia Board would also like to announce the introduction of a new national competition, the National Club Challenge.

The National Club Challenge shall be a tournament aimed directly at club archers with the scores and results nationally managed.

In essence the National Club Challenge will be what used to be known as a Postal Shoot but will be Internet based with live and up to date results utilising the Archery Australia Archers Diary Scoring and Results system.

The initial plan is to conduct the 2015 National Club Challenge in August 2015 and if popular conduct annually twice a year during March and August each year.

The initial National Club Challenge for 2015 will be conducted by clubs over the weekends of the –

1 and 2 August 2015

8 and 9 August 2015

15 and 16 August 2015

22 and 23 August 2015

29 and 30th August 2015

Clubs can conduct events on selected specific dates or on all of the 10 days listed.

The National Club Challenge will be contested in two forms, Individual Handicap and Club Team.

Irrespective of how many times an individual shoots during the period, only the highest handicap corrected score that they have shot will be used for both the Individual and Club Team event.

For the Individual Handicap there will be the following divisions catering for each bow style

Recurve

Compound

Barebow Recurve

Barebow Compound

Longbow

Crossbow

Irrespective of age or gender everyone competing in a designated equipment style will compete against each other.

The Club Team event will be determined by the total of the highest Handicap Scores shot during August by each Club Member (an individual registered through that club) divided by the number of club members who participated.

Events and Rounds.

The National Club Challenge is an event for all members irrespective of their ability or experience, and to cater for all members and a variety of ability and experience levels the rounds to be shot will be based on each individuals rating at the time the round is shot. The Rounds for each rating level are listed below -

Round	FITA900 60/50/40	FITA900 60/50/40	Short Canberra 50/40/30	Short Canberra 50/40/30	Junior Canberra 40/30/20
RECURVE	91 or more	90-81	80-71	70-61	60 or less
COMPOUND	101 or more	100-91	90-81	80-71	70 or less
BAREBOW RECURVE	76 or more	75-66	65-56	55-46	45 or less
BAREBOW COMPOUND	81 or more	80-71	70-61	60-51	50 or less
LONGBOW	66 or more	65-56	55-46	45-35	30 or less
CROSSBOW	ALL				

Awards

Individual Handicap - Archery Australia will present special National Club Challenge medals to 1st, 2nd and 3rd of each division.

Club Team – Archery Australia will present a Plaque for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Club, which can be displayed at the clubhouse.

Clubs should consider when setting their 2015 Calendar to include rounds for the National Club Challenge to ensure members are given the maximum opportunity to shoot their highest score.

The Archery Australia Office will make more information available shortly.

ARCHERS DIARY

The success and popularity of Archers Diary has seen many clubs signing up to use the Tournament Scoring and Results program; which is provided free of charge to all RGBs and Archery Australia registered clubs.

From the 1st January 2015 all tournaments and QREs listed on the Archery Australia Calendar are to use the Archers Diary Scoring and Results system.

This allows for the further development of additional features, i.e. auto record checking, automatic generation of ranking lists, etc and reduces the workload for all.

How to use the Archery Diary? Application forms can be found on the Archery Australia website at the following link - <http://www.archery.org.au/Tournaments/Archers-Diary>

The system is fairly easy to use and help files and user training videos are available to help you learn the system.

RATING TABLES AND CLASSIFICATION TABLES

The Archery Australia Board has approved a change to the algorithm that calculates the Rating Tables. This will result in slight changes to the tables, and these changes will be effective immediately once they have been added to Archers Diary.

Thanks to Jim Park who was part of the team who initially created the algorithm in the 1970's and has been instrumental in constantly updating the algorithm to ensure constant improvement and fairness to all who use the system.

Archers Diary automatically calculates and updates each persons rating each time a score is entered for them removing the burden for Club Recorders to manually calculate and update their rating.

Members are able to check out Archers Diary at anytime and view their current rating and their personal shooting history as well as their status toward claiming classification and performance awards.

Archers Diary can also automatically calculate the results of Handicap Shoots or Tournaments using a person rating.

Also a review of the Classification Tables will be undertaken in the next few months. This review has been found to be necessary after reviewing awards of the past 2 years and the actual scores being shot by some categories and divisions. It has been found some of the score required for a classification are far too high and these will be reduced to better cater for the majority of members. It is planned for this review to be completed before the end of the year so a revised classification table can come into force on the 1st January 2015.

EVENT VERIFICATION FORM

The Event Verification Form that has been used by Officials for the past few years for QREs will be extended to cover all tournaments and QREs listed on the Archery Australia Calendar.

This form for use by Officials is to help them with a check list to ensure that all tournaments are conducted in compliance with World Archery and Archery Australia rules.

TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

2015 is an important year for Archery Australia on the international stage as the World Target Championships and World Youth Championships are being conducted during the year.

The World Target Championships is of significance importance as it will be our first opportunity to qualify individual and team places for the 2016 Olympic Games. For this reason, inline with the Australian Sports Commissions Winning Edge Policy, extensive team selection procedures have been established.

These selection procedures are just about to be released, so please keep eye on the Archery Australia website.

APPROVED SHOOTING TECHNIQUE

The Archery Australia Board is aware of the various archery techniques that have started to appear over recent years, some of which are radically different from long established and scientifically supported practices.

Instructors and coaches must ensure their skills are up to date and maintained and they are only teaching a technique that minimises the risk of injury while providing maximum outcomes for their students.

To this end Archery Australia has developed an approved shooting technique which if followed correctly should ensure the minimum risk of injury.

The Archery Australia Board approved a new manual which will shortly be available on the Archery Australia website. A copy will also be sent to each accredited Instructor and Coach to ensure they are all up to date.

Over the next few months the manual will also be transferred to a step-by-step video to further enhance the instructors and coaches skills.