



Club start up handbook

Archery Ireland is the national governing body for archery in Ireland, we are affiliated to the National sports council, the Olympic council and to World Archery. Archery clubs all around Ireland affiliate to Archery Ireland every year.

The advantages of becoming part of Archery Ireland are

- Allowing your members to become part of Archery Ireland and World archery.
- Allowing your members to take part in local, national and international training and competition.
- Having a clear set of international rules and guidelines to run your club by.
- Coming under Archery Irelands insurance policy

What do you need

- A committee
- A constitution
- A training and or competition venue
- A name
- Membership

Your Committee

Your committee must be made up of members of your club.

There are some roles on the committee which are compulsory for membership of archery Ireland, these include

- Chair/president,
- Secretary
- Treasurer.

Some roles are compulsory and also require training for each specific role. These include

- Athlete Protection Officer and Designated person- both require Sports specific Children's Officer training.
- Vetting Officer- requires garda vetting training

All coaches, are required, and committee members, are expected to attend the basic awareness course through your local LSP.

Your constitution

Once you have your committee formed you will need to adopt a constitution. A basic draft constitution can be obtained from Archery Ireland.

A venue

An archery club will obviously need a place to train which meets certain criteria, especially safety criteria.

Most clubs hold their main club nights indoors. A sports hall is an ideal indoor training venue. The indoor shooting distance is 18m and a minimum of 6m space behind the shooting line would be required. A safety net will be required for behind the targets to protect the wall. Sports halls are also generally situated within a community which offers the club many prospective members to try and attract to the sport.

Outdoor training is usually held during the summer months. Some clubs have full time training fields while most will rent football fields etc to train on during the summer.

A Name

You will need to come up with a club name. Usually an area specific name will be most effective as it will allow people to know where you are and what you do simply by reading your name. An example is Galway Archers.

Membership

Archery Ireland clubs should hold regular "Entry to Archery Courses" or "beginners courses". These courses are aimed at beginners and usually last for 6 weeks. Generally the club will provide all the necessary equipment. The course should be taught by a club coach or experienced archers (two years of experience). The courses are primarily based around safety and includes basic form and technique. Clubs charge for these courses and can raise some revenue through them.

After the entry to archery course people can choose to join the club and Archery Ireland. Archery Ireland has a set annual membership fee . All prospective members must create an account on JustGo and once the account is approved, they can then purchase their AI membership and club membership if available. Clubs will normally also have an annual membership fee along with nightly subs to pay for equipment and the rent of the venue.

Once an archer is a member of Archery Ireland they can shoot at club nights as well as local and national competitions. They are also able to shoot at other clubs as guests.

Joining archery Ireland

Once you have everything you need to start an Archery Ireland Club you can talk to the Archery Ireland Secretary/Webmaster and fill out a club affiliation google form, which details the process and gathers initial information. Club affiliation is @125 for your first year (50% reduction). Please note you must be a non profit making club to join the association.

If your club is joining for the first time, Archery Ireland will provide a coach to teach your first Entry to Archery Course.

Equipment you will need to start the club

Target butts

There are two main types of target butts used in Ireland "Super Butts" which are layered foam butts and Egertec straw butts. Super butts are lighter but take up more space than the straw butts. Stands are wooden and can be easily made, check out www.archery.org under rulebook for exact specifications.

A small club of 20 archers would need about 4 butts and stands to start out with. To run an entry to archery course you will need beginner bows and equipment. Eight wooden take down recurve bows with sights should do to get started. The bows are recommended to range between 66"-70" and between 16lbs- 20lbs and should include a couple of left handed bows. Smaller lighter bows should be bought to cater for younger children. There are also cyclops shoot through bows that will cover both right and left handed beginners.

Here is a suggested list

1 x 66" x 16lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow right handed

1 x 66" x 18lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow right handed

2 x 68" x 18lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow right handed

1 x 68" x 20lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow right handed

1 x 70" x 20lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow right handed

1 x 66" x 18lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow Left handed

1 x 68" x 18lb wooden beginner take down recurve bow Left handed

8 x basic sights

12 x range of simple leather finger tabs

8 x arm guards

8 x arrow quivers

36 arrows, in a range of sizes