

Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Youth Olympic Competition Format

The archery competition at Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games consists of three events: men's and women's individual, and mixed team.

The individual and mixed team events are separate. There are 64 athletes in total, 32 men and 32 women. Mixed teams consist of two athletes from a single NOC - one male and one female.

The archery competition is split into two rounds: the Ranking Round and the Olympic Round (head-to-head matches).

The 60m Ranking Round is used to seed the individual athletes and mixed teams for the Olympic Round. The Olympic Round is a bracket-style head-to-head phase where the winner of each match advances to the next round until two remain to contest the gold medal. A matchplay table is prepared for the individual elimination rounds based on the athletes' seeding after the 60m Ranking Round.

The individual competitions consist of elimination rounds (1/16 or first round, 1/8 or second round) and final rounds (quarterfinals, semifinals and finals).

The Mixed Team competition consists of elimination rounds (1/8 or first round) and final rounds (quarterfinals, semifinals and finals).

Differences between the World Archery Youth Championships and the Summer Youth Olympic Games

The World Archery Youth Championships has many more competitors, with youth athletes split into two age categories of under 21 and under 18, rather than the single (under 18) category included in the Summer Youth Olympic Games. The Summer Youth Olympic Games includes only the recurve discipline, while the World Archery Youth Championships includes competition for both recurve and compound disciplines.

Changes since Buenos Aires 2018 Summer Youth Olympic Games

The Mixed International Team event, which combined athletes from different NOCs in a single team, has been replaced by the mixed team event.

Sport Rules and Procedures

The target face used at the Youth Olympic Games is 122cm in diameter. It is divided into 10 concentric rings, each of which has a points value. The innermost ring (measuring 12.2cm in diameter) is worth 10 points and the outermost ring is worth one point.

Individual events

In the Individual competition, athletes shoot 12 ends of six arrows, 72 in total, to complete the 60m Ranking Round, which carries a maximum score value of 720 points. Athletes are then ranked according to their score ahead of the Olympic Round; the athlete with the highest score is seeded first, the next-highest score is seeded second, etc.

For the Olympic Round, athletes shoot a series of matches in a head-to-head elimination bracket, where the winner of a match advances to the next round of the matchplay brackets and the loser is eliminated from the competition. Each match is the best of five sets of three arrows. In each set an athlete can score a maximum of 30 points. The athlete with the highest score in a set is awarded two set points. In case of a tied score in a set, both athletes are awarded one set point. The first athlete to reach six set points is declared the winner and advances to the next round.

If the match is tied after five sets, with both athletes having won five set points, then a tie break decides the winner.

The higher-ranked athlete from the 60m Ranking Round decides who shoots first in the opening set of each match. The athlete with the fewest set points shoots first in each following set; if the set points are tied, the athlete who started the match shoots first. Athletes have just 20 seconds to shoot each arrow and shoot alternately.

Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Mixed team event

A mixed team consists of two athletes of different genders from a single NOC.

The athletes' individual Ranking Round scores are combined to create a mixed team score. Mixed teams are ranked according to their score and placed into the match brackets.

Matches are decided using the set system.

Mixed teams shoot sets of four arrows, two per athlete per set. The maximum score in a set is 40 points. The mixed team that has the highest score in the set receives two set points. If the mixed teams have the same score in the set, both receive one set point.

The first mixed team to collect five set points wins the match. If the mixed teams are tied at 4-4 after four sets, then the match is decided in a tie break.

Shooting takes place alternately in rotations of two arrows, one per athlete, with a time limit of one minute 20 seconds per set. Mixed teams may freely change the order of shooting between each rotation. The higher-seeded mixed team chooses who shoots first in the first set. In subsequent sets, the trailing mixed team shoots first. If the score is tied, the match reverts to the original shooting order.

Tie Break Rules

Ranking Round

The tie break procedure for seeding in the individual and mixed team events in order of precedence:

- Greatest number of Xs (inner 10s)
- Greatest number of 10s (including inner 10s)
- Disc toss (computerised disc toss may be used)

Olympic Round

Individuals:

- Each athlete shoots a single arrow
- The athlete whose arrow lands closest to the middle of the target wins the match
- If no winner can be chosen, then the process is repeated until a winner is declared

Mixed teams:

- Each athlete shoots a single arrow
- The mixed team with the highest score wins the match
- If the scores are tied, then the mixed team whose arrow is closest to the middle of the target wins the match
- If no winner can be chosen, then the second-closest arrows are compared
- If still tied the process is repeated until a winner is declared

Final Ranking

Individuals and mixed teams that lose before the semifinals are ranked by average arrow score.

Subsequent positions are ranked as ties taking into consideration the number of tied athletes, teams or mixed teams.

Penalties / Disqualification Rules

The most common penalties are:

- Red card: indicates the removal of the highest-scoring arrow of a set in a match or end in the Ranking Round. Usually applied when an arrow is shot out of time.



Competition Format and Rules

Format et règlement des compétitions

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

- Yellow card: a warning given during a team match when there is an incorrect relay in a rotation that forces the team to reset behind the one metre line. Only one athlete from a team may cross the one metre line at a time and an athlete may not take an arrow out of their quiver before crossing the one metre line. Ignoring a yellow card results in a red card.

Protests / Appeals

An athlete can appeal anything during competition except the value of a judged or previously scored arrow. Appeals are made by Team Managers to the chairperson of judges and are adjudicated on by the jury of appeal.

Note:
For further information please consult: www.worldarchery.sport