

Sport Terminology

Terminologie du sport

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Term	Definition
Anchor	The last person to shoot in a rotation of a mixed team or a team.
Arrow	A projectile, usually made of carbon fibre, with a metal point, plastic vanes and a plastic nock (used to clip to the string) that is shot with a bow.
Bye	A bye is assigned to athletes or teams in the absence of an opponent in a head to head match to automatically advance them to the next phase of the competition.
Category	Category is the combination of division, gender and class. There are three categories at the Youth Olympic Games. • Recurve men (or “men’s individual’) • Recurve women (or “women’s individual”) • Recurve mixed team (or “mixed team”)
Chairperson of Judges' Commission	The Chairperson of Judges (CJ) is appointed by the World Archery Judge Committee to lead the technical officials at a competition. The Chairperson of Judges is responsible for the scheduling of the Judges' Commission and liaison with the Director of Shooting. Any appeal to the Jury must be channelled through the Chairperson of Judges.
Clicker	A small metallic device used to indicate an archer's optimum draw length.
Coach	The team official who stands in the coaching box during a match.
Director of Shooting (DoS)	The Director of Shooting is responsible for regulating the timing of the qualifying rounds, and overseeing match timing together with Line Judges.
Divisions	The type of bow used by an archer. The following divisions are among those recognised by World Archery: • Recurve • Compound • Barebow • Longbow Only the recurve division is included in the Youth Olympic Games.
Draw	The process of an archer pulling back the string of their bow. Or, the random draw of competitors to establish target allocation for the qualification round. Competitors from the same team (NOC) will be allocated to adjacent targets. The computerised draw is conducted two (2) days prior to the start of the qualifying round and is supervised by World Archery officials.
Draw length	The maximum distance an archer’s bow is drawn during shooting.
Draw weight	The amount of force required to pull back the string of a bow.
End	A series of 6 arrows shot during the qualification round.



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Field of play	The field of play is the area on which the competition takes place. At the Olympic Games, the qualification round takes place on the qualification/practice field of play, and all eliminations and finals in the two-target finals arena.
Head to Head	Match between two individuals or teams using a direct elimination process.
Judges	The members of the Judges' Commission for the Youth Olympic Games are appointed by the World Archery Judge Committee. World Archery appointed judges are assisted by a team of National Technical Officials appointed by archery's governing body in the host country. The Judges will be under the control of the Chairperson of Judges, who will delegate duties and responsibilities for the tournament, including the Line Judge (LJ) and Target Judge (TJ). • Line Judge: Regulates the individual matches • Target Judge: Officiates at the target for scoring and arrow value judgements
Jury of Appeal	The Jury of Appeal consists of three members appointed by World Archery, Officials of the OC are not permitted to act as Jury members. Alternates may be appointed by World Archery.
Match	A match is a competition between: • Individual events: Two athletes • Mixed Team event: Two teams of two athletes (one man and one woman) Each match is contested as follows: • Individual: Best of five sets of 3 arrows. Two points are awarded for a set win (highest 3 arrow total), one point each athlete for a draw. First athlete to achieve six set points is declared the winner. Arrows shot in alternating format, each with a twenty (20) second time limit. • Mixed Team: Best of four sets of 4 arrows. Two points are awarded for a set win (highest 4 arrow total), one point each mixed team for a draw. First mixed team to achieve five set points is declared the winner. Each mixed team member must shoot 2 arrows per set, within a total time limit of one (1) minute twenty (20) seconds.
Mixed Team	Group of two athletes of different gender from the same NOC.
Olympic Round	Competition format used at the Olympic Games consisting of a head to head matchplay in a standard bracket in which match winners advance and losers are eliminated.
Qualifying Round	Also called “ranking round” or “qualification round”. Consists of 72 arrows shot in 12 ends of 6 arrows within a time limit of three (3) minutes over a distance of 60 metres. The purpose of this round is to "seed" the athletes for the match play rounds in all events, i.e. 1 versus 32, etc.
Quiver	An accessory worn by an archer on a belt to hold their arrows.
Quota	A spot for an athlete in the archery competition. Quotas are won at qualifying events and assigned to nations, which must then choose which athlete fills that quota.



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Rank	The final position of an athlete in an event.
Recurve bow	A form of bow in which the tips of the limbs curve away from the archer. Pulling back the string causes the limbs to bend, which generates the kinetic energy used to propel arrows downrange at speeds of around 200kph. Recurve bows are used by archers at the Olympic Games.
Rest	A device on which an arrow rests in the bow.
Results Verifier	An official appointed by World Archery to verify all results. They check master copies prior to the copying and distribution process. Situated in the results office.
Round	This is the progression system in the competition. Archery consists of the following rounds: Individual events • Qualifying Round (also ranking round, qualification round) • First round (1/16 Elimination or Round of 32) • Second round (1/8 Elimination or Round of 16) • Quarterfinals • Semifinals • Finals (gold medal and bronze medal matches) Team events (including Mixed Team): • Qualifying Round (also ranking round, qualification round) • First round (1/8 Elimination or Round of 16) • Quarterfinals • Semifinals • Finals (gold medal and bronze medal matches)
Scoring	Arrows are scored on 10 concentric circles on the target face, the outer ring scores 1 point and the innermost ring 10. Arrows that do not hit a scoring circle are scored as 0 or M (miss). There is also a smaller centre X 10 ring, which also scores 10 points and is used only to resolve ties after the qualification round.
Seed	The position of an archer, team or mixed team after the ranking round, ordered by total score
Set	A series of 3 arrows (individual) or 4 arrows (mixed team) shot during a match.



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Shoot-off	Qualification Round: In the Mixed Team event a shoot-off will be required if two or more teams are tied for the last qualification place(s) in the Olympic Round. In the shoot-off, the top ranked male and female athletes from each tied team shoot one arrow each. The team with the highest total score will win. If tied, the team with the single arrow closest to the centre will win. If tied, the second arrow closest to the centre will determine the winner. If teams are still tied, the above process will be repeated until the ties are broken Olympic Round: A shoot-off is used to resolve any head to head match that is drawn after the completion of regulation sets. Individual shoot-offs consist of one arrow per athlete, with the athlete shooting closest to the centre declared the winner. Mixed Team shoot-offs consist of 1 arrow per athlete in the mixed team (2 in total), with the highest 2 arrow total score declared the winner. If the mixed teams are drawn on score, then the closest arrow to the middle decides the winner. If no clear winner can be determined on this arrow, then the second closest is considered. If either an individual or mixed team match cannot be resolved after a shoot-off (i.e. arrows are an equal distance from the centre), the process is repeated until a winner is found.
Sight	A device used by an archer to aim at the target. Sights at the Olympics cannot be magnified.
Stabiliser	A tube or set of tubes, dampers and weights used to provide balance to a bow.
Tab	A small leather patch to protect the archer's fingers when they draw the string.
Target Assignment	Number allocated to competitors to identify the target number and shooting position of each athlete for the qualifying round.
Team Manager	The official responsible for a NOC's archers at the Olympics.

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