General Rules of Flight Shooting

Flight shooting is a competition to determine how far one can shoot an arrow. Unlike target shooting, there is no target. Distance is the means to score.

1. FLIGHT COMMITTEE

A. The USA Archery Flight Committee consists of a minimum of five members including:
   i) Chairman
   ii) Secretary
   iii) Treasurer
   iv) Equipment Custodian

2. TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS

A. Flight Officials are to be selected by the USAA Flight Committee. The following are the required functions.
   i) The Flight Captain acts as the final arbiter of all matters concerning the contest.
   ii) The Assistant Flight Captain aids the Flight Captain.
   iii) The Equipment Custodian is responsible for the maintenance of all equipment used in the Tournament.
   iv) The Equipment Check Official is responsible for qualifying the competitors' equipment and recording bow draw weights.
   v) The Registrar ensures that competitors are registered.

3. FLIGHT TOURNAMENT CLASSES AND EQUIPMENT DIVISIONS

A. USA Archery Flight classes are as follows:
   i) Women and Men
   ii) US Juniors Women and Men, up to and in the year of the 16th - 18th Birthday
   iii) US Intermediates Women and Men, up to and in the year of the 12th - 15th Birthday
   iv) US Cadets Women and Men, Up to and in the year of the 12th birthday

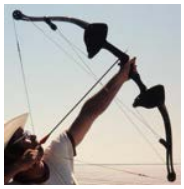
B. In addition, USA Archery recognizes the following classes for World Archery Events:
   i) Women and Men
   ii) Junior Women and Men: Up to and in the year of the 20th birthday.
   iii) Cadet Women and Men: Up to and in the year of the 17th birthday.

C. Juniors, Intermediates, and Cadets fall under the label "Youth" in Table 1 and elsewhere in the Flight Rules.

D. USA Archery Flight recognizes all events defined under World Archery Flight in addition to several unique USA Archery events (Table 1). Refer to the equipment sections for more detail on the rules for each specific equipment division.

		Men	Women	Youth
Flight Bow	18kg (39.7lb)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	25kg (55.1lb)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	33kg (72.8lb)	*WA*		
	Unlimited	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
Compound Flight Bow	18kg (39.7lb)		*WA*	*WA*
	25kg (55.1lb)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	33kg (72.8lb)	*WA*		
	Unlimited	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
Target Bow	35lb (15.9kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	50lb (22.7kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
Compound Target Bow	45lb (20.4kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	60lb (27.2kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
Modern American Longbow	35lb (15.9kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	50lb (22.7kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	70lb (31.8kg)	*USAA*		
	Unlimited	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
English Longbow	35lb (15.9kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	50lb (22.7kg)	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
	70lb (31.8kg)	*USAA*		
	Unlimited	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
Field Bow	35lb (15.9kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	50lb (22.7kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	70lb (31.8kg)	*USAA*		
	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Modern Asiatic	35lb (15.9kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	50lb (22.7kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	70lb (31.8kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Foot Bow	Unlimited	*WA*	*WA*	*WA*
Unlimited Foot Bow	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Cross Bow	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Primitive-Self	35lb (15.9kg)			*USAA*
	50lb (22.7kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Primitive-Simple Composite	50lb (22.7kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Primitive-Complex Composite	50lb (22.7kg)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Primitive-Turkish	Unlimited	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
Yumi	15kg (33lb)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*
	18kg (40lb)	*USAA*	*USAA*	*USAA*

Flight Bow


Compound Flight Bow

Target Bow

Compound Target

Modern American Longbow

English Longbow

Field Bow

Modern Asiatic

Foot Bow

Unlimited Foot Bow

Crossbow

Yumi

Primitive Turkish

KEY: ***WA*** *= Event sanctioned by* ***World Archery*** *(and* ***USA Archery****) rules*

USAA *=* ***USA Archery*** *sanctioned event only*

Table 1: USAA Flight Archery Events

4. RANGE LAYOUT

A. The base line from which the arrows are shot, and from which measurements are made, must be at least 20 yards (approximately 20m) wide.

B. The Contest Space is the area behind the base line at least 10 yards (approximately 10 m) in depth, marked off to provide protection to Contestants and their equipment. Only Contestants, their Assistants (one to each shooter) and Officials will be allowed in this area.

C. The Fairway is defined as the ground between the base line and the landing area.

D. The Landing Area is defined as any ground beyond the Fairway where the arrows are expected to land. The landing areas should be free of any obstructions and must be at least 164 yards (150m) wide.

5. FIELD PROCEDURES AND MEASUREMENT

A. To open the Tournament at least three members of the Host Committee and/or their Assistants are to inspect the landing area to determine it is clear of arrows.

B. **Measurements**

i) The Host Committee must verify the Centerline with a standard brand steel tape of certifiable accuracy. If a Surveyors measuring device such as a Theodolite or Total Station is utilized, this requirement is not necessary.

ii) All measurements of arrows in the field are determined by a right angle intersection of the Centerline. There will be no allowance for deviation from the Centerline.

iii) At the conclusion of the Tournament, the Host Committee must re-measure the Centerline in order to certify accuracy. If a Surveyors measuring device such as a Theodolite or Total Station is utilized, this requirement is not necessary.

6. REGISTRATION

A. The Equipment Divisions shot in any tournament are at the discretion of the Host Committee and will be advertised on the entry forms.

B. The Host committee has the discretion to schedule up to a maximum of four rounds per day of the tournament.

C. The host committee has the discretion to schedule fewer than four rounds per day.

D. Tournaments may be organized over one or more days. Where the venue permits, shooting may take place in the optimum direction.

E. A maximum of six arrows may be shot per round.

F. Flight shooters who are using the same set of arrows for more than one round must verify their pre-registered arrows prior to shooting.

G. **Arrow Qualification**

i) Arrows must be registered prior to shooting.

ii) Identification - Arrows must bear the following identifications:

- *Name of contestant, displayed clearly on the arrow shaft by Contestant.*
- *Unique serial number displayed clearly on the arrow shaft by Contestant and registered by Officials.*
- *Stamp or code mark indicating equipment Division.*

iii) Arrow Length - For the purpose of determining bow weight, the arrow length is determined by measurement from the floor of the nock to the arrow point.

H. **Bow Qualification**

i) Unlimited weight bows need only qualify the arrows.

ii) Bows are to be weighed just prior to commencement of shooting. In the event of postponement, bows previously qualified may be used if so approved by the Equipment Check Official.

iii) The draw weight of the bow, length of arrow to be shot, and the class for which this combination is eligible will be recorded on a label affixed to the face of the bow by the Equipment Check Official.

iv) The maximum draw weight of the bow is determined using the longest arrow registered.

- *Compound Bows (with draw weight let-off): Draw weight is determined at the "break over" point or position of the normally drawn bow at which maximum poundage is achieved.*
- *Bows (without draw weight let-off): The draw weight is measured at the point the arrow point falls free of the arrow shelf or rest.*
- *For bows constructed without an arrow shelf or arrow rest: The draw weight is taken when the tip of the longest arrow is drawn even with the belly side of the bow at the arrow pass.*

v) No allowance is given for thermal-caused weight changes in bows during qualification. Bow weight will be measured at the literal interpretation of Full Draw.

vi) Variable poundage adjustment mechanisms must be sealed by the Equipment Check Official at the time of qualifying. Breakage of this seal will result in disqualification. Bows may be re-qualified prior to shooting should this seal be accidentally broken.

vii) Bows eligible for weight limit classes may be used in a higher weight class without re-weighing provided longer arrows are not used.

viii) One or more bows may be qualified for the same weight class by the same Archer.

ix) After the stamp is affixed certifying qualification, the bows and arrows will be quarantined.

x) When ready for shooting, the Contestants will retrieve the bow and arrows from quarantine and proceed to the base line with no changes to their equipment. The equipment must remain in the same condition as first qualified.

xi) In the event a bow is broken or damaged during drawing, another bow or same bow with damaged components replaced may be qualified without loss of the shot. Breakage of the string or bow after the arrow has been fairly cast will not entitle the Contestant to a replacement arrow.

xii) If scales are being used, the scales must be tested within thirty (30) days by a qualified agency and must carry the stamp of this test or certification.

xiii) When a drop weight-weighing device is used, the drop weights must be made from an approved metal such as brass or steel (not lead) and be clearly marked as to each unit's weight value. The weights will be tested by a Sealer of Weights or equal authority and carry the stamp of this test or certification.

7. SHOOTING FLIGHT

A. Each competitor must be at least two yards (approximately two meters) from the next competitor on the base line.

B. Both feet of the competitor must lie behind the base line.

C. Each contestant may have one assistant or advisor who must keep at least one yard (approximately one meter) behind the base line.

D. All hand-shot bows are to be held in the unsupported hand and shot from a standing position.

E. An arrow is not considered shot if the contestant can retrieve it with the help of the bow without moving their feet.

8. RULES OF SAFETY AND COURTESY

A. Equipment deemed unsafe by the Flight Officials will be disallowed.

B. Any contestants, who through their inexperience or conduct may constitute a hazard to their fellow contestants or themselves, will not be allowed to compete.

C. Contestants, coaches, and spectators must not interfere with, interrupt, or distract archers at the base line.

D. The preceding Contest Rules will be strictly adhered to. Deviations from these rules constitute disqualification. The Flight Officials exercise sole authority in the interpretation and enforcement of these rules.

E. The mass lending of equipment is not be allowed. There will be no officially sanctioned loaning of Flight Equipment to shooters or potential shooters. Equipment loans may be made by private agreement among shooters.

9. SCORING FLIGHT

A. After all classes have shot the first round, contestants, and officials may move forward on the signal of the Field Captain.

B. No contestant is allowed to carry any arrows when moving forward beyond the base line.

C. If the arrow itself cannot be used for marking, the position of the arrow in the range will be marked by a flag or other suitable means and the distance determination made before the next round is shot.

D. An arrow that comes to rest in other than the usual position may be measured from the tip of the arrow if visible, or from the point at which it enters any object other than the ground.

E. If distances are to be measured only at the conclusion of the day's events, then appropriate markers, clearly visible, are placed at the arrows' positions with all pertinent data recorded (round number, contestant name, arrow number, division). Only the farthest arrow of each contestant in each class must be measured or marked.

F. Any lost arrow must be reported to the Flight Captain and a full record made as to the identity of this arrow before the next round is shot. If found during subsequent rounds and showing no evidence of having been moved or disturbed, the arrow may be judged for the class in which it was registered. No such arrow is eligible after all classes have been declared closed by the Flight Captain.

G. If a contestant shoots more than six arrows at any one round, the longest shot or shots in excess of the six arrows allowed will be disqualified.