**Angel Archers**

**New Archers Qualification Procedure**

Archery is a sport which many people are interested in trying or remember enjoying when they were young. It can be taken as seriously or as casually as you like, from a once-off Come and Try to a full blown international sport.

Angel Archers offers a step by step process for those interested in trying or taking up archery.

**Step 1 – Come and Try**
Single sessions of an hour duration where a simplified shooting form is used to allow you to experience shooting arrows at close distances with a minimum of theoretical instruction.

Come and Try sessions are available at the Angel Archers ground on Saturday mornings from 11-12am at a cost of $20 which includes the use of equipment.

Shortened Come and Try sessions are also run at the Emu Plains Market which is generally held on the third Saturday of the month from October to April, with single ends (5 arrows) being shot.

**Step 2 – Beginners Course
If you enjoy your Come and Try session and wish to be taught archery with a view to taking it up as a sport then you will need to complete a Beginners Course.**

**Beginners Courses are run over three consecutive weekend sessions each of 2 hours duration. You will receive coaching in Olympic (sighted) recurve bow technique which offers the best foundation for whichever form of equipment you might intend to use.**

**Cost of the course is $90 which includes the use of club equipment.**

**At the end of the course you will be shooting competently at 20 metres and will be presented with a certificate of completion of a recognised archery instruction course which entitles you to join an archery club.**

**The course also includes provision of advice on equipment which will suit you and a detailed assessment of your dimensions and capabilities to ensure that you are able to purchase equipment which will work for you.

\*\*\*It is strongly suggested that no equipment is purchased until you have completed a Beginners Course as you are very likely to waste your money on inappropriate gear\*\*\***

**Step 3 – Join Angel Archers
A simple on-line application process is available through the Angel Archers or Archery Victoria Websites.**

**Membership of Angel Archers includes membership of Archery Victoria and Archery Australia, which is affiliated with World Archery, which means you can shoot at any target archery club in Australia or any World Archery club internationally, as a visiting member.**

**Once your application for membership is approved by the club you will become a member and will be able to begin honing your shooting skills at longer distances with your own equipment.**

**Step 4 – Qualification
You will be able to shoot at 20m following your Beginners Course.** ALL members must complete a qualification scheme before they can progress to further distances outdoors. This qualification system is there to protect the members, their equipment, the club and the public and is a major safety requirement. It is critically important.
**Angel Archers is very strict with this system and anyone found breaking this rule may find their membership revoked.**

The principal of the Qualification rounds is that an archer can only progress back to a longer distance when they are capable of keeping their arrows comfortably on the target without missing at that distance.

You begin with supervised shooting 90 arrows (15 ends of 6 arrows) at a distance of 20 metres on a 122cm target face for a possible score of 900. If three scores over 450 or a single score of 600 are shot then you have qualified at that distance. Once the scores are accepted by the club recorder you are able to progress to shoot at the next 10m distance (30m).

This process continues for each distance increment until the archer reaches their longest competition distance. Archery rounds shot at the club may consist of several distances (say 60m, 50m, 40m, 30m for a Freemantle round). An archer must be qualified up to the longest distance (in this case having completed qualification at 50m, allowing them to shoot 60m) to shoot that round.

You must qualify with each bow you plan on using. If you qualify with recurve bow and then purchase a longbow, you MUST re-qualify with the longbow from 20 metres.

You will find that your progress to the next qualification distance will be slower as you get to the longer distances. This is natural

**Step 5 – Competition
Club rounds at a variety of distances and varying sized target faces will be shot regularly with scores submitted to the club recorder. These are eligible for Archery Australia classification awards and All-Gold and Perfect badges.**

**Shooting these rounds as well as Qualification rounds will improve your shooting and add variety to your archery experience.**

**There are several tournaments shot at other clubs throughout the year, including State and National championships. These include the State and National indoor championship (shot at 18m) and State Short Range (generally shot at 10m less than full competition distance) which can be shot by newer archers once qualified. We encourage developing archers to compete in these competitions to get comfortable with competition, especially in larger fields.**