

Notes on Application Form and Training Schedule

The schedule is for training novice archers to become reasonably competent and safe in the sport of field archery. To do this you don't need to be an expert but you must have sufficient knowledge of the technicalities and full awareness of all aspects of safety.

You must also have the ability to present this knowledge and to impart your enthusiasm for the sport.

Don't avoid or "dismiss" aspects of the schedule because you are unfamiliar with or unsympathetic to them.

You can train more than one beginner at a time but if you're new to it, stay with one-to-one except in the case of children, where a parent or guardian must be present.

Previous members of SIFA re-joining are not obliged to undergo the training but need to fill in the form and be proposed, the proposer noting this fact on the form.

Experienced archers who are current or previous members of another archery society must undertake Part 16 of the schedule as a check on their ability and to familiarise them with SIFA rules and procedures. Again, a note must be made.

First

Trainees should fill out the form immediately and receive a handbook. They can keep the form throughout training and only surrender it to be sent to a SIFA Membership Secretary with the required fee. It is required that the period of training be no longer than 6 weeks.

Medical

Care and tact is required here but there may be conditions you need to be aware of, e.g. asthma, heart condition, and epilepsy.

Fees

Fill in the section on fees so that they are aware of the situation. Also appraise them of any fees the club charges for training.

Child Protection

All new adult members should be aware of SIFA's policy as stated in the handbook. Advise all new members that -

- A. If they enrol children in SIFA they must be their parent or legal guardian and must supervise them and be responsible for them at *all* club events.
- B. They must not take on any form of responsibility for any children other than stated in A

- C. They must never be the sole adult with one or more children other than stated in A
- D. Members should report to the Child Protection Officer of the club any observations of incidents or behaviour or attitudes to children they deem inappropriate.

Notes on the Schedule

- o Dominant eye. Find this first. If it's **left** and they're **right handed** explain that they can shoot either left or right handed but that **in the long run** it's best to shoot left handed. Don't force the issue; let them do whichever they most comfortable. However, they should *know* about this.
- o For initial stance and anchor use the very weakest bow possible. A floppy glass fibre job of 15lbs or less is fine, or even a garden cane and string. Never overbow a beginner.
- o The schedule doesn't need to be done in the order given. The initial have-a-go (Part 11) **could** be done first but is not advisable, especially for a group.
- o Part 16. "The full drill". Note that trainees are never to be taken to inter-club shoots for this or any other purpose.
- o Some points to cover (or reinforce) are –
 - How a shoot is started and run, target captain, rules and scoring.
 - Rotation of shooting order and why. Juniors and cubs an exception.
 - Staying in a group. Emergencies. Course marshals.
 - What to do at the peg (safety). How to wait your turn.
 - How to approach the target, draw undershoots from ground.
 - Judging and double scoring. Pulling arrows. (Rotate these within the group)
 - Looking for overshoots, guarding the target.
 - Counting arrows, moving off

Finally

It's up to your judgement whether you propose a trainee for membership. If they've gone through the schedule and can do everything by the book but for some reason you're still not confident then DON'T. Consult your colleagues and attempt to rectify any problems.