

Braintree Bowmen 'Have-a-Go' Event



Safety

In order to ensure the safe running of this event, please follow the safety points below:

- Wait until you are asked to move forwards to the shooting line – don't crowd those already shooting
- Tie loose clothing / hair back
- Listen to your instructor
- NEVER load an arrow unless instructed to do so
- Persons not following safety instruction may be asked to leave and forfeit any remaining shots

Children

- Most children above the age of eight will be able to shoot a bow. [Eight is the minimum age Braintree Bowmen accept for membership]
- Children under the age of eight can take part in this event, on the understanding that there may well be a level of physical contact between child and instructor to ensure safety and give the child the best possible chance of hitting the target.
- Braintree Bowmen have a Child Protection Policy as required by the GNAS (Grand National Archery Society), a copy of which is available on request.



The Grand National Archery Society

Code of Practice for “Have a Go’s”

If you are involved in such an event we cannot stress too much that SAFETY MUST BE YOUR PRIME CONCERN.

GNAS Public Liability Insurance covers “Have-a-Go’s” and taster sessions at fetes, gymkhanas, charity events and so on, provided the GNAS Code of Practice is adhered to. If we wish to keep this protection, indeed to be able to obtain insurance at all, great care must be exercised at all times. We expect and observe strict discipline on our normal ranges where there is little or no public access. Therefore the need to be extra vigilant to maintain safety standards in crowded public areas cannot be stressed enough.

1. The event should be properly recorded in the Club’s minutes prior to the event.
2. If it is impractical to provide first aid facilities at the event, ensure you are aware of the nearest first aid facilities. The provision of a telephone, which could be used in an emergency, or certainly making yourself aware of the nearest telephone should be a priority.
3. An accident book (the Club’s accident book is sufficient) must be available at the event. Any incident, however slight and whether or not it may result in an insurance claim must be recorded. The information recorded should include names and addresses of all persons involved and any witnesses. A copy of this information should be sent to the GNAS insurance brokers via the GNAS office within 7 days of the incident.
4. If you have agreed to a safe site at such an event but the Organisers then move you to an unsafe one – **DO NOT SHOOT.**
5. Only lightweight poundage beginner bows and arrows must be used. Members must not use normal target or field bows.
6. Make sure there is a safe over-shoot – a minimum of 50 yards.
7. Targets must be at no more than 10 yards from the shooting line and should rest on the ground at approximately the same angle as recommended in the GNAS Rules of Shooting.
8. Backstop netting should be used at all times unless there is a very safe overshoot as mentioned in item 6.
8. Coaching/shooting must be on a one to one basis and where possible a qualified coach should be in attendance. Only senior GNAS members should supervise and an experienced GNAS senior member must take overall control.
9. The senior GNAS member must ensure it is not possible for the public to pass behind the targets into a danger area or indeed walk across the shooting area. Both sides of the ranges must be adequately roped off and responsible adults should be appointed to watch each side of the range to ensure this does not happen.
10. Always check that the area is clear before and during shooting. A clear signal must be given to indicate it is safe to shoot immediately prior to arrows being shot. A second signal should also be given to indicate that shooting should be brought to a halt either for the collection of arrows or for safety reasons.

It is important to remember that any financial gain (excluding reasonable expenses) from such an event should be made to the subscribed club and not to an individual person. This is a requirement of the GNAS Public Liability Insurance policy.