

The Windrush Cross-Country Archery Challenge

Saturday June 1st 2013

Cornbury Park, Charlbury, Oxfordshire

A combination of archery and cross-country running in the woodlands of the Windrush Bowmen field archery course. This unique event is a test of stamina and archery skill in equal measure. Carrying a bow at all times and racing against the clock, you alternate five sections of running lasting approximately eight minutes each, with four chest-heaving pauses where three arrows are shot at boss-mounted targets set at unmarked distances (15-30 yards). This is followed by one more relaxed end of three at a longer-distance target after the running is over.

Competitors bring 12 arrows to the event. For scoring purposes, arrows must be identified by name or race number (sticky tape and indelible pens will be provided in case you haven't done this). After shooting you continue running, leaving arrows to be recovered by the Admin team, scored, and laid out for collection later. 3 of these arrows are shot for a second time after the running is over, so that you will shoot 15 altogether.

The boss-mounted targets are simple circles and arrows are collected into two buckets, either hit or miss. For each miss you will be added a penalty time equal to one fifteenth of your total running time. It remains to be seen what sort of scores will arise, because this hasn't been tried before. But you don't really care about all of that do you - after all, you are only coming to find out what you're made of...

Some Details

This is an experimental event and is the first UK trial of a new sport known (rather boringly) as run-archery which has seen rising interest in Europe during the past decade and is FITA-recognised. We are being encouraged and supported by Archery GB, who are taking a keen interest and hope to learn lessons for further development of the sport. This first event is open to members of all archery organisations and public liability insurance is arranged on that basis. The minimum age (on this occasion) is 16 years, and all ages and both sexes compete over the same course.

We may be able to take entries from non-archers if they are given adequate training before the day of the event, and can borrow archery equipment. These entries are by invitation only - if you know anyone who might like to be invited then please ask them to contact us.

In the interest of safety (to avoid anyone being impaled) you must not carry arrows in the hand while running. Arrows may be carried in secure back or body quivers, or in a tube attached to the bow (so that you have one hand free); alternatively, you may place them before the start of the event in pre-arranged areas next to the targets and pick them up as you come to shoot.

All bow types may take part except compound bows and crossbows. There is no restriction on bow equipment (but for obvious reasons you would be at a disadvantage running with long rod and stabilisers etc). Apart from the bow classes described below, there are no restrictions on the materials the bow or arrows are made from, type of loose, anchor point, nocks, fletchings, any of those things. The size of the targets will be such that a competent barebow archer can hit most of them (when he or she is not out of breath...).

Provisionally, results will be divided into the following bow classes with small prizes for each:

- A Unsighted bows, shot off the hand.
- B Unsighted bows, shot off an arrow rest or shelf.
- C Bows with sights or sight marks of any description.

with separate results for men and for women, but no age groups.

Where and When

Rangers Lodge, Cornbury Park, OX7 3HL. The course is just off the B4437 between Charlbury and Burford. From Charlbury, take the road out past the station and climb the hill westwards for approx 1 mile. Take the first left and then go straight over after 300yds into the signposted car park. Watch for "Windrush" signs.

Turn up and sign on from 0830-0930. Tea, coffee etc are served at HQ throughout the day.

The entry list with your race number will be emailed beforehand. Please try to put your name or number on your arrows before you arrive, otherwise do it while-u-wait (materials provided).

Assembly is at 0930 when there will be a briefing, questions and answers, followed by a delay while we make sure that everyone has placed their arrows by the targets etc. This is going to be a learning event, please be patient while we sort you out.

When ready, the timed starts will be at 15 or 30-second intervals until everyone is off.

Entries

Contact Bob McGregor, Windrush Bowmen
 141 Wroslyn Road, Freeland, Witney, Oxon. OX29 8HR
Email archery@rocketman.clara.co.uk
Phone 01993 881241

If you think you may be interested in taking part, please email Bob McGregor as soon as possible to give an early idea of numbers, with no obligation if you change your mind later.

Please post the entry form below with a cheque payable to Windrush Bowmen. Entries close on Weds 22nd May, shortly after which the starting order will be emailed to you.

RUN ARCHERY 1ST JUNE 2013 Bob McGregor, 141 Wroslyn Rd, Freeland, Witney OX29 8HR

Club/organisation

Name	Male/Female	Age (optional)	Bow class A/B/C (above)	Fee £5 each
Please make cheques payable to Windrush Bowmen			Total	

Main contact Name

 Email

 Phone