

6. THANKING YOUR VOLUNTEERS

CELEBRATE YOUR VOLUNTEERS!

- ▶ Give recognition and appreciation of volunteers in newsletters, or other club communications as individuals or teams of volunteers ([read Culture document for more information](#))
- ▶ Giving regular 'shout-outs' or claps when rounds are shot. This is meaningful coming from the participants who have benefited from the volunteers' efforts
- ▶ Try and remember everyone. It's easy to remember the people who set the course but harder to remember the person that cleans the loos - they need thanking just as much (maybe more!)
- ▶ Celebrating your volunteers will create a wider volunteer awareness amongst the club members. Sport England did a [video](#) to thank all the amazing sports volunteers after the COVID pandemic
- ▶ Try to get volunteers acknowledged by the county, regions and Archery GB by sharing their achievements with your Regional Development Officer or with the magazine editor. They may want to write an article about it!

WAYS YOU CAN THANK YOUR VOLUNTEERS

- ▶ **Thank you, verbal and written**
- ▶ **Gifts**
- ▶ **Social media tags** - ask first, though!
- ▶ **Newsletter articles**
- ▶ **Incentives** - qualifications, training, free membership, equipment vouchers
- ▶ **References**
- ▶ **Nomination for volunteer awards** - AGB, Active Partnerships, etc
- ▶ **Volunteer evening** - social events to chat and relax together
- ▶ **Expenses** - volunteers shouldn't be out of pocket. Offer support funds for costs of training (judging/coaching), but also online courses such as minute-taking, finance to support treasurers, etc. You could ask your local region for help with costs, especially if you have volunteers that are working across clubs or not in their usual club
- ▶ Visit the [Start Archery Merchandise Portal](#) if you would like some **Archery GB volunteer pin badges** to thank your volunteers



MANDIE ELSON'S STORY

During the first lockdown Mandie Elson used her own money to deliver a selection of sweets and soft archery to juniors around her community. She set up a rainbow archery themed drawing/painting competition to use as the club's logo, and for Easter Mandie handed out lollies with the club's logo on and created a pack of exercises to try and encourage members to stay active at home.

Mandie was nominated for Active Notts award by a parent whose daughter greatly benefited from the exercises, enabling her to shoot safely and prevent injury during the lockdowns.

The awards highlight individuals and organisations throughout Nottinghamshire who, like Mandie, have helped other people in their community to be active.

“ One of my 9-year-old juniors has a medical condition, so I helped to ensure that she shoots safely and without hurting herself, and her parent nominated me for the award as a thank you for all my help.

Mandie Elson

