

## 1. General FAQs

1. Where can I view the policy?
  - a. The policy is available to view via [this webpage](#).
2. How will the policy be reviewed in future?
  - a. All policies are reviewed regularly and at least every three years, by staff, the Audit & Risk Committee and the Archery GB Board. We will continue to liaise with the Home Nation Sports Councils and other NGBs and partners on this matter.
3. What is changing?
  - a. The previous policy of Archery GB prioritised transgender participation. Following a review of the policy, and the Supreme Court's ruling, the Archery GB Board have deemed that there is a competitive advantage and therefore the female category is now protected for reasons of competitive fairness. Female archers will be required to declare themselves as recorded female at birth. An open category will be available for any archer, regardless of sex, to enter.
  - b. All competitors will need to be compliant with anti-doping regulations, including in relation to prior or current use of anabolic agents, including testosterone. It is lawful to offer sex categories in sport through the provisions in the Equality Act in respect of gender-affected sport.
4. When will the policy take effect from?
  - a. The policy takes effect from 1 October 2025.
5. How are we supporting those who are personally impacted by this change?
  - a. All archers that have previously made an application for clearance under the previous policy have been contacted prior to the policy being released. Archers have been signposted to support through our mental wellbeing partner Health Assured. Everyone is welcome on the shooting line, and we would encourage those archers affected by the policy change to continue to participate, volunteer and compete.
  - b. We are aware that there may be archers that have not been provided clearance previously. We will work with individuals to ensure that they understand the policy and the opportunities available to them.
6. Why has the Board made this change?
  - a. The policy for transgender participation in archery was already under review before the [UK Supreme Court's ruling](#) that the legal definition of a woman is based on biological sex.
  - b. The four Sports Councils responsible for supporting and investing in sport across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, have been working together to develop [new guidance](#) to support the inclusion of transgender people in sport.
  - c. The Archery GB Board considered this information and then deemed that archery is a gender affected sport of a competitive nature where the physical

strength, stamina or physique of average persons of one sex could put them at a disadvantage compared to average persons of the other sex as competitors at an archery competition.

7. How can I report the use of discriminatory language or behaviour to Archery GB?
  - a. Archery clubs should be safe and welcoming places for children, young people and adults at risk, and nobody should feel discriminated against, or treated differently due to their age, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, disability, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. To report a concern, [click here](#).

## 2. Membership

1. What impact will this have on my membership?
  - a. Any archer that has previously been granted clearance, will be notified, and then also have their membership profile sex at birth question changed to its previous state. Eligibility is only used in competition entries, therefore there may be an occasion where you may now be ineligible for a particular category.
  - b. The Sport:80 membership platform has at its core Male and Female competition categories, so the “sex at birth” question determines your eligibility, and every archer does need to complete this question.
  - c. All archers can provide us with further demographic data as part of your profile. This data is only viewable by Archery GB and you the archer. We use this data to help us plan new projects and programmes aimed at under-represented groups and communities.
2. What if my membership is set to automatically renew?
  - a. Please ensure that all details regarding your membership profile are correct before the auto-renewal happens. For many archers, this deadline is 30 September.

## 3. Competitions

1. When will the changes for competitive activity be introduced?
  - a. From 1 October 2025. Archery GB’s first competition will be the National Indoors weekend. For club, County and Regional bodies the adoption may take longer however we will be ready to support Tournament Organisers as needed.
2. What category should intersex people compete in?
  - a. All members are required to register their sex at birth with Archery GB. This is the primary criteria used for event eligibility.
3. Does the policy apply to non-record status events?
  - a. The policy refers to all competitions, handicaps and classification. A Tournament Organiser is free to have additional categories and awards, however all national claims for badges, classifications, handicaps and records must comply with the rules of shooting and this revised policy.

4. What should I do if I believe that somebody is taking part in a competition for which they're ineligible?
  - a. If there are concerns that cannot be resolved, the Tournament Organiser, in consultation with the senior judging official, may delay or stop the competition. Archery GB recommends that this only happens if concerns about the health and welfare of an archer may put them or others at risk of injury.
  - b. For further information and guidance, please contact Membership Services in the first instance: [enquiries@archerygb.org](mailto:enquiries@archerygb.org) or call 01952 677888.
5. Who is responsible for a concern on the archery field?
  - a. As a coach, club official or Tournament Organiser you already implement many of Archery GB's policies. You are the first line of support for standards on and off the field of play. It is important not to assume eligibility, and it is essential that we respect the confidentiality of all participants. Therefore, we would not expect any participant to be challenged on their eligibility during an event. All incidents should be raised through the official process and reported to [enquiries@archerygb.org](mailto:enquiries@archerygb.org) after such an event takes place.
  - b. It is not the role of the judge to monitor or enforce the eligibility of individuals, irrespective of awareness of an archer's circumstances. A judge's primary responsibility is to apply the Rules of Shooting to ensure the competition is conducted safely and fairly. Should an archer engage in dangerous actions, a judge will take appropriate action in accordance with the rules. However, a judge, CoJ or DoS is not accountable for the enforcement of archer eligibility policies.
6. How does this policy differ from World Archery's?
  - a. World Archery provides a clear framework for participation in international events in the [WA Eligibility policy for transgender athletes](#). This policy includes the requirements that athletes may meet to compete under a different gender identity to the one they were assigned at birth, as well as the application and monitoring processes.
7. What does this mean for athletes competing in World Record events in the UK and internationally?
  - a. World Archery's policy relates to international competitions only, as laid out in the [WA Eligibility policy for transgender athletes](#). Archery GB's policy will not affect the eligibility of transgender athletes to compete in international competitions. That will instead be determined exclusively by reference to WA's policy.
8. How does this change affect badges, classifications, handicaps and record claims?
  - a. For any award scheme that refers to categories such as Male and Female, these will be updated over time, however in the short term read these as Open and Female.
  - b. Any award scheme is available to all archers to take part in; any award will be granted based on existing scores.

- c. The same badge claimed under one category cannot be claimed under a different category. For example, Female Compound badge cannot be claimed under an Open Compound category.
- 9. Can I get a refund if I no longer wish to compete in a national competition because of these changes?
  - a. The refund policy of competitions should be stated on the entry guides. Generally, there are no refunds within 28 days of the competition. Please contact the Tournament Organiser directly.
  - b. If an archer that has had their profile changed by Archery GB, which then makes them ineligible for that category, does not wish to shoot in an open category, then a full refund will be provided.

#### 4. Non-competitive activity

- 1. Have any changes been made to the Members' Portal?
  - a. There are no changes to the Member's Portal. Each archer's profile has a question 'Sex at Birth' – this is a mandatory question and determines an archer's eligibility for shooting in certain categories.
- 2. Have any changes been made to the Pathway or World Class Programme?
  - a. There are no changes to the Pathway or World Class Programme.
- 3. What about sessions aimed at just one gender such as taster sessions or Project Rimaya events?
  - a. The policy only impacts competitive events. Taster sessions, participation and training should not be impacted by this change. Archery remains an inclusive sport.
- 4. What other opportunities are there for trans and non-binary people to shoot as members of Archery GB?
  - a. Archery remains an inclusive sport, everyone is welcome to participate, compete and volunteer in archery.
- 5. What support can Archery GB offer on the correct use of language and providing an inclusive environment?
  - a. Contact your regional Sport Development Officer or the main office for general support and advice – email [enquiries@archerygb.org](mailto:enquiries@archerygb.org)
  - b. You can also find out more about creating welcoming and inclusive environments, connecting with your community and diversifying your offer from the Home Nation Sport Council's club offers:
    - i. [Sport England's Buddle](#)
    - ii. [Sport Scotland's Help for Clubs](#)
    - iii. [Sport Wales Club Support](#)
    - iv. [Sport NI](#)
    - v. [The Home Nation's Moving to Inclusion website](#)



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