

## Regulations

SPTA was founded to encourage interest and participation in worldwide traditional archery, its history and associated crafts, rather than groom future champions! Consequently SPTA promotes a variety of events that all archers can enjoy with relatively simple equipment.

Shooting Rules for competition are kept to a minimum.

***Be safe, have fun!***

There are few hard and fast rules, except that events must be in the proper traditional spirit! Safety is paramount. Event organisers are in charge within a set of guidelines intended to keep things true to archery traditions as promoted by SPTA. These are set out in the handbook issued to all members.

***A smile and a traditional bow belong together.***

## Membership

Membership includes insurance for events notified and approved by the Committee, and notification of events, information etc. via the Society newsletter "Keeping TABS" which includes features and articles, shoot dates, information etc. The SPTA Handbook is issued on joining, and sets out guidance on types/rules of shooting, classes of equipment, and safety; members are expected to read and observe these, safety being paramount. Membership runs from end April each year. If you join within the last subscription quarter (Feb-April) it is carried forward to the following year.

## Administration

There is no large bureaucracy running the Society. A President, Treasurer and Secretary form the Executive Committee.

Major decisions will be taken by postal vote.

Any rise in subscription will be due to increased costs only, and will be advised to members before annual renewal.

**If you wish to hold an event under the auspices of SPTA, please contact the secretary.**

**sptasec@gmail.com**

## EQUIPMENT GUIDE

Bows in any class can be of any draw weight. No sight marks, stabilisers, draw checks, release aids etc. allowed in any class. All decisions regarding equipment are made by the event organiser.

### Primitive (classic\*) Bows

**'Simple'\*:** Self bows of natural materials, no shelves/rests: backings to be of natural materials (e.g. sinew/rawhide/snakeskin/linen). String must touch bow only at nocks when braced.

**IE ANY SIMPLE BOW SHOT AROUND THE HANDLE WHICH ISN'T A LONGBOW**

**'Classic'\*** Includes natural composite bows (\*Class subdivisions at organiser's discretion)

No shelves/rests allowed in any subdivision of this class.

### English Longbow (sim. BL-BS spec.)

Wooden bows only, 'self' or laminated. Nocks: 'self'/horn hardwood. 'D' section, depth no less than 5/8 of width. No narrowing at riser, shelf or rest allowed.

### American Longbow (AFB):

\*\*Min. length 60in. Fibreglass laminations allowed. Reflex & reflex/deflex bows allowable but string must only touch nocks when braced. Includes straight limbed fibreglass bows. Shelves/rests allowed.

### Hunting style Recurve

Self or composite bows, with timber risers only, shelf/arrow rests allowable; one piece or take down, composite bows.

Includes beginners recurved fibreglass bows

### Arrows

In ALL cases timber or bamboo shafts and real feather fletchings ONLY, plastic nocks or self nocked. Permissible arrowheads at event organiser's discretion.

### Loose

All styles of finger/thumb releases acceptable. including thumbings for suitable 'eastern' style bows.

**\*\*JUN/JUV bow lengths may be proportionately reduced.**

# Society for the Promotion of Traditional Archery (1/16)



## AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

- to encourage interest in the shooting skills, history and crafts associated with traditional archery equipment:

English Longbow.

American Longbow (American flatbow).

Hunting Style Recurve (timber riser)

**'Primitive' and 'classic' Bows**

all shot without sighting aids or stabilisers, in the instinctive style, with wooden shafted arrows, feather fletched.

- to support a variety of events for the above equipment including:  
demonstrations, workshops  
exhibitions, have-a-goes  
competitions, horsearchery

- to foster enjoyment in the sport by encouraging members to organise their own events, and keep people in touch through the Society newsletter: "Keeping TABS"  
Bureaucracy and regulations are kept to the minimum necessary to promote safety whilst maintaining the aims of the Society.

**HELP KEEP THE TRADITIONAL SPIRIT STRONG AND SPREAD THE WORD!**

**COMPETITIONS/EVENTS**

Suggested events can include:

Roving Marks Flight shooting

Clout shooting Popinjay

Field archery Target archery

Speed shooting Horsearchery (foot practice)

and more -as long as the event is within our safety guidance. If in doubt -and if you have any 'new' ideas -please ask- risk assessments may be required.

**Demonstrations etc**

The Society was founded to 'spread the word' about worldwide traditional archery and to this end puts on demonstrations of shooting, crafts, bowmaking workshops, talks etc. The hope is that people will contribute and share information on this wonderful subject.

**EXCLUSIONS**

Professional tuition for individual gain, re-enactments, unsupervised roving, or hunting (which is illegal in the UK) cannot be covered. The Committee must be notified in writing in advance of all events to be held under SPTA Insurance, including who is responsible for organisation and safety. Risk assessments may be required by our insurers

The Society can promote shoots held under the auspices of another society, and happily support events held in the spirit of the Society's aims.

**SPTA website**

[www.traditional-archery.org](http://www.traditional-archery.org)

email

[sptasec@gmail.com](mailto:sptasec@gmail.com)

There is a thriving international archery community on Facebook: we are part of this as a closed group, where members can post comments etc. so ask to join by finding 'SPTA' in the Facebook search box.

**NEWSLETTER**

An occasional newsletter, 'Keeping Tabs' is sent out by email or post, including shoot forms which will also be made available on Facebook and the website (please declare your preference for email on the membership form)

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE to the newsletter with interesting and informative articles (preferably out of the ordinary and new!). Also photos, sent to [sptasec@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sptasec@yahoo.co.uk)

**SUBSCRIPTION (STERLING ONLY)**

Full membership: £12.00 per year for adult members. (For Paypal **see below**)

**Other members** at same address: £8.00

Please make cheques/money orders out to "SPTA"

**For payment by Payal:**

Please send information as indicated on the membership form to: [sptasec@gmail.com](mailto:sptasec@gmail.com)  
Information for payment by PayPal transfer/credit or debit cards will be sent to you.

PAYPAL FEES: £12.50 to cover Paypal costs.  
£8.40 for additional members at same address

If you pay by cheque please return membership form BY POST to:  
SPTA Secretary, 4 Walpole, Bridgwater,  
Somerset. TA6 4TF  
ENGLAND

**Full Name**

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

**Address****Club /Soc. memberships****Contact information**

email

tel (SPTA use only)

Age (if 15 yrs or under)

Date of Birth (Jun/Juvs only)

**TABS by email**

YES/NO

If you can contribute skills, have particular archery interests and experience, please let us know below.

Amount enclosed (cheque only)

Please return membership form and remittance (cheques to 'SPTA' please) to:  
SPTA Secretary