

Maranatha Recreation Camp - Yandina

Risk Assessment – Archery

Description

Participants use bows to shoot arrows at a fixed target. A single shooting line long enough to accommodate all archers comfortably is set up so that all participants shoot from the same line. Target Archery is the most practiced form of outdoor archery worldwide with targets 80+ centimetres wide and divided into five colours with each colour divided into two to provide 10 scoring zones. Sophisticated strong and light, recurve bows using aluminium, fibreglass or carbon fibre arrows bring this ancient art into the 21 century. Young archers learn to focus on the target with their dominant eye while using their non-dominant eye to give depth of field. Eye dominance also determines which hand the archer should hold the bow with, and which hand the string should be drawn.

| Hazard | Risk | Control measures |
|--|------|--|
| Use as a weapon Unsafe behaviour | L | The Firearms Act 1990 classifies archery equipment as a firearm if used as a weapon. For target shooting in a learning environment, however, archery equipment is not a weapon under the meaning of the Act, if strict adherence to recognised safety procedures is followed. The consequence of unsafe behaviour includes participant missing a round or dismissal from the activity. Participants should demonstrate responsibility and skills that indicates ability to operate the equipment without endangering their own or others health and safety |
| Pedestrian injury | L | All participants must always remain behind the firing line. And be instructed not to walk into the shooting zone. Shooting zone is clearly marked as a no-go area. The site should be free from traffic flow and pedestrians |
| Personal injury | M | Students should wear an arm guard where necessary. Only Instructors and competent participants should withdraw arrows from targets as there is a potential risk. Loose clothing jewellery should be secured or removed. Long hair should be tied back |
| Faulty equipment | L | Equipment must be thoroughly inspected prior to use. Check arrows – any arrows with faulty flights or nocks should be withdrawn from use and identified as needing repair or discarded. Bows should be strung to their recommended string lengths. Strings showing signs of abrasion and wear – fraying or severing (particularly under the nocking point) should be replaced. Bows with cracks or stress marks should be withdrawn from use and identified as needing repair or discarded |
| Damage to equipment | L | Participants are briefed about caring for equipment – not standing on arrows or bows or intentionally damaging arrow feathers |
| Sun | L | Sun-safe procedures – hats, sunscreen and water. Participants not shooting should remain seated under the shelter. Appropriate clothing and footwear is essential. |
| Skill Level | L | Instructor and adult assistants should determine the student's capabilities to engage in the activity – and assess if the participant has the required strength to draw the bow |
| Environmental Conditions Extreme weather conditions, insect bites, snake, | L | Instructors monitor weather conditions. Activity may be cancelled if there is high wind, heavy rain, storm or lightening. Instructors provide group with warnings if tracks are wet and/or slippery. Ensure adequate supervision. Ensure campers use insect repellent. Ensure campers check for ticks afterwards. First Aider always with group with First Aid kit. Instructors have mobile phones to call for assistance in emergency. First Aid room is located at the camp kitchen. |
| Inclusivity Adaptations | | Archery is an inclusive activity. It can be accessed by wheelchairs across the oval via ramps. The activity can be adapted in a variety of ways, from assisted bow holding and assisted pull back with the assistance of the Instructor or competent adult. Other participants can also assist in the retrieval of the arrows after shots |

Risk Priority Matrix:

E= Extreme H= High M= Moderate L= Low

Risk Assessment Date:

Jan 2026

Review Date:

Jan 2027

Version: 1.7

Short Form

Maranatha Recreation Camp - Yandina

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | are fired and the range is clear. Small bows are also available which have less resistance when pulling the string back. Target distance can also be adjusted to reduce difficulty. |
|--|--|--|