

Handicaps

Archery Tutorial



With thanks to Eileen

Welcome

This tutorial was inspired by a conversation with Eileen who suggested that the 'Handicap' system was a mystery to unravel for a new archer.

This tutorial has been based around the G.N.A.S. "Target Archery Handicap Scheme" and it would be ideal if you have a copy of these handicap tables close to you as a reference to the examples:

Getting Started.

The instructions for running the Archery Handicap System are to be found in the G.N.A.Ss. "Target Archery Handicap Scheme" wherein all details of the scheme are listed.

This presentation will describe the procedures required including examples and exercises.

The first section relates to 'Initial Assessment' where an archer has NO handicap OR their handicap has lapsed. The second section relates to the 'Reduction of Handicap'. The third section relates to the Annual Re-Assessment of Handicap.

A 'workshop' on-line is included to allow you to test out your newly gained knowledge.

Handicaps Overview.

The administration of the National Handicap Scheme is in the hands of Club officials.

No central register is maintained by G.N.A.S.

The scheme indicates ability on a scale of 0 to 100 with 0 being the top level.

Handicaps may be derived and used both for indoor and outdoor shooting, but the two ratings MUST be kept entirely separate. This procedure applies equally to Indoor and Outdoor Handicaps.

ROUNDS:

Rounds to be used for handicapping purposes are those shown ONLY in tables 1 to 4 of the Handicap Scheme. Tables 1 to 3 for Outdoor Rounds, and Table 4 for Indoor Rounds.

With the exception of rounds marked with a '*' in these tables, any archer, irrespective of age may shoot any of the listed rounds. HOWEVER, they must be shot at a club target day, or at a meeting organised by F.I.T.A., G.N.A.S. Or an affiliated body.

Initial Assessment - your first handicap.

A beginner OR an archer not in possession of a handicap will be eligible to receive a handicap after shooting any THREE complete rounds from the required tables.

The handicap awarded will be the average rating of the three rounds. (Rounded up to the next larger whole number.)

Any archer not in possession of a valid handicap is NOT eligible to enter a handicap shoot.

After the handicap has been obtained all handicaps are reviewed annually:

On 1st January for Outdoor Handicaps.

On 1st July for Indoor Handicaps.

Next page: The initial assessment and examples for the initial rating:

Example 1 - The first score.

A novice shooting a recurve bow and unable to reach much beyond 60 yards shoots a 'National' and scores 78.

To calculate the handicap for this round:

Step 1 - Find the 'score for round' table which includes this round. (It should be TABLE 7)

Step 2 - Follow the 'National' column down until you find the score '78', then move left or right to the 'Handicap Rating' column. (This should indicate '75')

Write down this number.

Handicap Rating	New National	Long National	National	Short National
50	217	330	436	496
51	201	314	423	486
52	186	298	410	476
53	171	282	396	465
54	157	266	381	454
55	143	249	367	442
56	130	234	351	430
57	118	218	336	417
58	106	202	319	403
59	96	187	303	389
60	88	173	287	375
61	76	159	270	360
62	68	145	254	344
63	60	133	237	329
64	53	121	221	313
65	47	109	205	298
66	41	98	189	282
67	36	89	174	267
68	31	79	158	247
69	27	71	143	231
70	24	64	133	215
71	20	58	121	200
72	17	49	109	185
73	14	43	98	170
74	13	38	88	156
75	11	33	78	142

Example 2 - The second score.

The novice shoots a 'Short Western' round and scores 354.

To calculate the handicap for this round:

Step 1 - Find the 'score for round' table which includes this round.
(It should be TABLE 6)

Step 2 - Follow the 'Short Western' column down until you find the score '354', then move left or right to the 'Handicap Rating' column.
(This should indicate '68')

Write down this number.

Handicap Rating	New Western	Long Western	Western	Short Western
50	313	468	595	674
51	291	448	578	681
52	270	427	561	648
53	250	406	544	635
54	230	385	525	621
55	211	363	506	606
56	193	342	486	591
57	175	321	466	575
58	159	300	445	558
59	143	279	425	538
60	129	259	405	520
61	116	239	385	501
62	103	219	365	481
63	92	200	346	461
64	81	181	327	440
65	71	163	308	418
66	62	145	289	397
67	56	138	271	375
68	49	124	251	354
69	42	111	231	332
70	37	99	213	310
71	32	89	196	289
72	28	79	179	268
73	24	69	164	248
74	20	61	149	229
75	18	54	136	210

Example 3 - The third score.

The novice shoots a 'Junior Warwick' round and scores 271.

To calculate the handicap for this round:

Step 1 - Find the 'score for round' table which includes this round. (It should be TABLE 7)

Step 2 - Follow the 'Junior Warwick' column down until you find the score '271', then move left or right to the 'Handicap Rating' column. (This should indicate '66')

Write down this number.

Warwick	Short	Junior	Short	Handi-
Warwick	Warwick	Warwick	Warwick	cap
				Rating
297	337	373	405	50
289	331	369	403	51
281	324	364	400	52
272	317	359	397	53
263	310	354	393	54
253	303	349	390	55
243	295	343	387	56
233	287	337	383	57
	278	331	379	58
	269	325	375	59
20		318	371	60
190		311	366	61
179	24		361	62
168	230		356	63
157	220	26	351	64
146	209	279	346	65
136	198	271	341	66
125	188	262	334	67
115	177	252	328	68
106	166	242	321	69
97	155	232	315	70
88	145	222	307	71
80	134	212	300	72
72	124	201	292	73
65	114	191	284	74
58	105	180	275	75

Calculation - First Rating.

The novice has now shot three 'qualifying' rounds.

1 - A 'National' rating of 75.

2 - A 'Short Western' rating of 68.

3 - A 'Junior Warwick' rating of 66.

Step 1 - To calculate the handicap we add the three numbers together. ($75 + 68 + 66 = 209$)

Step 2 - Divide by three and round up to the nearest whole number, if required. ($209 / 3 = 69$ remainder 2. Rounds up to 70)

This is the 'initial' handicap now calculated.

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Reducing the handicap

The process of 'reducing' handicaps is continuous. A handicap may be reduced every time an archer shoots a round to a better standard than his current handicap.

Rounds shot which do NOT better the handicap are recorded but the handicap can only be reduced during a season and will not rise if scores are NOT bettered.

If the average is not a whole number, it will be rounded up to the next largest whole number, as was the case with the initial handicap calculation.

On the next page we will continue our example, using the handicap already calculated to see the effect upon the rating held.

Example 4 - Handicap Reduction.

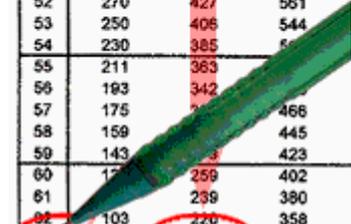
The novice shoots a 'Long Western' round and scores 209.

To calculate the handicap for this round:

Step 1 - Find the 'score for round' table which includes this round. (It should be TABLE 6)

Step 2 - Follow the 'Long Western' column down until you find the score '209' or the nearest LOWER, then move left or right to the 'Handicap Rating' column. (This should indicate '63')

Write down this number.



Handicap Rating	New Western	Long Western	Western
50	313	468	595
51	291	448	578
52	270	427	561
53	250	406	544
54	230	385	527
55	211	363	510
56	193	342	493
57	175	321	476
58	159	300	459
59	143	279	442
60	127	259	425
61	111	239	408
62	95	220	391
63	82	202	374
64	68	185	357
65	54	168	340
66	41	152	323
67	28	138	306
68	16	124	289
69	4	111	272
70		99	255
71		89	238
72		79	221
73		69	204
74		61	187
75		54	170

Calculation - Improving.

The novice has now shot a further score.

A 'Long Western' rating of 63.

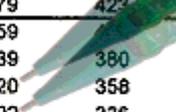
Step 1 - To calculate the handicap we add the existing rating to the new rating. (70 plus 63 = 133)

Step 2 - Divide by two and round up to the nearest whole number, if required. ($133/2 = 66.5$. Nearest whole number = 67)

If the number is now LOWER than the old, this becomes the new handicap, otherwise it remains the same.

It is UNLIKELY that the score achieved will always be EXACTLY that shown in the tables. In this case the handicap rating applied is that of the nearest LOWER score.

58	159	300	445
59	143	279	423
60	129	259	
61	116	239	380
62	103	220	358
63	92	202	336
64	81	185	314
65	72	168	292
66	63	152	271
67	56	138	251
68	49	124	231



Explanation of Tables.

Three table sets exist. A 'valid' rounds set, a 'Score for Rounds; set and a miscellaneous set.

An explanation of the 'VALID ROUNDS' tables set.

The 'handicap' tables which form the handicap section for VALID rounds are as follows:

Table 1 covers 'IMPERIAL' outdoor rounds.

Table 2 covers 'METRIC' outdoor rounds.

Table 3 covers 'F.I.T.A.' Outdoor rounds.

Table 4 covers 'ALL' indoor rounds.

Only these tables indicate which rounds may be used to claim a handicap rating.

The following page will explain the 'Score for Rounds' tables.

Explanation of Tables - 2.

An explanation of the 'SCORE FOR ROUNDS' tables set.

The 'Score for Round' tables which form the 'Rating' handicap section are as follows:

Tables 5, 6 and 7 cover 'IMPERIAL' outdoor rounds.

Tables 8 and 9 cover 'METRIC' outdoor rounds.

Table 10 covers 'F.I.T.A.' Outdoor rounds.

Table 11 covers 'GNAS' indoor rounds.

Table 12 covers 'FITA' indoor rounds and includes the 'Vegas' round.

These tables allow you to convert the score achieved to a handicap rating number (0 to 100)

The following page will explain the remaining tables.

Explanation of Tables - 3.

An explanation of the 'miscellaneous' tables set.

Tables 13, 14 and 15 give an indication of a handicap rating when only two or three dozen arrows are shot.

Based on distances and target face size, these give an approximation of handicap being shot and are useful in measuring possible performance during a 'full' round.

They are for information purposes only.

Tables 16 to 23 give the 'Allowance for round' which reverses the handicap rating system and are used to determine the winner in a handicap shoot.

The use of these table will be covered later in this tutorial.

Re-assessment of a handicap.

Once a handicap is gained, and improved over an Archery season, it becomes ready for re-assessment at the beginning of the next season on:

1st January for OUTDOOR handicaps.

1st July for INDOOR handicaps.

The handicap allocated at these times will be equal to the AVERAGE of the handicap ratings of the archers BEST THREE scores shot during the previous year.

Thus it is possible to start a season with a lower handicap than was registered at the close of the previous season!

See the next slide for an example:

Re-assessment Example.

Our archer gained, in slide 7, an initial handicap of 70 and, in slide 9, improved it to 67.

Imagine that he shot four further times before the season closed from the handicap of 67.

He shoots a '66' but this does not improve his handicap. $(67 + 66 = 133 / 2 = 66.5)$

He shoots a '63' An improvement. $(67 + 63 = 130 / 2 = 65)$

He shoots a '66' but this does not improve his handicap. $(65 + 66 = 131 / 2 = 65.5)$

Finally he shoots a '63' $(65+63 = 128/2 = 64)$. Another improvement. Note the '64'!

The following **annual** re-assessment shows he had THREE handicap scores of '63', two shown above and one from slide 9. Thus $63+63+63 = 189 / 3 = 63$ so this coming season starts with a handicap of 63 and not the 64 which stood at the end of the previous season!

Re-assessment Explanation.

As the archer in our demonstration had shot three rounds to a handicap of 63, when the annual assessment took place the 'new' handicap was calculated on these three 'BEST' ratings even though the handicap had been 64 upon the closure of the previous season.

Variations to Annual Re-assessments.

If an archer has shot **FEWER** than three rounds then the average will be taken from those rounds which have been shot **PLUS** the average from the year before.

If an archer has shot **NO** rounds in the previous season then the handicap shall be that of the last declared until completion of a new 'initial' assessment.

If the average is a fraction, it will be rounded up to the next larger whole number.

Re-assessment Explanation.

This ends the tutorial for 'handicaps'. From it you should now be able to know how to convert a score from the list of 'valid rounds' to a handicap number, how to calculate improvement, and to re-assess the handicap upon the start of another season.

This is only the start! Once a handicap is obtained then focus shifts to 'Classification'.

Classification is the process beyond the handicap rating where an archer pushes to show that they have reached a certain standard. A separate tutorial is available to cover 'classification' and 'Handicap conversion to allowance' which is used by tournament organisers to calculate the 'winner' in a handicap shoot.

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