

### Regulations

SPTA was founded to encourage interest and participation in the simpler forms of 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.

SPTA tries to 'keep things simple' as far as possible, Shooting Rules for competition are kept to a minimum, although SPTA has guidelines intended to encourage the use of 'less efficient' bows.

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.

### Membership

Membership includes insurance (see later) and the Society quarterly 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 one year from the month of joining.

### Administration

There is no large bureaucracy running the Society. A President, Treasurer and Secretary form the Executive Committee. Annual reports are sent out to all members at the end of the Society Year. 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.

### EQUIPMENT GUIDE

There are four classes of bow, outlined below. 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.

#### English Longbow

Wooden bows only, 'self' or laminated. Nocks: 'self'/horn/hardwood. No recurve. 'D' section, depth no less than 5/8 of width

#### 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

#### Primitive (classic) Bows

'Simple'\*: Self bows of natural materials, shot around the handle, backings of natural materials (e.g. sinew/rawhide/snakeskin/linen). Reflex or setback allowable, but string must touch bow only at nocks when braced.

'Classic'\* Includes composite bows (\*Class subdivisions at organisers discretion) No shelves/rests allowed in any subdivision

#### Arrows

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

#### Loose

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

\*JUNIORS: bow lengths proportionately reduced



## Society for the Promotion of Traditional Archery

### 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:

demonstrations

workshops

exhibitions

have-a-goes

competitions

horse archery

- 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:

Hunting trails	Archery golf
Roving Marks	Flight shooting
Clout shooting	Popinjay
Field archery	Target archery
Speed shooting	Horsearchery

### Demonstrations etc

The Society was founded to 'spread the word' about traditional archery, and to this end puts on demonstrations of shooting and crafts, holds bow workshops, gives talks and sends out information. The hope is that people will contribute and share information on this wonderful and vast 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 advance of all events to be held under SPTA Insurance, and who is responsible for organisation and safety.

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



### HORSEARCHERY

We promote competitive horsearchery, based on a form of competition developed by Kassai Lajos of Hungary. Please contact us if you wish to help develop this exciting new sport.

## 'Keeping TABS'

This is the chief way in which information, news and views are shared within the Society, (and other archers.) Contributions are welcome, the point is to inform and entertain, and advise members of events. It is produced quarterly and a copy is sent individually to each household. Articles can be opinions, technical advice, humorous, reports of events etc.

### Insurance

(UK members only)

Membership includes Public Liability insurance for members of the Society, and for volunteers who act on its behalf at an affiliated event, Clubs must hold their own insurance for practice purposes.

A good standard of safety is required at all affiliated events, a claim arising from acts of idiocy or gross negligence will not be supported by the Committee.

### FEES

Full membership: £12.00 per year for adult members.

Other members at same address: £8.00  
Please make cheques/money orders out to "SPTA"  
(STERLING ONLY PLEASE)

### SPTA website

[www.sptradarch.org](http://www.sptradarch.org)  
[sptasec@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sptasec@yahoo.co.uk)

Please return membership form and remittance BY POST to:

SPTA Secretary  
4 Walpole  
Bridgwater  
Somerset  
TA6 4TF  
ENGLAND

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

03/05

Office use		
D/Base	M/s No.	Card

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Age (if 15 yrs or under) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (Jun/Juvs only) \_\_\_\_\_

Club /Soc. memberships \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel No \_\_\_\_\_

(for Society use only)

\_\_\_\_\_

email address \_\_\_\_\_

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PLEASE TICK IF WILLING TO

RECIEIVE NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

(PDF format)

Particular archery skills/interests.

If you can contribute skills, have particular

archery interests and experience, please

let us know below.

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Amount enclosed:

(£12 senior £8 each additional household

member) \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return membership form BY POST to:

SPTA Secretary, 4 Walpole, BriDgwater,

Somerset. TA6 4TF

ENGLAND