



**Tennessee 4-H Shooting Sports Archery Invitational
State 4-H Qualifier for the National 4-H Championships
Crossville Shooting Sports Park, Crossville, TN
July 31, 2026**

**Pre-Registration Deadline via County Extension Office – July 17, 2026
(No Extensions)**

**Onsite check-in at 8:30 A.M. CST for all participants.
Equipment Check for all participants at 9:00 A.M. CST**

**SPECIFIC ARCHERY COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES
Please also read the General Rules and Field Archery 101**

1. **DIVISIONS:**
 - A. Recurve
 - B. Open Compound
2. **Age Classes:** There will be one age class: Senior – 9th-12th grade this fall and those who have already graduated this past May. (8th–12th grade as of January 1, 2026)
3. **Entry Fee:** There is a \$20.00 fee per entry
4. **Entry Limit:** Only those individuals who qualified during the Spring Jamboree will be eligible to participate.
5. **Range Personnel:** Scorers, range safety officers, and volunteers will be designated and assigned by the Discipline Superintendent. These individuals are not allowed to coach while competitors are shooting.
6. **Equipment:** Check the equipment standards chart for approved equipment. Also, all equipment must be checked at the assigned time by a range official prior to competing on the day of the event. **Absolutely NO Range Finders or Cell Phones on the 3D Course (not even spectators)**
7. **Coaches:** 1 certified coach per 5 participating members will be allowed in the coaching area.
8. **Qualifying:** This will be the qualifying match for the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships in June 2027 in Grand Island, Nebraska (not all competitors may be eligible for Nationals).
9. **NGB Rules:** National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee Guidelines

10. EQUIPMENT STANDARD FOR COMPOUND AND RECURVE DIVISIONS

Open Compound division will be open to any compound bow, including Genesis. Arrows for all divisions must be provided by the participant. All equipment will be subject to inspection. Any bow that uses pulleys or cams is deemed a compound.

	PERMITTED	NOT PERMITTED
RECURVE	One adjustable sight pin or multiple hunting style sight pins may be used; clicker and kissers permitted; front and rear stabilizers; V bar stabilizers (given provision that v's extend forward and back and not to the sides); Participants may have as many sight pins as deemed necessary; Torque compensators are permitted. 60 lb. maximum draw weight.	String peeps and mechanical release aids; draw keeps; sight lens or lens kits; no electronic components.
COMPOUND	Release aids; String peeps, optical sights; spirit levels; front and rear stabilizers; V bar stabilizers (given provision that v's extend forward and back and not to the sides); 60 lb. maximum draw weight. Multiple pin sights allowed.	Overdraws may not place the arrow rest further than 6 cm from the pivot point of the bow; No electronic auto adjusting sights
ARROWS for both disciplines – must be supplied by shooter and marked to be distinguished from others' arrows	Minimum arrow weight of 5 grains/pound of bow draw weight. Arrow points must be the same diameter as the arrow shaft.	No arrows larger than 27/64ths (.422 inches diameter for arrows and .425 inches diameter for points maximum) diameter are permitted.

11. Course of Fire: FITA: 3 ends of 5 arrows each at 30 meters, 3 ends of 5 arrows each at 40 meters, 3D: 10 stations, Field: 7 field archery targets. Each shooter will have five arrows that are unique to that shooter, for scoring purposes. Both FITA distances, 3D, and Field will be shot by all competitors. See attached sheet for information on Field Archery.

12. Target: FITA: 80 cm faces, standard 3D targets, and Field: 20 cm - 50 cm faces based on distance.

13. Distance: 30 meters, 40 meters for FITA, undefined distances of 40 yards or less for 3D, and marked distance 40 yards or less for Field.

14. Time Limit: 4 minutes per 5 arrow end and 2 minutes at the stake for 3D. Field is not timed, however competitors must keep the pace of the course.

A. 3D TIME: Two minutes to shoot your arrow from when you step up to the stake, or after the archer ahead of you leaves the stake.

a) You **MAY NOT** glass the target from the stake after your shot. You **MAY NOT** adjust your sight after you have drawn and let down. You **MAY NOT** adjust your sight after glassing the target **AT** the stake.

B. In the case of a lost arrow you have two minutes to look then move on to the next target. Mark where the arrow was lost and you may return to find it later. (copied from the General Archery Rules for National Contest)

15. Scoring and Placing: All scoring will be individual only and use total scores to calculate an overall modified percentage.

A. 80 cm face: 10-1 from the center outward. Inner 10's (10x) will be recorded, but no

additional points will be awarded. Any arrow that bounces off the target will be recorded as it struck the target by marking shots (not reshot).

- B. **3D:** Center X = +11, Center Vitals = +10, Outer Vitals = +8, Any non-vital hit on the body color of the target = +5, Witnessed Bounce Back counts as a +5 (not reshot), Complete Miss = 0. If the arrow lands past the target it is considered a glance off, not a bounce back). The 14 ring will not be in play. Contact a range official for any questions.

Vitals area and scoring of 3D targets



Delta Mckenzie 3D Targets

Rhinehart 3D Targets

- C. **Field:** Center Black Rings = 5 (Xs will be recorded, but no additional points), White rings = 4, Outer Black Rings = 3, Witnessed Bounce Back will be recorded as it struck the target by marking shots (not reshot), Complete Miss = 0



- D. **ROBIN HOOD:** If a shot arrow sticks in an arrow already in the target, or hits an arrow and falls out, and the arrow it hit can be determined it will score the value of the arrow it is stuck in or damaged. If the arrow deflects off another arrow then sticks in the target it will score the value of where it sticks in the target. (copied from the General Archery Rules for National Contest)
- E. Individual Awards are determined by adding where an individual ranks in each of the daily events. The lowest combined Rank Score would be the overall winner for that discipline. For example, Competitor A is ranked on events 1st, 4th, and 5th they would have a Rank Score Total of 10 points (1+4+5).

16. Tie-breaking: Overall tie breaks will be done to establish the placing of individuals. Tie breaks will be determined by:

- Total Combined Raw Score for all 3 events
- Total Raw Score from Field
- Total Raw Score from FITA
- Number of total X's in: FITA, Field and 11's in 3D.
- In a format decided upon by the management

Field Archery 101

Field Archery is one of the most technical competitions for competitive archers with its roots based in the National Field Archery Association. There will be signs at every target that will guide you through which distances you will shoot and markers in the ground will indicate shooting positions.



When you see different distances listed on the sign that indicates that the target is what we call a Walk-Up target. You will shoot one arrow at each distance starting at the farthest stake, working your way up to the target.



When you see 4 of the same distances listed on the sign that indicates the target is a Fan target. On a Fan target, you will shoot one arrow from each stake, rotating positions with the other shooters in your group from left to right.



If there is a single distance listed, all of your arrows will be shot from the same distance. When shooting at a target with multiple faces, the first two shooters will shoot the bottom targets and the second two shooters will shoot the top two targets. All 4 of your arrows must be in the same target.



The Birdie target is the closest target on the course at distances of 35ft, 30ft, 25ft, and 20ft. This target is shot as a Walk-Up target and each archer must shoot their vertical row either from top to bottom or from bottom to top with one arrow in each of the targets in their vertical row.

The target sizes are confined to specific distances and are the same for every range. Below is the distances you will be shooting and the target sizes for those distances.

- For distances from 20 to 35 ft., the target size will be 20cm with a 4cm center dot size.
- For distances from 15 yards to 30 yards, the target size will be 35cm with a 7cm center dot size.
- For distances from 35 yards to 50 yards, the target size will be 50cm with a 10cm center dot size.
- For distances from 55 yards to 80 yards, the target size will be 65cm with a 13 cm center dot size.

If you have any questions, contact Aaron Spurling, State Shooting Sports Specialist aspurli1@utk.edu

Images accessed from: <https://www.nfaausa.com/2019/06/your-guide-to-the-outdoor-field-nationals-2019/>



Tennessee 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational State 4-H Qualifier for the National 4-H Championships

GENERAL RULES

All rules and guidelines are subject to change. The Tennessee 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational is the state qualifier for the National 4-H Championships, and follows all guidelines for Tennessee 4-H events. 4-H is the youth program of the University of Tennessee Extension and Tennessee State University Extension.

Participants are to register through their County Extension Office. Only those individuals who qualified during the Spring Jamboree will be eligible to participate. By entry in these events, the County Extension Office and the county 4-H Shooting Sports coordinator is verifying that the youth entered are knowledgeable and proficient in the safe use of the equipment and the fundamentals of the event. Match and/or range officials may dismiss or disqualify a participant if he/she believes the participant does not demonstrate the basic proficiency and knowledge required. Entry is limited to those individuals who are enrolled in 9th -12th grade this fall and those who have already graduated this past May. (8th–12th grade as of January 1, 2026)

1. **4-H membership** - All bona fide, active, 4-H Shooting Sports members are eligible to compete in 4-H Shooting Sports events, subject to limitations imposed by the specific event and the rules for active membership instituted by Tennessee 4-H. **4-H Shooting Sports members are those 4-H youth who have been under the direction of a Certified 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor.** Contact your County UT Extension office for 4-H membership.
2. **Disciplines offered** – The disciplines offered for competition will be Air Rifle, Compound Archery, Recurve Archery, Shotgun, and Smallbore Rifle. Because some events are at the same time, competitors can only compete in 1 discipline per day this event.
3. **Age Classes** - There will be one age class: Senior – 9th-12th grade this fall and those who have already graduated this past May. (8th–12th grade as of January 1, 2026).
4. **Entry Limit** – Only those individuals who qualified during the Spring Jamborees will be eligible to participate.
5. **National 4-H Competition Eligibility** – The top four individual winners will become eligible to represent Tennessee 4-H at the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships in Grand Island, Nebraska in June. Participants

must be 14 to 18 years of age on January 1st of 2027 to compete next summer. Individuals who have already graduated High School on or before December 31, 2026 are NOT eligible to participate next summer. Individuals may compete at the National 4-H Championships in a certain discipline only once.

6. **Official Entry** – Pre-registration is required to participate in this event. An entry fee is also required. **Deadline for pre-registration and entry fees is July 17th for Compound Archery, Recurve Archery, Air Rifle, Shotgun, and Smallbore Rifle.** (Counties may impose earlier deadlines). **Participants are to register through their County Extension Office. County Extension Office must register through SUPER.**
7. **Fee Schedule** – A fee of \$20.00 will be assessed for every entry in Air Rifle, Archery, and Smallbore Rifle. A fee of \$55.00 will be assessed for every entry in Shotgun. Entry fees are due with registration. (Counties may impose earlier deadlines).
8. **Range Personnel** - The scorers and range safety officers will be designated/assigned by the Discipline Superintendent.
9. **Individual participation** – All competition will be individual.
10. **Medical Consent Form & Adult Supervision** - It is the responsibility of each County to have the appropriate health consent and release forms for each of their participants and adult supervisors (600A, 600B, or 600C, see link for Health / Code of Conduct forms at <https://4h.tennessee.edu/forms-and-materials/>). An adult supervisor/coach/manager should be present at the event site, with immediate access to the forms, any time their youth are participating in any 4-H Shooting Sports event. The Tennessee State 4-H Program is not responsible for medical authorization and health history of the participants.
11. **Awards** – Awards will include only top individuals in each discipline. There will be a “Champions Division” in each discipline for those that have already competed at the National 4-H Championships. Awards will be presented in person at the conclusion of each event.
12. **Safety** – Safety must be the number one priority of range personnel, participants, and spectators. Standard accepted safety rules will be followed at all times, special safety considerations will be announced at each venue. The Discipline Superintendent, Range officers, or other event staff may dismiss anyone from the range for unsafe behavior. The score may be forfeited, participant disqualified, or spectators barred at the discretion of the range staff.
13. **Eye and Ear Protection Requirement** - Adequate eye protection (shooting glasses, safety glasses or safety goggles, or hardened prescription glasses) are required for all competitors in the rifle and shotgun discipline. Ear protection is also required for shotgun participants. **NO electronic hearing**

protection: **NO Bluetooth or corded hearing protection that may be connected to any device.** Coaches or spectators on or near firing lines are subject to the same requirements.

14. **Coaches** – Each County shall designate one coach per firing line, unless otherwise stated in the specific competition rules. This coach is the adult permitted to discuss procedures, ask questions, or advocate for his/her team with range officials. This coach should be designated on the entry form.
15. **Coaching** - As a general rule, limited coaching is permitted. (See individual discipline coaching guidelines.) However, coaching must never disturb other participants. Each County is limited to 1 coach per firing line, unless otherwise stated in the specific competition rules. A coaching line will be established on each range - behind the athlete's area and firing line and separate from the spectator area. Except during preparation time, coaches are to stay behind the firing line and in the coaching area. Coaches may assist the athlete during prep time only. **Once shooting for record begins, no coaching is permitted.** In the case of equipment issue, an athlete may request for coach assistance, but it must be initiated by the athlete, the coach may not initiate contact with the athlete. Coaches may ask the line officer to have their pupil come back to talk, but is not to initiate contact with the athlete, (for encouragement only, no coaching discussions, i.e. sights, lead, stance, anchor, etc.). The athlete will put down their equipment, make it safe, leave the line, and then go talk to their coach. Coaches may not handle firearms or equipment after the match begins nor advance to the firing line unless authorized by the range officer. A coach may set up his/her own spotting equipment.
16. **No Smoking** - No smoking is permitted on or near the firing lines or in any situation where the smoke constitutes an interference to athletes. Smoking by minors is prohibited by law and is not permitted on the grounds at any time.
17. **Alcohol Policy** - No alcoholic beverages may be consumed on the grounds. Violation of this policy is grounds for ejection.
18. **Dress Code** - Participants are expected to dress appropriately. Team uniforms or shirts are encouraged, but not required. Both young people and adults should wear attire appropriate for the weather while remaining modest and socially acceptable. **Participants and coaches are required to wear shoes that completely cover the foot on all ranges.** Clothing with sexually suggestive wording or graphics; and alcohol or tobacco advertisement is not appropriate. Range officials have the final word concerning the dress code and may announce or address specific cases. All athletes and coaches should remember that they may be having photographs taken or be asked to interview for the media. Remember that you represent all of 4-H. Make it a positive image!
19. **Behavior and Sportsmanship** - All participants and spectators are expected to demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship, supporting the objectives and ideals promoted by 4-H. Athletes or coaches will render aid and/or testimony if asked to do so by any match official.

20. **Rules - Knowledge of procedures and rules** – This event may also follow guidelines set forth by a **National Governing Body (NGB)**. Where there is conflict regarding these rules and rules set forth by the NGB, these rules supersede. It is the athlete's and coach's responsibility to read the NGB and event rulebooks and understand the procedures used in each event and comply with the rules and standards of the events. Questions are encouraged to clarify any areas of misunderstanding or ignorance. Ignorance of the rules does not obviate their existence. Athletes are responsible for knowing the rules and staying within them. Learning the rules of the event is part of the educational process for 4-H Shooting Sports participants.
21. **Physically Disabled Athletes** – An athlete who because of physical disability cannot fire from one or more of the prescribed shooting positions outlined in these rules, or who must use special equipment when firing, is privileged to petition to the *Discipline Superintendent* for permission to assume a special position or to use modified equipment or both. This petition will be in the form of a written request from the person concerned to the Committee (discipline superintendent) outlining in detail the reasons why the special position must be assumed or the special equipment must be used. The petition will be accompanied by pictures of the shooter in the position desiring approval and, if special equipment is required, the picture will show how this equipment is used. The petition and all pictures must be furnished in exact duplicate. The petition must be accompanied by a medical doctor's statement if the physical disability is not completely evident in the pictures submitted.
- a. Each petition will be reviewed by the *Tennessee 4-H Shooting Sports State Committee*. The committee may require additional or supplementary statements or pictures. After review the *Discipline Superintendent* will be instructed by the committee to issue special authorization to individuals who submit petitions and pictures which have been approved. Such certificates will have necessary pictures attached.
 - b. Athletes who have received special authorization will be required to carry them when competing and to present the certificate when requested by officials of the match. In the case of a protest involving the position or the equipment used by such an athlete, the range officials will compare the questioned position or equipment with the certificate and photographs presented by the athlete.
22. **Challenges** - Athletes only, may review their own targets and challenge the scoring. Once targets have been scored, they will be available for review, if applicable, by athletes for a period of 30 minutes unless otherwise posted. Upon completion of that time period the scores may no longer be challenged. Challenges must be accompanied by a fee of \$1 per hole being challenged. A jury (not including the original scorer) will review the challenge and pronounce their findings to the challenger. If the challenge is upheld, the \$1 will be returned to the athlete. If the challenge is rejected, the fee will be deposited in the Tennessee 4-H Shooting Sports funds. No fee is required to point out mathematical errors.

23. **Protests** - Competitors only (no adults), may protest; a) an injustice they feel has been done them individually; b) the conditions under which another competitor was permitted to fire; or c) the equipment another competitor was permitted to use. **How to protest** – Official protests may be filed in the following order to seek redress of alleged wrongs.
- a. Range Scorer – The protest is made orally to the range scorer. If not satisfied with that immediate decision;
 - b. Range Jury – The protest may be stated orally to the jury of 2 or more officials present at the match (excluding team affiliations, parents, coaches, agents, etc.), indicating the decision of the range scorer. The jury should include a member of the Competition Management as well as the range scorer. If not satisfied with this decision,
 - c. Discipline Superintendent/Jury – The protest must be submitted in writing to the Discipline Superintendent, accompanied by a \$25 cash protest fee, within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the occurrence. The match jury will consider the statement, may ask questions of the athlete and range officials and will render a decision in an expeditious manner. Coaches, parents, and other parties may not participate in the process. The decision rendered by the jury is final and no further appeal is possible. If the protest is ruled valid, the fee will be returned.
24. **Violation of Rules** - Match and/or range officials may dismiss or disqualify a participant if he/she believes a participant or coach violates any of the general or discipline specific rules.
25. **All rules and guidelines for the host venue will apply.**

Revised 5/25/26