

Home Nations FAQ's

Why is there not going to be a team for the home nations events this year?

As our performance programme vision is to aid archers to get on the GB team, the Home Nations events do not provide a platform into the GB team, therefore it is not a focus for our programme at this time.

- The Home Nations are not considered as performance events due to their format and eligibility criteria from other home nations. To give context this leads to home nations events being lower profile than national tour events

Archery GB selection for outdoor events is based on WA720's in line with World Archery.

'While no longer used in international competition, the World Archery 1440 Round was previously used as the qualification round. Also then called the FITA Round' (World Archery website, target archery page, other competition formats)

Home Nation matches do not feature head to heads.

- We have seen a stagnation in what the top scores are in Scotland but a lack of development from the events towards GB squads and teams. We have now implemented a pathway squad to help people realise their ambitions within the sport.

Scottish records for WA720:

Ladies recurve Sept 2004

Gents recurve Sept 2005

We acknowledge that compound ranking round has changed in recent years.

- We consistently face the decision of either asking people to fill spaces in teams or not sending complete teams which means in practice we forfeit the events or ask people who have not applied therefore the places are not contested. This is the case for both junior and senior events.
- The eligibility criteria across the home nations allows for archers that have not submitted scores in time to submit for other home nations and represent them.

To summarise, we have previously invested in the Home Nations events which was inline with strategic outcomes at the time. We now feel it is time to accelerate the development opportunities for archers who aspire to shoot for GB. This decision is not a financial one, it is maximising an opportunity to increase the profile of Scottish teams by competing in Iceland (or other competitions). This is crucial for Scottish archers and gives a platform for our archers to progress to GB teams.

Why go to international events?

To overcome the above we need higher profile events with significant international experience or we accept that Scottish Teams will not be competing at a level that aids archer progression.

Iceland was selected specifically because the scores shot by their archers are comparable to ours. This is their national event so we have the opportunity to compete against their top archers in a WA720 format followed by H2H finals and participate in mixed team matches against them. It also provides the opportunity for archers to experience international travel as part of a Scotland team and hopefully prepare them for doing similar as part of a GB team in the future. This is the first step for Scottish Teams competing internationally and a good opportunity to show we can compete with a recognised World Archery nation.

We are committed to helping our members progress to shooting for GB teams. Each year the performance group will select international events that provide international experience at a level that allows Scottish teams to compete with World Archery nations.

'AGB reserves the right to only take athletes who have demonstrated their international competitiveness' (GB TEAM SELECTION POLICY RECURVE 2019, competition format/s)

Iceland is step 1 in the process. The more events we go to and the impact of pathway squad will lead to archers being competitive at international events and scores will increase to bridge the gap between Scottish scores and GB scores

Why is this event fully funded?

We took the decision to fully fund this trip as a strong investment towards archer progression both in the competition and also developing the non-technical areas of athlete development.

What about an opportunity for the juniors to represent Scotland?

The youth festival has an international team event as part of it, as we understand teams from France, Holland and the USA among others will be in attendance. We are currently working towards having selection criteria and a selection shoot so we can select Junior/Cadet/Cub teams for this event.

Where can I compete against the top GB archers?

To shoot against GB team members the national tour provides the competition format for this.

World Archery is planning to remove indoor championships and replace these solely with the Indoor World Cup circuit which are events open to individual archers where they can shoot against the best in the World if they want to.

What is there for archers that don't make the Team?

We will continue to offer opportunities for archers who do not make these teams. We are looking at the competition structure in partnership with our tournament organisers group and judges and will be engaging with the areas on squads.

Archers can currently be selected for Area teams to compete in the Pentangle and County Team Championships (Midsummer shoot).

Scottish teams will start to aid progression to GB squads/teams and below that Area squads/teams will provide progression to Pathway Squad and Scotland Teams.

All Archers can utilise the WITTW model to support their own development and improve overall performance.

Why is Scottish Archery deciding which events the members compete at?

The performance group will look at which events are the best fit for Scotland Teams to compete at. Archers are free to enter any events they want and we openly encourage this through our domestic funding support.

What International events can you represent Scotland at?

The Commonwealth Games is the only International opportunity to represent Scotland (if archery is included) at a multi sport event. Beyond that we can send teams to National/Open International events held by other countries (i.e Iceland) but because we aren't currently recognised by World Archery (only Archery GB is) we don't have the ability to send teams to the European Grand Prix and other world ranking events yet.

For junior, cadet and cub archers the youth Commonwealth Games provides an International opportunity. Archery GB have also revamped the youth festival, so it has international teams in attendance, this event is a great opportunity to compete against archers from other countries.

Can we Self Fund and go to Home Nations Events?

Given the reasons above and also taking all the feedback from the archers into account, we are working to find a compromise on this so teams can attend the Home Nations events. We will communicate any solution as soon as possible.

Additional Support

Upon reflection we would like to accelerate some of the activities mentioned above. In particular we would be keen to support area teams competing at the Midsummer shoot and Pentangle, if any area teams are planning to attend these events we would encourage them to contact us.

I hope this answers a few questions for you and you have any further queries please email performance@scottisharchery.org.uk.