



## Recommended Coach / Archer Ratios

### Considerations

The responsibility for deciding on the appropriate coach / archer ratio for a session lies with the coach (and officials at the venue being used). This is because different factors need to be taken into consideration. These factors are changeable depending on the needs of participants, equipment and space, and availability of other coaches and helpers.

Coach / archer ratios will vary depending on the following factors:

- The age and needs of participants
- The facilities and equipment available
- The activity taking place (e.g. Have a go session vs County training group)
- The competence of participants (e.g. Beginners vs experienced archers)
- The level and experience of coach
- The availability of other coaches or helpers to support the session
- Guidance concerning coronavirus

When deciding the ratio, the coach must ensure:

- The archery activity is safe
- Each participant receives the support needed to have a quality experience
- The activity represents good value for money
- Supervision of adults or children is not compromised in the event of an emergency that requires the coach to leave the range

### Recommended ratios

As a starting point to help coaches, Archery GB provides general guidance on coach / archer ratios in the tables below. The group size may increase using assistant coaches and helpers.

Activity	Recommended maximum ratio	Minimum standard	Considerations
Have a go experience	1:1	Instructor / Level 1 Licensed Coach	Group size can increase using assistant coaches and helpers
Taster session	1:12	Instructor / Level 1 Licensed Coach	
Beginner course coaching	1:12	Level 1 Licensed Coach	
Adult coaching	1:12	Instructor / Level 1 Licensed Coach	

## Children and Young People's Sport and Activities

The NSPCC's Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) provides the below recommended ratio for each age category.

While the risk assessment may well indicate the need for an enhanced level of supervision and staffing for a particular activity, the following table shows recommended adult to child ratios. These are based on Ofsted guidelines and would be suitable for most organisations working with children and young people.

Remember that regardless of the overall ratio, a minimum of two people supervising is recommended.

Age	Recommended maximum ratio	Minimum standard	Considerations
13-17	1:10	Instructor / Level 1 Licensed Coach	Another adult to be present to help supervise
9-12	1:10	Instructor / Level 1 Licensed Coach	
4-8	1:6		

Source: CPSU Briefings 'Supervising Children and Young People's Sport and Activities'

### Minimum standard

As a recommended minimum standard, all coaches/instructors leading a session should hold a valid license from Archery GB as either an Instructor or Coach.

For activity taking place in schools, as a minimum all coaches leading a session should hold a valid Level 1 Coach license from Archery GB.

### Coaching children

When coaching children, another adult should be present to support the coach. For example, a situation may arise where a child has to leave a coaching session, to use the toilet or because they are not feeling well. Another person is needed to provide appropriate supervision of the child. For more details about this, please refer to Archery GB's Safeguarding Policy.

### Working alone

When working alone, as a minimum all coaches should hold a valid Level 1 Coach license from Archery GB.

### Risk assessment

Coaches should identify the considerations they have made and plan for different scenarios arising in their risk assessment.

### Terminology

**'Have a go experience'** refers to a new archer taking part in a brief archery experience, shooting only a small number of arrows (usually lasting approximately 10 minutes).

**'Taster session'** - refers to a new archer taking part in a full session (usually lasting approximately 1 hour).

**'Beginners course'** - refers to a new archer taking part in a series of sessions.

**'Licensed'** - an instructor or coach who is licensed meets a number of additional criteria, beyond holding a qualification.

- For coaches, this means they have completed a coaching qualification, conducted professional development, hold a DBS/PVG disclosure and are a member of Archery GB.
- For instructors, this means they have completed an instructing qualification, conducted a renewal to keep their knowledge up to date.