

CLUB RULES 2026

Approved by the Members at the October 2026 AGM

Introduction

Rochdale Company of Archers Limited means "RCA" the "Club" and the "Company".

The Board of Directors means the "Board".

Other defined terms will be as in the Articles of Association, (the "Articles") - please read them, they are available on the club website.

The Club Rules are updated from time to time by the Committee and any such amendments will come into force immediately. The Club Rules are made to supplement the Rules of Shooting as made and amended from time to time by the National Governing Body (for the time being the Grand National Archery Society [GNAS] trading as Archery GB [AGB]). Please read the Rules of Shooting which are available on the Archery GB and the club websites.

1. Application

- 1.1 The Club Rules shall apply to any venue or shooting grounds where the Club promotes archery.

2. Conduct

- 2.1
- a) Members are required always to comply with the Club Rules and the Rules of Shooting and in particular the rules regarding their own safety and the safety of others.
 - b) Members shall comply fully with such policies and procedures as the Club may make from time to time.
 - c) Members shall not use prohibited performance-enhancing drugs.
 - d) If, in the opinion of a Member of the Committee, the Field Captain or Judge, a Member is incapable of shooting safely because of their personal circumstances or the condition of their equipment then the Member shall withdraw from the field or range immediately and without demur.
 - e) Members shall ensure that their actions or omissions do not compromise their safety and the safety of others.
 - f) Members shall pay due regard to the guidance on etiquette as set out in the Rules of Shooting and shall always conduct themselves in a manner that accords with this guidance.
 - g) Members shall not offer advice to other Members or interfere with another Member's archery equipment unless invited to do so by the Member.
 - h) If their personal circumstances allow, Members are required to participate in setting up the field before a shoot or undertake such other duties as shall be agreed by the Field Captain.
 - i) When shooting, Members shall submit to the reasonable directions of the Field Captain or Judge.
 - j) Members shall make all reasonable efforts to search for and find all lost arrows including using the metal detectors.
 - k) Members shall not move target bosses until all arrows have been accounted for or until directed by the Field Captain or Judge.

- l) Members shall not leave the field until all archery equipment including all personal equipment has been removed.
- m) Members are required to participate in breaking down the field after a shoot which includes assisting new archers on how to fully complete their scoresheets, collecting the scoresheets, collecting and storing the clipboards, flags, and ground markers, and returning the target bosses to their storage locations.
- n) Members will co-operate with the Club in keeping the indoor range clean and shall take care that their equipment does not impede the safe movement of Members in the range.

2.2 Coaches

- a) Coaches shall be AGB Members.
- b) Coaches shall always behave professionally in accordance with the principles set out in the AGB Code of Conduct and as determined by the Lead Coach.

2.3 Guests and Visitors

- a) All Guests and Visitors are bound by the Rules and Articles that apply to a Member of the Club.
- b) Guests, other clubs invited to RCA for friendly competitions, are not required to pay Club fees.
- c) Visitors shall pay such fees as may be determined by the Club.
- d) Ex-members of the Club are only allowed to shoot as a Visitor with the approval of the Committee.

3. Membership

3.1 Membership of the Club is open to anyone interested in the sport of archery on a fair and non-discriminatory basis on payment of the appropriate fees as determined by the Club from time to time and appropriate affiliation fees and in accordance with Article 5 of the Articles.

3.2 All members of the Club are responsible for paying their individual Archery GB fees directly as required.

3.2.1 Senior Member

- a) A Senior Member is a person who has paid the senior membership fees.
- b) A Senior Member after being admitted to membership of the Club and after completing the Club Induction and paying the appropriate deposit will be given a key, access fob and alarm code for the Club's facilities.
- c) All Senior Members shall be Voting Members for the purposes of the Club's Articles.

3.2.2 Junior (Under 18) Member

- a) A Junior (Under 18) Member is a person who is under the age of eighteen years and who has paid the appropriate membership fees.

- b) A Senior Member must supervise any session where a Junior (Under 18) Member is shooting.
- c) All Junior (Under 18) Members shall be Non-Voting Members for the purposes of the Club's Articles.

3.2.3 Honorary Member

- a) An Honorary Member is a person who has at the reasonable discretion of the Club given exceptional service to the Club or to archery in general and at an AMM has been voted to become an Honorary Member
- b) An Honorary Member is not required to pay the Club fees but is still required to pay the Affiliation Fees to Lancashire Archery Association (LAA) and Northern Counties Archery Society (NCAS) as appropriate.
- c) An Honorary Member shall enjoy all the privileges accorded to a Member of the appropriate membership category.
- d) Honorary Membership may carry additional privileges as determined by the Club from time to time.

3.2.4 Social Member

- a) A Social Member is a person who is invited by the Board to become a Member of the Club but who is not permitted to practice archery at the Club's facilities.
- b) A Social Member is not permitted unrestricted access to the Club's facilities. After completing Induction a Social Member shall be permitted an access fob but not a key.
- c) A Social Member may opt to transfer to another category after satisfactorily passing a Beginner Course if required.
- d) All Social Members shall be Non-Voting Members for the purposes of the Club's Articles.

3.2.5 Student Member

- a) A Student Member is a former Member of the Club (Senior or Junior) who has become a student (undertaking more than 16 hours of study per week) and who has paid the appropriate membership fees.

3.3 Membership Fees

- a) The level of membership fees will be set annually at an All Members Meeting by majority vote of those attending.
- b) The Annual membership fees cover the period from 1st October to 30th September and include the Club fees, plus the affiliation fees to ~~Archery GB,~~ Lancashire Archery Association (LAA) and Northern Counties Archery Association (NCAS).

3.4 Payment of Membership Fees

- a) Members are required to pay their membership fees promptly at the times prescribed by the Club and in any case no later than the 30th September in each calendar year.
- b) At the sole discretion of the Club and in the amounts to be determined by the Club, Members may pay their membership fees by instalment.

3.5 Termination of Membership

- a) A Member may resign their membership at any time by written notice to the Committee or the Membership Secretary. No refund for affiliations or part membership will be given. In some cases, this means that a resigning member (if paying by instalments) still has remaining fees to pay, unless agreed otherwise by the Committee.
- b) A Member shall cease to be a Member and shall not be permitted to shoot if they fail to pay their membership fees at a time and in an amount determined by the Club.
- c) In accordance with Article 6.1 of the Articles the Board may, if backed by a majority vote at a Committee Meeting, terminate a membership of a Member whose conduct in the opinion of the Board has or is likely to bring the Club or the sport of archery into disrepute, so long as the disciplinary and appeal process has been duly followed and administered.
- d) The Club may terminate a membership if the Member commits an act deemed by the Club to constitute gross misconduct, so long as the disciplinary and appeal process has been followed. The disciplinary procedure can be found on the club website.
- e) A Member may be suspended from membership by an emergency meeting of the Board, and ratification by the Committee, for a maximum of 30 days while an investigation into an allegation of gross misconduct has been made.
- f) On termination of membership the Member shall return all property belonging to the Club immediately including their range key and fob and the Club shall return any deposit paid by the Member.

4. Care and Use of Club Property

- 4.1 Members are required to take reasonable care of Club property and to ensure that it is used appropriately and within any special rules or conditions set by the Club and contained in a Members Handbook or special notices issued to Members from time to time.
- 4.2 Actions or omissions by a Member which in the reasonable opinion of the Club constitutes misuse of property may at its discretion result in the Club taking disciplinary action against the Member.