

A Parent's Welcome Guide

- St. Sebastian Archers welcomes you and your child to the Club.
- We value your support and are keen for parents to take an interest in their young person's archery.
- We are a friendly bunch and Club members will do their best to make you and your child feel welcome.
- This guide is provided to give you some information about our activities and how you can support your child to enjoy archery safely.
- Coaching – The Club provides opportunities for young people to enjoy archery, receive coaching and to compete. We are fortunate to have members that have undertaken training to qualify as level 1/session and level 2/development coaches and give their time freely to coach members. In archery, young people are referred to as Juniors. Special Junior sessions are organised by the Junior Champion and are provided to support young people to learn about their sport in a fun environment.
- Child protection and safeguarding – As parents you will want to be assured that the Club is well run and provides a safe environment for your child. The Club takes safeguarding very seriously and has adopted the Archery GB Policy for Safeguarding Children details of which may be found at www.archerygb.org. The Club has also adopted a Safeguarding Code of Practice which is displayed in the Clubhouse. One of the Committee members is the Club's designated Child Protection Officer and may be contacted if you have any concerns or questions. Sometimes it is necessary to physically place a person in a position to achieve the correct shooting technique. Our Coaches have all been screened for their suitability for working with people and will always check with the person concerned before moving them into a position. In an emergency it may be necessary to raise one's voice or make physical contact for the safety of the child or others.
- Parental Responsibility – The safety of young people is one that the Club shares with parents and we have established some rules so everyone is clear about their respective responsibilities. Whilst a child (anyone under the age of 18 years) is present at the Club, the responsibility for their care, good behaviour and safe conduct remains with their parent or person with parental responsibility. Children must be accompanied to and from the Club by their parent who must remain present throughout. With the agreement of the Field Captain a parent/guardian may be substituted by a written authorisation of a voluntary nominee.
- The Field Captain is in charge of the field whilst archery is taking place. Parents are asked to publicly support the Field Captain's decisions and instruction. Juniors that are experienced archers and understand the required etiquette will not require the close supervision of a parent. However, their parents must remain on the field and provide the level of supervision required by the Field Captain. Many Juniors welcome their parents help with scoring.

- Adult supervision – When Juniors are shooting individually or in groups they must be supervised by two adults, one of whom is a AGB affiliated Club member of at least one year's standing. Where the AGB member is also the Junior's parent (or person with parental responsibility), a second adult need not be present.
- Footwear – For reasons of safety, Archers are required to wear footwear that fully encloses the toes and front of the foot. It is recommended that everyone on the archery field wears similar footwear.
- Drinks – Facilities to make hot drinks are available in the Clubhouse. Please feel free to use these facilities and leave your payment in the 'honesty tin'
- Maintenance Days – To keep costs down we maintain our own units and equipment (quite often when the weather is against us) and we welcome parents to assist us. Parents with maintenance skills or just who just want to help, please let a coach or committee member know, there are jobs for everyone whatever their ability. Many hands make light work and you will be warmly welcomed. It's a great way to meet Club members and support your child.