Winter Castles Leagues 1st Oct 2026-31 March 2027

Brief explanation

The idea behind the Castle Leagues is to keep archers interested in shooting during the winter months. This is the time to test out different poundage limb, new sight setup, experiment with your archery setup or try a new bow style The league is open to all archers & bow styles whether experienced or a novice and is a great way to see how you are progressing in the sport

The Rules

The basic premise is that you are shooting a Portsmouth round as this is the normal indoor round, and noting down your arrow values on an app or a score sheet, then work out your best 36 CONSECUTIVE ARROW (i.e., do not just pick the 36 highest arrow values out of 60 as this will not give a true picture.) or Do not have time to shoot a full round in one session just shoot 36 arrows and sent that score in

Who is eligible?

Any archer affiliated to DNAA from beginner to experienced, from young to old.

Bow style

Compound, Longbow, 'Olympic' Recurve (sight), Barebow & American flatbow (New for 2025-2026). Longbow covers traditional longbow and all the derivatives. Barebow covers one piece, recurve without a sight and Horse bows.

What constitutes a valid distance? The league is designed around the 'Portsmouth' distance and target size (20 yards at a 60cm face) but for those clubs whose venue may not allow 20 yards to be shot, we allow scores where the distance is 40 feet, but the target face size must then be 40cm.

What constitutes a valid score?

ANY session, where you shoot thirty-six consecutive arrows or more in the month, while recording scores is valid for the league.

As the essence of the league is to encourage participation by all from a new club member to those who have high skill levels. To accommodate all standards counting may begin at the beginning of a normal indoor 3 arrow end.

EXAMPLE 1 - If you shoot only thirty-six consecutive arrows at the session you have one score chance.

EXAMPLE 2 - If you shoot forty-two consecutive arrows. You have three chances of a score. Arrows 1 to 36, OR arrows 4 to 39, OR arrows 7 to 42.

EXAMPLE 3 – If you shoot forty- eight consecutive arrows. You have five chances of a score. Arrows

1 to 36, OR arrows 4 to 39, OR arrows 7 to 42, OR arrows 10 to 45, OR arrows 13 to 48.
Valid days cover club session / target days but also any competitions that you may enter that are shooting the appropriate distance and target size. Shooting a 'double' round on the same day does count as one session provided that a break between rounds is limited to a food break.

What divisions exist?

The following Divisions are available for the League this year:

	Bowes	Berwick	Alnwick	Warkworth	Durham	Bamburgh	Lindisfarne	Barnard	Raby
Range	0-125	126-185	186-205	206-225	226-250	251-275	276-305	306-330	331-360
HI limit threshold	126	186	206	226	251	276	306	331	360
LO limit threshold	0	118	178	198	218	243	268	298	323

How does the structure work? Suppose you are now part of the 'Alnwick' division. Bow Type is irrelevant as the division looks only at your skill level. The published tables organize all bow styles and genders separately.

Looking at 'Alnwick' the range for scores in this division will be between 186 and 205 for thirty-six CONSECUTIVE arrows scored.
If you score more than 205 you move up to Warkworth if you score less than 186 you move down to Berwick.

You may enter the league multiple times if you shoot different bow styles. For example, you may choose to shoot Recurve and Barebow, or Compound, Barebow and Longbow. You may enter one score for each bow type that you shoot that month, and these could feature in different divisions.

How to Enter

Send your best thirty-six consecutive arrow score for that month to your club co-ordinator or directly to me via e-mail to dnaacastles@gmail.com. Deadline 10th of the next month

Please use the following format when submitting scores (NOTE Change Open/Female)

Name, Club, Bow Style (See above), Gender - Open/Female for Seniors and Junior Open/ Junior Female for Juniors (Under 18s). *EXAMPLE - Martin Fitzsimons, Norton Archers, barebow, open 175 .*

Norton Archers have once again kindly allowed everyone access to their Castle League calculator, clink on the link - https://nortonarchers.co.uk/membership/castles-league/ and SCROLL DOWN to the bottom of the page "Looking to work out your Castles League score for the month? Try the calculator below!"

PLEASE DO NOT fill in the "How do I take part?" this is exclusively for Norton Archers and will not be sent to me.

By entering the Castle League, your data will enter a database used solely for the Castle Leagues that only I have access to.

Certificates will be issued at the end of the indoor season, detailing any promotions and highlighting each archer's highest section score from the league months.

Martin Fitzsimons Tournament Organiser.