

Para-Archery Information Sheet

About the Sport

Para-Archery comprises of both standing and wheelchair events. Athletes shoot from a distance at a target marked with 10 scoring zones. The object of the sport is to shoot arrows as close to the centre of a target as possible, from a distance of 70 metres. Athletes use both recurve bows – where the bow curves outwards at the top – and compound bows, which feature mechanical pulleys, telescopic sights and release aids to assist in accuracy.

Men and women compete separately, as individuals and in teams, and all matches are conducted as knockouts. In the individual events, matches are a best-of-five sets, with three arrows per athlete per set. In the team events, teams of three compete against each other in a best-of-24-arrows format.

Who can compete?

Para-Archery is open to athletes with a physical or vision impairment. Athletes are required to submit medical reports and meet the minimum impairment criteria in order to compete.

Eligible impairments	Description	Minimum Impairment Criteria
Loss of limbs	Partial or complete absence of bones or joints due to amputation or deficiency from birth.	Leg: At least loss of half of one foot. Arm: At least one through wrist amputation or shortened arm of similar length; or complete loss of both thumbs; or loss of all 8 fingers.
Muscle weakness/ Impaired muscle power	Muscle weakness or paralysis from conditions such as muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, nerve damage, spinal cord injury or other spinal condition.	Loss of muscle power in at least one wrist, elbow, shoulder, hip, knee or ankle.
Co-ordination impairments - Hypertonia, Ataxia,	Impairments from neurological conditions such as acquired brain injury, cerebral palsy and multiple sclerosis that affect co-ordination and smoothness of movement and balance.	Co-ordination or movement difficulties in at least one arm or leg.
Restricted joint movement/ Impaired passive range	Restricted movement or tightness in a joint/s from conditions such as joint fusions and other restricting conditions.	Movement restriction in at least one elbow, shoulder joint, hip, knee or ankle joint.
Vision Impairment	Impairment of the eye structure, optic nerves or pathways, or vision area of the brain, resulting in a loss of vision in both eyes. Caused by conditions such as albinism, macular degeneration, macular or cone rod dystrophy and retinitis pigmentosa.	Visual acuity loss in both eyes (how far they can see) with best corrected vision. Vision is less than or equal to 6/60; LogMAR 1.00).

Para-Archery Sport Classes

Sport Classes	Description (Guide Only)
Athletes with a Physical Impairment	
W1	Athletes who have the most significant impairment who are usually affected in their arms, legs and torso. Athletes compete in a seated position and may shoot using their arms or legs.
W2	W2 class is for athletes with good arm control but whose impairments in their legs mean they need to compete in a seated position. ST and W2 class athletes compete together in the Open events.
ST	The ST class is for athletes with an impairment in at least one arm or one leg who are able to compete standing. ST and W2 athletes compete together.
Athletes with a Vision Impairment	
VI 1	Archers who are blind. All VI1 archers must wear a blindfold, and can use tactile sights and an assistant.
VI 2	Archers who have very low vision in both eyes in how far they can see (visual acuity <2/60; LogMAR 1.5-2.6 inclusive). VI2 and VI3 athletes compete in one shooting class VI 2/3. Athletes can use tactile sights and an assistant.
VI 3	Archers who have very low vision in both eyes in how far they can see (visual acuity <6/60; LogMAR 1-1.4 inclusive). VI2 and VI3 athletes compete in one shooting class VI 2/3. Athletes can use tactile sights and an assistant.
Not Eligible	
Not Eligible (NE)	Athlete does not meet the minimum criteria for the Para-sport classes, but may still be able to compete. Contact Archery Australia for more information.

To get involved or to find out more information contact:

Archery Australia

W: www.archery.org.au

E: info@archery.org.au

P: 02 9772 2995

Note: The classification information provided is intended as a guide only. Only authorised classifiers are able to provide a formal classification in accordance with the rules of the sport. Not all classes may have events at the Paralympic Games.