

GLOSSARY OF ARCHERY TERMS

- AIM:** Any method used to point the arrow in the direction you want it to go.
- ANCHOR:** Consistent placement of the drawing hand to a position on the face, mouth or jaw.
- ARM GUARD:** A piece of stiff material, usually leather, used to protect the bow arm from the slap of the bowstring upon release. It is worn on the inside of the forearm of the bow arm.
- ARROW REST:** The horizontal projection on the bow upon which the arrow lies.
- BACK:** The side of the bow away from the bow string.
- BAREBOW:** A style of shooting - without a bow sight.
- BLUNT TIP:** An arrow point usually made of rubber and used in some archery activities.
- BOW:** A device made of a piece of flexible material with a string connecting the two ends, used to propel an arrow.
- BOW SIGHT:** A mechanical device placed on the bow which the archer uses for aiming at the target.
- BOW SQUARE:** A T shaped device used to measure brace height and for placing nock locators.
- BOW STRINGER:** A device used to string a bow safely.
- BRACE HEIGHT:** The distance from the pivot point to the string when a bow is strung. (Also called string height and once called the fistmele)
- BROADHEAD:** A sharp, razor bladed arrow point used for hunting.
- BUTT:** Any backstop to which a target face is attached.
- CANT:** To tilt the bow left or right while at full draw.
- CAST:** The ability of a bow to propel an arrow a given distance.
- CENTER SERVING:** The material in the center of the bow string where the arrow is nocked. Protects the string from wear.
- COMPOSITE BOW:** A bow made of several materials.
- COMPOUND BOW:** A hand-held, hand-drawn bow that uses a pair of cables and wheels to store more energy.
- CREST:** The colored bands around the shaft of the arrow which aid in its identification.
- DRAW:** To pull the bow string back. Also the distance the bow string is pulled back.
- DRAW WEIGHT:** The weight, measured in pounds, used to bring the bow to full draw. Also the weight on a bow, using 28 inches to front of bow as the standard draw length.
- END:** A set number of arrows that are shot before going to the target to score and retrieve them.
- FINGER TAB:** A flat piece of smooth material which protects the fingers of the drawing hand.
- FINGER SLING:** A small strap that attaches to the thumb and index finger of the bow hand.
- FLETCHING - FLETCH:** The feathers, plastic vanes or other devices attached to the arrow shaft which stabilize the flight of the arrow.

FLU-FLU: An arrow with large untrimmed feathers which restrict the distance it will travel; used for shooting aerial targets.

FOLLOWTHROUGH: Maintaining the motion of the upper body muscles after releasing the string.

FULL DRAW: The position of the archer when the bowstring has been drawn to the anchor point.

GROUP: To shoot arrows in a pattern. Or the pattern of the arrows in the target.

LAMINATED BOW: A bow made of several layers of material glued together, usually two layers of fiberglass and a hardwood core.

LET DOWN: Returning from full draw to the undrawn position with control and not releasing the string.

LIMB: Upper or lower part of the bow that bends when the string is drawn back. The part of the bow where the energy is stored.

NOCK: To place the arrow on the string. Also the attachment to the rear end of an arrow which is placed on the bow string and holds the arrow on the string.

NOCK LOCATOR: The mark or device that indicates where the arrow is to be placed on the string.

RECURVE BOW: A bow with limbs that bend away from the archer when the bow is held in the shooting position.

SERVING: The wrapping of material around the loops and center of the bow string to protect it from wear.

SPINE: The stiffness or amount an arrow bends, determined by hanging a 2# weight from the center of the arrow and measuring the bend.

STABILIZER: A rod attached to the handle riser. Usually has a weight on the end of the rod. Absorbs the vibrations of the bow when the string is released.

TOXOPHILITE: A lover of the bow; an archer.

TUNE: To adjust the variables in the bow and arrow system to achieve the best arrow flight and arrow groups.

VANE: Any fletching made of a material other than feathers, usually plastic.

WINDAGE: The left-right adjustment of the bow sight.