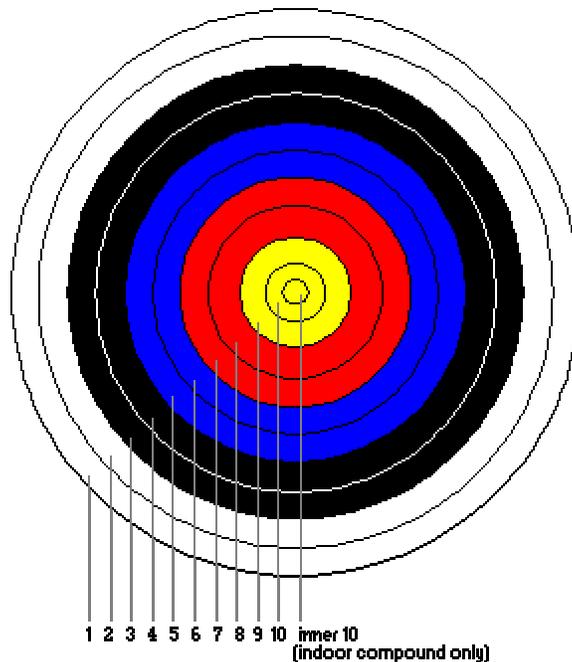


The Basics

Archery is a sport in which the participant uses a bow to shoot arrows at a target, which has ten concentric circles. The score of each arrow depends upon where it lands on the target. The highest score, a ten, is achieved by shooting an arrow into the center, or bullseye. Scores go down from nine for the next circle out to one for the outermost circle. Missing the target results in a score of zero for that arrow. For indoor compound archery, a ten is scored only when the arrow lands inside the inner ten ring.

After each end of arrows is shot, the arrows are scored. The number of hits (non-zero scores), tens and Xs (hits within the inner ten ring) are also recorded for the purpose of breaking ties in the final scores.



Outdoor

Most major outdoor target archery competitions in the U.S. follow the same format of a FITA Round followed by an Olympic Round.

The **FITA Round** consists of 36 arrows shot at each of four distances (90, 70, 50 and 30 meters for men; 70, 60, 50, 30 meters for women) for a total of 144 arrows. Scores are then totaled to determine seedings into the Olympic Round. Arrows are generally shot in groups (called **ends**) of six within a specified time period.

The **Olympic Round** is a direct elimination, head-to-head style of competition, all at 70 meters. It is so named because it is the championships round used in the Olympic Games.

The winner of each match advances until a gold medalist is determined. All matches are 18 arrows, except the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals, which are 12-arrow matches.

The U.S. Target Championships utilize a double FITA followed by an Olympic Round. FITA scores are totaled to determine seeding into the Olympic Round. The targets used at outdoor events have 122 cm diameter faces.

Indoor

Indoor tournaments are held for the Olympic (recurve) and Compound Divisions. Olympic Division events are generally held at either 25 meters or 18 meters.

In a 25-Meter Indoor Round called a "FITA II", archers shoot 60 arrows at a 60 cm diameter target face. In the 18-Meter Indoor Round called at "FITA I", archers shoot 60 arrows at a 40 cm diameter target face.

Championship events employ a **Grand Indoor Round**, which starts off with FITA I, followed by a direct elimination competition for the top 32 archers. These direct elimination matches are 12-arrow matches shot at a 40 cm diameter target face.

For the compound division, an inner 10 ring (X ring) is used on the 40 cm diameter target face.

Round robin events, in which every archer shoots in direct competition with every other archer, are used to select teams for special international events, like the Olympics. The arrow scores combine with a match-winning bonus to make for high drama, as well as placing a premium on stamina, and are considered to be the best way of selecting the top archers entered.