

A GUIDE TO RECURVE ARCHERY

Recurve bows are the modern evolution of historical bows used around the world for over 10,000 years. Modern recurve bows are made from advanced materials but winning high-level recurve archery competitions takes immense physical and psychological skill, thanks to the incredible levels of accuracy achieved by the world's top recurve archers.

Recurve archery has been an Olympic discipline since 1972, when the sport returned to the Games after a 52-year absence. The team event was introduced in 1988 and head-to-head matchplay in 1992.

Competition Structure

There are three stages to international recurve archery competitions: qualification, eliminations and finals.

Archers qualify by shooting 72 arrows at a 122cm target face at 70 metres,

scoring a maximum of 720 points. They are seeded on score (1-104 at World Archery events and 1-64 at the Olympics) for the brackets.

Recurve matches are run using the set system. Individual archers shoot sets of three arrows and compare scores.

The archer with the highest set score receives two set points. If the scores are drawn, each receives one set point. The first archer to reach six set points wins the match.

If the scores are tied after five sets, at 5-5, each archer shoots one arrow in a tiebreaker, and the archer with the arrow closest to the centre of the target wins the match.

Mixed team and team matches are the first to five set points. Mixed team sets consist of four arrows (two per archer) and team sets consist of six arrows (three per archer).

TARGET

Recurve archery targets are 122cm in diameter with a 10-ring of 12.2cm in diameter. They have 10 scoring rings (10-1) and five colours: gold, red, blue, black and white.

COMPETITION CRIBSHEET

QUALIFICATION

 72

 70M

MAX SCORE 720

Seeded for bracket 

MATCHPLAY

SET SYSTEM

1 SET = 

30 > 29 = 

29 = 29 = 

 = 

 = 

Match winner advances

PODIUM



Mixed team and team qualification scores combine the individual scores of the competing athletes.

Mixed team sets are four arrows (2 each), team sets are six (2 each).

Five set points wins a mixed team or team match.



Choi Misun (KOR)