

ARCHERY



National Archery in the Schools Program

Social Distancing and NASP®

NASP® is being contacted by individuals for guidance, as they plan for the future opening of archery. NASP® has and will continue to follow the advice of state and federal health officials regarding any activities. NASP® is in no way promoting group archery activities until authorities believe it is safe to do so. As has been the case for our nearly two decades of existence, safety is our first priority.

If activities and gatherings are allowed, but with social distancing mandates, these are among the precautions that can be taken in the management of a NASP® archery range and NASP® student archers, be it for a class, practice, or tournament.

- **Range Lane Spacing - Avoiding Shared Breath and Touching**

- Whatever safe spacing distance is required, that would also be the minimum width of lanes on the range. In other words, if 6 feet continues to be the recommended safe distancing, lanes should be 6 feet wide with a single archer/lane standing in the middle of the lane.
- If archers shoot the same target during a flight, only one archer at a time should go to the target line to score and retrieve arrows.
- The waiting line should also be marked and managed to maintain safe distancing.

- **Equipment Management - Avoiding Cross-Contamination**

- Students should each have their own, without sharing, personal Stringbow, when learning and practicing the *Eleven Steps to Archery Success*. The same would hold true if the archers are using armguards, gloves, or finger tabs.
- If the archer is wearing a face mask, care should be taken that all parts of the mask are such that they won't be snagged by the string when released. Bowhunters routinely shoot while wearing face masks.
- When retrieving or returning bows to the bow rack, only one archer should be at the bow rack at a time. If the range has multiple bow racks, they should be spaced according to social distancing requirements to allow multiple archers to pick up and return bows.
- Each archer's bow should be on it's on hook with no sharing of bow or hook unless disinfected between archers.

- Shared bows and arrows should be regularly disinfected. To disinfect, the CDC indicates, "Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work". Except, caustic agents such as bleach should be kept off the bowstring.
 - Soap and water
 - 60% or greater alcohol wipes
 - Bleach should be avoided on bowstrings.
- Special care should be taken to maintain safe distancing when setting up or taking down the range if students help.
- **Scored Shooting - Avoiding Cross-Contamination**
 - Each archer should have a scorecard on their own score board. The opposing archer (adjacent lane) will record the competitor's arrows, lay the scoreboard/card on the target line, and the archer will observe for accuracy hide marked scores.
 - The approval box of each arrow line should be checked by the scoring archer after the archer who shot the arrows agrees with the score.
 - To avoid handling each other's cards, they should be unsigned and collected by a gloved official or handed in by the archer who handled the card.