

An introduction to Clout

Clout is a form of target archery which involves shooting arrows (in ends of 6) over a distance somewhere between 80 and 180 yards (or 75 and 185 metres). The object is to land in the ground as close as possible to a small flag (known as the 'Clout').

Imperial Clout

Shooting is either 'one-way' or 'two-way'. In the former, there is one shooting line and one flag. In the latter, there are two of each, so you shoot one way, score and pick-up your arrows, turn around and shoot back in the direction from which you came.

For scoring you get 5 points for coming within 18 inches of the flag; 4 if you are within 3 feet; 3 if you are within 6 feet; 2 if you are within 9 feet; and 1 if within 12 feet. Depending on your final score, there are various badges that can be won.

A 'Single' round consists of 36 arrows and a 'Double', 72 arrows. Consequently it is possible to shoot Single One-Way, Single Two-Way, Double One-Way and Double Two-Way.

For record purposes, there are set distances according to the archer's age – just as there are for 'normal' target archery.

- Gentlemen shoot at 180 yards; Ladies at 140 yards.
- Junior Gentlemen U18 shoot at 140 yards; Junior Ladies U18 at 120 yards.
- Junior Gentlemen U16 shoot at 120 yards; Junior Ladies U16 at 100 yards.
- Junior Gentlemen U14 shoot at 100 yards; Junior Ladies U14 at 80 yards.
- Junior Gentlemen U12 and Junior Ladies U12 shoot at 80 yards.

FITA Clout and GNAS Metric Clout

Metric Clouts are only shot 'one-way' but can be Single or Double.

For scoring you get 5 points for coming within 1.5 metres of the flag; 4 if you are within 3 metres; 3 if you are within 4.5 metres; 2 if you are within 6 metres; and 1 if within 7.5 metres. Depending on your final score, there are various badges that can be won.

The distances shot for record purposes vary according to age category but also bow type as set-out below.

Age	Compound	Non-Compound
Gentlemen	185m	165m

Age	Compound	Non-Compound
Ladies	165m	125m
Junior Gents U18	165m	125m
Junior Gents U16 & Junior Ladies U18	125m	110m
Junior Gents U14 & Junior Ladies U16	110m	90m
Junior Gents U12 & Junior Ladies U14 and U12	90m	75m

Where can I shoot a Clout ?

Our field at Up Yonder is not long enough for a Clout due to the need for an overshoot area so you would need to go in search of a tournament somewhere. Look at the listings in Archery GB's magazine '*Archery UK*'. Venues/events that are not too far away include the Gloucestershire County Clout Championships in the middle of September, a tournament over the August Bank Holiday weekend in Devizes (organized by the Dorset & Wilts Archery Association which includes a Clout), at Burnham (when the Burnham Company of Archers organize a Clout in July) and near Salisbury where the South Wilts Archery Club shoot and often hold Clouts.