

S P O R T S

This page will offer you a variety of texts about the sports you, probably, know very little about. The first one is about

A R C H E R Y

O R I G I N S



Mediaeval archery tournament

Bows and arrows have been used for hunting and fighting the enemy since prehistoric times. But, archery as a sport, developed in Mediaeval England, where tournaments were held to encourage the military art of archers in peacetime. It was considered so important for the defence of the nation that the English law of that time (14th century) made it compulsory for all men between the age of 7 and 60.

The first 'official' Archery Contest was organised in Finsbury, London, in 1583. It was so attractive for the archers all over England that 3 000 of them took part in it.

M O D E R N A R C H E R Y

Bows and arrows at modern competitions are made of special aluminium alloy. They are designed to fire arrows at speeds of more than 150 mph.



A target

The target is 122 cm in diameter and archers shoot from a distance of 70 m. Points are scored by hitting a target of five coloured rings. The closer the arrow lands to the centre of the target, the higher the score.

A R C H E R Y A T T H E O L Y M P I C S

Archery made its debut at the Olympic Games in the 1900s. It was dropped from the Olympic programme in 1920, but returned in Munich in 1972. The competition includes both individual and team events for men and women. Sixty-four men and sixty-four women compete head-to-head through a series of knock-out championship rounds until only the medalist remains.

A R C H E R Y J A R G O N



An archer

BOSS: a target

BOWMAN: an archer

ROBIN HOOD: a shot that splits the shaft of the arrow which is already in the target

SPOTTER: an official scorer who uses a telescope to identify the arrow's exact position

NOCK: to place an arrow on a bow string