

**UNITED STATES NATIONAL ARCHERY ASSOCIATION
FLIGHT COMMITTEE
PRIMITIVE BOW FLIGHT RULES**

PRIMITIVE BOW TYPES: Four (4) categories of Primitive Flight are recognized as follows:

- 1. PRIMITIVE SELF BOWS**
- 2. PRIMITIVE SIMPLE COMPOSITE BOWS**
- 3. PRIMITIVE COMPLEX COMPOSITE BOWS**
- 4. PRIMITIVE TURKISH STYLE BOWS**

1. PRIMITIVE SELF BOWS

- A. **Primitive Self Bows:** Shall be totally constructed from a single, non laminated piece of natural material, plant or animal. Spliced billets will be accepted. Wooden handle build up blocks may be added and the handle may be wrapped with leather or other natural materials. A bow tip overlay may be added to the back only, not to exceed 2 inches in length. Bows utilizing materials such as fiberglass, plastic, nylon etc. shall be disqualified. Metals may be used only for Arrow Points.
- B. **ARROW RESTS:** An arrow shelf cut out or non laminated side rest are the only arrow rests allowed. They may be covered with natural materials only. **Elevated or collapsible arrow rests are not allowed.**
- C. **RELEASES:** Leather gloves, finger tabs or bare fingers only shall be used in Primitive Self Bow Flight Competition.

2. PRIMITIVE SIMPLE COMPOSITE BOWS

- A. **Primitive Simple Composite Bows:** Shall be totally constructed of natural materials, plant or animal. Two (2) only wood laminations are allowed. In addition to the two wood laminations. A backing layer, *other than wood* such as sinew, snake skin, silk, etc. is allowed. Bamboo is considered as a wood lamination. The addition of wedges and fade outs are not allowed. Wooden handle build up blocks may be added and the handle may be wrapped with leather or other natural materials. Bow tip nock overlays may be added, back and belly, not to exceed 2 inches in length. Bows utilizing materials such as fiberglass, plastic, nylon etc. shall be disqualified. Metals may be used only for arrow points.

- B. **ARROW RESTS:** An arrow shelf cut out or side rest are the only arrow rests allowed. They may be covered with natural materials only. **Elevated or collapsible arrow rests are not allowed.**
- C. **RELEASES:** Leather gloves, finger tabs or bare fingers only shall be used in Primitive Simple Composite Bow Flight Competition.

3. PRIMITIVE COMPLEX COMPOSITE BOWS

- A. **Primitive Complex Composite Bows:** Shall be totally constructed of natural materials, plant or animal without restriction to the quantity of laminations. Back, belly and core laminations are allowed. A backing layer is allowed. Bow tip nock overlays may be added, back and belly. Horn nocks are allowed. The addition of wedges and fade outs are allowed. Wooden handle build up blocks may be added and the handle may be wrapped with leather or other natural materials. Bows utilizing materials such as fiberglass, plastic, nylon etc. shall be disqualified. Metals may be used only for Arrow Points.
- B. **ARROW RESTS:** **Overdraws shall be allowed,** not to exceed 4 inches in length, measured from the back of the bow to the terminal point of the rest.) **Elevated or collapsible arrow rests shall be allowed.**
- C. **RELEASES:** Gloves, tabs, hooks, thumb rings, finger rings and flippers are allowed for Primitive Complex Composite Bow Conventional Flight. These items shall not be made from synthetic materials. Metal is allowed for hooks and rings.
- D. **Broadhead Flight classes are not scheduled for Primitive Complex Composite Flight Bows.**

4. PRIMITIVE TURKISH STYLE

- A. Primitive Complex Composite Bow construction qualifies for the Turkish Style Class.
- B. A Sipur and Thumb Ring shall be used when entering the Turkish Style Primitive Flight category.
- C. **Broadhead Flight classes are not scheduled for Primitive Turkish Style Flight Bows.**

GENERAL RULES OF PRIMITIVE FLIGHT:

- A. **Bow strings:** Shall be made of natural plant or animal materials such as Flax, Linen, Gut, Sinew, Rawhide, Bamboo, etc. **Primitive Bows equipped with synthetic strings shall be disqualified.**
- B. **Bow Weighing:** The position at the **back of the bow** at the arrow shelf or track shall be used to determine the **full draw** weight of the bow when used for **Broadhead Primitive Flight Competition.**
1. Drawing the Broadhead Blade into the bow or past the back of the bow is not allowed.
 2. The maximum **Broadhead Flight Primitive Bow** weight is determined by drawing the bow at it's **full draw**, the length of the contestant's longest broadhead arrow measured from the floor of the nock to the back of the broadhead blade.
 3. The position at the **belly of the bow** at the arrow shelf or at the back of the arrow rest shall be used to determine the **full draw** weight of the bow when used for **Conventional Primitive Flight Competition.**
 4. **Full draw** measurement is considered where the flight arrow point would be drawn off the arrow shelf at the **belly of the bow** for Primitive Self Bows and Primitive Simple Complex Bows. The arrow point cannot be drawn off the arrow rest or shelf beyond the belly of the bow and onto the hand .
- The position of the arrow shelf, arrow rest or track where the Flight Arrow point falls off or can no longer be drawn shall be used to determine the **full draw weight of the bow** when used for Complex Composite and Turkish Style Primitive Flight Bow Competition.
5. **Primitive bows so constructed without arrow shelves or arrow rests must follow item "B3" above.** In this situation, the Conventional Flight arrow point shall not be drawn past the palm of the hand or into the "web" of the hand, the palm of the hand being considered as the **belly** of the bow. **EXTREME SAFETY PRECAUTIONS MUST BE EXERCISED IN THIS SITUATION!**
 6. Primitive Bows shall not be allowed having the handle depth, measured from the back of the bow to the belly in excess of two (2) inches.

7. The maximum **Conventional Flight Primitive Bow** weight is determined by drawing the bow at its full draw the length of the contestant's longest flight arrow measured from the floor of the nock to the point of the arrow.

8. Weight of bow and class shall be recorded on a label affixed to the bow by the contest board.

C. **Releases:**

1. Leather gloves or finger tabs only shall be used in Broadhead Flight Competition.

D. **Primitive Bow Conventional Flight Arrows:**

1. Six arrows shall constitute an end.

2. The contestant's name must be inscribed on each arrow.

3. A non duplicated serial number must be inscribed on each arrow.

4. A stamp or code mark indicating the class entered must be inscribed on each arrow by the contest board.

5. Natural materials must be used for Primitive Flight Arrows. "Forgewood" shafts are not allowed

6. The minimum arrow length is twenty three (23) inches measured from the floor of the nock to the tip.

7. Fletching shall consist of legal feathers or other natural materials.

E. **Primitive Bow Broadhead Flight Arrows:**

1. Six arrows shall constitute an end.

2. The contestant's name must be inscribed on each arrow.

3. A non duplicated serial number must be inscribed on each arrow.

4. A stamp or code mark indicating the class entered must be inscribed on each arrow by the contest board.

5. Total weight of the arrow and broadhead combined shall not be less than 500 grains for Men, Women and Intermediates.

6. Natural materials must be used for Primitive Flight Arrows. "Forgewood shafts are not allowed.
7. Fletching shall consist of legal feathers or other natural materials. The total combined fletching shall not be less than three (3) four (4) inch feathers or vanes for Men, Women and Intermediates. Each feather or vane shall not be less than ½ inch in height, measured from its base to crown. Feathers must retain their parabolic or straight line shape.
8. Broadheads must not pass through a 7/8 inch ring and must have at least two cutting edges, each not being less than 3/4 inches in length. Broadheads may be made from metal or other effective natural materials.
9. The Broadhead Point must be mounted on the arrow shaft so that it rests in a horizontal position when the arrow is nocked on the bowstring. For multi blade points, one of the widest blades must be mounted in a horizontal position on the side of the arrow facing the bow when the arrow is nocked on the bowstring.

F. **Weight Classes:**

MEN - 50 pound bows and under. Unlimited weight class bows.

WOMEN - 50 pound bows and under. Unlimited weight class bows.

JUNIORS (15-16-17 yrs.) - 50 pound bows and under. Unlimited weight class bows.

INTERMEDIATES (12-13-14 Yrs.) - 50 pound bows and under. Unlimited weight class bows.

Broadhead Flight is not allowed. 13 year old Intermediates may compete if their 14th birth date falls during the calendar year.

CADETS (11 yrs. and under) - 35 pound limit on bows.

Broadhead Flight is not allowed.

- G. **Cross Entering:** Primitive Flight Bows shall not be entered in competition with other flight bows.

- H. **Safety: EQUIPMENT DEEMED UNSAFE BY THE CONTEST BOARD WILL BE DISALLOWED!!**

Rulon I. Hancock
Secretary/Treasurer
U.S. National Archery Association
Flight Committee

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