

East Kingdom Rules and Conventions for Combat Archery

This document only includes East Kingdom Rules and Conventions for combat archery that are not included in the East Kingdom Armored Rattan Conventions and the Society Armored Combat - Rattan Handbook.

This is the most current rules for Combat Archery in the East Kingdom as of April 24, 2026

Changes to Society rules since 2016 East Kingdom Combat Archery Rules:

Minimum poundage / power of bows and crossbows removed
Light Handbow Max poundage changed to 35lbs
Clarified that ammo must be inspected per use.
Changed that ammo must be inspected under the supervision of a Combat Archery marshal
Removed any limit to yellow tape use
Added in that an APD fails if it has major cuts or structural cracks
'Siloflex equivalent' became 'HDPE pipe'
Allow blunts and APDs to rotate if they remain securely attached
Renamed the CUBB3 to Fathead
Added Fathead 2 as an approved blunt
Added that foam should have progressive resistant give
The buffer zone requirements were further defined
A pavis is now treated as a shield while carried
All Combat Archery decisions must be made by a Combat Archery subject-matter expert (SME)
Single Tennis Ball is no longer a Combat Archery ammo type

Changes to East Kingdom rules since 2016 EK CA Rules

Removed the recommended inspection and all repeats of the society rules so that there will not be conflicts with Society Rules.
Removed the requirement for labels to be covered in clear tape
Removed that ammo should be held next to the APD while testing the APD
Removed inspecting for string float on a crossbow because there was no rule to justify this inspection
Removed the ban on gleaning heavy tubular ammo
Added a ban on wooden nocks on tubular ammo
Removed mention of cocking mechanisms
Removed the proposed inspections because society rules has one, and it was looking for things that were no longer in the rules
Reworded the Field Layout to require following the current society rules for buffer zones
Added back in uncocking a crossbow in extended holds, and added uncocking at the end of combat
Changed the 'Courtesies' to conventions, and used the 'should' language defined in society rules
Explicitly laid out the need to a combat archery marshal when there is going to be CA at an event or practice, and that Armored Rattan Marshals shall not make decisions about combat archery unless they are also CA marshals
Removed the limits on what cuts and holes can be made to Siloflex tube ammo

East Kingdom Combat Archery Rules

1. **Armored Combat Holds and Cessation of Combat**
 - a. If fighters may remove their helmets during a hold, and at the end of combat, crossbows shall be uncocked.
2. **Combat Archery Bows/Crossbows**
 - a. No holes of any kind may be drilled in crossbow prods.
 - b. No metal clips of any kind may be used to secure bowstrings or bowstring loops. Metal clip nock points are allowed.
3. **Tubular Ammo (“Heavy Ammunition”) for use in Heavy bows, Heavy Crossbows, Light bows, or Light Crossbows**
 - a. The only legal Heavy Ammo currently in use in the East Kingdom is Tubular.
 - b. Wooden nocks are not allowed in the East Kingdom.
 - c. Fellwalker Bolts, while meeting the Society standard for CA, are no longer to be used at East Kingdom events nor inspected by the East Kingdom Marshallate except for specific exceptions made by the EK DEM-CA or specifically approved designees (per 06/2009 EK Earl Marshal decree.)
4. **Marshaling Requirements**
 - a. Combat Archery shall not occur at an event or practice without a warranted combat archery marshal present. For an event, the Marshal-in-Charge (MIC) must designate a Combat Archery MIC to be the subject-master-expert (SME) in Combat Archery for the event.
 - b. An armored rattan marshal shall not make decisions about combat archery unless said marshal is also a warranted combat archery marshal.

East Kingdom Combat Archery Conventions

The East Kingdom uses the following conventions for combat archery to encourage the safe practice of combat archery and the good will of the melee fighters that we share the field with

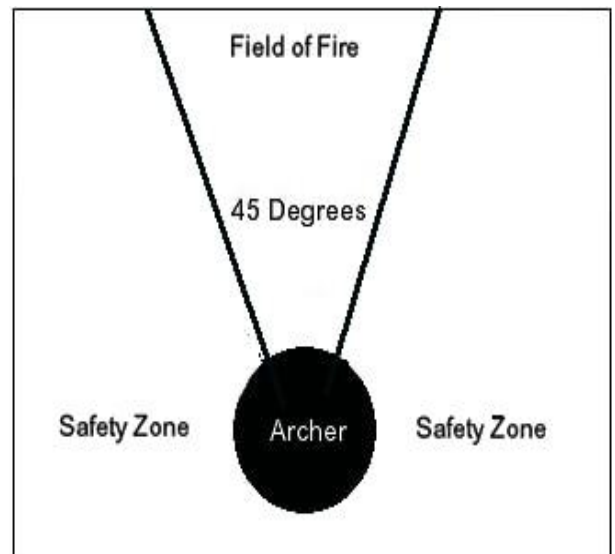
- a. Archers should gather everyone’s ammo when retrieving your arrows/bolts after a battle.
- b. If an archer or marshal sees a failure on a piece of ammo it shall be told to the owner of the ammo or to a marshal at CA Marshal Point.
- c. During a battle, all archers should make sure that equipment is stored in a safe manner.
- d. No participant should handle or draw any other archer’s equipment without expressed permission.
- e. An archer should not target (i.e. “aim and loose upon”) any individual (alone or in a unit) from behind.
- f. An archer should not shoot into a called-combat (honor) battle, and should give the victor an opportunity to return to the line before targeting them.
- g. An archer should not kill the same person excessively in a resurrection battle.
- h. An archer should accept any light hit as a courtesy blow while using combat archery equipment.

East Kingdom Combat Archery Field Set-Up

1. The following are suggested dimensions for battlefield set-up and “field of fire” zones for battles involving combat archery.
2. A “field of fire” is loosely defined as an area where an individual can expect to be hit at any given moment with combat archery ammunition.
3. A “safety zone”, is defined as a buffer zone that needs to be provided between the edges of the battlefield and spectators at all times. This needs to be increased when combat archery is included.
4. The marshal-in-charge must ensure that the buffer zone conforms with the current society requirements. Scenario design and layout, can reduce the need for buffer zones in certain directions. Physical barriers could eliminate the need for a buffer zone or lessen the distance needed.
5. As these are general guidelines, the actual approved battlefield sizes may vary, depending on terrain, the archers, weather, crowd size and multiple other conditions.
6. Marshals are expected to only alter the following guidelines toward more heightened safety unless explicitly approved by a Kingdom or Regional Combat Archery Marshal.
7. It is recommended that safety guidelines and expectations (including spectator expectations) for the battlefield should be posted or referenced in the Pikestaff, online and in the gate handout whenever possible.

Safety Zones:

1. The “field of fire” extends behind the farthest potential target at least 30 yards past the target or to a maximum of 80 yards from an accepted shooting point and includes all area within.
2. Elevation should also be taken into consideration when shooting downhill, adding additional yardage.
3. A “field of fire” shall likewise exist equally to the sides of a shooter in a 45-degree sector based upon a line drawn from shooter to potential target and includes the sector inside this acute 45-degree “field of fire” angle.
4. Anything within the delineated “field of fire” (out to the maximum allowed distance from Section 1. (above) must have eye protection at the minimum.
5. Anything outside this “field of fire” is considered to be in a “safety zone” and thus neither targetable nor acceptable for ammunition flight.
6. It is recommended that perimeter markers of ropes, poles, etc be clearly posted.



Special CA Shooting Conditions:

1. For volley attacks, the “field of fire” distance should be at least out to 80 yards, or the maximum range of the heaviest bow present.
2. It is not recommended that volley attacks be allowed if space is extremely limited.
3. Woods battles, the “field of fire” distance shall be a minimum of one and one-half times the distance to the target.
4. Marshals should include special consideration for the angles and distances required for other potential targets in the course.

Minimum field requirements:

Every field is different because of natural restrictions to spectators such as natural landscape, it is impossible to just give a minimum field size, unless we make that minimum size so large that it would eliminate combat archery from most events. That said, it is extremely difficult to safely have CA on a field battle that is less than 100yds x 100yds, with an additional 10 yds between the battlefield and the spectators. Both sides of the safety zone need to be marked. Smaller fields can be used with adequate scenario design at the discretion of the MIC and the CA MIC.