

NATIONAL LOCK-DOWN 05-NOV-2020 to 02-DEC-2020

On the 31-Oct-2020 the government announced a second national lock-down from the 05-Nov-2020 to 02-Dec-2020. This for unknown reasons specifically singled out a number of sports including archery. See Section 4 of the 'Guidance New National Restrictions from 5 November' (linked here)

"indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, leisure centres and gyms, sports facilities including swimming pools, golf courses and driving ranges, dance studios, stables and riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls and climbing centres, archery and shooting ranges, water and theme parks,"

At the time of writing AGB have not made any statements on what their stance and guidance will be, but as the government has singled out archery it is unlikely to be positive. A number of the other targeted sports have made clear they intend to appeal this guidance, (not law), on the basis of the fact they can 'easily social distance'.

It should be further noted that AGB advise on shooting at home is included in the 'Archery GB updates on COVID-19', (linked here)

"Please do not shoot at home"2

They go on to state this advise is for insurance and safety reasons, non adherence to the <u>Rules of Shooting</u> and lack of Risk Assessments.

Having spoken to AGB this morning (Monday 02-Nov-2020), in an attempt to clarify the situation further and get answers to the following questions:

- 1. What is your advised to clubs?
- 2. What is your advise to individuals able to shoot safety on a non registered range?
- 3. Are you intending to join the appeal against the ban on archery, on the bases of being able to 'easily social distance'?

They are unable to answer, but did acknowledge that archery should be able to continue to socially distance as we have been to this point. They went on to say that they are currently in discussions with the Department of Media, Culture and Sport to seek 'clarification of the situation' and will be

Emphasis added.

² Emphasis added.

releasing a statement on the website asap. It appears the situation in regards to archery is still evolving despite the governments guidance.

At the time of writing it is clear that the current official recommendation from both government and the sports governing body is that we do not shoot during this time.

If anyone subsequently decides themselves, to shoot on a non AGB registered range they are doing so entirely at their own risk. With full understanding of those risks and all that that entails including, but not limited to, no AGB insurance cover.³

What does this mean for the 'Postal Frostbite League 2020 -2021'?

In light of what is set out above it is clear that not everyone will be able to continue shooting thoughout this and any ongoing/subsequent lock-down(s). It would be unfair on those unable to shoot to continue the league in it's current format.

Therefore the league will continue with the following modifications:-

If archers are able to submit a score bearing in mind everything set out above, it will be accepted.

However it will be noted as such and will not count to the overall league result. Additionally if scores are received from multiple archers a separate sub-league will be formed of these archers, to compete in with the lock-down scores included, (they will also continue to compete in the main league when it resumes post lock-down).

I hope this provides a fair way to proceed that covers the situation all our fellow competitors find ourselves in.

Finally on a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has taken the time and effort to shoot in my tournaments to this point, they are not over. We will find away to keep shooting, I hope that this nightmare is over on the currently stated date, but have my doubts. Keep positive, keep in touch, the archery community is strong.

I hope to be on a shooting line with you all sooner rather than later.

Date: 31-Jul-2020 2 of 2 Vei
Document: FSAD/GD/AHY/COMP/AAT/PL/FL2021/DOC024 - National Lockdown Update.odt

If you do shoot at home/on a non AGB registered range you are doing so entirely at your own risk, I am unable to condone or advise in anyway. Ensure you do you own investigation and seek all required advise/insurance cover.