

University of Waterloo Archery Club Rangemasters' Guide

Welcome to your new position as a rangemaster¹! This article will explain the situations you are about to encounter, and, if possible, any methods you may use to handle them.

Application

Any qualifying member (see below) may apply to be a rangemaster using this question:

Can I be a rangemaster?

Alternatively, any existing rangemaster may request a general member to be a rangemaster by using this question:

Would you like to be a rangemaster?

Some institutions allow for slight variations of the questions. As a general guideline, similar enquiries must show sincerity and respect.

Requirements

Generally, to be accepted for initiation as a rangemaster, a candidate must:

- Apply in his/her free will.
- Be of the minimum age of 18, so as to bear any potential legal liabilities arising from fatal accidents when the candidate is responsible for the range.
- Be of good morals, and of good reputation.
The candidate may be asked to provide up to two references for proof of good character.
- Be of good attendance.
The candidate should have been the member of the club for one or more consecutive terms, an active member (with percentage attendance greater or equal to 70%) of the club for said term(s), and has a general idea of the club's operation.
- Be of good body condition.
The club reserves the right to deny any applicant(s) with bodies that are sufficiently damaged to prevent him/her from effectively manoeuvring the range for safety reasons. In principle, as the archery range is not wheelchair-accessible, the club does not expect applications from wheelchair-bound persons.
- Agree to be knighted in the name of "Apollo", the Greek god of archery (see below).
Therefore, said candidate must also accept Apollo as his/her personal archery saviour from Greece.

One or more president(s) of the club must approve of this appointment before the Initiation can be made.

¹ The term "rangemaster" was coined long before the club was founded. It is an informal noun with its meaning roughly equal to "range superman".

The Rangemaster Initiation

Traditionally, each rangemaster will be knighted with a specific process, whereby the rangemaster candidate shall be down on one (left) knee², remaining stationary and respectful with his/her most frequently used bow held with his/her appropriate hand.

At this point, an existing rangemaster shall, with a reserved arrow³ held with his/her right hand. The head of said arrow shall touch the candidate's right shoulder, left shoulder, and then the head. This is followed by the incantation,

By the powers of the archery God, Apollo, invested on me, I give you the full status and the authority as a rangemaster, {Rangemaster's name}.

The Commandments (see below) will be announced to the candidate, immediately after ceremony. Each new rangemaster is assumed to have understood these three commandments before rising from his/her one knee.

The Commandments

1. Thou shalt not murder⁴.
2. Thou shalt not commit adultery⁵.
3. Thou shalt do no harm.
4. Thou shalt follow Rangemasters' Guide on a regular basis.

Right to Resign

Due to the need of rangemasters, under no circumstances may a rangemaster leave his/her position without proper resignation unless special circumstances apply. Any rangemasters wanting to resign must:

- Ensure that all other rangemasters are informed of your leave.
- Ensure that your leave will not impact the minimum number of two rangemasters on the range for all future sessions.
- Inform the President, or if there is more than one president, one of the Presidents.

Special circumstances

There are special cases for which an uninformed resignation is allowed. A rangemaster may

² That is, provided that said candidate has a functional left knee. If a functional left knee does not exist, the right knee can be used. If a functional right knee does not exist, the candidate is exempt from the half-kneeling process.

³ It has been agreed in 2011 that an unused arrow (one in its perfect condition) will always be kept in the club, used solely for this knighting process.

⁴ All forms of murder are banned on the range. Any rangemasters wishing to murder must do so elsewhere.

⁵ Similar to the note above, you are free to perform these matters on a personal level, but not in the name of the club, while representing the club, or while wearing club-sanctioned apparel.



resign without permission if any one of the following cases applies:

- He/she has been expelled from the university.
- He/she has experienced urgent medical conditions that prevent proper resignation.

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Duties

Rangemasters are expected to have regular attendance, and be in charge of the safety and operation of the range. Please refer to the club constitution for the complete list of duties of a rangemaster.

Specific duties of a rangemaster

Rangemasters will open the range, close the range, and repair equipment (whenever the Master of Arms position is dissolved). They will also instruct new club members, normally in the logical sequence in which they are listed:

- Range safety
- Their respective dominant eye, and how to correctly identify available archery equipment (e.g. Bow, finger tab) suitable for their dominant position
- How to string a bow
- How to follow line calls
- How to identify the types of arrows suitable for their bows.
Rangemasters must restrict compound bow wielders' access to the club's weaker arrows (those with maximum draw weight of less than or equal to forty pounds) in order to prevent damage.
- Correctly draw, hold the string, anchor, and release
- Line and range etiquette (e.g. holding bow vertically while on the line, sequential bow draws, letting lower-scoring archers retrieve arrows first, etc.)
- Scoring
- How to pull arrows out of targets, and the (in front of target, then back of target, then outer rim of target, then inner rim of target) sequence regarding arrow retrieval
- How to deal with lost arrows, broken arrows, or arrows that might be broken
- How to unstring a bow
- Tests members are required to pass prior to shooting targets farther than 10m
- How to be a rangemaster

Rangemasters should also prevent equipment theft, especially during tryout sessions.

Upper Executives⁶

Rangemasters are considered upper executives if said rangemasters also take up one or more of the below responsibilities. Their privileges and responsibilities vary. Please check your yearly update of the club's constitution for any changes.

⁶ Sometimes, even regular rangemasters are considered executives. The idea of executive membership depends upon the club's year of operation.

- President
- Vice-president
- Treasurer
- Master of Arms
- Webmaster

Rights

As a rangemaster, a new array of privileges is granted to you, and you alone. Here is a list of example scenarios when you can use them:

- You feel like shooting at 18m, but you have not passed the 10-metre exam. If no other rangemaster on duty has a problem with it, you can shoot at 18 metres.
- You feel like shooting beyond 18m, the standard distance for the experienced shooters' target. You can move the target beyond 18m for your personal gain.
- Rangemasters can open club lockers. By that extension, they also have automatic access to better club equipments, provided that they are owned by the club.
- As a courtesy, you may "reserve" certain equipments, for tournaments or otherwise.
- With the exception of the "Hold" line call (which may be used by all persons on the line), rangemasters remain the only class of individuals with the right to perform line calls: "Take the line", "Fire", and "Clear".

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Removal of Rights

Any rangemaster may be removed of titles and/or duties if he/she misbehaves. Some examples:

- He/she is putting other members at risk through his/her actions.
- He/she is of poor attendance.
- He/she is not fulfilling duties associated with his/her title. For example, if a rangemaster fails to maintain range order, he/she may be removed from the rangemasters list.

Please see the constitution for the complete list.

The 10-metre Exam

Before allowing any member (see constitution for definition of "member") to shoot at any target further than 10m, a rangemaster must personally conduct a shooting test on said member.

The member must pass with a score 210 or higher, out of 300, with 3 arrows per round for 10 consecutive rounds⁷.

- These scores are to be determined and recorded using FITA competition rules.
- Nobody may shoot the same target as the scoring target while the test is in place.

There are no additional tests required for increasing allowed shooting range from 18m to 27m. Rangemasters are expected to pass The 10-metre Exam, and may also fire from 35m at will.

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⁷ In the "good ol' days", a member is considered having the test passed if the test is done twice in succession (210/300 + 210/300). If any member challenges these requirements, you may recite this former requirement.



Revision

This is version 1.1 of Rangemasters' Guide.

Questions?

To edit this document without loss in fidelity, please download Waterloo's official fonts, Solex and Eidetic.

Any enquiries regarding this guide should be forwarded to the president(s), and/or the contributors of this guide:

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