

Clout tips from Scott

It's everybody's favourite time of the year, Clout season! As many members may not have shot clout before, here is a quick list of sighting options.

As you need to elevate the bow to get the distance required to reach the clout you will find you are not able to see the clout, making standard sights useless. The alternatives are as follows:

Prism sights



a combination of small mirrors which enable you to view directly on the clout to aim. Need to purchase and fit to sight in place of usual aperture. Anyone interested in this option should speak to Rob as the club has a limited number of these available.

Customised sights



you can fix a sight to a different part of the bow (under long rod/lower stabiliser hole) to use as a reference point. You will need to use an alternate aim point such as a score zone indicator flag or your own ground marker as you will not be able to see the clout once you raise the bow. Will need to bring tape or similar to fix your sight to long rod OR suitable screws to fit to stabiliser hole (best to try to set this up at home before coming to ground). It is important that the sight can be fixed firmly, with no movement, as a small movement to the sight will make a massive difference over the length of the clout range.

Pin and marker



simple use of a pin with a coloured head pushed into a piece of tape or foam insulation tape fitted to the lower end of your riser. You will need a ground marker (commonly a crushed coke can/old jar lid on a spike or maybe a screwdriver) to line the pin up with. You then move one or both giving you an aiming reference by lining the two items up until you are happy with the result. This method also requires foot markers as it is important to stand in exactly the same spot for every shot. If you use this method be sure to measure your final marker position so you can replicate when you next shoot clout. Will need to bring sticky tape/insulating foam, suitable pin, ground marker (size of crushed coke can is suitable) and foot markers. Also be sure to mark how far you push the ground marker into the ground and where you place the pin, including how far you push it into the tape/foam.

Bare bow



many archers who usually shoot sighted like to shoot this round bare bow. Not as difficult as it may sound as there is a simple method of aiming involving your bow hand and swapping your aiming eye which is very effective. You will need to strip your bow of all sights, stabilisers etc. (you can keep your plunger button) to shoot bare bow. You simply close your right eye and view through your left eye (assuming right handedness). You then line up a knuckle with the clout or ground flags, making adjustments in your alignment until you are happy with the results. You will not need additional items for this method.

Remember that the shooting technique should be the same as you use in standard target shooting with one exception. When you aim you should tilt back at the waist to elevate the bow. Keep your shoulder position/alignment the same as in target shooting.

Also, a ground marker can be up to 75mm diameter and no higher than 150mm from the ground.

For Clout tournaments the following distances are shot for each division.

<i>Class</i>	180m	165m	145m	125m	100m
Men	Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve		
Women		Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve	
Master & Veteran Men	Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve		
Master & Veteran Women		Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve	
20&Under Men	Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve		
20&Under Women		Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve	
Cadet Men		Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve	
Cadet Women			Compound	Recurve Barebow Recurve Barebow Compound Longbow	
Intermediate Boys & Girls			Compound	Recurve Barebow Compound	Longbow Barebow Recurve
Cub Boys & Girls				Compound	Recurve Barebow Recurve Barebow Compound Longbow