

GRANGE BOWMEN INC

INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR MEMBERS



534 Albany Creek Road
Bridgeman Downs
Phone 07 3264 4537
Saturday and Sunday
10am to 4pm

Preface

Welcome to Grange Bowmen Inc. where the art of archery meets a vibrant community of passionate individuals! This booklet is your comprehensive guide to everything you need to know about our club, from membership details to safety rules, range etiquette, and exciting events. Whether you're a seasoned archer or just starting your journey, Grange Bowmen is here to support you every step of the way.

Our club is proudly run by dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to create a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable environment for all members. With access to well-maintained practice and field ranges, instructional courses, and a wealth of knowledge from experienced coaches and instructors, you'll find everything you need to hone your skills and immerse yourself in the world of archery.

This booklet is designed to provide you with essential information about our club's operations, rules, and opportunities. From understanding membership benefits to learning about bowhunting proficiency courses, you'll discover how to make the most of your time with us. We encourage you to explore our website, follow us on social media, and connect with fellow members to stay updated on events and activities.

At Grange Bowmen, we believe in fostering a community built on respect, safety, and shared passion. We invite you to embrace the spirit of archery, enjoy the camaraderie of our members, and create lasting memories on the range. If you have any questions or need assistance, our team is always here to help.

Thank you for joining Grange Bowmen Inc. Let's aim high and shoot for success together!

1. ON ARRIVAL AT THE CLUB

- Upon arrival, all members **MUST** sign in via the QR code located next to the nominations window and/or at the Range Officer counter. (Green Form) This is for insurance purposes. Where it asks for your ABA number, probational members will put the expiry date listed on your probationary card given to you at the time of your instructional course.

• HOURS OF OPERATION

The clubhouse is open on Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm

- We are open 24/7 daylight hours

1.1 FOR ALL MEMBERS WHO DO NOT HAVE THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT

- Bow hire is available on weekends when the clubhouse is open.
- Bow hire is \$8 per person, or \$20 total for Families. This hire cost is per day so you can leave and come back if you would like too!
- All hired equipment must be returned to the bow room by 4pm
- We accept both cash and card.

1.2 FOR ALL MEMBERS WITH THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT

- The practice ranges are open every day during daylight hours for all members with their own equipment.
- As a probationary member, once you have been cleared by an instructor, field range 1 and 2 are able to be used as well.
- All equipment (new or second hand) is required to be presented for a safety check by an instructor or coach prior to using it on the ranges. (Just ask)

2. **SAFETY IS IMPORTANT**

- Please take the time to observe and understand all the rules of the club (by laws and constitution on Grange Bowmen Inc website) and of the ABA. (Australian Bowhunters Association) bowhunters.org.au who is our insurer and governing body.
- Children under 18 must be supervised by a parent/guardian at all times. This includes walking the field ranges with them. (Cubs 12 years and under; Juniors 13–17 years)
- Aggressive or bullying behaviour will not be tolerated. Violators may face suspension, removal from the club, and possible reporting to authorities
- The shooting of animals or wildlife on club premises is strictly forbidden. Violations lead to suspension, removal from the club, and notification to the relevant authorities.
- Only one piece of camouflage clothing is permitted at any given time, either a shirt or a pair of pants. This practice is discouraged on the ranges for safety reasons.
- All archers are required to wear covered shoes. This is a workplace health and safety requirement. The bushland environment is not suitable for open shoes. Archers wearing inappropriate footwear will be excluded from all ranges for their own safety. (*ie Ballet flats, thongs, water shoes, crocs, sandals etc. do not provide adequate safety in a bush environment and cannot be worn*).
- We use field tips for all club activities and events. Broadheads are **NOT PERMITTED** at the club, except during special events approved by the Range Captain or Committee.
- Grange Bowmen and all its Instructors and Coaches will not be liable for accident or injury resulting from inappropriate footwear.

3. **RANGE ETIQUETTE**

- Have fun and be respectful to other members whilst they are shooting.
- Do not talk while an archer is at the peg.
- Do not allow children to run around whilst on the ranges.
- Cubs and juniors must have an adult accompanying the group at all times.
- Do not touch another archer's equipment without their permission.
- Please do not destroy the vegetation.

4. **BASIC SHOOTING RULES**

- Do not sky draw. Pull back on target only.
- Your front foot must be touching the appropriate peg when on the field range or behind the yellow line on the practice range when shooting.
- Do not step in front of the peg on field ranges or yellow line when on practice ranges, before completion of shooting.
- "Range open" command must be heard before loading arrow to shoot.
- "Range closed" command must be heard to retrieve arrows.
- Be courteous about the number of arrows you shoot. Six is suggested max.

IN COMPETITIONS

- Red peg shoots first, then green, orange then yellow in competition on Ranges.
- When shooting in a competition, arrow has to break the score line to be scored in the higher value.
- In a 3-arrow round, it is the first scoring arrow that counts. You may shoot up to 3 arrows without penalty.
- Bounce ins and skips do not score.
- Pull arrows out only after they have been scored.
- Range finders are not permitted in competitions, but can be used in practice

5. WHEN ARE THE RANGES NOT AVAILABLE FOR SHOOTING

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for upcoming events, notifications, closures and club activities.

- Our website, www.grangebowmen.com.au also contains access to valuable information such as a calendar of events. Please refer to this calendar to find out times on all events such as the ones listed below:

WORKING BEE:

- Held once a month on Saturdays from 8:00am to 12:00pm.
- Participate in 4 working bees to get a membership discount next year if you decide to become a full member.

CLUB SHOOTS

- Occur from 8:00am to 1:30pm.

INSTRUCTIONAL COURSES

- Conducted once a month on Saturdays.

ABA CELEBRATION SHOOT

- Scheduled for August each year. No casual archery available

CLUBHOUSE IS CLOSED ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

- Including Mother's Day, Father's Day etc.
(Unless otherwise stated.)

6. PROBATIONARY & FULL MEMBERSHIP CARD

- For both probationary and full members, please carry your cards at all times.
- We recommended taking a photo on your phone just in case!
- You will not be permitted to shoot if you do not have proof of membership.

6.1 WHAT ARE THE 3 BOXES ON MY PROBATIONARY CARD?

- These are boxes that are required to be signed off by an instructor when competency is demonstrated for the corresponding distances.
- The first box corresponds to the 30-yard distance for under 18yr olds or 50-yard distance for 18yrs and over.
- The second box refers to Field Range 1.
- The third box refers to Field Range 2.
- If you would like to try out the field ranges before you have been signed off, you must be accompanied by a cleared adult or instructor.

It is not required to be cleared on the practice ranges and the two field ranges to become a full club member.

6.2 AFTER MY PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP

- Once your probationary membership has expired and you wish to become a member of Grange Bowmen Inc, you will need to obtain your Australian Bowhunters Association insurance
- We suggest joining 3-4 weeks before your probationary period expires.
- You can apply for your insurance online at www.bowhunters.org.au

6.3 WHAT DOES ABA STAND FOR?

- ABA stands for “Australian Bowhunters Association”.
- Do I have to join ABA? Yes! Membership with ABA is a requirement.
- This is your Public Liability Insurance.
- (When applying for your ABA insurance, it will ask, when filling out the form, if you belong to an ABA club. (It is important to scroll down and select GRANGE BOWMEN.)

6.4 WHAT GAME DOES ABA PLAY?

- ABA games are all unmarked distances. The most common shoot is a 3 arrow plus 1 arrow round shot at either coloured or black and white animal targets.
- Other shoots may also consist of 3D and 2 arrow rounds.

6.5 WHAT DOES IFAA STAND FOR?

- International Field Archery Association www.ifaa-archery.org

6.6 HOW IS IFAA PLAYED?

- IFAA is a marked distance round consisting of 28 targets. The targets are black and white circles, 4 arrows are shot at each target, all arrows count.

7. MEMBERSHIP

- Probationary members are eligible for pro-rata membership to Grange Bowmen Inc, as our fees are based on the calendar year (January to December).
- Full membership is based on a calendar year ie 1st January to 31st December

7.1 WHY DO WE CHARGE FEES?

- General day to day running of the club’s maintenance and upkeep.

7.2 BENEFITS OF BECOMING A FULL MEMBER

- Full members enjoy free access to all field and practice ranges once cleared, and a well-equipped bow room.
- Members are encouraged to join away shoots at Branch, State, and National events to connect with other archers.
- Participate and vote on club issues at the Annual Grange Meeting each year.
- Members can also hold committee positions or become instructors/coaches

7.3 CAN I ATTEND A CLUB SHOOT?

- We welcome all new members to join our club shoots. Experienced archers will guide you.
- Check our website calendar or follow us on Facebook/Instagram for upcoming events.

8. WHY COMPLETE A BOWHUNTER PROFICIENCY COURSE?

- We encourage all members to attend and complete a Bowhunter Proficiency Course (BPC).
- Grange Bowmen and ABA objectives are to promote bowhunting to a high level of acceptance and recognition throughout Australia and the world.
- We educate members to attain and uphold the highest standard of hunter ethics in accordance with the rules of fair chase. In this course fair game is explained.

8.1 WHAT AM I ALLOWED TO HUNT & WHERE?

- Western Australian has Donkeys, Camels, Rabbits (down south), goats, foxes, feral cats, pigs and Buffalo (up north).
- Northern Territory has Camels, Buffalo, Donkeys, feral cats and pigs
- Queensland has Pigs, Goats, foxes, rabbits, feral cats, camels and buffalo.
- New South Wales has Pigs, Goats, foxes, rabbits, hares and feral cats.
- Victoria has Rabbits, foxes, goats, pigs, hares and feral cats.
- South Australia has Rabbits, hares, foxes, goats, pigs, feral cats and camels.
- All States have species of deer but many require a hunting permit.
- No bowhunting in Tasmania.

Please remember these animals are on private property and in some cases are classed as stock. You will need to have permission to hunt or even to have access.

8.2 WHEN ARE BOWHUNTING PROFICIENCY COURSES HELD?

- BPC courses are held when there is sufficient interest and are free of charge.
- The purchase of the National Bowhunting Education Manual is available at the clubhouse.
- You can register your interest via our Website.
- Courses will be advertised on our website and Facebook.

9. BUYING EQUIPMENT

9.1 HOW TO CHOOSE WHAT BOW TO BUY?

- The choice of equipment is highly personal. The most economical option would be to purchase either a Longbow or Recurve bow. An entry-level Longbow/Recurve setup typically starts at approximately \$300, which includes the bow, arrows, and glove/finger tab.
- Entry-level compound bows generally start from \$500-600 due to the additional items that may need to be purchased, such as sights, release aids, stabilisers, and their overall complexity. Consider RTS (ready to shoot) or RTH (ready to hunt) packages. These are advantageous for beginners as they often include 3 arrows, sight, quiver, and release aid. It is imperative that the bow feels comfortable, and the poundage is manageable.
- Talk with other members or coaches/instructors regarding their equipment. They will advise you of suitable options and of the pitfalls in purchasing with limited knowledge.

9.2 HOW MUCH SHOULD I SPEND ON EQUIPMENT?

- Spend only what is within your budget. Remember, quality correlates to price. Prices will vary depending on the components from which the equipment is made. For instance, wooden/fibreglass limbs are less expensive than full carbon fibre ones. Wooden recurves are typically more affordable than carbon ones. Speak to an Instructor about the suitable equipment. Do not buy off eBay. It may not comply with club requirements.

9.3 IF I HAVE MY OWN EQUIPMENT, WHAT NEXT?

- Please bring your equipment for a safety check, including any new equipment. Ensure that your arrows (*excluding wooden arrows*) have a clear and appropriate spine rating marked on them corresponding to your bow. Arrows without spine rating are prohibited from use at the club.

9.4 WHERE CAN I BUY ARCHERY EQUIPMENT?

- There are many local and online stores. While we don't recommend specific ones, coaches, instructors, and club members can share their personal experience.

These are just a few companies that our members have dealt with. Always remember if you have any questions that need answering, you can speak to any of the instructors/coaches. They are more than happy to make your purchase easier.

ARCHERY SUPPLIERS

Grange Bowmen Inc provides this information as a guide only.

Abbey Archery www.abbeyarchery.com.au 4/32 Spine St, Sumner Park (07) 3279 6400	Apex Hunting www.apexhunting.com.au 2/178 Redland Bay Rd, Capalaba Ph:300 883 770
Archery Bug 0499 599 088 archerybug.com.au	Daryl Reeks Archery archersbay.com (07) 3282 2066 42 Brisbane Rd, Dinmore

Contacts

General Information

info@grangebowmen.com.au

Member Representative

member@grangebowmen.com.au

Membership Officer

bookings@grangebowmen.com.au

Club Phone Number

Phone 07 3264 4537

(Available only on Saturday and Sunday)

(If you have any further questions, please contact Membership Officer)

Remember, if in doubt about anything, please feel free to ask.

