



**2026 MARYLAND 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS
STATE 4-H ARCHERY MATCH**
Saturday, September 26, 2026
Westminster, MD

Match Location: Carroll County Agriculture Center
706 Agricultural Drive, Westminster MD

Match Times: All participants should arrive by 8:00 am

- 8:00-8:30 am – Check-In & Equipment Inspections
- Safety Briefing & Event Orientation
- 9:30 am – Competition Begins

First Rotation

- Seniors – FITA
- Juniors & Intermediates – 3-D

LUNCH BREAK

Age divisions will break for lunch when their first rotation is complete

Second Rotation

- Seniors – 3-D
- Juniors – FITA

Third Rotation

- Intermediates – FITA

- Awards Presentation will follow the completion of the contest. Times will vary based on the number of participants.

Match Rules: See Attached.

Eligibility: This contest is open to 4-H youth members who have an approved enrollment before July 1, 2026 and are enrolled one of the following 4-H Shooting Sports projects:

- Shooting Sports - Archery
- Shooting Sports – General

4-H members who are not enrolled in one of these Shooting Sports projects may not compete.

Each 4-H youth contestant may participate in ONE of the following matches:

- Recurve Bow
- Compound Bow

Eligible 4-H members must be recommended by their Shooting Sports Instructor as having sufficient proficiency at Archery to safely compete in this contest at the distances listed. 4-H youth member registrations must be approved by the local 4-H Educator before they will be forwarded to the State 4-H Office.

Accommodation: Participants that need special assistance/exception for participation in this contest may request accommodation. Indicate the requested accommodation when registering for the event in 4-H Online.

Age Divisions:	Age divisions are based on the 4-Her's age on January 1, 2026 (4-H age): • Junior: 8-10 • Intermediate: 11-13 • Senior: 14-18
Coaches:	Each 4-H county/city program must register at least one adult Coach. Coaches must be certified UME 4-H Volunteers and certified Shooting Sports Instructors.
Matches:	Youth may enter ONE of the following disciplines: • Recurve Bow • Compound Bow Both disciplines will shoot the same events.
Equipment:	Each youth contestant must bring their own bows, arrows, and safety equipment. No equipment will be available for loan. Equipment will be checked during registration. Each archer's equipment must be marked with their name, initials or other insignia/cresting that will permit positive identification. There will be limited time for recovering lost arrows.
Equipment Standards:	<u>Recurve Bow</u> – Single-pin adjustable sight, clicker, kissers button, and torque compensators are permitted. String peep and mechanical release aid are not permitted. <u>Compound Bow</u> – Release aids, string peeps, optical sights, and spirit levels are permitted. Overdraws may not place the arrow rest further than 6 cm from the pivot point of the bow. Maximum draw weight is 60 lbs. Compound bows (including Genesis bows) must have a sight. <u>Arrows</u> – Arrows must meet AMO minimum weight standard of 5 grains arrow weight per pound bow peak draw weight. Arrows 27/64ths or larger in diameter are not permitted. Archers will be required to have arrow lube. Archers should bring their own arrow puller or grip.
Awards:	Medals will be presented to the First, Second, and Third Place archers in each age division and discipline. Top Senior 4-H archers are eligible to compete for a spot on the Maryland 4-H Archery Team, which may compete at the National 4-H Shooting Sports contest in June 2027.
Registration & Fees:	All youth participants and adult volunteer coaches must register for this event via 4-H Online. Registration closes at 11:59 pm on Friday, September 18, 2026. An entry fee of \$20.00 per youth participant will be charged. The entry fee is payable by credit card through 4-H Online or may be paid by the county/city 4-H program. Local 4-H programs should instruct youth participants what payment method to choose when registering.
Lunch:	Lunch WILL NOT be provided. Contestants and Coaches should bring their own lunches. There will not be time to leave the contest to get lunch.

Match Information & Rules

Participant Preparation: Youth participants must be adequately skilled and prepared to safely shoot the distances and events for their age division. Youth should be able to hit arrows in the target butt at their longest distance. 4-H Educators are responsible to verify with each youth's 4-H Archery Shooting Sports Instructor that the youth is capable of safely participating before their contest entry is approved.

Rules: National 4-H Shooting Sports Project & Contest Rules will be followed unless otherwise noted.

Range Finders Are Not Permitted. This rule applies to contestants, coaches, and spectators.

Targets: 60 cm, 80 cm, and 122 cm targets will be provided by the State 4-H Shooting Sports program.

Ranges: Contest ranges will be modified FITA and 3-D ranges, with a variety of shooting distances on both courses.

Coaching: Communication is not allowed between parents or coaches and contestants on the range unless permission is given by the range officer.

Performance:

“Sky Drawing” is prohibited: Archers may not draw at an angle significantly above the line of sight to the target. Sky drawing is a symptom of being grossly over-bowed, which can lead to form faults and potential injury. Archers who sky-draw will be given one warning. A second occurrence will result in disqualification.

Lost arrows: Lost arrow search will be limited to 2 minutes. Archers should have adequate arrows to continue to the event after a 2-minute search. Archers will be allowed to search for arrows after conclusion of the event.

Equipment Failure: If a contestant experiences a bow equipment failure while shooting, the match will continue. The contestant may be allowed to make up missed shots at the end of shooting, at discretion of the match director.

Match Events: Recurve and compound archery are different competitions but will shoot the same events. Even though the governing bodies for the events have slightly different requirements or restrictions, this 4-H match will use one standard for equipment, for all events. Procedural rules, course of fire, scoring, etc. will follow national governing body rules unless otherwise noted.

All contestants will shoot both modified FITA and 3-D Target events in their age and bow divisions.

FITA EVENT

Age Division	Total # Arrows	Flights/Arrows	Distance	Target	Time Limit
Junior (ages 8-10)	36	3 flights of 3 arrows	7 meters	60 cm	Modified FITA 2.5 minutes per 3-arrow end
		3 flights of 3 arrows	10 meters	60 cm	
		3 flights of 3 arrows	12 meters	60 cm	
		3 flights of 3 arrows	15 meters	60 cm	
Intermediate (ages 11-13)	36	3 flights of 3 arrows	30 meters	80 cm	Modified FITA 2.5 minutes per 3-arrow end
		3 flights of 3 arrows	24 meters	80 cm	
		3 flights of 3 arrows	20 meters	80 cm	
		3 flights of 3 arrows	10 meters	80 cm	
Senior (ages 14-18)	72	3 flights of 6 arrows	60 meters	122 cm	Modified FITA 2.5 minutes per 3-arrow end
		3 flights of 6 arrows	50 meters	122 cm	
		3 flights of 6 arrows	40 meters	80 cm	
		3 flights of 6 arrows	30 meters	80 cm	

3-D EVENT

Age Division	Start Stakes	# 3-D Targets	Distances	Scoring	Time Limit
Junior (ages 8-10)	All Juniors will shoot from the Recurve stake	10	5 - 30 yards	10 ring = 10 points Outer ring = 8 points Body = 5 points	All archers will move through the course expeditiously, avoiding delays.
Intermediate (ages 11-13)	Recurve (max 40 yards) Compound (max 50 yards)	10	5 - 35 yards	10 ring = 10 points Outer ring = 8 points Body = 5 points	
Senior (ages 14-18)	Recurve (max 40 yards) Compound (max 50 yards)	10	5 - 50 yards	10 ring = 10 points Outer ring = 8 points Body = 5 points	

DIRECTIONS TO STATE 4-H ARCHERY CONTEST

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Arrive by 8:00 am – Check-In begins at 8:00 am – Matches begin at 9:00 am

**Carroll County Agriculture Center
706 Agricultural Drive
Westminster, MD**

From the North: (Directions given from Hanover, PA to the Ag Center) Take Rt. 94 South (becomes MD Rt. 30 at the state line). Follow 30 to Manchester and turn right on Rt. 27. Follow Rt. 27 to Rt. 140 East (in Westminster). Turn left onto the ramp to 140 East and travel to the first traffic light. Turn right onto Center Street. Take Center Street through two traffic lights to Gist Road. Turn right on Gist Road and follow signs to the new entrance. Turn right onto the new Ag Center drive.

From the South: Take Interstate 270 North to Rt. 27. Follow Rt. 27 to Kate Wagner Road. (Kate Wagner Road intersects Rt. 27 before you reach the city of Westminster) Make a right onto Kate Wagner Road (which intersects Rt. 27 at a traffic light) and follow approximately 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Gist Road. Continue on Gist Road until you reach Smith Ave at the stop sign. Continue on Gist Road about 1/2 block and make a left at the new Ag Center entrance.

From the East: From Baltimore Beltway 695, take Interstate 795 north toward Westminster. Follow the signs onto MD 140 and take 140 into Westminster. Turn left onto Center Street. Take Center Street through two traffic lights to Gist Road. Turn right on Gist Road and follow signs to the new entrance. turn right onto the new Ag Center drive.

From the West: Take I-70 East to Mt. Airy/Route 27 Exit. Head North on Rt. 27 toward Westminster for approximately 15 miles. Make a right onto Kate Wagner Road (which intersects Rt. 27 at a traffic light) and follow approximately 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Gist Road. Continue on Gist Road until you reach Smith Ave at the stop sign. Continue on Gist Road about 1/2 block and make a left at the new Ag Center entrance.