

Missile Combat Changes, Updates and Notices

This appendix is used to communicate new changes in the Missile Combat Handbook, so you can always be aware of the latest information.

July 4th, 2003

Armor Rule Change

All participants on the field during armored (heavy weapons) combat shall meet the Society minimum armor standards for a fully armored, heavy weapons combatant. This includes but is not limited to combat archers, scouts, siege engineers and other combatants who may have in the past used "light" armor allowed under the Missile Weapon equipment standards. It would not include marshals, water bearers or churgeons.

These standards can be found in the marshals handbook or online, on the Society Marshal's website here:

http://www.sca.org/officers/marshal/combat/armored/armor_standards.pdf

The only exception to this rule shall be those missile combatants equipped with the "Archers Gauntlet" All missile combatants may wear an archers gauntlet on both hands. Full hand protection is recommended for an archer's bow hand, and whenever conditions place the hand holding a throwing weapon at risk of being struck. The "Archer's Gauntlet" shall be a minimum of an ice hockey glove with the fingers cut off, so that the back of the hand and the wrist are protected. Other gauntlets such as demi-gauntlets may be used in place of the "Archers Gauntlet" described above, so long as they provide equivalent or greater protection.

Participants have a maximum of 18 months to upgrade their helms to 16 gauge or better, if they need to do so. That change will be effective (January 1st, 2005)

All participants will have a maximum of 6 months to upgrade any other armor that they need to fit the Society standards. That change will be effective (January 1st, 2004)

This ruling applies to all combatants' currently using full or non-contact archer/missile combatant armor or non-contact scout armor during heavy/armored combat.

This rule change will replace the non-contact armor rules in the marshals handbook and missile user light armor standards in the missile combat handbook.

In effect this means that participants:

1. That had 18 gauge helms now need to get a 16 gauge (or better)
- The minimum armor for all participants is:
2. Neck Armor:
 3. Kidney protection.
 4. Groin protection.
 5. Hand and Wrist Armor: A minimum of 2 Archers gauntlets.

6. Rigid knee and elbow protection.
- b. All individuals will wear sturdy footwear while engaged in combat activities.

Please check the society standards for specifications on what is allowed or not.

April 20th, 2003

Due to problems and concerns with combat archery blunts partially penetrating helms 1/2" or more the following rule will be effective April 20th, 2003:

Any domed CA blunt MUST reach a minimum 1" in diameter at 1/4" distance from the tip of the blunt. All blunts must be the full 1 1/4" diameter at a maximum distance of 1/2" from the tip. The Baldar Egg blunts will not be legal on the combat field without approved modification to increase the front diameter of the blunt.

Any modifications developed for these blunts must be tested using the following three tests:

1. Cram Test
2. Drop Test
3. Shot into the faceplate of a helm test.

The results of these tests must be sent to your Kingdom Earl Marshal and/or Kingdom Combat Archery Marshal and the Deputy Society Marshal for Combat Archery for final approval.

August 3rd, 2002

I've received reports about problems with the following types of fiberglass. I strongly recommend NOT buying fiberglass shafts (for arrows or bolts) from the following places:

1. "Generic" rod sold by Gene Bolton Sales
2. Rod from Tencom Ltd
3. MSC Direct (an on-line and direct supplier with nationwide outlets). We do not yet know the manufacturer of the rod MSC sells, but we are working on it.

I recommend the following types of fiberglass:

1. "Extren" brand of rod manufactured by the Strongwell Corp.
<http://www.strongwell.com>. Anyone can call the Strongwell Corp Sales Dept at 276-645-8000 and get the name of vendors close to them.
2. Maclean fiberglass rod manufacture by Maclean-Fogg. One place to purchase this is Northstar Archery <http://www.northstararchery.com>, which sells cut to length shafts made from Maclean fiberglass rod.

Normally, I wouldn't recommend a particular supplier/vendor. However, in this case, I feel I need to let people know where to get good fiberglass rods (that is good for how we use it).

Our testing has shown that the Extren 500 rod and Maclean fiberglass rod is much safer and stronger. When we have tested and found more (safe) acceptable brands

of fiberglass, I will add them to this list. If there are any questions, please direct them to me. We are looking further into this problem.

August 1st, 2001

The Society Earl Marshal has ruled that all shafted combat arrows are required to have an "approved" APD. This ruling went into effect on August 1st, 2001. Please visit <http://www.sca.org/officers/marshal/combat/archery/> for more information

August 1st, 2001

Rule change:

On page 10 in the missile combat rules, under golf tube construction, it says: "Maximum allowable arrow draw length (bottom of the nock slot to just behind the blunt) is 28 inches."

That has been changed to this: "Maximum allowable arrow draw length (bottom of the nock slot to just behind the blunt) is 33 inches."

The maximum arrow length has ONLY been changed for Golf Tube arrows. Wood, fiberglass and Siloflex still have a maximum length of 28".

July 25th, 2001

Siloflex Arrows and bolts

Requirements:

Siloflex Combat Arrows and bolts shall be constructed by using 100 psi Siloflex or an approved equivalent with a 1" minimum inner diameter and attaching a tennis ball, baldar blunt or a Rubber stopper (size 6.5) with a minimum of a 1/2" of resilient padding added on top. These blunts must be attached in a secure manner. Additionally, Rubber stopper blunts and tennis balls must be secured in the same manner as tennis balls on golf tube arrows, see the missile combat rules for more details.

The maximum length of a Siloflex arrow is 28", from the base of the blunt to the bottom of the nock slot. If there is a nock cut into the end of the arrow/bolt, that nock cannot be deeper than .5", to reduce the likelihood of a helm penetration. Arrows and bolts are the same design; crossbow bolts are shorter and may or may not have a nock.

Siloflex arrows and bolts may be gleaned and re-inspected on the field by the archer and then reused.