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# World Archery membership insights – 2024/2025

Cecilia Viscarra Moser / 26 September 2025

## Introduction

This report on World Archery membership insights – 2024/2025 was authored by Cecilia Viscarra Moser with valuable contribution from Gummi Gudjonsson, president of World Archery Iceland. It was published on 26 September 2025.

## Version

This document is produced by the member services department of World Archery and checked by its communications department. It was first published in 2025.

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## 1. Presentation

World Archery has five continental associations dedicated to growing archery in their respective regions, as well as 165 national member associations worldwide responsible for administering the sport at a local level.

In 2024/2025, a survey was conducted among national member associations to assess the application of good governance principles, levels of activity and key challenges.

The analysis is structured into six key areas:

- Membership
- National championships and national teams
- Governance and organisation
- Development
- Para archery
- Fair play

Gender is a cross-cutting theme addressed within each area.

The purpose of this report is to support the planning of development programmes and to monitor compliance with World Archery's constitution, which requires members to remain active. As defined in the World Archery rulebook, article [1.4.2.4.1](#), being an active member means:

- Organising a national championship in target archery at least once every Olympiad in both genders;
- Having a minimum of 30 registered/member athletes. For countries with a population of less than one million, or where archery started in the last Olympiad, this minimum is 10. For countries with a population of less than 200,000, the minimum is five;
- Reporting to World Archery every four years on the activities of their member association;
- Having anti-doping rules in compliance with the World Archery Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code;
- Being a member in good standing and implementing good governance practices.

## 2. Methodology

A total of 161 out of 165 member associations responded to the online survey, representing a 98% response rate. Data collection took place from November 2024 to mid-2025, with analysis completed in the first half of 2025. The Member Services Department verified most responses with participants.

The majority of quantitative data in this report refer to 2024. Some figures – such as the number of archers, gender of presidents and secretary generals, and social media metrics – were sourced from the World Archery extranet. Where relevant, results are compared with data from a similar survey conducted in 2017.

A summary of the findings was presented at the 2025 Congress in Gwangju, Korea, where valuable feedback was received. **Table 1** provides an overview of member association participation in the survey.

**Table 1. Respondents per size and continent**

Number of archers	Africa	Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Total MA	Total answers	Answer rate %
More than 64 000				FRA, GER		2	2	100%
32 001 - 64 000				TUR		1	1	100%
16 001 - 32 000		USA		ESP, GBR, ITA, RUS, AUT		6	6	100%
8 001 - 16 000			IRI, JPN,	NED, SWE		4	4	100%
4 001 - 8 000		CAN	CHN, HKG	SUI	AUS	5	5	100%
2 001 - 4 000		ARG	IND, KOR	NOR, BEL, CZE, DEN, FIN, UKR		9	9	100%
1 001 - 2 000			BAN, MAS, PRK, TPE	CRO, GRE, HUN, IRL, ISL, POL, SLO		11	11	100%
501 - 1 000	MAR, RSA	BRA, MEX	INA, PAK, SRI	CYP, EST, POR, SRB, SVK		12	11	92%
251 - 500	ALG, CIV, EGY	CHI, COL, PER	KAZ, KSA, KUW, PHI, SGP, THA, UAE	BLR, BUL, ISR, KOS, LUX, ROU	NZL	20	20	100%
250 and fewer	BEN, CHA, CMR, COD, COM, DJI, GUI, KEN, LBA, LES, MAD, MAW, MLI, MRI, MTN, NAM, NGR, NIG, SEN, SLE, SOM, SUD, TOG, TUN, UGA, ZIM	BAH, BAR, BER, BOL, CRC, CUB, CUW, DOM, ECU, ESA, FLK, GUA, GUY, HON, ISV, IVB, JAM, PAN, PAJ, PUR, TTO, URU, VEN, VIN	AFG, BHU, BRN, IRQ, JOR, KGZ, LAO, LBN, MAC, MGL, MYA, NEP, PLE, QAT, THA, TJK, TKM, TLS, UZB, VIE, YEM	AND, ARM, AZE, FRO, GEO, LAT, LIE, LTU, MDA, MKD, MLT, MGN, SMR	COK, FIJ, FPO, NIU, NRK, PLW, PNG, SAM, SOL, TGA, VAN	95	87	92%
<b>Total MA</b>		31	32	41	48	13	165	156
<b>Total answers</b>		29	32	41	47	12	161	
<b>Answer rate %</b>		94%	100%	100%	98%	92%	98%	

Legend: Incomplete answers / Not answered

### 3. Executive summary – Main findings

#### 3.1 Membership

There has been a significant increase in the total number of national federations (10% growth in ten years) and the number of archers associated with these federations, rising from 374,000 in 2014 to approximately 514,000 in 2024, representing a 37% increase. This growth occurred despite the negative impact of the pandemic on sports worldwide. A factor contributing to archery's global popularity is its strong digital presence, with high numbers of impressions and video views on social media platforms.

Europe has the largest community of archers among World Archery continental associations, with around 392,500 athletes across 48 national federations. Asia follows with approximately 65,400 archers across 41 members. The main difference between the two continents is that Asian member associations are often based on regional or professional teams, while European federations are mostly organised through club systems.

When considering the number of archers relative to a country's population, smaller nations rank highest, such as Niue, the Falkland Islands, Palau and San Marino, with five archers per 1000 inhabitants. Other more populous nations with a high proportion of archers include Austria, France, Hong Kong, Sweden, Germany and Türkiye. Countries with the lowest number of archers are Sudan, Myanmar, Lesotho, Niger and Nigeria.

Women and girls represent only 36% of national federation athletes, indicating a significant gender gap. Men over 18 years old constitute the largest group of archers worldwide (49%).

Membership is mainly composed of clubs (81%), with regional associations (57%) and individual archers (47%) also playing a significant role.

### 3.2 National championships and teams

The majority of member associations hold separate target archery national championships for indoor and outdoor disciplines (80%), and for both recurve and compound divisions (73%), with youth classes included separately (70%). Most federations hold outdoor national championships annually (88%), with Europe reporting 100%. Indoor championships are held yearly by 66% of member associations, again with Europe at 100%.

For both men and women, the majority of archers competing at national championships (on average 70%) are in the senior category (22-49 years old).

A majority of member associations (62%) assign national team members through a clear system based on results or ranking. However, only 38% have a contract with each team member outlining the conditions for remaining on the team.

Most federations (88%) keep track of national records, although only 42% publish them online.

### 3.3 Governance and organisation

Most federations hold general assemblies regularly (90% annually). These assemblies typically involve voting on constitutional changes (89%), confirming reports, and electing board members (86%).

Minutes of general assemblies are more frequently shared internally with members (55%) than made publicly available online (26%). There has been an improvement in publishing constitutions online, with 42% doing so in 2024 compared with 39% in 2017.

The structure of member associations mainly includes an elected president (93%) and executive board members (90%), along with an appointed head coach (70%). A large majority of presidents (90%) and board members (95%) are unpaid.

The representation of women in key positions remains low, although there has been slight progress in the percentage of women presidents (17% in 2024 versus 15% in 2017) and board members (28%). The percentage of women secretary generals (34%) has not changed since 2017. The application of gender quotas in elections has increased slightly, from 15% in 2017 to 19% in 2024.

### 3.4 Development

Half of national federations reported slight progress in the development of archery in their countries over the past Olympiad, while a significant 32% reported substantial progress. Only 3% indicated a significant decline.

The most popular development actions are using social media for promotion (83%) and organising promotional events (77%).

Thirty-four percent of member associations allocate up to 10% of their total budget to development, while only 13% allocate 50-100%. This represents a decrease from 2017, when 34% allocated half or more of their budget to development.

The areas where members need the most assistance or advice include coaching (69%), equipment (62%), and funding and judge education (60%). Most federations (74%) operate under a strategic plan. A high percentage of member associations (96%) are members of their National Olympic Committee (NOC) and consider that the NOC provides adequate support for development.

### 3.5 Para archery

Para archery is predominantly governed by national archery federations (61%), rather than National Paralympic Committees (17%) or dedicated para archery federations (15%), reflecting its historical integration with able-bodied archery and World Archery's unified governance model. Most federations (74%) report having para archers, with regional participation ranging from 60% in Oceania to 83% in Europe.

Key challenges for participating in para archery competitions include athletes not yet reaching competitive levels (23%), high travel costs (21%) and limited access to adapted equipment (10%). Para archery national championships occur annually in only 33% of nations; other federations do not organise tournaments for para archery.

### 3.6 Fair play

World Archery maintains a zero-tolerance stance on cheating and emphasises safeguarding. Almost all federations (95%) accept or include an Anti-Doping Code in their rules, but over half of national federations lack formal safeguarding policies. While 74% report no safeguarding cases in recent years, this likely reflects underreporting and insufficient mechanisms rather than the absence of issues. Only 49% of federations have specific safeguarding policies, often relying on national systems instead.

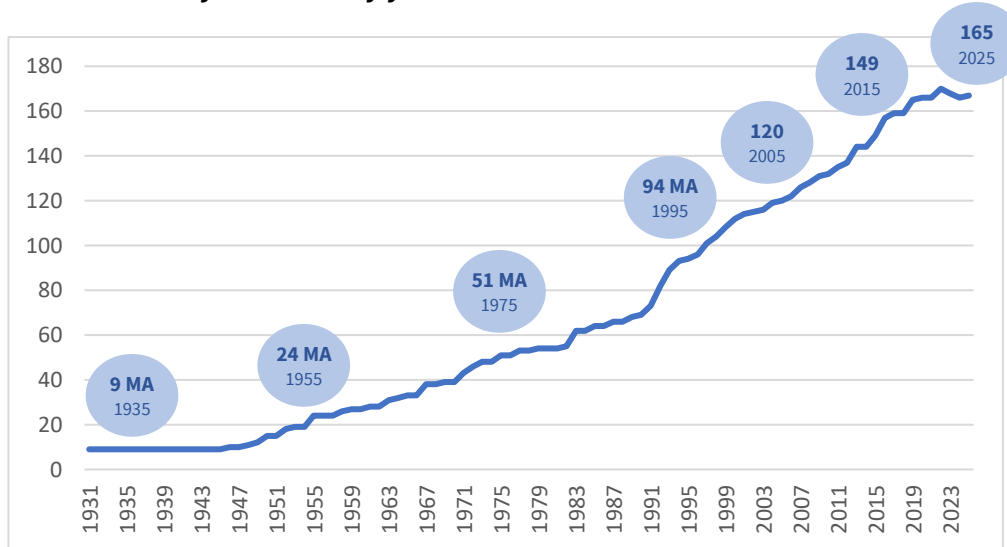
Regarding sustainability, only 20% of federations have active policies, while 55% have none. Many cite ongoing work, lack of priority, or assumptions that sustainability practices are already in place informally. This highlights a significant gap between sustainability intentions and concrete actions across the sport.

Archery is recognised for inclusivity, yet only 21% of federations have operational “sport for all” strategies. Despite this, nearly 70% engage in practical initiatives promoting participation among diverse and underrepresented groups. World Archery Iceland exemplifies best practice by embedding inclusivity into daily operations, with non-discrimination and adapted rules to welcome all athletes.

## 4. Membership

Before explaining the structure of national federations' membership, it is important to understand the evolution of World Archery membership. The total number of member associations has gradually increased since the organisation's inception and has remained stable over the past few decades, as shown in **Chart 1**. In 2015, World Archery had 149 affiliated national federations, rising to 165 members by September 2025 – an 11% increase.

**Chart 1. World Archery members by year 1931-2025**



Source: World Archery member services archives

Through the World Archery 2024/2025 questionnaire, information was collected from member associations regarding their membership composition, including the types and number of affiliated members. Data on the total number of archers is taken from the World Archery extranet for all 165 member associations.

#### 4.1 Archers associated with national federations

The total number of archers in national federations is reported for all archery disciplines and divisions, including archers in affiliated clubs who may not be direct members of the federation. The source of this information is the World Archery extranet for all 165 member associations.

**Table 2** shows significant growth in the number of archers between 2014 and 2024, despite the pandemic negatively affecting sports worldwide. National federations' membership has grown from 374,000 in 2014 (144 national federations) to approximately 513,000 archers in 2024 (167 member associations), representing a 37% increase.

Europe has shown the largest absolute increase, with 106,000 more archers than in 2014, followed by Asia (16,000) and the Americas (12,400). In percentage terms, countries with the highest membership growth over the last decade include Somalia in Africa, Papua New Guinea in Oceania, Saudi Arabia in Asia, Türkiye in Europe and Costa Rica in the Americas.

**Table 2. Number of archers by continent, 2014-2024**

Year	2014	2017	2020	2021	2023	2024	Growth in absolute numb.	Growth in percentage
Europe	285 700	351 700	352 000	352 000	366 300	392 500	106 800	37%
Asia	49 400	53 000	53 000	50 400	59 700	65 400	16 000	32%
Americas	28 500	39 400	39 400	39 400	39 000	41 000	12 500	44%
Africa	3 400	5 400	5 400	5 400	5 700	5 200	1 800	53%
Oceania	7 500	8 500	8 500	8 500	8 400	9 400	1 900	25%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>374 500</b>	<b>458 000</b>	<b>458 300</b>	<b>455 700</b>	<b>479 100</b>	<b>513 500</b>	<b>139 000</b>	<b>37%</b>

Source: Historic data gathered for calculation of membership fees, World Archery member services department

This 37% global growth is likely due to multiple factors, including Olympic exposure, global promotion by World Archery and national federations, and the integration of archery in schools and youth programmes, such as the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) in the USA, initiated in 2002. Archery has transformed from a niche activity into a widely accessible and admired sport with strong global momentum.

Archery’s strong digital presence further contributes to its global popularity, with high numbers of impressions and video views on social media platforms. In 2024, World Archery and its member associations reached [1.3 million total followers](#) across major platforms, a 10% increase from the previous year.

Over the past decade, Europe has had the largest archery community, with 48 national federations accounting for around 392,500 archers. This far surpasses other regions: Asia with 65,400 archers across 41 member associations; the Americas with 41,000 archers in 32 national federations; Oceania with 9,400 archers across 13 associations; and Africa with 5,200 archers among 31 member federations. The significant gap between Europe and Asia is largely due to differences in membership structure.

**Table 3. Countries with the highest number of archers per capita (top 50) by continent, 2024**

Ranking	Country	Archers per capita (1 / 1 million)	Ranking	Country	Archers per capita (1 / 1 million)
<b>AFRICA</b>			<b>EUROPE</b>		
46	Mauritius	197	4	San Marino	4258
<b>AMERICAS</b>			6	Iceland	2702
2	Falkland Islands	5764	7	Austria	1763
16	Virgin Islands	707	8	Monaco	1553
31	Bahamas	429	9	France	1275
34	Bermuda	371	<b>OCEANIA</b>		
36	St Vincent and Grenadines	328	1	Niue	6047
<b>ASIA</b>			3	Palau	5651
10	Hong Kong	1079	5	Norfolk Islands	3199
37	Macao	317	30	Cook Islands	437
48	Islamic Republic of Iran	169	32	Tonga	374

Source: Annex 1; data from World Archery extranet for 165 national federations and [UNCTADstat](#)

In Europe, most archers belong to clubs directly affiliated with national federations. Joining a club automatically makes an individual part of the national archery community. These clubs welcome both recreational and competitive archers, are usually funded through membership fees and local government subsidies, and are often run by volunteers. Regional or high-level teams exist but form the second tier of the system.

In contrast, Asia uses a professional or regional team-based model. Archers are usually part of selective teams that may only include high-level athletes. These teams are often funded by governments, regions, or private companies. Unlike the European club model, general participation is limited, as there are fewer opportunities for amateur or recreational archers to be officially counted.

**Table 3** presents few member associations by continent that are in the top 50 of highest number of archers relative to their population. The full list can be found in the appendix.

Countries with the highest proportion of archers tend to be small nations and islands, along with a few European countries, as well as Canada and New Zealand. Notably, Niue, the Falkland Islands, Palau and San Marino each have around five archers per 1000 inhabitants. Among larger countries, Austria, France, Hong Kong, Sweden, Germany and Türkiye have a relatively high number of archers per capita. Countries with the lowest proportion of archers include Sudan, Nigeria, Niger, Lesotho and Myanmar.

## 4.2 Archers by gender and age group

The member associations questionnaire collected disaggregated data on archers by gender and age group to identify gaps and plan corrective actions.

**Table 4** shows that girls under 18 (12%) and women over 18 (24%) together represent around one third of total archers, highlighting the ongoing gender gap. Men over 18 constitute 49% of the global archery community, and boys represent 14%, meaning the overall balance is 36% women and 64% men, indicating that imbalance in gender and age groups persist.

A small number of archers (116; 0.02%) are recognised by their national federations as ‘other gender’, meaning non-binary or preferring not to disclose their sex.

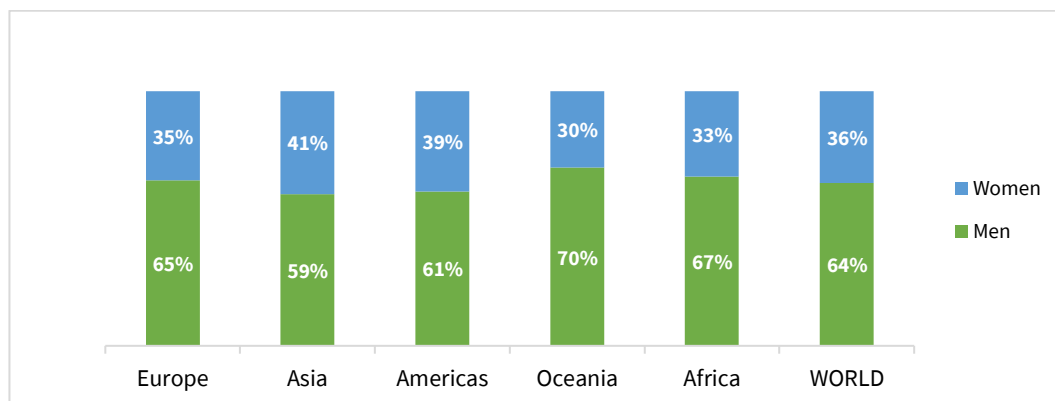
**Table 4. Number of members by continent, gender and age group, 2024/2025**

Archers	Women U18	Men U18	Women over 18	Men over 18	Other gender	Total Women	Total Men	Total Archers
Europe	39 300	47 500	97 800	206 400	83	137 100	253 900	391 083
Asia	12 000	16 500	14 700	22 700	-	26 700	39 200	65 900
Americas	6 500	7 800	9 800	17 200	11	16 300	25 000	41 311
Oceania	700	1 400	2 200	5 300	10	2 900	6 700	9 610
Africa	1 000	1 200	900	2 600	12	1 900	3 800	5 712
<b>Total</b>	<b>59 500</b>	<b>74 400</b>	<b>125 400</b>	<b>254 200</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>184 900</b>	<b>328 600</b>	<b>513 616</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>0,02%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025 and World Archery extranet for 165 federations

At the continental level, the gender gap is widest in Oceania (30% women/70% men), followed by Africa (33%/67%) and Europe (35%/65%). The Americas and Asia are above the global mean (60% men/40% women), as shown in **Chart 2**.

**Chart 2. Percentage of women and men archers by continent, 2024/2025**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Armenia, Bahamas, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Curaçao, Georgia, Jordan, Laos, Qatar, Uganda, Uzbekistan, and Virgin Islands US have reported more women than men archers (55-58% women), and Benin, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova have between 64-69% of women archers.

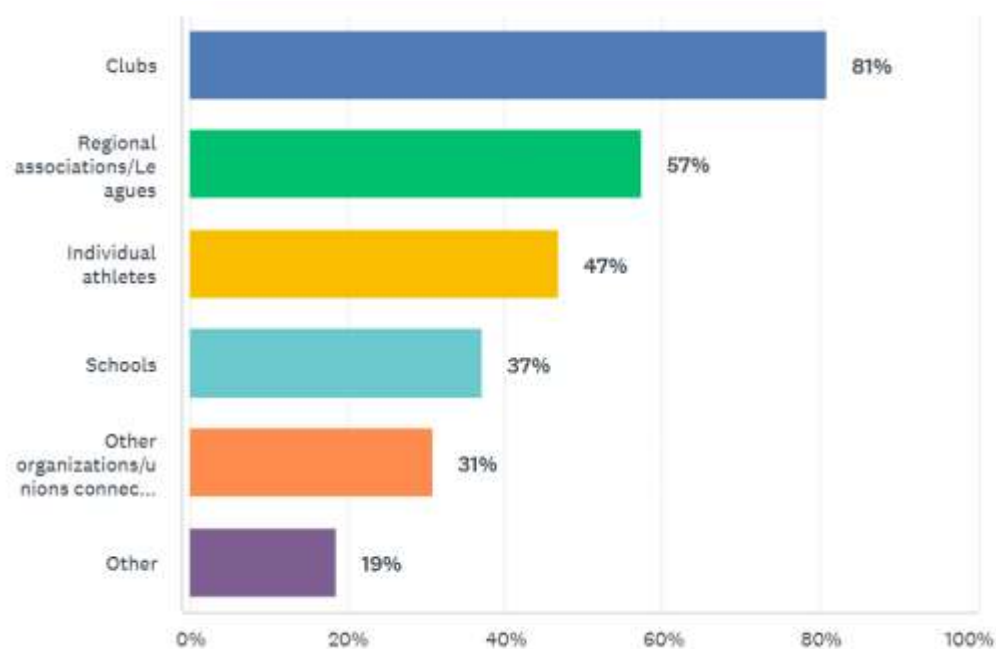
Countries reporting more women than men (55-58%) include Armenia, Bahamas, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Curaçao, Georgia, Jordan, Laos, Qatar, Uganda, Uzbekistan, while US Virgin Islands. Benin, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova report 64-69% women archers.

### 4.3 Type of membership and benefits

**Chart 3** shows that national federation membership is primarily composed of clubs (81%), slightly down from 85% in 2017. Other member types include regional associations (57%) and individual archers (47%). Only 37% of federations affiliate schools, while 31% include other organisations such as universities, military or police forces, or sponsors. Overall, there have been no significant changes since 2017.

Asia has the highest proportion of regional associations (68%) compared to Europe (36%). Other continents are mainly club-based, with Africa and Oceania often including individual archers as members.

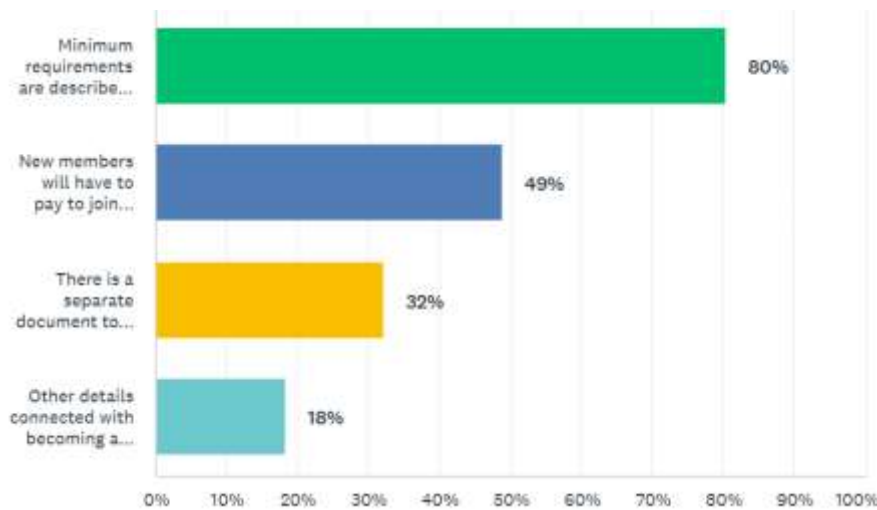
**Chart 3. National federation's membership**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Regarding membership procedures, 80% of federations describe minimum membership requirements in their constitutions. About 49% require a fee to join, and only 32% have a separate document detailing membership requirements and procedures. Very few federations (29 of 161; 18%) maintain a document with full details on becoming a member.

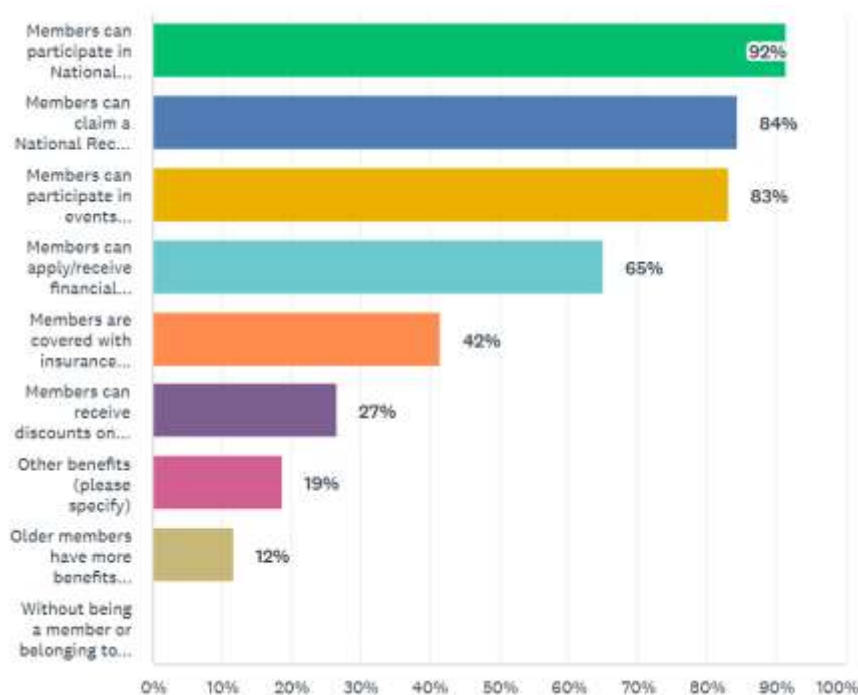
**Chart 4. Aspects related to affiliation**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Common benefits offered to members include participation in national championships (92%), the possibility to claim national records (84%), access to courses and conferences (83%), and eligibility to apply for financial support for development activities such as youth programmes, coaching, or judging. These figures have remained largely unchanged since 2017.

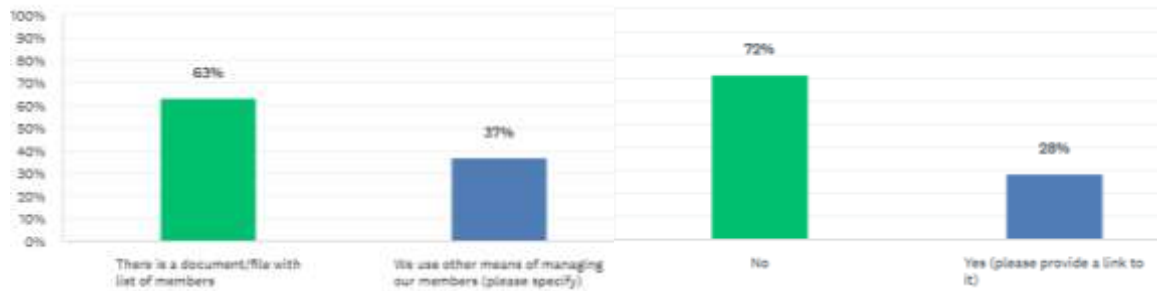
**Chart 5. Benefits offered to members**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

While 63% of federations maintain a document or file listing members, only 28% publish these lists online, a notably low figure. Some federations consider publishing member lists irrelevant, although doing so would significantly enhance transparency, a key pillar of good governance in sport organisations.

**Chart 6. List and publication of membership**



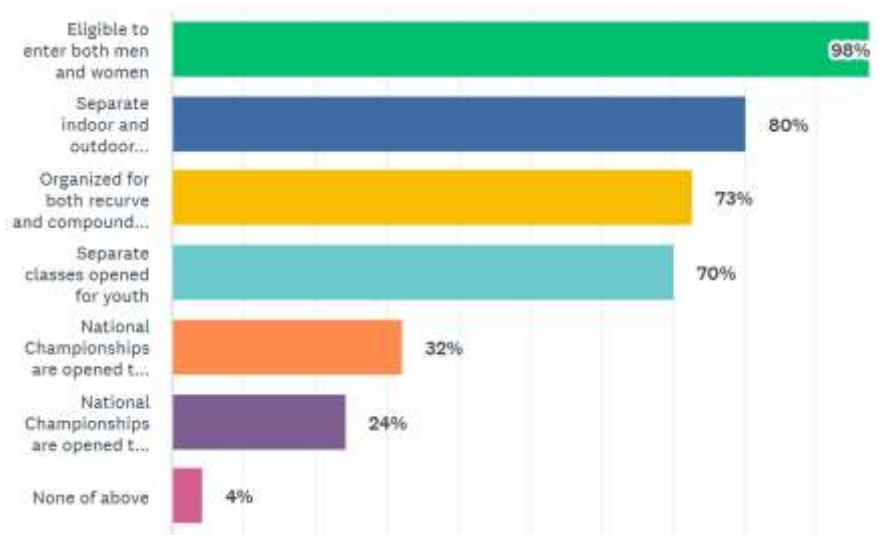
Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

## 5. National championships and teams

### 5.1 Target archery national championships

The main characteristics of target archery national championships organised by member federations are shown in **Chart 7**. These championships are open to both men and women, with one exception: Afghanistan. Most are held separately for indoor and outdoor competitions (80%), organised for both recurve and compound divisions (73%), and include youth categories (70%). Only 32% of member associations allow archers from other federations or nationalities to compete. These figures are consistent across continents and show little change compared to 2017.

**Chart 7. Target archery national championships**



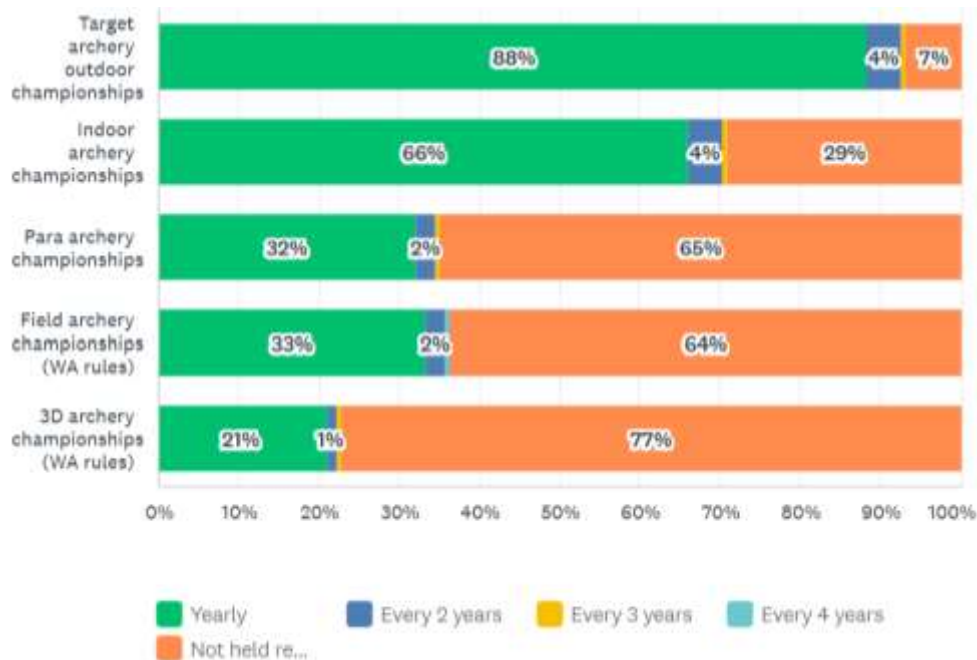
Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Outdoor target archery national championships are held yearly by most federations (88%), though this varies by continent: in Europe, 100% of federations organise them annually, while in Oceania only half do so. Indoor target archery championships are held yearly by 66% of federations – 100% in Europe, 38% in Africa and 30% in Oceania. These figures are similar to 2017.

Other archery disciplines are less regularly organised. Para archery national championships are held yearly by only 33% of federations: 18 in Europe, 11 in Asia, eight in the Americas, six in Africa

and one in Oceania. Field archery national championships under World Archery rules are held annually by 39% of federations, primarily in Europe (28 countries), with some in Asia (11), the Americas (8), and Africa and Oceania (6). 3D national championships occur annually in only 24% of federations, mostly in Europe. These figures have changed little since 2017.

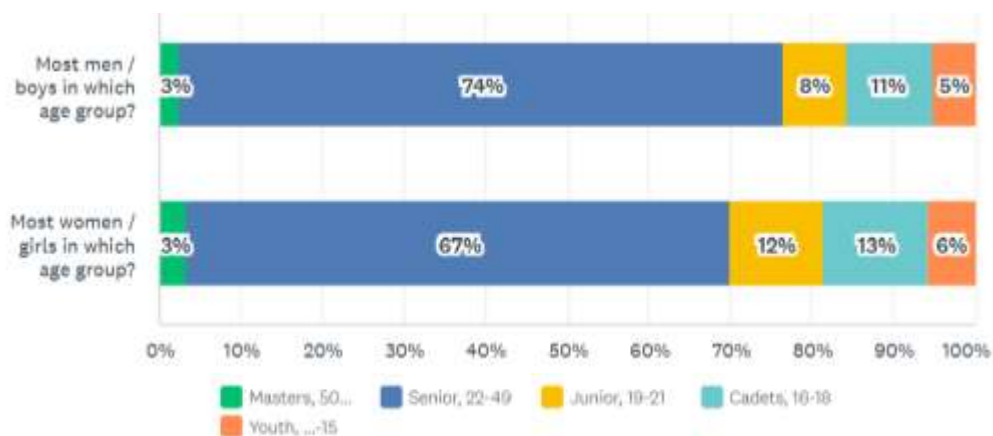
**Chart 8. Frequency of archery national championships**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Regarding age groups, the senior category (22-49 years old) has the highest number of competitors at national championships for both men and women (**Chart 9**). Only a few federations focus mainly on the under-18 category, including the Bahamas, Benin, British Virgin Islands, Côte d'Ivoire, Estonia, Poland, Moldova, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, USA, Uzbekistan and Venezuela. These data are similar to 2017.

**Chart 9. Age group in which most archers compete in national championships**

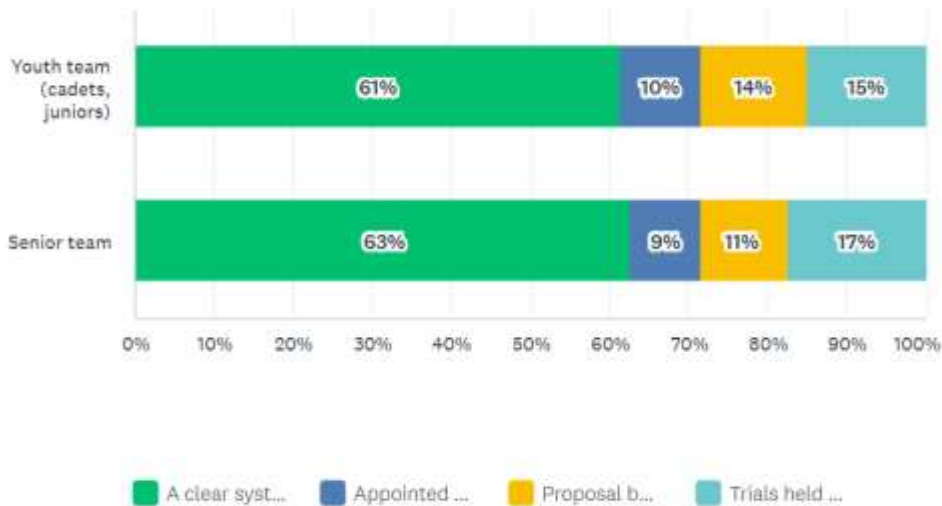


Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

## 5.2 National teams and national records

A majority of federations (61% for youth teams, 63% for senior teams) select national team members based on clear systems, such as results or ranking lists, which supports transparency. Only 15-17% form teams for major events through trials, 10% rely on proposals by the head coach confirmed by a governing body (e.g., NOC board or high-performance group), and 9% appoint members solely at the discretion of the head coach.

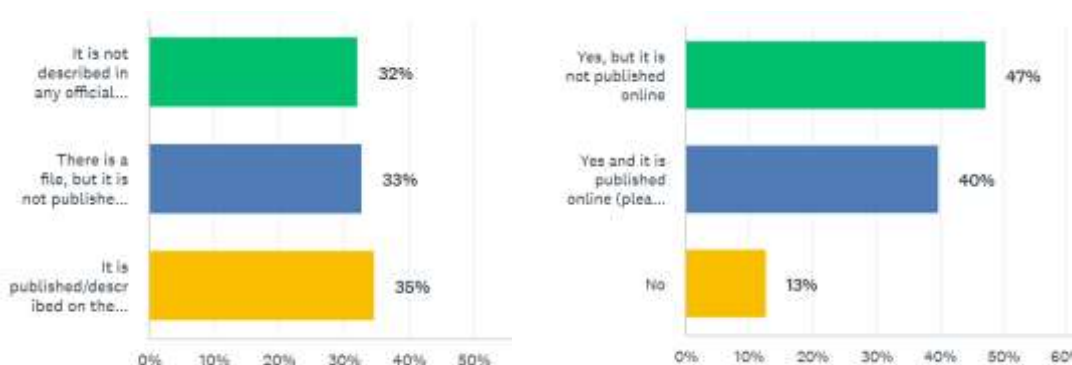
**Chart 10. National team selection system**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Regarding national team procedures, federations show a balanced approach: 32% have an official document (published or not) clearly describing the process. For 56% of federations, the procedure does not include the basis for national team funding. Only 38% have a contract with each team member specifying team rules, conditions for remaining on the team and grounds for exclusion.

**Chart 11. National team selection system and records**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Most federations (88%) track national records, with 42% published online and 46% not. Only 12% of federations do not maintain any record of national achievements.

## 6. Governance and organisational structure

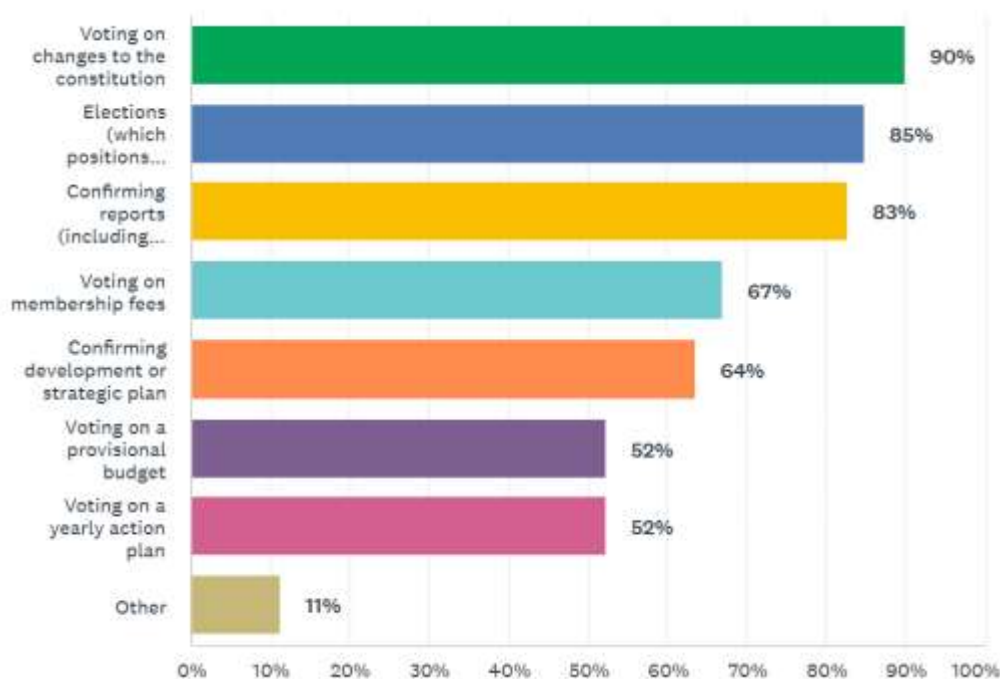
Good governance encompasses transparency, integrity, democracy, development and effective control mechanisms. World Archery requires its member associations to operate according to good governance principles to be considered active.

### 6.1 Constitution and general assemblies

In terms of democracy and transparency, a positive trend is observed: most federations hold general assemblies regularly, according to the World Archery extranet. Ninety percent meet annually, 7% every two years and 3% at other intervals – either twice per year or every four years.

**Chart 12** illustrates the range of matters decided by general assemblies. The most common include voting on amendments to the constitution, electing the president and board members, and approving reports, including the financial report. General assemblies also typically decide on membership fees, endorse development or strategic plans, approve provisional budgets, and adopt annual action plans. The situation remains largely unchanged since 2017.

**Chart 12. Decisions made only by the general assembly**

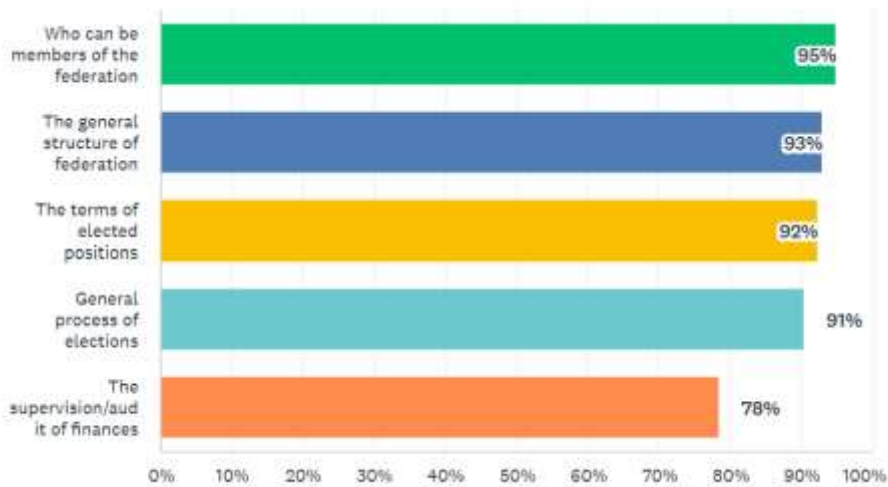


Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Minutes of general assemblies are shared internally with members in 55% of federations, while 26% make them publicly available online – an improvement from 2017, when only 17% published minutes. In addition, 87% of federations send or publish the agenda and relevant documents in advance, the same proportion as in 2017.

Regarding constitutions, 42% of member associations publish their constitution on a website, 46% share the document internally, and 12% classify it as an internal document not shared with members. This marks progress since 2017, when 8% of federations indicated not having a constitution, 44% kept it internal and 39% published it online.

**Chart 13. Content of member associations' constitutions**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

On average, 92% of member associations' constitutions include the basic elements required for good governance. These typically define:

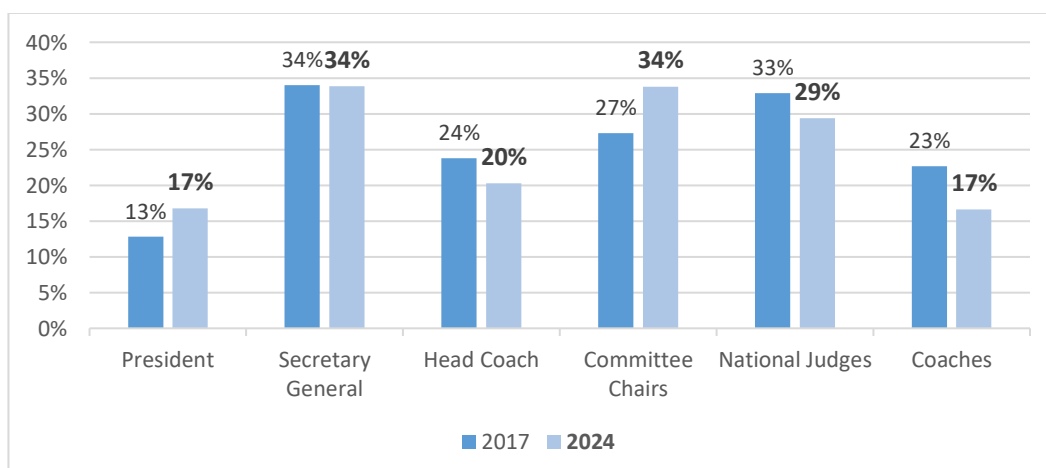
- a) the general structure of the federation,
- b) terms of elected positions,
- c) the general election process, and
- d) supervision or auditing of finances.

## 6.2 Organisational structure

The structure of member associations generally includes an elected president (93%), an executive board (90%) and an appointed head coach (70%). Notably, 59% of secretary generals are elected, while 34% are appointed.

A large majority of presidents (90%) are unpaid, as are 95% of board members and 83% of committee members. Among secretary generals, 61% serve on a voluntary basis and 31% are paid positions.

**Chart 14. Women's representation within member associations**

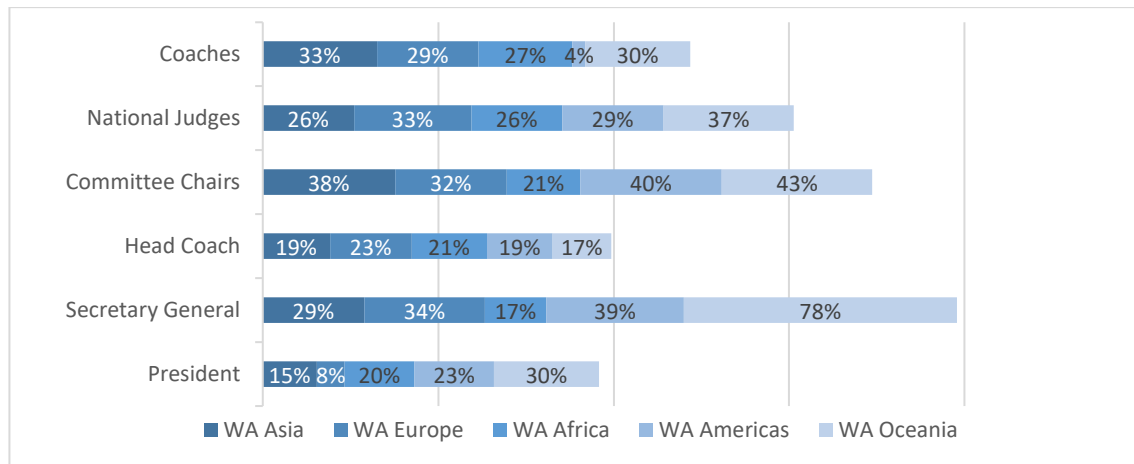


Source: World Archery member associations questionnaires 2017 and 2024/2025

In terms of gender balance, some progress has been achieved – particularly in board representation and the introduction of gender quotas – but overall, women remain underrepresented in archery organisations.

**Chart 14** presents comparative data from 2017 and 2024, showing that women account for 17% of presidents (a slight increase since 2017), 28% of board members, 34% of secretary generals (no change since 2017), 20% of head coaches (a decline from 2017), 34% of committee chairs, 29% of national judges and 17% of national coaches.

### Chart 15. Women representation by continent



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaires 2017 and 2024/2025

**Chart 15** presents data by continent, revealing regional variations. However, women remain underrepresented across all positions within member associations.

The use of gender quotas in elections has increased modestly, from 15% of federations in 2017 to 19% in 2024. The following member associations currently apply gender quotas:

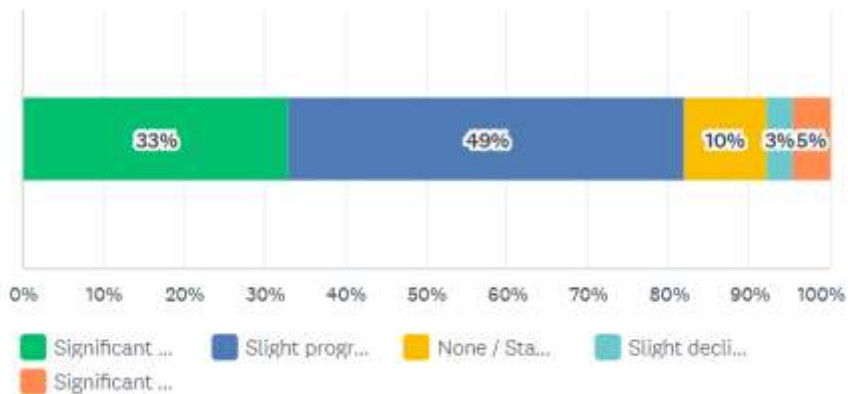
- **Africa:** Cameroon, Kenya, Mali, Somalia, Zimbabwe
- **Americas:** Canada, Costa Rica, USA
- **Asia:** Iran, Jordan, Nepal, Palestine, Uzbekistan
- **Europe:** Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland
- **Oceania:** Australia

## 7. Development

When asked about the state of archery development over the past four years, most national federations reported positive progress. Nearly half (49%) indicated some progress, while 32% observed significant progress – showing that archery continues to move in the right direction.

A smaller proportion (9%) said the situation remained the same, and just 3% noted a slight decline. Only 5% reported a significant decrease, confirming that setbacks remain the exception rather than the rule. Overall, the outlook is clearly positive, with strong momentum for the sport worldwide.

**Chart 16. Perception of development of archery in countries in the past four years**

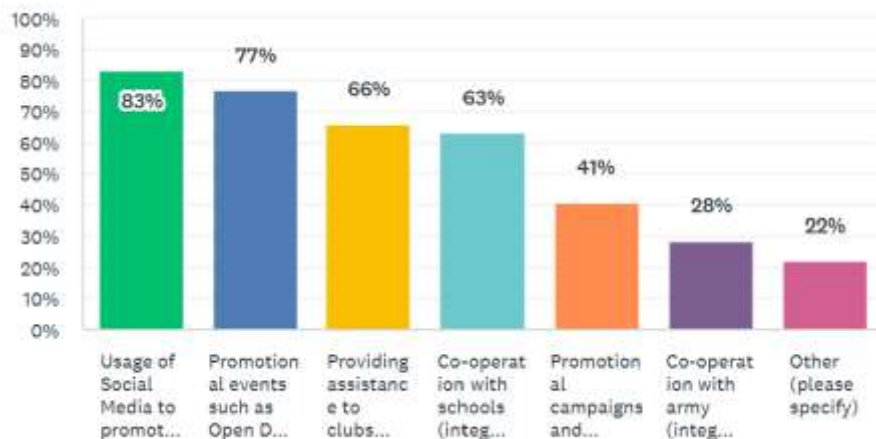


Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

At the two ends of the spectrum, the following countries reported **significant progress**: Austria, Bangladesh, Bermuda, Brazil, Chile, Czechia, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen, and Zimbabwe.

Conversely, a small number of federations – Albania, Poland, Morocco, Papua New Guinea, and Latvia – reported a **significant decline**.

**Chart 17. Actions taken to develop archery**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

When it comes to growing the sport, national federations are being increasingly creative and proactive. As shown in **Chart 17**, the most common approach is the use of social media – adopted by 86% of federations – to showcase the sport and engage new audiences. Around 77% of member associations organise promotional events such as ‘come and try’ sessions, open days, and booths at public gatherings with large audiences.

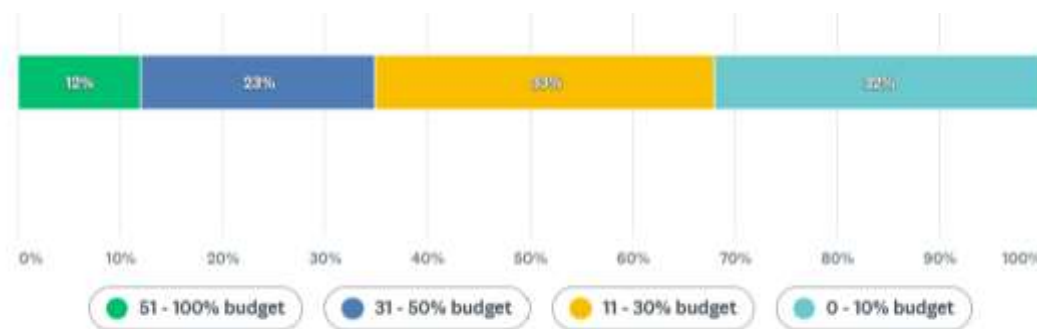
Support at the grassroots level is equally important: 66% of federations assist clubs by providing equipment or training. Many also collaborate with schools to include archery in physical

education programmes and provide basic equipment and instruction. Other strategies include running promotional and advertising campaigns (40%) and partnering with organisations such as the military or police forces (28%) to extend the sport’s reach.

In short, national federations are combining digital tools, community outreach, and hands-on support to put archery on the map – and into more people’s lives.

In addition, around 40 member associations shared successful programmes and best practices that have strengthened archery development. These include youth and grassroots initiatives in Ukraine, Spain and Togo; local equipment manufacturing in Mali and Benin; an inclusion programme in Iceland; and a national archery day held in schools across Hungary.

**Chart 18. Budget dedicated to development projects**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

**Chart 18** illustrates how development budgets are distributed among member associations. Most federations allocate between 0% and 30% of their total budget to development activities, while around 21% invest between 31% and 50%, and only 13% dedicate between 50% and 100%. This represents a notable decrease from 2017, when 34% of associations were allocating at least half of their budget to development.

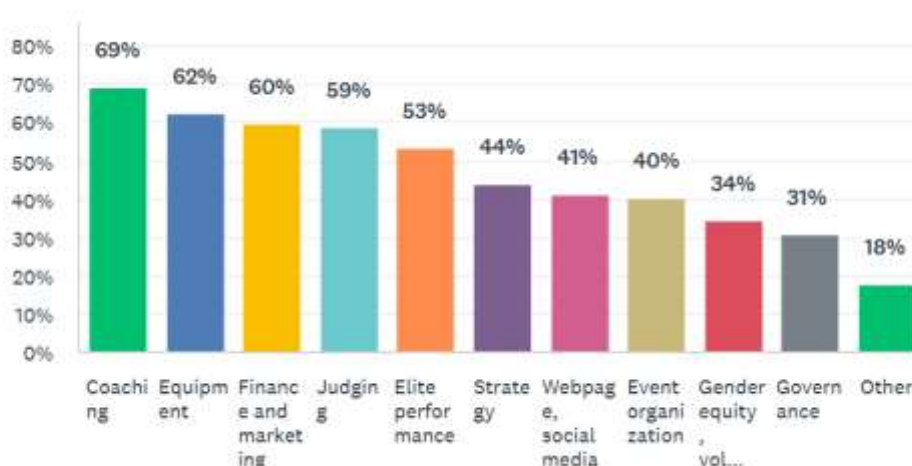
This shift can be attributed to several interrelated factors, including:

- funding constraints resulting from inflation in certain economies;
- a shift in priorities towards elite performance rather than grassroots development;
- limited diversification of funding models, with heavy reliance on grants instead of corporate partnerships or institutional funding; and
- ongoing pandemic-related challenges affecting a few national federations still recovering.

**Chart 19** highlights the areas where member associations report needing the most support or guidance. The top priorities include coaching, development in general, finance and marketing, judging, elite performance, and national team management.

Development requires a clear vision of both what we want to go and how. Positively, a strong majority of federations (74%) operate under a strategic plan, whether publicly available online or used internally.

**Chart 19. Areas where members need more assistance or advice**



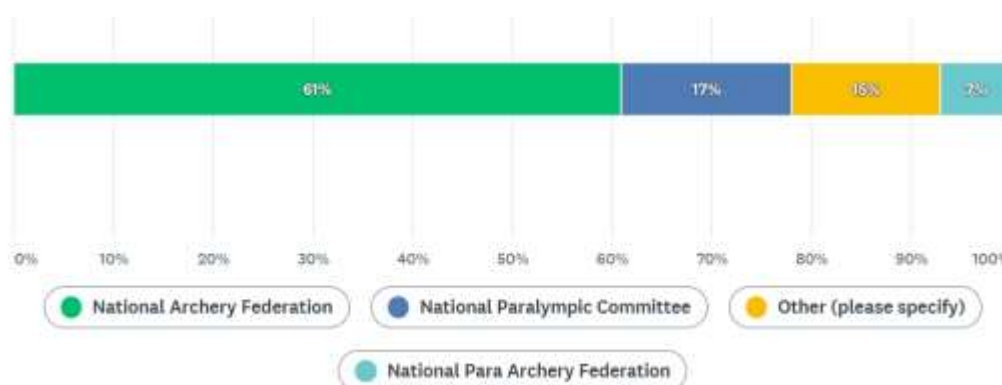
Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Public image and international representation are also crucial to securing support from national governing bodies and accessing funding – an essential factor for sustained development. Almost all member associations (96%) are affiliated with their National Olympic Committee (NOC), and 42% have a representative serving on the NOC board. A large majority (95%) report maintaining a positive relationship with their NOC, and 72% consider the level of support they receive to be satisfactory.

## 8. Para archery

Para archery is primarily governed by national archery federations (61%), rather than by National Paralympic Committees (17%) or national para archery federations (15%) – as shown in **Chart 20**. This structure largely reflects the sport’s long-standing integration with able-bodied archery, as both share similar rules, scoring systems, competition formats, equipment, and training environments – unlike most other para sports.

**Chart 20. Who governs para archery in your country?**



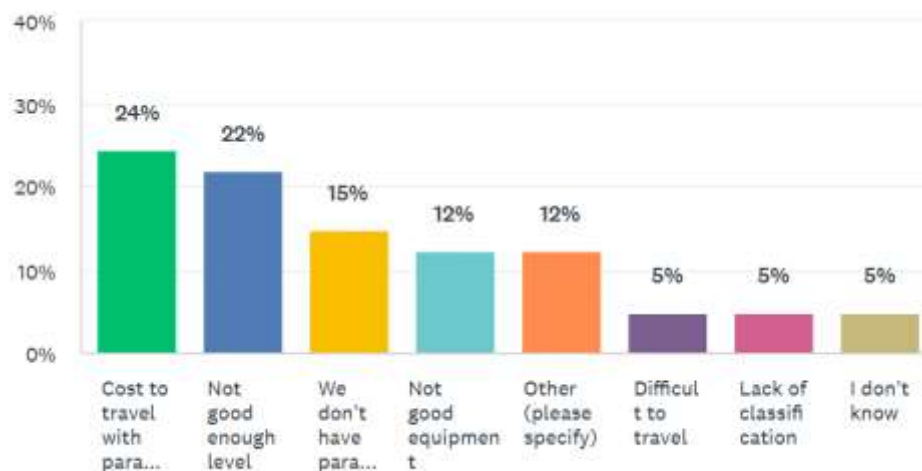
Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Another contributing factor is World Archery’s integrated governance model, which oversees both para and able-bodied archery. This is not the case in other sports such as wheelchair basketball or para athletics. The same structure is generally mirrored at national level, where federations manage domestic competitions and athlete selection for both Olympic and

Paralympic events. While National Paralympic Committees (NPCs) coordinate participation across all Paralympic sports, they do not usually govern individual sports directly. Instead, they work in collaboration with national sport federations – such as archery bodies – without overseeing the sport’s operations.

A large majority of national federations (74%) report having para archers – either competing domestically under their organisation or another national body, or training abroad. By continent, the presence of para archers is widespread: 60% of federations in Oceania, 64% in Africa, 71% in the Americas, 78% in Asia and 83% in Europe report active para archers within their communities.

**Chart 21. Main challenges for developing para archery in your country**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Among federations facing challenges in sending teams to para archery events, the most common reasons are that their athletes are not yet at a competitive level and the high cost of travel for para athletes. Other factors – though less frequently mentioned – include limited access to suitable adapted equipment or the absence of para athletes altogether (12%).

## 9. Fair play

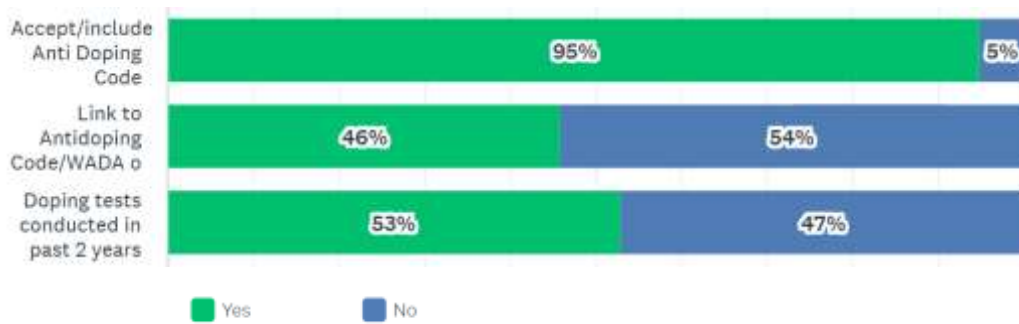
World Archery has a zero-tolerance policy for cheating or any abuse of the rules or spirit of the sport.

### 9.1 Anti-doping

It is encouraging to note that almost all federations (95%) accept or include an Anti-Doping Code within their regulations. However, fewer than half (46%) have a dedicated file, link to the Anti-Doping Code, or a connection to their National Anti-Doping Agency available on their website.

In addition, 53% of member associations reported that doping tests had been conducted in archery during the past two years by their national anti-doping agency.

**Chart 22. Anti-doping policies and testing within member associations**



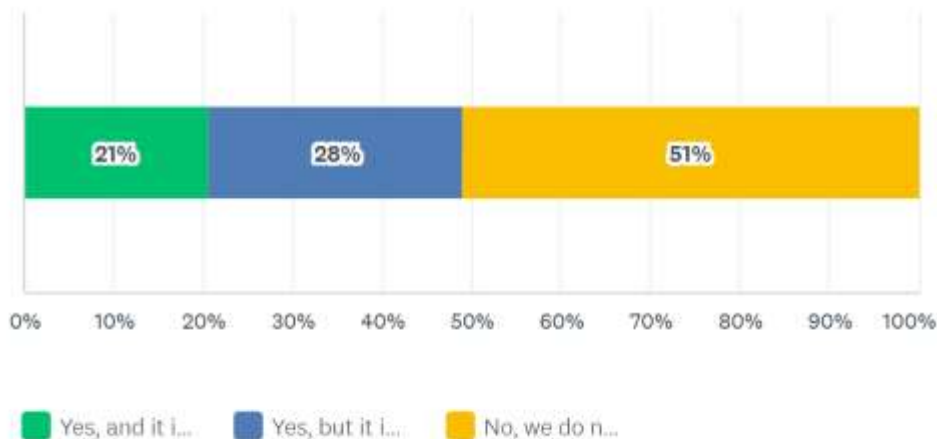
Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

## 9.2 Safeguarding

At international level, World Archery has a safeguarding policy and reporting mechanism in place. However, this is not yet the case for the majority of national federations. The questionnaire revealed that 51% of members do not have a safeguarding policy within their organisation. Many rely instead on national systems established by their National Olympic Committee or national sports governing body.

Meanwhile, 49% of federations have implemented a specific safeguarding policy – either published online or shared internally with members and stakeholders.

**Chart 23. National federations with a safeguarding policy**

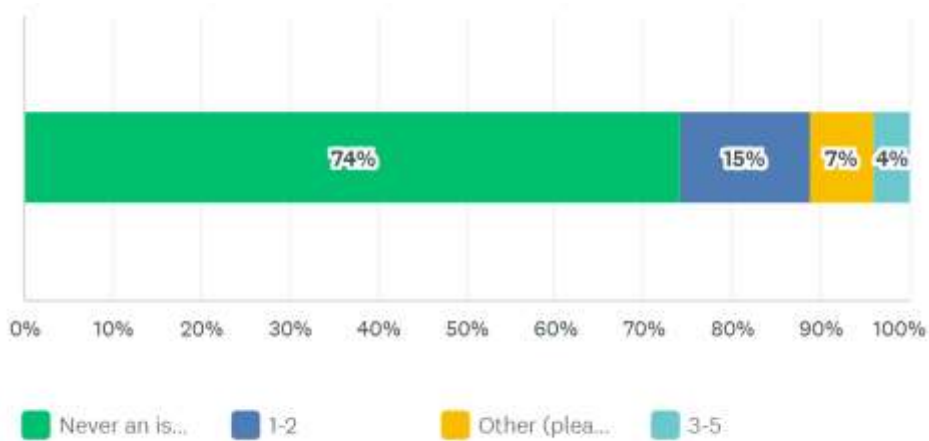


Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Most federations (74%) reported that no safeguarding cases were brought to their attention in the past four years. Fifteen percent recorded one or two reports during this period, 4% reported between three and five cases, and 7% noted a higher number of reports each year.

When national federations claim that “no safeguarding issues were ever reported”, this does not necessarily mean that the sport is free from problems. It may instead indicate systemic underreporting, lack of clear reporting mechanisms, or cultural barriers – rather than the absence of harm.

**Chart 24. Safeguarding reports received in the last four years**



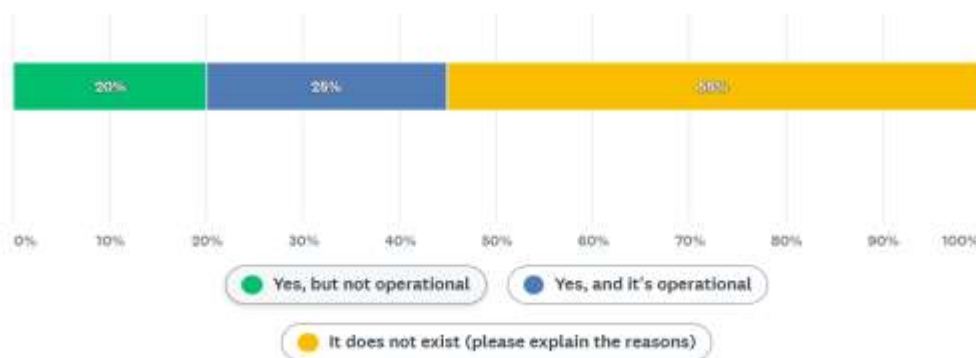
Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

### 9.3 Sustainability

World Archery is committed to environmental, social, and economic sustainability across all levels of its operations and governance. The questionnaire focused on the environmental dimension – aimed at minimising the negative impact of activities on the climate, natural environment, biodiversity and natural resource consumption.

As shown in **Chart 25**, there remains significant room for improvement: 55% of national federations reported having no formal sustainability policy, pledge, or framework in place. Another 25% have developed a mechanism that is not yet operational, while only 20% have an active and functioning sustainability policy – highlighting a gap between intention and implementation.

**Chart 25. Members with a sustainability strategy or formal mechanism in place**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

Among those without a formal policy, the most common reasons cited include:

- policy still in development (23%),
- topic not yet addressed (15%),
- belief that a formal policy is unnecessary because sustainable practices are already standard in their country (13%),
- lack of time, resources, or prioritisation (13%),

- no immediate need or requirement (10%), and
- reliance on their NOC’s sustainability policy (11%).

A smaller proportion mentioned uncertainty, lack of readiness, or the need for further guidance (3%).

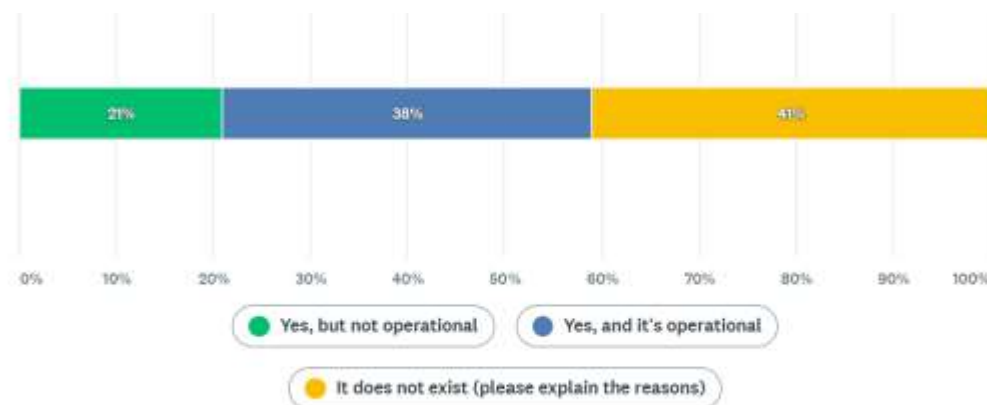
## 9.4 Sport for all

Archery is more than a sport – it is a cultural tradition with deep roots and a long-standing reputation for inclusivity, particularly among underrepresented groups. Recognising this, national federations were asked whether they have a “sport for all” policy or concrete actions to promote mass participation, cultural and recreational activities, and health and well-being across all social groups.

As shown in **Chart 26**, results are mixed. While 21% of federations have an operational “sport for all” strategy or formal mechanism, 38% have one that exists but is not yet in action, and 41% have no formal mechanism at all – although this does not mean that no related activities are taking place. These figures mirror trends seen with sustainability policies.

There is positive news, however: nearly 70% of national federations have implemented practical initiatives to bring archery to their communities, regardless of background or ability. These include youth-focused programmes, open training sessions in public spaces and projects supporting homeless children, orphans, individuals with mental disabilities and people in hospitals or recovering from breast cancer. This demonstrates that even in the absence of formal policies, many federations are putting inclusion into practice where it matters most.

**Chart 26. Members with a ‘sport for all’ strategy or formal mechanism in place**



Source: World Archery member associations questionnaire 2024/2025

For one federation – **World Archery Iceland** – promoting “sport for all” is not seen as a special initiative but as part of everyday operations. The federation has taken actions such as adapting rules to include non-binary and transgender participants, introducing amateur classes, and adding equipment categories like longbows. These measures are regarded as standard practice, fully aligned with local legislation and the federation’s constitution. The overarching goal is to expand participation through inclusivity, thereby increasing membership while upholding a firm non-discrimination policy.

## Annex: Scaling the bow – Archery involvement per capita

This annex presents an overview of archery participation in World Archery member associations relative to national population size. The list below ranks countries by the **number of archers per 1000 inhabitants**, based on data from the **World Archery extranet** and **UNCTADstat**.

The figures highlight how smaller nations and islands often have the highest levels of archery engagement per capita, while larger countries – despite having greater absolute numbers of participants – rank lower due to their population size.

	Country	Continent	Country population 2024**	Number of archers per 1000 inhabitants
1	Niue	WA Oceania	1 819	6,05
2	Falkland Islands	WA Americas	3 470	5,76
3	Palau	WA Oceania	17 695	5,65
4	San Marino	WA Europe	33 581	4,26
5	Norfolk Islands	WA Oceania	2 188	3,20
6	Iceland	WA Europe	393 396	2,70
7	Austria	WA Europe	9 120 813	1,76
8	Monaco	WA Europe	38 631	1,55
9	France	WA Europe	66 548 530	1,27
10	Hong Kong	WA Asia	7 414 909	1,08
11	Faroe Islands	WA Europe	55 840	1,07
12	Sweden	WA Europe	10 606 999	0,92
13	Andorra	WA Europe	81 938	0,87
14	Germany	WA Europe	84 552 242	0,83
15	Cyprus	WA Europe	1 358 282	0,74
16	Virgin Islands	WA Americas	84 905	0,71
17	Türkiye	WA Europe	87 473 805	0,62
18	Slovenia	WA Europe	2 118 697	0,61
19	Luxembourg	WA Europe	673 036	0,58
20	The Netherlands	WA Europe	18 228 742	0,54
21	Switzerland	WA Europe	8 921 981	0,54
22	Finland	WA Europe	5 617 310	0,54
23	Denmark	WA Europe	5 977 412	0,52
24	Lithuania	WA Europe	285 911	0,50
25	Norway	WA Europe	5 576 660	0,50
26	Estonia	WA Europe	1 360 546	0,48
27	Great Britain	WA Europe	69 138 192	0,47
28	Italy	WA Europe	59 342 867	0,46
29	Spain	WA Europe	47 910 526	0,44
30	Cook Islands	WA Oceania	13 729	0,44
31	Bahamas	WA Americas	401 283	0,43
32	Tonga	WA Oceania	104 175	0,37
33	Belgium	WA Europe	11 738 763	0,37
34	Bermuda	WA Americas	64 636	0,37
35	New Zealand	WA Oceania	5 213 944	0,33
36	St Vincent and Grenadines	WA Americas	100 616	0,33
37	Macao	WA Asia	720 262	0,32
38	Tahiti	WA Oceania	281 807	0,31
39	Australia	WA Oceania	26 713 205	0,27
40	Croatia	WA Europe	3 875 325	0,27
41	Liechtenstein	WA Europe	39 870	0,25
42	Czechia	WA Europe	10 735 859	0,23
43	Ireland	WA Europe	5 255 017	0,21
44	British Virgin Islands	WA Americas	39 471	0,20
45	Russia	WA Europe	144 820 423	0,20

	Country	Continent	Country population 2024**	Number of archers per 1000 inhabitants
46	Mauritius	WA Africa	1 271 169	0,20
47	Barbados	WA Americas	282 467	0,17
48	Iran	WA Asia	91 567 738	0,17
49	Canada	WA Americas	41 012 563	0,17
50	Trinidad and Tobago	WA Americas	1 507 782	0,17
51	Curaçao	WA Americas	185 482	0,16
52	Vanuatu	WA Oceania	327 777	0,15
53	Hungary	WA Europe	9 676 135	0,15
54	Greece	WA Europe	10 047 817	0,14
55	Kosovo	WA Europe	1 684 790	0,13
56	Slovak Republic	WA Europe	5 506 760	0,13
57	Samoa	WA Oceania	218 019	0,11
58	Bhutan	WA Asia	791 524	0,10
59	Djibouti	WA Africa	1 168 722	0,10
60	Japan	WA Asia	123 753 041	0,10
61	Serbia	WA Europe	6 736 216	0,09
62	Guyana	WA Americas	831 087	0,09
63	Latvia	WA Europe	1 871 871	0,09
64	Malta	WA Europe	539 607	0,09
65	Armenia	WA Europe	2 973 840	0,08
66	Singapore	WA Asia	5 832 387	0,08
67	United States	WA Americas	345 426 571	0,08
68	Korea DPR	WA Asia	26 498 823	0,07
69	Solomon Islands	WA Oceania	819 198	0,07
70	Portugal	WA Europe	10 425 292	0,06
71	Kuwait	WA Asia	4 934 507	0,06
72	Chinese Taipei	WA Asia	23 213 962	0,06
73	Puerto Rico	WA Americas	3 242 204	0,06
74	Bulgaria	WA Europe	6 757 689	0,06
75	Montenegro	WA Europe	638 479	0,05
76	Korea	WA Asia	51 717 590	0,05
77	Israel	WA Europe	9 387 021	0,05
78	Saudi Arabia	WA Asia	33 962 757	0,05
79	Argentina	WA Americas	45 696 159	0,05
80	Costa Rica	WA Americas	5 129 910	0,05
81	Uruguay	WA Americas	3 423 000	0,05
82	UAE	WA Asia	11 027 129	0,05
83	Philippines	WA Asia	11 584 367	0,04
84	Belarus	WA Europe	9 056 696	0,04
85	Ukraine	WA Europe	37 860 221	0,04
86	El Salvador	WA Americas	6 338 193	0,03
87	Palestine	WA Asia	5 495 443	0,03
88	Poland	WA Europe	38 539 201	0,03
89	Mongolia	WA Asia	3 475 540	0,03
90	Malaysia	WA Asia	35 557 673	0,03
91	Fiji	WA Oceania	928 784	0,03
92	North Macedonia	WA Europe	1 823 009	0,03
93	Georgia	WA Europe	3 807 670	0,02
94	Panama	WA Americas	4 515 577	0,02
95	Morocco	WA Africa	38 081 173	0,02
96	Dominican Republic	WA Americas	11 427 557	0,02
97	Kazakhstan	WA Asia	20 592 571	0,02
98	Albania	WA Europe	2 791 765	0,02
99	Timor Leste	WA Asia	1 400 638	0,02
100	Chile	WA Americas	19 764 771	0,02
101	Libya	WA Africa	7 381 023	0,02
102	Moldova	WA Europe	3 034 961	0,02

	Country	Continent	Country population 2024**	Number of archers per 1000 inhabitants
103	Tunisia	WA Africa	12 277 109	0,02
104	Benin	WA Africa	14 462 724	0,02
105	Romania	WA Europe	19 015 088	0,02
106	Cuba	WA Americas	10 979 783	0,02
107	Lebanon	WA Asia	5 805 962	0,01
108	Sri Lanka	WA Asia	23 103 565	0,01
109	Indonesia	WA Asia	283 487 931	0,01
110	Chad	WA Africa	20 299 123	0,01
111	Uzbekistan	WA Asia	36 361 859	0,01
112	Mali	WA Africa	24 478 595	0,01
113	Cote d'Ivoire	WA Africa	31 934 230	0,01
114	Namibia	WA Africa	3 030 131	0,01
115	Guinea	WA Africa	14 754 785	0,01
116	Turkmenistan	WA Asia	7 494 498	0,01
117	Peru	WA Americas	34 217 848	0,01
118	South Africa	WA Africa	64 007 187	0,01
119	Algeria	WA Africa	46 814 308	0,01
120	Kyrgyzstan	WA Asia	7 186 009	0,01
121	Zimbabwe	WA Africa	16 634 373	0,01
122	Bolivia	WA Americas	12 413 315	0,01
123	Comoros	WA Africa	866 628	0,01
124	Bangladesh	WA Asia	173 562 364	0,01
125	Colombia	WA Americas	52 886 363	0,01
126	Yemen	WA Asia	40 583 164	0,01
127	Ecuador	WA Americas	18 135 478	0,01
128	Lao PDR	WA Asia	7 769 819	0,01
129	Mauritania	WA Africa	5 169 395	0,01
130	Honduras	WA Americas	10 825 703	0,01
131	Afghanistan	WA Asia	42 647 492	0,01
132	Jordan	WA Asia	11 552 876	0,01
133	Jamaica	WA Americas	2 839 175	0,01
134	Togo	WA Africa	9 515 236	0,01
135	Sierra Leone	WA Africa	8 642 022	0,01
136	PR of China	WA Asia	1 419 321 278	0,005
137	Thailand	WA Asia	71 668 011	0,005
138	Brazil	WA Americas	211 998 573	0,005
139	Nepal	WA Asia	29 651 054	0,005
140	Mexico	WA Americas	130 861 007	0,004
141	Bahrain	WA Asia	1 607 049	0,004
142	Paraguay	WA Americas	6 929 153	0,004
143	Venezuela	WA Americas	28 405 543	0,004
144	Guatemala	WA Americas	18 406 359	0,004
145	Cameroun	WA Africa	29 123 744	0,003
146	Qatar	WA Asia	3 048 423	0,003
147	Egypt	WA Africa	116 538 258	0,003
148	Pakistan	WA Asia	251 269 164	0,003
149	Vietnam	WA Asia	100 987 686	0,002
150	Tajikistan	WA Asia	10 590 927	0,002
151	Madagascar	WA Africa	31 964 956	0,002
152	Papua New Guinea	WA Oceania	10 576 502	0,002
153	Somalia	WA Africa	19 009 151	0,002
154	Uganda	WA Africa	50 015 092	0,002
155	India	WA Asia	1 450 935 791	0,002
156	Azerbaijan Republic	WA Europe	10 336 577	0,002
157	R.D. Congo	WA Africa	109 276 265	0,002
158	Iraq	WA Asia	46 042 015	0,002
159	Syria	WA Asia	24 672 760	0,00

	Country	Continent	Country population 2024**	Number of archers per 1000 inhabitants
<b>160</b>	Kenya	WA Africa	56 432 944	0,001
<b>161</b>	Malawi	WA Africa	21 655 286	0,001
<b>162</b>	Senegal	WA Africa	18 501 984	0,001
<b>163</b>	Myanmar	WA Asia	54 500 091	0,001
<b>164</b>	Lesotho	WA Africa	2 337 423	0,0004
<b>165</b>	Niger	WA Africa	27 032 412	0,0003
<b>166</b>	Nigeria	WA Africa	232 679 478	0,0003
<b>167</b>	Sudan	WA Africa	50 448 963	0,0001

\*\*Source : <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/>