THE RECURVE BOW

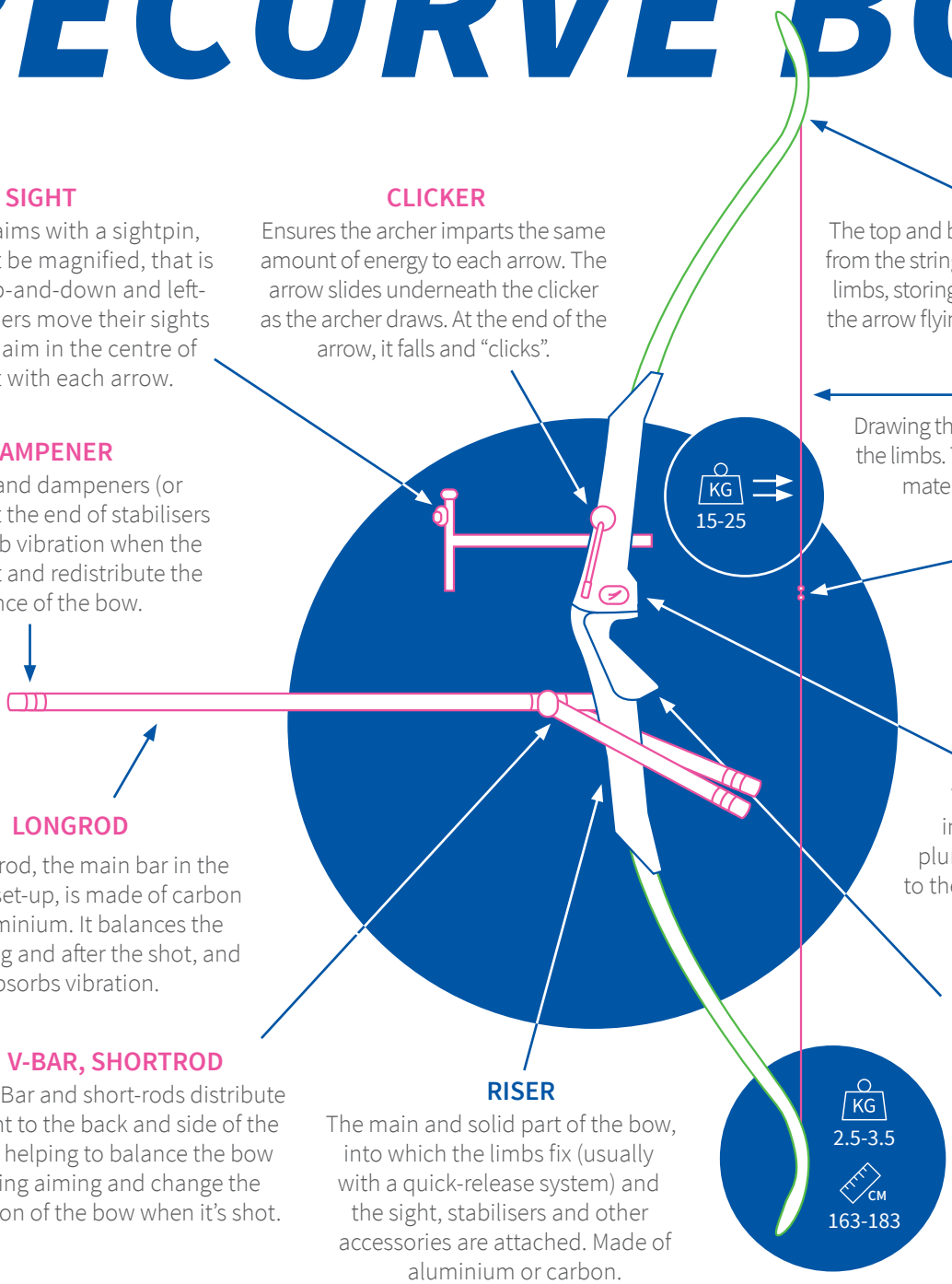
SIGHT
The archer aims with a sightpin, which cannot be magnified, that is moveable up-and-down and left-to-right. Archers move their sights so they can aim in the centre of the target with each arrow.

CLICKER
Ensures the archer imparts the same amount of energy to each arrow. The arrow slides underneath the clicker as the archer draws. At the end of the arrow, it falls and "clicks".

LIMBS
The top and bottom limbs re-"curve" away from the string. Drawing the bow bends the limbs, storing energy, which is what sends the arrow flying when the string is released.

STRING
Drawing the string under tension bends the limbs. The string is made of synthetic materials to prevent stretching.

DAMPENER
Weights and dampeners (or dampers) at the end of stabilisers both absorb vibration when the bow is shot and redistribute the balance of the bow.



NOCKING POINT
The arrow clips onto the string between these two raised points, keeping it in place throughout the shot.

REST, BUTTON
The arrow sits on the rest in the bow and against the plunger button, which is tuned to the specific arrow-bow set-up and ensures the arrow flies straight.

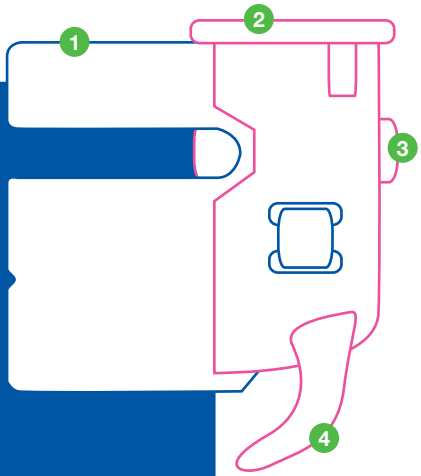
LONGROD
The longrod, the main bar in the stabiliser set-up, is made of carbon and aluminium. It balances the bow during and after the shot, and absorbs vibration.

GRIP
Usually made of wood or plastic, the grip is the the part of the bow in which the archer puts their hand. Some are customised.

V-BAR, SHORTROD
The V-Bar and short-rods distribute weight to the back and side of the bow, helping to balance the bow during aiming and change the reaction of the bow when it's shot.

RISER
The main and solid part of the bow, into which the limbs fix (usually with a quick-release system) and the sight, stabilisers and other accessories are attached. Made of aluminium or carbon.

FINGER TAB
Recurve archers hold the string in their fingers. To prevent injury, they wear a finger tab, which has a large leather face 1 that goes between the fingers and string. It often has a shelf to help consistent location under the chin 2, index and third finger spacer 3 or little finger hook 4.



ARROW
Arrows are made of carbon and aluminimum, and are often barrelled, meaning they're thicker in the middle of the shaft 1 than at the ends. The nock 2 clips onto the string, the three vanes or fletchings 3 stabilise the arrow in flight and the point 4 pierces the target. Arrows fly at speeds of around 230 km/h.