

EAST BURKE MIDDLE SCHOOL ARCHERY

2026–2027 Parent & Archer Information

Head Coach: Elicia Conco; eliciaconco@burke.k12.nc.us; 828-397-7446

Assistant and Volunteer Coaches: Tiffany Fowler, Wendy Hubler, Tommy Gladden, Ashely Hunt, Carl Lowman

Welcome to EBMS Archery! We are a competitive **NASP (National Archery in the Schools Program)** team focused on developing skilled archers and responsible teammates who demonstrate confidence, focus, and sportsmanship - all skills that contribute to developing winners on and off the shooting line!

JOINING THE TEAM

No previous archery experience or personal equipment is required to join EBMS Archery. As archers develop their skills, coaches will work with each archer to determine their readiness for competition.

Archers will practice in one of three skill levels: Novice, Intermediate, or Experienced. As the season progresses, archers may move between groups based on their development and what they need to continue growing and being successful.

Skill level does not determine whether a student can be part of the team. The requirements for remaining an EBMS Archer are meeting team expectations for practice attendance, academic progress (no failing classes), school attendance, and behavior.

Our goal is to meet archers where they are, help them grow, and provide opportunities to compete when they are ready.

Practice:

We offer several practice options to help students balance archery with other EBMS activities/sports. Archers are required to attend at least 1 practice each week. If an absence is unavoidable, the archer or parent/guardian must communicate with the coaching staff.

Morning Practices

Tues/Thurs Mornings 6:50-7:25 am

Morning practices are primarily for archers participating in other school sports that interfere with afternoon archery practices.

After-School Practices

3:00-4:30 pm

Days of week depend on gym availability and will be communicated in advance.

Evening Practices

5:15-6:15pm

Days of week depend on gym availability and will be communicated in advance.

Staying After School

Archers who need to stay at school for a later practice are welcome to do so. A coach will remain with the archers in the Archery Classroom.

This isn't just waiting time! Students can complete schoolwork and participate in off-the-shooting-line activities designed to help them become stronger archers. These may include technique drills, strength training, focus exercises, goal setting, sportsmanship, tournament preparation, and other range-related skills.

On days when both a 3:00-4:30 practice and a 5:15-6:15 practice are scheduled, experienced 7th and 8th grade archers may be invited to stay after school and help coaches teach and mentor developing archers. This gives our experienced archers an opportunity to strengthen their own skills while developing leadership and supporting their teammates.

Snacks & Drinks

We welcome parent donations of individually packaged snacks, small bottles of water, and small Gatorades/sports drinks.

These are especially helpful for archers staying after school or coming to archery after another sport.

Practices will begin the week of September 14, 2026.

Competition Team Selection (Local Tournaments and National Team)

Competition team selection is based on the whole archer, not simply one score. Coaches will consider:

- **Coach observations** — focus, effort, safety, coachability, and readiness
- **Mock tournament scores** - averaging a 220 score
- **Practice participation** — attendance, engagement, consistency, and willingness to improve
- **Attitude & sportsmanship** — respect, positivity, teamwork, and behavior

Local Tournament Readiness

Archers who maintain a 220 or higher average in our mock tournaments will be invited to begin competing in local tournaments.

This guideline helps ensure that archers develop a strong foundation, confidence, and consistency before adding the pressure of outside competition. Introducing competition before an archer is ready can contribute to target panic and performance anxiety.

Our goal is for archers to enter competition feeling prepared, confident, and excited to shoot.

TOURNAMENT EXPECTATIONS

All archers are expected to participate in **mock tournaments during practice**.

Once an archer qualifies for competitive tournament participation by maintaining a 220+ mock tournament average, the archer will be required to participate in:

- At least one 10m/15m Bullseye tournament that qualifies for the NC State Tournament
- The tournament hosted by EBMS

Archers are encouraged to participate in additional tournaments throughout the season. Competition experience helps archers develop confidence and improve before the NC State Tournament.

NC State Tournament & Nationals

Qualifying archers will have the opportunity to compete at the NC State Bullseye Tournament.

The EBMS National Competition Team and alternates will be announced following the NC State Bullseye Tournament.

National Team selection will consider performance throughout the season, including scores, consistency, practice participation, coachability, attitude, sportsmanship, and overall contribution to the team.

ELIGIBILITY & TEAM EXPECTATIONS

EBMS Archery follows the eligibility requirements used for other school sports.

Eligibility is reviewed:

- **Before Semester 1** - Student Eligibility List Provided by NC-Dept of Public Instruction
- **Before Semester 2** Student Eligibility List Provided by NC-Dept of Public Instruction
- **6th-grade students** are exempt from the prior-semester requirement for their first semester at EBMS

Behavior

Archers represent East Burke Middle School both on and off the range.

If an archer receives an Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) during the current school year, the student will be removed from the archery team.

FEES & EXPENSES

We want families to understand the financial commitment before the season begins. We also do not want finances to prevent a student from participating.

Participation Fee — \$70

All archers will pay a \$50 participation fee to cover the cost of bows, arrows, targets and other items needed to run a safe range.

\$20 fee goes towards a team jersey which all archers will receive.

Competition Jersey — Approximately \$50

Once our local tournament participation teams have been determined, competition jerseys will be ordered.

Families are responsible for the cost of their archer's jersey, which is typically around \$50.

Tournament Fees

Families are responsible for registration fees for tournaments their archer attends. Fees vary by tournament and will be communicated in advance.

Travel

Families are responsible for tournament-related transportation, meals, lodging, and other travel expenses when applicable.

Financial Assistance

We never want finances to be the reason a student cannot participate.

Financial assistance and payment plans are available. Please contact Coach Conco privately if assistance is needed. Financial conversations will be handled respectfully and confidentially.

PARENT COMMUNICATION

Our goal this year is to make archery communication simple and easy to find.

These platforms will be used to communicate with families:

Dojo and Email — Important Announcements

Dojo and Email will be our primary communication method for announcements, reminders, deadlines, and schedule changes.

EBMS ARCHERY WEBSITE — Information Hub



or <https://sites.google.com/burke.k12.nc.us/ebmsarcheryhomepage/home>

TEAM CALENDAR

Families should use the team calendar for the most current practice, tournament, meeting, and deadline information.

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM OUR ARCHERS

Being an EBMS Archer is about more than a tournament score.

We want students who are willing to:



Work hard



Be coachable



Support their teammates



Take care of their responsibilities



Communicate



Persevere when things are difficult



Represent East Burke Middle School with pride

Our goal is to help every archer become more **confident, focused, responsible, and prepared**—both on and off the range.

Required Documents to Participate Due by Oct 29th:

- Sports Physical
- Team Fee