

Riverbend Medieval Society Victory Village Axe & Knife Throwing

Riverbend Medieval Society Inc



Policy Name: Victory Village Axe & Knife Throwing Safety Guidelines

Responsibility Riverbend Medieval Society Inc

Effective 1st May 2024

Purpose

The aim of this document is to provide a set of minimum safety standards that allows the sport of Axe & Knife Throwing to be practiced in a safe manner by members of Riverbend Medieval Society on Club and Fayre/Open days.

Axe & Knife throwing safety is a matter of exercising common sense, good judgement and courtesy.

All members are responsible for their own safety and the safety of others. All members should read, understand and abide by this Safety Policy.

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Section 1

Terms and Definitions

Riverbend Medieval Society	The group of medieval re-enactors who attend Victory Village and conduct Axe & Knife Throwing on Fernlea Green Throwing Range.
Victory Village	The physical village and the owners of the village where Fernlea Green is located.
Fernlea Green Throwing Range	The area designated as the venue where Axe and Knife Throwing is practiced.
Marshal/Range Master	The member appointed at the Riverbend Medieval Society Inc AGM with responsibility for Archery and Axe/Knife throwing on Fernlea Green. The Range Master may delegate this to a member for a limited time. If Axe & Knife throwing is being conducted in the absence of the Range Master the most experienced member will act as the Range Master for that day.
Member	Any financial member Riverbend Medieval Society Inc.
Visitor	Any member of the public who visits Victory Village at Riverbend. Visitors are not permitted to use the throwing range.
Axe	Generic term which refers to any type of Axe used for throwing.
Knife	Generic term which refers to any type of Knife used for throwing.
Target	Name of the piece of equipment comprising of a stand and target.
Range Layout	Safe area, waiting area/waiting line; throwing line; target area.

Section 2

General Safety

- If there is the possibility of uninvited public access onto the venue, warning flags must be erected to warn and protect members of the public.
- Throwing must cease immediately if a member of the public or an animal (such as a dog) crosses the range or moves behind the target. Throwing may not recommence until all members of the public or animals have reached a safe area. Be courteous to members of the public at all times.
- Covered footwear is recommended to be worn at all times while engaging in the practice of Axe & Knife throwing.
- Alcohol and drugs must not be consumed by anyone prior to or while Axe & Knife throwing. No person may throw when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Headphones or ear coverings must not be worn while Axe & Knife throwing, this may prevent warning signals being heard.
- All Axe & Knife throwers should be under the control of the Range Master or delegate. In the absence of the Range Master a suitably qualified and experienced member must take on the role of Range Master for that day.
- All throwing should be controlled by voice commands from the Range Master or delegate.

General Axe & Knife Throwing Safety

- Awareness of your surroundings. Make sure the area around your throw is free of anything that might end up affecting your throw.
- Do not attempt to catch an Axe or Knife. If an Axe or Knife bounces off a target, take a short step back and to the side.
- The Range Master will give a safety briefing to each new group of Axe & Knife throwers.
- The Safe/Viewing Area in front of and either side of the Throwing Range will be marked by Bunting or other method to prevent members or visitors from entering unless it is safe to do so after discussing with the Range Master
- Range Layout
 - Safety Area; You must behind the waiting area at all times if you are not throwing.
 - Waiting Area Axe & Knife throwers will be in the Waiting area prior to their throw; A thrower will be directed to the throwing line by the Range Master.
 - Throwing Line A thrower will move to the throwing line only when directed by the Range Master
 - Target Area The area forward of the throwing line and 12 Feet/3.66m on all sides of the Target

Nobody is permitted in the Target area once a thrower is on the throwing line.

- Commands used on Axe & Knife Range
 - Begin** Move to the Throwing line; pickup the Axe or Knife and throw at the target.
 - Stop** Stop immediately and move back to the waiting line
 - Retrieve** Move forward and retrieve the Axe or Knife

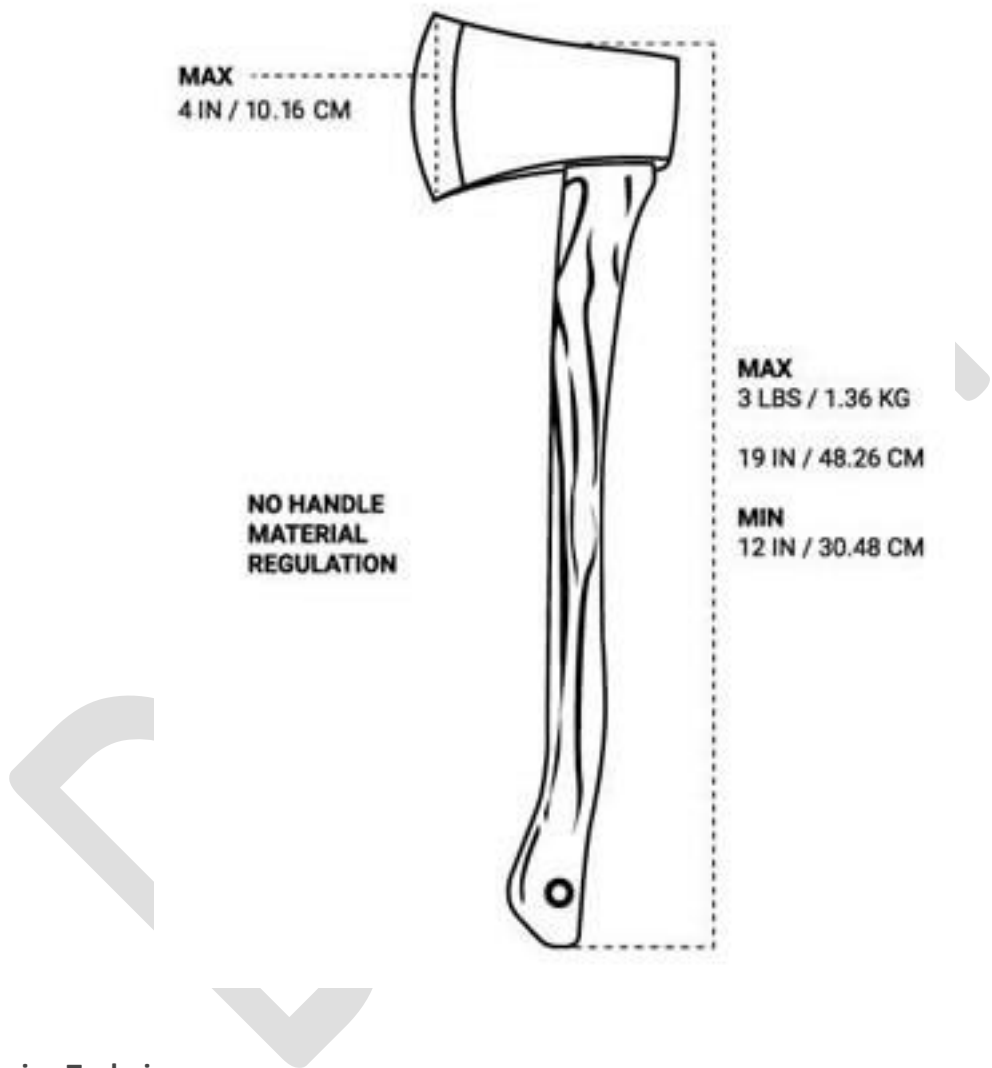
➤ Riverbend Medieval Society and Victory Village maintain a stocked First Aid Kit which is in the First Aid Room near the Market Kitchen.

Section 3

Equipment Safety

➤ Axes

- Throwers can use the Axes provided by the facility, or can use their own Axe with the following guidelines:
- Handle Max Length no more than 19"/48.26cm including the Axe head.
- Maximum Weights of an Axe 3 lbs/1.36 kg
- The blade of the Axe must be no longer than 4"/10.16cm and must be fixed to handle of the Axe.
- Single bit blade, i.e. no blade or sharpened spike protruding from the back of the Axe head.
- Broken Axes may not be used.



➤ **Axe Throwing Technique:**

- One hand holding the Axe with the blade facing the target before release.
- Two hands holding the axe with the blade facing the target before release.
- No other styles of throw are permitted

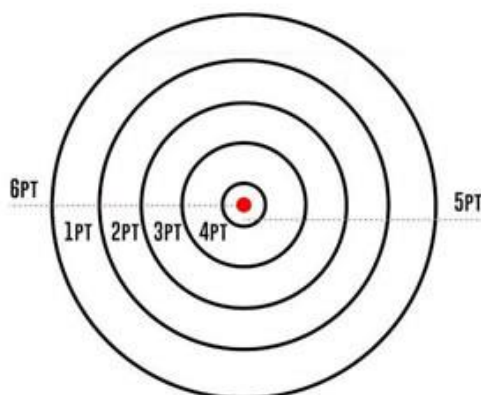
➤ **Axe Throwing Distance**

- The thrower's feet may not cross the throwing line before the Axe has left the thrower's hand.
- One of the throwers feet must be on the ground at all times until the Axe is thrown.
- All Non-throwing Spectators must be at least 5ft/1.5m behind throwers at all times.

Section 4

Targets

- Only Targets approved by the Range Master may be used on Fernlea Green Throwing Range.
- Targets **must be sprayed with water** from a spray bottle prior to the start of throwing.



➤ Scoring

The black line awards points associated with the ring.

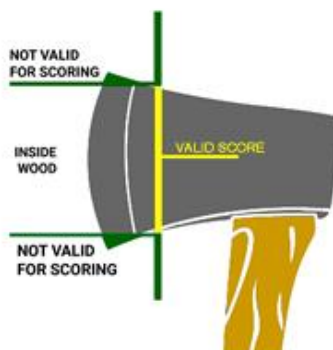
- 6 points for the bullseye.
- 4 points for the 2nd ring.
- 3 points for the 3rd ring.
- 2 points for the 4th ring.
- 1 point for the 5th ring.

➤ Technicalities

- A Break (breaking) is defined as when the surface of the Axe is embedded in the wood and has the marked surface of the target area visible on both sides of the Axe head.
- If the Axe breaks multiple sections of the target simultaneously, then the thrower is awarded the points for the higher valued section
- To gain the points for a bullseye the Axe must be inside the black line and break the red. The Axe must break the red of the bullseye in order to be awarded 6 points.
- Breaking the outside black ring of the bullseye, that is 20mm thick, counts as 4 points

➤ Scoring Area of Axe

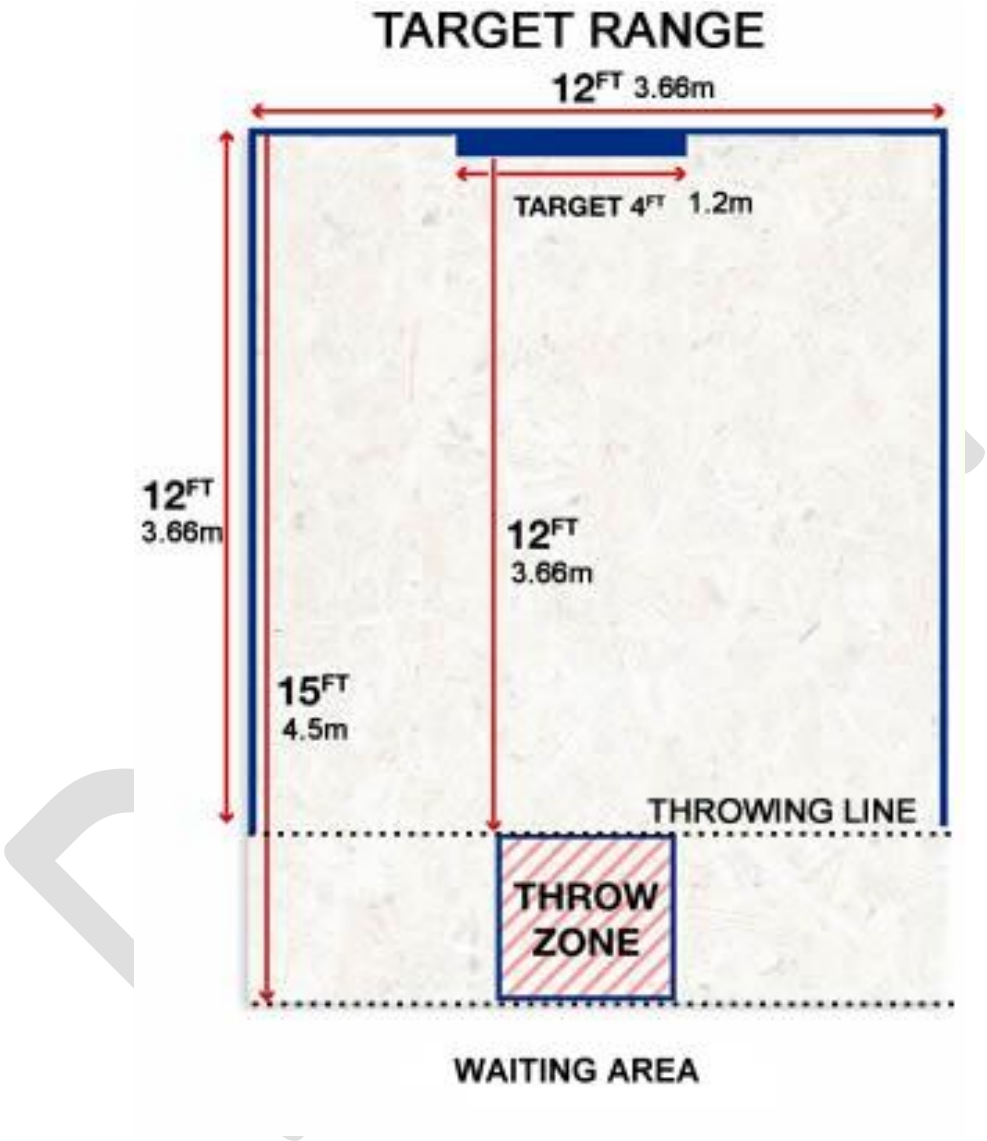
- The Axe head, blade and cheek up to the front of the eye but not past it.
- If there is no visible eye of the Axe in the top of the Axe head then it counts as where the handle would meet if going straight through.



Section 5

Fernlea Green Axe & Knife Throwing Range

- The safe Areas either side of Fernlea Green will be marked by Bunting or other method to prevent members or visitors from entering unless it is safe to do so after discussing with the Range Master.
- Mud Map of Fernlea Green is attached in Appendix A



- Members may practice outside of Club and Fayre/Open Days as long as a suitably qualified and experienced member acts as Range Master.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

Evacuation if required will be directed by the Range Master or Delegate via one or more of the exits from Fernlea Green.

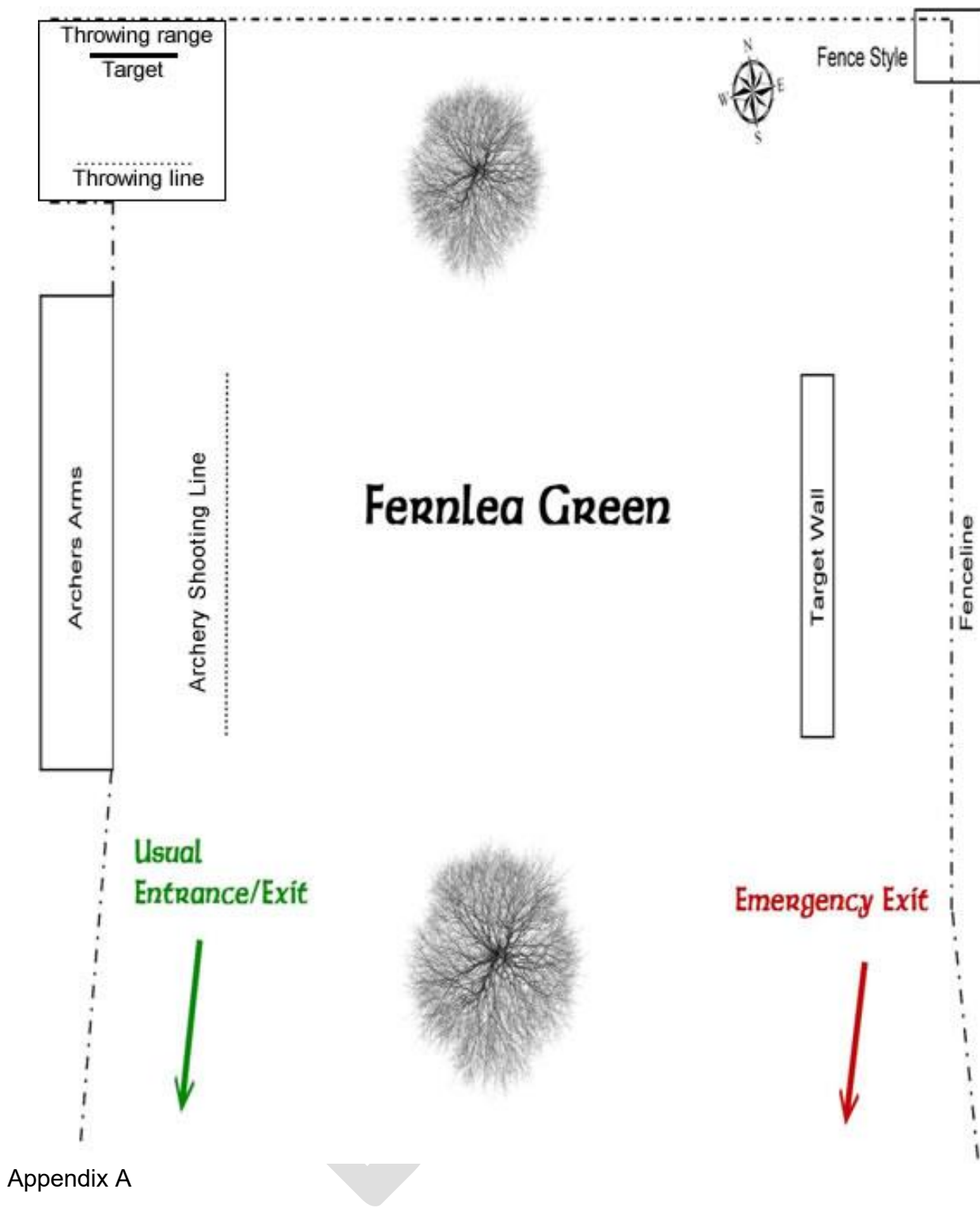
A First Aid Kit is available at the First Aid Room near the Market Kitchen and is marked with the Wound Man Sign.

Written by – Owen Raabe

References

- WATL - World Axe Throwing League Rules
- AATL Rules & Specifications
- Victory Village Archery Safety Guidelines

END OF DOCUMENT



Appendix A