

The 2019 Youth Festival: 28th July – 2nd August

The 2019 Youth Festival staged at Lilleshall – the headquarters of Archery in the United Kingdom welcomed over 180 young archers from across the country and further afield, as far as Sri Lanka.

The programme includes a variety of medal opportunities for teams, individuals and nations offering experience for young archers across both bow disciplines, Recurve & Compound in Junior, Cadet and Cub classes.

Incorporated into the Youth Festival is the Commonwealth Youth Championships for Europe for cadet class archers. Selected national teams compete in the qualification round for the individual medals, and for the EuroNation Team Trophy. In addition the selected teams compete in the International Mixed Team competition.

Archers from across the English Regions are encouraged to submit scores for selection to Team England having first entered the Youth Festival through Sport 80 on-line system. The selected team is supported by team management as well as their personal coaches and family members.

On Sunday, the start of the Festival in pouring rain all archers shot the qualification round of 72 arrows (World Archery 720) at the distances for their age group and bow discipline: 70, 60 or 50 metres.

The following day at 4.00pm in glorious sunshine the International Mixed Team (one male & one female) in the three bow divisions and age categories got underway supported by their fellow team members, club companions and team managers.

The award ceremony followed the end of shooting with medals for the teams, individual medals and certificates for the Commonwealth Youth Championships Europe and the EuroNation Team Trophy.

Since the inception of the Youth Festival in 2014 the event has grown from around 40 archers to a regular turn out of nearly 200, the event has included training for international duty, qualification for the National Series, and has with the support and encouragement of Jon Nott & Katy Cumming from AGB Competitions incorporated both the Commonwealth Youth Championships Europe and the Junior EuroNations this will lead in 2020 to an International Team Competition with the Trophy awarded on a points system for qualifying nations. In 2020 the Commonwealth Youth Championships Europe will again be incorporated into the Youth Festival.

Watch out for the prospectus to come on-line early in 2020.