

MERIDIAN ARCHER RANKING SYSTEM

The Kingdom of Meridies has a ranking system for its live weapon archers. Each rank is the average score for the archer's best 3 royal round scores as is used in the Inter-Kingdom Archery Competition (IKAC). Once an archer has submitted at least 3 scores to the keeper of the archery rankings, he or she is welcome to wear an archer's tassel that denotes their level according to color on their person or archery kit. (The directions for making the tassels are at the bottom of this document.) The archer's average is adjusted only if a greater score is submitted and once a rank is achieved, the archer holds it for life unless they raise it to a higher level. Archers are free to make their own tassels or they can be made and presented by a group's archery marshal or the DEMLW (Deputy Earl Marshal of Live Weapons).

A Royal Round is made using a standard 60cm archery target with 5 distinct colors, usually gold, red, blue, black, and white. An archer shoots at 20, 30, and 40 yards and the distance must be accurately measured. 6 arrows untimed are shot at each distance and a 30 second speed round is shot from the 20 yard distance. A full IKAC will have 2 complete Royal Rounds.

The archers listed below are in the order of their average. Archers who have submitted less than 3 scores are in a separate list below. They will be added to the main list when they have enough for their average. Only two scores may be submitted for rank from any given event, and they should be reported within a reasonable period of time after the event (two weeks at most). If an archer is allowed to shoot more than two Royal Rounds at an event, he or she may submit the best two results. Royal Round scores may be submitted from out-of-kingdom events provided that a warranted archery marshal from that kingdom supervised the shoot and submitted the information.

Scores should be sent to the keeper of the rankings list, THL Ronan MacMorton at: ronanmacmorton@hotmail.com

Consult the following table to determine the archer's current rank:

Average Score	Rank	Tassel
0-24	Archer	White
25-44	Bowman	Black
45-64	Marksman	Blue
65-84	Woodsman	Red
85-104	Yeoman	Gold
105+	Toxophilite	Gold and Green

Kingdom of Meridies

Ranked Archers

#	Archer	Home Group	Member #	Score 1	Score2	Score3
1	THL Ronan MacMorton	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	125534	116	110	100
2	THL Eckhart von Eschenbach	An Dun Theine		94	100	100
3	Fearghus Amhraidh	An Dun Theine		91	94	88
4	Marius Aetius Ariantes	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	166191	86	89	88
4	Robert De Ramus	An Dun Theine		88	85	88
5	Aoibheann an Einigh	An Dun Theine		84	86	88
6	Sean McGarrow	Nant-Y-Derwyddon		81	81	88
7	Jerrith the Archer	South Downs		78	78	78
8	THL Basil Rattenbury	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	43007	68	63	78
9	Eoghan	An Dun Theine		66	68	78
10	Ld Euogen McCullium	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	79564	65	65	65
11	Sir Shaltar Grayson	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	41723	65	63	65
12	Lord Connar O'Gwynedd	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	59414	58	65	65
13	Luna de euogen san Diez	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	158464	66	42	55
13	Master Oleathainn MacLaomuinn	Thor's Mtn		56	55	55
14	Ld Roderick of Red Castille	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	97777	40	64	55
15	Mordan Pereshenov	Crimson River		62	52	45
16	Domingos de Leon	Arenal	173868	49	59	55
17	Vittoria Apollonia di Polumbo	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	167163	44	48	45
18	Jim Mcgee	Delvingrim		39	54	45
19	Faelan Accnaid	An Dun Theine		35	51	55
20	Lord Falen Haraldson	Thor's Mtn	117982	57	24	55
28	Aenghus	An Dun Theine		56	37	55
21	Guilliams Sinclair	Thor's Mountain	174585	46	37	55
22	Catarina do Duoro	An Dun Theine		33	38	55
23	John Walter Connell	Sable Oak		49	32	55
25	Bianca Allegri	An Dun Theine		38	34	45
26	Etain Inghen Ui Brian	Nant-Y-Derwyddon		41	32	55
27	Lora Greymare	Gladenfeld		30	37	55
28	Svala Thorfinnsdottir	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	135300	29	29	55

29	Lady Gellis McDonald	Thor's Mountain	174586	28	37	2
29	Rowan	An Dun Theine		28	25	4
30	Melody George	An Dun Theine		25	25	2
31	Reinmar	Gladenfeld		16	31	2
32	Maras Qalah bint Aamir	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	52832	19	16	2
33	Rebecca Holland	Crimson River		10	8	1
34	Eva Sanchez	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	144195	12	8	1

No Completed Rank

	Sir Ian Stewart MacDonald			48	41	
	Vis Karl Helwedge	OOK	15075	46	48	
	THLady Eliza de Nizza	OOK	127822	18	18	
	Eirikr Bjoyler	The Eagle.		36	48	
	Yamazaki Yoshikazu	Osprey		25	43	
	Baron Pog O'Mahon	An Dun Theine		24		
	Robbie Mahon	An Dun Theine		14		
	Baroness Daria Joan de Courtney	An Dun Theine		20		
	Baron Gwydion ap Lywellan	An Dun Theine		58		
	Thyferyn Gwydionson	An Dun Theine		23	32	4
	Phil Lowery	An Dun Theine		25		
	Edward MacTavish	Crimson River		37		

	Iohann se Pipere	Gladenfeld		17		
	Ibur Steele	Red Wolf		25		
	Anne Seaton	Red Wolf		15		
	Nerak Ia Tisserande			21		
	Kami Straight	Nant-Y-Derwyddon		15		
	Nathaniel Black	Nant-Y-Derwyddon	150444	16		
	Naomi of Red Castille	Nant-Y-Derwyddon		17		
	Iuean Coch	An Dun Theine		15		
	Erin Matthews			28		
	Brannigan	An Dun Theine		29	41	
	Robbie Dinnock	An Dun Theine		16		
	Daria	An Dun Theine		36		
	Trey Porter	An Dun Theine		61		
	Fjorleif Runolfskona	Loch Cairn		27		
	Guaire mac Guaire			4		
	Richard Fenwick			42		
	Iastreb Desislavich	Thor's Mountain		9		
	William Robinson (Youth)	An Dun Theine		60	61	
	Jason Matlock (Talen)	Arenal	177404	27	52	
	Candy Matlock (Keena)	Arenal	177405	24	17	
	Knut	Arenal	15543	48		
	Bastian St Michael	Arenal		12		
	Brandolf (Karl Ruhl)	Arenal	50202	41	23	
	Fred Wolfe (Nicholas)	Arenal	165826	18	47	
	Francesca	Red Wolf		19		
	Geofferey McGee	Delvingrim		42		
	Valdriet Albrightson	Gladenfeld		24		
	Sir Iain Germundson	Glen Rhe		24		
	Albert Lancaster			22		
	Baron Aubeck	Glen Rhe		35		
	Madach ap Merig	Crimson River		18		
	Schora Nelea			9		
	Radu	Stone Castle		19		

	Anton Hawhelm	Crimson River		24		
	Decland the Red	Glen Rhe		10		
	Sigurd Grunewald			11		
	Hildegund			6		
	Harald Lacklander			15		
	Elena de Toledo	Gladenfeld		2		
	Rhys Faber	Gladenfeld		8		
	Brad of An Dunne Theine	An Dun Theine		7	12	
	Loach MacDougal	Glenheather		12	12	
	Raksha Kolm			7	5	
	Leanne Hart	Arenal		14	8	
	Peregrin Brambles	Thor's Mountain		24	29	
	Clay Bryson	Thor's Mountain		41	41	

How To Make A Tassel

While the DEMLW and the scorekeeper will endeavor to provide archers with a tassel appropriate for their rank, an archer is far better off knowing how to make his or her own tassel so they will be able to display their newly-attained rank right away.

For starters, you'll need yarn. I got mine at Wal-Mart, which isn't saying you can't bribe a fiber arts Laurel into spinning you some if that's what you really want. In any event, I used 100% acrylic Red Heart brand in the following colors: Aran (white), Black, Royal (blue), Cherry Red, Bright Yellow and Paddy Green. The colors for the Meridian knot are White and Black. Please note that Aran, for the Archer-level tassel, is actually an off-white; this makes the Meridian knot stand out better.

Part One: The Cord

The first step is to make the cord from which the tassel will dangle. Go and get a drop spindle. What? You don't have a drop spindle? Okay, don't panic, we'll make one. First you'll need a pencil; sharpen it, then cut a small notch in the wood just below the eraser. Now grab a medium-sized potato. Stick the sharp end of the pencil into the potato, trying to keep it centered. Eureka! A drop spindle. Now take the yarn of your tassel color and pull out a strand until your hands are stretched as far apart as they will go. Cut this off and tie one end to the drop spindle (just an overhand not, you'll be untying it later). Now stand up, hold the loose end of the yarn,

and spin the drop spindle IN THE SAME DIRECTION that the yarn is twisted; in other words, you're twisting the yarn even tighter. You'll have to spin it several times, until it really resists any further tightening and the strand is visibly shorter. Okay, put the loose end you were holding into your mouth. Seriously. Don't let go. Untie the other end from the spindle, again not letting go. You'll notice the yarn really wants to kink up; that's good. Now, with your free hand, take the end out of your mouth, hold the ends as far apart as you can, then grab the middle of the strand with, you guessed it, your mouth. Bring the two loose ends together and grab them securely in one hand, and let go with your mouth. The yarn will spin together and form a cord. You'll probably have to run your free hand down it several times to work out the spots where it goes sideways rather than down (you'll see what I mean), and maybe even untwist it a little, but once you have a single cord, tie off the loose ends in a knot. Now do it again. The whole drop spindle, twist it tighter, stick it in your mouth, bend it in half bit. You'll wind up with a stout cord that's much, much shorter than the strand you started with. Tie the loose ends off again, and set that aside. Now you're ready for:

Part Two: The Tassel

Now take a high school or college yearbook, or some other tome about a foot tall. Grab your yarn again, and start wrapping it around the book, long-ways. Count as you wrap, and when you get to 40 revolutions, stop and cut the yarn off. (For anyone fortunate enough to be making a Toxophilite tassel, make about 25 revolutions with the gold, then cut it off; tie the green onto the end, and make another 25 or so wraps, all to one side of the gold. When you look at the finished product, it should be green on one side, gold on the other.) Okay, grab the cord. Slip one end of it underneath the wrapped yarn at the top of the book. Then untwist the bent end of the cord (opposite the knotted end) just enough to feed the other end through it, and pull it very tight. The cord now secures the top of your tassel. Slide the tassel off the book, and with a pair of scissors cut the bottom end of the loop so all the strands hang free. Congratulations, you're halfway there. All that's left to do is:

Part Three: The Knot

Have you ever made a bowstring? Yes? Good, because this part is just like serving a bowstring. If you have trouble with it, find a Middle Eastern dancer who's wearing a tassel belt and ask them how they made theirs. But be nice, offer to rub their feet or something. To knot the tassel, first take the white yarn and pull out a strand (but don't cut it from the skein). Put the loose end of the strand about 1/3 the way down the tassel, pointing at the loose ends of the tassel; trail the yarn up to about where the cord is, then double back an inch or so. It should look a little like a letter "J" lying on your tassel. Now, holding the top end of the tassel (including the bend in the "J") firmly, start wrapping the yarn (from the end still connected to the skein) around the tassel. Wrap it tightly. You will be crossing over that strand of yarn you left, binding it down with the rest of the tassel. Continue wrapping until you have about three inches covered, but UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES are you to cover the loose end of the white yarn! Leave at least half an inch sticking out. Once you've gone as far down as you should, double back and wrap upwards again, but just enough to cover the first layer. When you get back to the top, cut the yarn so you have a couple of inches loose. Okay, see where that bend in the "J" was? It's now a loop sticking out from under the wrapping. Take your loose end and wrap it twice through this. Now, grab the other end of the white yarn, the one down toward the bottom of the tassel, and pull it gently but firmly until the loop at the top disappears underneath the wrapping. Now cut both of the loose ends so they're flush with the wrapping. To make the black band in the center of the white, do exactly the same thing, only smaller. Make sure to leave about one-third of the white showing on either side of the black. Now, grab your scissors again and give the loose end of your tassel a trim, making sure it hangs nice and even. And you're done! You now have a rank tassel