

2023 Arkansas ArcheOlympics Rulebook



Welcome to the 8th Annual Arkansas ArcheOlympics!

Participate in fun archeological themed games that challenge you to learn about survival methods in prehistory, the techniques professional archeologists employ, and cultures of the past in Arkansas and around the world. Brought to you by the Arkansas Archeological Survey, this event is free and open to the public. Form a team and join in the fun or come join us to cheer on our archeoletes!

Location

Arkansas Archeological Survey, WRI Station
1 Rockefeller Drive
Morrilton, AR 72110

Time 10am to 3pm, October 14, 2023
(Arkansas Archeological Society is providing Lunch!)

Teams

Teams must consist of 4-6 archeoletes. Participation is open to everyone *except* professional archeologists.

Register your team by October 6

To register go to: <https://bit.ly/3Bhz3AN>

2023 ArcheOlympic Committee Contact Information
Primary Contact: Michelle Rathgaber
(mmrathga@uark.edu)

The Games

Atlatl and Spear

Accurately throw spears at a target and throw spears the greatest distance to flex your hunting skills. (see page 3 for more details)

ArcheoTrivia

This quiz event showcases your knowledge of Arkansas archeology and archeological methods. (see page 4)

Excavation to Curation Race

Navigate obstacles and challenges to bring your team victory! Complete a multi-leg journey that represents the stages of the archeological process from field to lab. (see page 5)



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEM
**ARKANSAS
ARCHEOLOGICAL
SURVEY**

Arkansas ArcheOlympics

General Rules and Information

- Teams must consist of at least 4 and not more than 6 players. If you have many people who want to participate, form multiple teams.
- Archeoletes can NOT be professional archeologists. Sorry colleagues - you can be coaches but not ringers! Professional archeologists, if you are not serving as a coach, please contact us about serving as an event judge.
- There is no minimum (or maximum!) age requirement, but all children under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian with them during competition.
- Archeoletes are banned from having digital devices (or study aids!) on their person during competition. You may leave devices in vehicles, or with friends, but cannot have them on you or use them during competitions. Getting caught competing with any digital device will result in immediate disqualification of the entire team.
- Calls of “time” must be strictly obeyed. Attempts to run over will result in disqualification.
- Archeoletes may use any style of atlatl they like, but spears will be provided so that they are standardized. Archeoletes may not use their own spears.
- Audiences and coaches are strictly prohibited from advising the competitors during competition. Conferring with the audience or your team coach during competition will result in disqualification.
- Please arrive no later than 9:45 to get your team checked in. Competitions will start promptly at 10:00 am.
- The Arkansas Archeological Society will be providing lunch! Lunch will be grilled burgers and hotdogs (including vegan/vegetarian if indicated on registration form), chips, cookies, and soda/water.
- All competitions will end at 2:30 – at which point there will be an awards ceremony.
- *In the event of a tie in any event or for the overall gold, the ArcheOlympics Committee reserves the right to do a coin flip tie-breaker.*



Arkansas ArcheOlympics

Atlatl and Spear

This competition consists of two types of throws, distance and accuracy. Each archeolete will have a chance to throw two spears at a target. If the spear hits the target, you get 5 points. Throws will take place from 10 meters from the target.

Each archeolete will then throw one spear for distance. Points will be awarded based on the number of teams playing, with the farthest throw being given the most points and the shortest the least.

Scores will be tallied by an official scorekeeper for each throw. The event judge makes the final ruling regarding the point value of each throw.



“Misfire” rule; If an archeolete misfires (spear slips from atlatl notch before throw is complete) and the spear lands less than 2 meters from the throw line, the archeolete may re-throw that spear. Judges will be final arbiters on whether a throw is a misfire or not.

All team members may play, but only the top three individual scores from each team in each throw category will be combined for the team score. There are two sets of prizes in this competition.

Atlatl and spears will be provided at the event and our spears must be used to throw, but archeoletes may choose to use their own atlatl.

For more information about atlatl and spear:

http://waa.basketmakeratlatl.com/?page_id=177

<http://basketmakeratlatl.com>

<http://www.thudscave.com/npaa/designs/>

<http://www.thunderbirdatlatl.com/>

(for simplicity's sake the “Ozark Bluffdweller” design is recommended)

Arkansas ArcheOlympics

ArcheoTrivia

This competition tests archeologists' knowledge of Arkansas archeology, world archeology, and archeological methods, ethics, and law. Teams will play round robin style, starting with a drawing to determine play order and continuing around until each team has been asked 5 questions.



How to play

On their turn, a team will choose a category from which to answer a randomly drawn question (Each category will have 5 questions and when one has been asked it will not be available again in that round). You will have 30 seconds to give an answer after the question has been asked by the judge. A correct answer is worth 1 point, an incorrect or no answer is worth 0.

Tips

- The Arkansas archeology questions are based on information that can be found on the Survey's website (archeology.uark.edu).
- The world archeology questions will be about UNESCO World Heritage Sites (This year we will focus on sites from the continent of Africa).
- The archeological methods questions will be based on best practices in archeological field and lab methods in North America.
- The archeological ethics questions will be based on the SAA and SHA ethics statements (<https://www.saa.org/career-practice/ethics-in-professional-archaeology> and <https://sha.org/about-us/ethics-statement/>)
- The archeological law questions will be based on Federal and Arkansas laws that govern archeology, many of which can be found here: <https://archeology.uark.edu/state-archeologist/laws/>

Arkansas ArcheOlympics

Excavation to Curation Race

This game is changing slightly from previous years!! The object of this obstacle and challenge course is to complete the race circuit in the shortest possible time. Each leg of the race will simulate a part of the archeological process from fieldwork through lab work. Each race section will have its own challenge, some that you will complete as a team, some individually. In some parts of the course, you will navigate physical challenges, in others you will need knowledge of Arkansas archeology to succeed.

How to play

Each team will run the course once as a team (although some sections will be completed by individuals) and the score will be based on the time from start to finish plus penalties for certain mistakes along the way.

The final layout and length of the course will not be revealed until Game Day. All players and the audience will be introduced to the course and its challenges together before any runs begin.



Scoring

The main basis for the score will be the elapsed time recorded from leaving the starting line to crossing the finish line. An official timekeeper will be designated who will keep time with the same device for all players. Archeologists who incorrectly answer a question posed to them about Arkansas archeology will have to continue to answer until a correct response is given.

What to study

- Know the main chronological phases of Arkansas prehistory
<http://archeology.uark.edu/indiansofarkansas/index.html?pageName=Academic%20Perspectives>
- Study the artifacts from the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Artifact of the Month series <https://archeology.uark.edu/artifacts/>
- Know how to lay out a 1 m x 1 m unit as a team.
- Understand how to draw conclusions about the time period during which a site was occupied based on artifacts and features excavated from the site.