制級品式蠖尺流馬田

品一	1st Pin
品二	2nd Pin
品三	3rd Pin
品四	4th Pin
品五	5th Pin
品六	6th Pin
品七	7th Pin

Revision 20261025A

Mandatory Stamps on Valid Certificates

	Seal of the Virtue Committee.
	Seal of Jie Tian.
	Seal of Justin Ma.
	Self-discipline and ethical comportment, even when no one is watching.
	The Way of Archery. This seal can only be issued during the Ceremony where JIe Tian, Justin Ma, and all members of the Virtue Committee must be present.

Stamps for Superlative Certifications

	Strength Specialist

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
七到四品 (小成) 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for 7th--4th Pin (towards 小成)

This voluntary examination is an opportunity to be inducted into the Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School. The School consists of 7 Pin (品) or ranks, with 7th--4th Pin (七到四品) representing Trainees working towards Xiaocheng (小成), the 4th Pin. The 3rd--1st Pin (三到一品) represent the progression towards Dacheng (大成), the 1st Pin. Once the candidate achieves Dacheng (大成), the candidate becomes an Instructor and may open their own branch of the Tian-Ma School. NOTE: 7th--4th Pin holders will have their statuses downgraded by 1 Pin for every 4 years they do not attempt another exam.

額外要求 **Other Requirements for All Pins**	
筆試 **Written exam**	Pass the written exam for your Pin.
禮貌禮節 **Character & Etiquette**	Be in good standing with the founders (Jie Tian, Justin Ma) and the Virtue Committee (Kay Koppedrayer, Jaap Koppedrayer, Duke Bhuphaibool).
遞交文件 **Documentation**	One-time: provide a 2” x 2” passport-style photo for documentation purposes.
資費 **Fees**	Submit an exam fee of $20 USD to cover exam materials and documentation.
宣誓 **School vow**	Must be signed by candidate upon induction into school.

General Rules

- 1st Pin will become a member of the Virtue Committee.
- 3rd Pin becomes permanent. For 7th--4th Pin, the 4-year downgrade rule applies.
- 大成: 3rd--1st, when reaching 1st Pin, the Dacheng plaque will be issued.
- 小成: 7th--4th, if a follow-up exam attempt isn’t made for 4 years, the Pin level for is downgraded 1 level.
- When reaching 4th Pin, the Xiaocheng (小成) plaque will be issued.
- Trainees who are 5th Pin or higher are qualified to proctor exams outside of the primary exam site (Odum, Georgia, USA) IF they have permission from the Tian-Ma School. Candidates who pass off-site exams earn Provisional Pin status until they obtain “The Way of Archery” stamp on their certificates.

Chinese Bow

This section specifies bows that must be used for the examination.

- Must have the profile resembling one of the following:
    - Chinese horn bow from the Zhou, Han, Tang, Song, Ming, Qing dynasties (and intervening periods)
    - Or Chinese bamboo composite bows of the Han-through-Tang dynasties
- Must have standard string notches. (Modern recurve-style string notches are disallowed.)
- Can be made with synthetic or natural materials.
- No arrow shelf. No stabilizers.

Some examples of bows that meet the criteria for Chinese bow:

- Xiaoshao (小稍) profile depicted in Ming Chinese manuals
- Dashao (大稍) profile depicted in Ming Chinese manuals
- Qing dynasty bows
- Changshao (長稍) profile seen in artwork from Tang and Song dynasties

Some examples that do NOT meet criteria for Chinese bow:

- Modern Korean traditional bows
- Ottoman Turkish bows

If the eligibility of a bow is in doubt, the Founders and Virtue Committee have the final say of whether it is allowed for the examinations.

Natural Equipment

Some parts of the exam require or incentivize use of Natural Equipment. This section provides specifications.

- Natural Bows
    - Made from natural materials such as
        - Horn composite bows
        - Bamboo bows
        - Wood bows
        - Wood-bamboo bows
        - Wood-sinew bows
        - Bamboo-sinew bows
    - Bowstrings and glues can be natural or synthetic
    - “Biocomposites” are prohibited
- Natural Arrows
    - Shaft and fletching made from natural material
    - Nocks can be natural or synthetic materials
    - **No broadheads**. Target practice points only.

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
七到四品 (小成) 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for 7th--4th Pin (towards 小成)

This voluntary examination is an opportunity to be inducted into the Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School. The School consists of 7 Pin (品) or ranks, with 7th--4th Pin (七到四品) representing Trainees working towards Xiaocheng (小成), the 4th Pin. The 3rd--1st Pin (三到一品) represent the progression towards Dacheng (大成), the 1st Pin. Once the candidate achieves Dacheng (大成), the candidate becomes an Instructor and may open their own branch of the Tian-Ma School. NOTE: 7th--4th Pin holders will have their statuses downgraded by 1 Pin for every 4 years they do not attempt another exam.

	七品 **7th Pin**	六品 **6th Pin**	五品 **5th Pin**	四品 **4th Pin**
先決條件 **Prerequisite**	Attend at least 1 prior CAP or permission from Instructor + Founders	Hold a current 7th Pin certification.	Hold a current 6th Pin certification.	Hold a current 5th Pin certification.
Live Archery Exam				
射技把式 **Form check**	4 out of 8 pass	7 out of 8 pass (hands, bow + draw shoulders, draw length mandatory pass)	7 out of 8 pass (hands, bow + draw shoulders, draw length mandatory pass)	7 out of 8 pass (hands, bow + draw shoulders, draw length mandatory pass)
射禮標準 **Ritual inspection during shooting**	NONE	NONE	NONE	知曉 Introducing
近射標準 **Shooting (28m, target 20” x 20”)**	Hit 1 of 6. Or 0 of 6 (w/ 7 out of 8 form check).	Hit 1 of 6. Or 0 of 6 (w/ 8 out of 8 form check)	Hit 2 of 6. Or 1 of 6 (w/ 8 out of 8 form check)	Hit 3 of 6. Or 2 of 6 (w/ 8 out of 8 form check)
遠射標準 **Shooting (50m, target 72 inches x 36 inches)**	NONE	NONE	NONE	Hit 2 of 4
高階達標 **Superlative requirement**	NONE	NONE	NONE	Earn any Specialist badge
基礎禮節 **Exam etiquette**	After your turn, wait for the next candidate to complete their turn and collect that candidate’s arrows for them.			

高尺蠖式田馬流
三到一品 (大成) 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for 3rd--1st Pin (towards Dacheng 大成)

This voluntary examination is an opportunity to be inducted into the Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School. The School consists of 7 Pin (品) or ranks, with 7th--4th Pin (七到四品) representing Trainees working towards Xiaocheng (小成), the 4th Pin. The 3rd--1st Pin (三到一品) represent the progression towards Dacheng (大成), the 1st Pin. Once the candidate achieves Dacheng (大成), the candidate becomes an Instructor and may open their own branch of the Tian-Ma School. NOTE: 7th--4th Pin holders will have their statuses downgraded by 1 Pin for every 4 years they do not attempt another exam.

	三品 **3rd Pin**	二品 **2nd Pin**	一品 **1st Pin**
先決條件 **Prerequisites**	Hold a current 4th Pin certification	Hold a current 3rd Pin certification	Hold a current 2nd Pin certification
	Use natural arrows	Use natural arrows	Use natural arrows
		Service to community	Service to community
步射大考 **Live Archery Exam**			
射技把式 **Form check**	8 out of 8 pass	8 out of 8 pass	8 out of 8 pass
射禮標準 **Ritual inspection during shooting**	不惑 Great Standard	不逾矩 Excellent Standard	从心所欲不逾矩 Perfect Standard
近射標準 **Shooting (28m, target 15” x 15”)**	Hit 3 of 3.	Hit 3 of 3.	Hit 3 of 3.
遠射標準 **Shooting (50m, target 69 inches x 16 inches)**	Hit 2 of 3.	Hit 2 of 2.	Hit 2 out 2.
高階達標 **Superlative requirement**	Earn 力士 or 迅急 or 左右开弓	Earn 力士 or 迅急 or 左右开弓	Earn 力士 or 迅急 or 左右开弓
基礎禮節 **Exam etiquette**	After your turn, wait for the next candidate to complete their turn and collect that candidate’s arrows for them.		

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
力士 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for Strength Specialist

This is a superlative certification that may be attached to your regular examination certificate. Earning a superlative in the current year allows you to make an extra exam attempt in the following year (lifetime limit of 1 extra attempt; extra attempts expire once candidate reaches 4th Pin).

Requirements for Certification of Strength Specialist

1. Take the regular exam in the current year.
2. Pass the 力士 exam
    a. Judge verifies on-site **using the official measurement draw board** that your bow measures 100#+ at your specific draw length. (Judge reserves the right to ask you to mark your draw length on your arrow to make judging easier.)
    b. Make 1 shot at your measured full draw (you get up to 3 attempts).
    c. During that shot, you must follow proper form to ensure safety
        i. Proper bow shoulder
        ii. Proper draw motion (arrow angle must not point up during draw)
        iii. Proper hand technique (no arrow jostling on the hand at full draw)
        iv. Draw length and Release (no obvious collapse of draw length)
        v. Composure (no excessive grunting or gesticulating)
3. Be in good standing with the founders (Jie Tian, Justin Ma) and the Virtue Committee (Kay Koppedrayer, Jaap Koppedrayer, Duke Bhuphaibool).

NOTE: Out of safety consideration, judges may stop and nullify your exam attempt at any time.

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
迅急 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for Speed Specialist

This is an enhanced certification that may be attached to your regular examination certificate. Earning a superlative in the current year allows you to make an extra exam attempt in the following year (lifetime limit of 1 extra attempt; extra attempts expire once candidate reaches 4th Pin).

Requirements for Certification of Speed Specialist

1. Take the regular exam in the current year <u>for 4th Pin or higher</u>.
2. Pass the 迅急 exam
    a. Shoot 6 arrows at 2 targets set 10 meters away (centers of targets are 1--1.5 meters apart).
    b. Start with 1 arrow already nocked. Other 5 arrows must be at the waist in a belt or in a quiver.
    c. Must alternate targets after each arrow (e.g., shoot left-right-left-right-left-right, or right-left-right-left-right-left). Complete this with a total time of **30 seconds or less** (including penalty seconds).
    d. Follow proper form during each shot. Shots without proper form count as misses.
        i. Proper bow shoulder
        ii. Proper draw motion (arrow angle must not point up during draw)
        iii. Draw length (no short draws)
    e. Target miss penalties.
        i. 1 miss - 3 seconds
        ii. 2 misses - 7 seconds
        iii. 3 misses - 12 seconds
        iv. 4 misses - 18 seconds
        v. 5 misses - 25 seconds
        vi. 6 misses - 33 seconds
3. Be in good standing with the founders (Jie Tian, Justin Ma) and the Virtue Committee (Kay Koppedrayer, Jaap Koppedrayer, Duke Bhuphaibool).

NOTE: Out of safety consideration, judges may stop and nullify your exam attempt at any time.

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
左右開弓 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for Ambidextrous Specialist

This is a superlative certification that may be attached to your regular examination certificate. Earning a superlative in the current year allows you to make an extra exam attempt in the following year (lifetime limit of 1 extra attempt; extra attempts expire once candidate reaches 4th Pin).

Requirements for Certification of Ambidextrous Specialist

1. Take the regular exam in the current year.
2. Pass the 左右開弓 exam
    a. Distance: 28 meters away, 20” x 20” target (same as standard exam)
    b. Shoot 3 arrows right-handed, then 3 arrows left-handed (or vice versa). You may choose which hand to start with.
    c. Must use the same bow for both sides.
    d. After finishing the first side, you have 60 seconds to switch sides.
    e. Hit requirement: 2 out of 3 left-handed, and 2 out of 3 right-handed.
    f. Form check requirement: 8 out of 8 for both sides.
3. Be in good standing with the founders (Jie Tian, Justin Ma) and the Virtue Committee (Kay Koppedrayer, Jaap Koppedrayer, Duke Bhuphaibool).

NOTE: Out of safety consideration, judges may stop and nullify your exam attempt at any time.

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
飛箭 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for Flight Archery Specialist

This is a superlative certification that may be attached to your regular examination certificate. Earning a superlative in the current year allows you to make an extra exam attempt in the following year (lifetime limit of 1 extra attempt; extra attempts expire once candidate reaches 4th Pin).

Requirements for Certification of Flight Archery Specialist

1. Take the regular exam in the current year <u>for 6th Pin or higher</u> (i.e., be a current holder of 7th Pin or higher).
2. Pass the 飛箭 exam
    a. Compete in a sanctioned flight archery competition using an Asiatic bow
    b. Provide video of one of the shots during competition (to verify your are using proper form)
    c. Proof of participation
    d. Meet or exceed 75% of the division's record distance
3. Be in good standing with the founders (Jie Tian, Justin Ma) and the Virtue Committee (Kay Koppedrayer, Jaap Koppedrayer, Duke Bhuphaibool).

NOTE: Out of safety consideration, judges may stop and nullify your exam attempt at any time.

高潁尺蠖式田馬流
古法 考試
Gao Ying Inchworm Form, Tian-Ma School
Examination for Old Ways Specialist

This is a superlative certification that may be attached to your regular examination certificate. Earning a superlative in the current year allows you to make an extra exam attempt in the following year (lifetime limit of 1 extra attempt; extra attempts expire once candidate reaches 4th Pin).

Requirements for Certification of Old Ways Specialist

1. Take the regular exam in the current year <u>for 4th Pin or higher</u>
    a. Must use natural arrows
    b. Must use natural bow
2. Be in good standing with the founders (Jie Tian, Justin Ma) and the Virtue Committee (Kay Koppedrayer, Jaap Koppedrayer, Duke Bhuphaibool).

NOTE: Out of safety consideration, judges may stop and nullify your exam attempt at any time.

Principles of the School

學貴得師，亦貴得友
尊師重道，友愛同學
精誠團結，和衷共濟
謙虛好學，樂善好施

It is fortunate to meet a good teacher, it is even more fortunate to discover a friend.
Respect and love your teachers and your fellow students.
Sincerely unite, overcoming challenges together.
Be humble and eager to learn, joyful and generous in giving.

Historical Background

愛人者，人恒愛之；敬人者，人恒敬之 **-**孟子

A person who loves others will always be loved by others; a person who respects others will always be respected by others. **-Mencius**

射者，進退周還必中禮。內誌正，外體直，然後持弓矢審固。持弓矢審固，然後可以言中，此可以觀德行矣。射者，仁之道也。射求正諸己，己正而後發。發而不中，則不怨勝己者，反求諸己而已矣。孔子曰：君子無所爭，必也射乎。揖讓而升，下而飲，其爭也君子。**-**禮記·射義

The Book of Rites says you need to follow the ritual standard when you are shooting. When your inner spirit is true and your outer body is straight, then you can hold the bow and arrow with concentration and solidity. When you hold the bow and arrow with concentration and solidity, then you are truly able to hit. This is the path to virtue.
Archery is the benevolent way. Archery requires rectifying everything about yourself; when you are rectified then you can shoot. If you shoot and miss, do not blame the victor --- that would be counter to the essence of self-improvement. Confucius said: The gentleman has no need to compete, but if he must let it be through archery! He rises to the platform, bowing in deference. He descends for the ritual drink. This competition is about being a gentleman. **-Book of Rites, On the Meaning of Archery**

《記》曰「三王四代唯其師」。其此之謂乎！凡學之道：嚴師為難。師嚴然後道尊，道尊然後民知敬學。是故君之所不臣於其臣者二：當其為屍，則弗臣也；當其為師，則弗臣也。大學之禮，雖詔於天子無北面，所以尊師也。**--**禮記·學記

It is said in ancient books that "ancient monarchs would choose teachers as the most important task", which means that respecting teachers is extremely important in education. It is not easy to achieve the goal of respecting teachers and valuing education. Only by respecting teachers can we value the knowledge they impart. When the emperor respects and values teachers, the

people will be able to focus on their studies. Therefore, there are two types of people whom the emperor does not treat as his subjects: one is the person who represents the deceased in sacrifices[1], and the other is the teacher. According to the rites and laws, when the emperor summons these two types of people, the etiquette of meeting the emperor can be waived, all in the name of respecting teachers and valuing education. **-The Book of Rites, On Learning**

古之教者，家有塾，黨有庠，術有序，國有學。比年入學，中年考校。一年視離經辨誌；三年視敬業樂群；五年視博習親師；七年視論學取友，謂之小成。九年知類通達，強立而不反，謂之大成，夫然後足以化民易俗，近者說服而遠者懷之，此大學之道也。《記》曰：「蛾子時術之。」其此之謂乎！-禮記·學記

In ancient times, schools were established to provide education. Every "lu" consisting of 25 families had a school called "shu". Every "dang" had its own school called "xiang". Every "shu" had its own school called "xu". Great university was established in the capital city.

Every year, schools would admit students, and every other year they would examine the students. In the first year of enrollment, students were examined on their basic reading abilities such as punctuation and understanding of articles. In the third year, students were examined on their concentration and friendship with their classmates. In the fifth year, students were examined on their knowledge and closeness to their teachers. In the seventh year, students were examined on their ability to discuss academic matters and skills of making friends. This stage of learning was called "xiaocheng (small achievement) ".

In the ninth year, students could deduce general principles from specific facts and had strong beliefs, never violating the teachings of their teachers. This stage of learning met the standard of "dacheng (big achievement)".

Only then could they educate the people, change the customs, and make people near and far genuinely admire them. This was the purpose of education in the great universities. It is said in ancient books, "those who seek knowledge should emulate the spirit of ants carrying dirt unceasingly to build a dirt mound, and study tirelessly from xiaocheng to dacheng."

-**The Book of Rites, On Learning**

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[1] In ancient times, when worshiping ancestors, it was necessary to first set up a "corpse" to represent the deceased, and this "corpse" was often played by the descendant, who received the worship of relatives and friends. At the beginning of the worship ceremony, relatives and friends took turns to light incense and kowtow, while the "corpse" could accept nine rounds of offerings of wine and food. Later, the "corpse" was gradually replaced by wooden figures and spirit tablets.

School Vow

今朝起，
一：同为异姓兄弟姐妹，不念此情者，除名。
二：听闻同门外省远洋做客，先询一顿餐酒，不思亲情，诈作不知者，除名。
三：同门如有前仇旧恨，不得再行记念。违反者，除名。
四：同门蒙受不公，性命攸关，不争者，除名。
五：欺师灭祖，藐视前辈，违背校规誓言者，除名。
愿互敬互爱，精诚团结。

From this day forward,
1. Brothers and sisters of different surnames are united. Those who do not cherish this bond --- expelled.
2. When hearing word of a fellow student visiting from another province or from overseas, one should offer a meal. Those who do not consider this kinship or who feign ignorance --- expelled.
3. Even if fellow students harbor old grudges, from now on they shall not bring them up again. Those who violate this --- expelled.
4. If a fellow student faces injustice that threatens their life, those who do not stand up for their fellow student --- expelled.
5. Those who deceive their teachers, dishonor their ancestors, disrespect their senior students, or violate the school's rules and oaths --- expelled.
We embrace mutual respect and affection. Sincerely united.

To complete certification, successful candidates will sign and adhere to the School Vow, which will be read aloud during the awarding of exam certificates. The spirit of the Vow takes precedence over the letter of the Vow. For example, if providing hospitality could create undue hardship for the host, the guest must be mindful of that. Remember, the spirit of the vow is one of *sincere* unity among schoolmates. In such matters, the Tian-Ma School reserves the right of final interpretation.

Changelog

- 20240120A
  - Initial revision
- 20241011B
  - Update to 4th--6th pin live exam requirements
  - Update to Speed Specialist details.
- 20250322A
  - New Ambidextrous Specialist
  - Clarification on extra attempt limits on all Specialists
  - Clarification on Speed Specialist requirement
- 20250803B
  - Exam contents
    - Long distance requirements for 4th and higher
    - Ritual requirements for 4th Pin and higher
  - Formatting changes to exam requirements
- 20260827A
  - Updated rule on extra attempts from Superlative completion: “lifetime limit of 1 extra attempt; extra attempts expire once candidate reaches 4th Pin”
  - General rules moved to dedicated section on 3rd page
  - Rules an acceptable bows to use for the examination
- 20261025A
  - New “Natural Equipment” section
  - New Flight Archery Specialist
  - New “Old Ways” Specialist
  - Updates to 3rd through 1st Pin prerequisites
    - Natural material arrows and service to community
  - Update to General Rules around issuance of Xiaocheng and Dacheng plaques