

## World Archery Congress, Mexico City, October 2017

### Technical Committee Report

By Don Rabska, Chairman

**Committee Members:** Susanne Womersley, Jonathan Shales, Olivier Grillat,  
Dr. Chiu, Ping-Kun, Don Rabska

Technical Committee Report to Congress, Mexico City, Mexico, October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2017

#### A. Technical Committee Decisions - Following is the list of interpretation requests submitted to the Technical Committee since the last Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark, 2015

##### 1) Request for interpretation on Finger Tab submitted by Bueskytterforbundet

Issue: Interpret the legality of a tab with homemade thumb rest for the Barebow division.

Decision: It was the unanimous decision of the World Archery Technical Committee that the finger tab depicted in the attached photos is fully legal in all Divisions with the following provision.

It was indicated that the small metal extension added to the tab is used **only** for the purpose of consistently placing the thumb on the tab. If the device is found to have alternate purposes other than described, for example, but not limited to a type of draw check indicator, then the tab would be legal only in the Compound and Recurve divisions and illegal in all other divisions.



## 2) Requested for interpretation by Iceland Archery Committee

Issue: arrow rest legality for use in the Recurve Division (see photo below).

Decision: It was the unanimous decision of the Technical Committee that the arrow rest presented by the Iceland Archery Committee is fully legal in the recurve and bare bow divisions. Rule 11.1.3 (22.3.3 for Bare Bow) An arrow rest which can be adjustable.

Under the rule, any arrow rest is legal in the Recurve and Bare Bow divisions as long as it is within 4 cm (2 cm for Bare Bow) inside of the pivot point of the grip, does not offer an additional aid in aiming and is not electric or electronic.



## 3) Request for interpretation submitted by Archery Association of Namibia

Issue: Decision required if bow is considered camouflage (see photo below)

Decision: It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the particular bow depicted in the photo is legal in the compound division.

The decision is based on the fact that the current by-law under 11.3.3 covering athlete equipment is contradictory and therefore unenforceable. The by-law states “Athlete equipment shall not include camouflage **colors** of any kind”. Considering that multi-colored risers are legal, example: 11.1.1.1. Multi-coloured bow risers and trademarks located on the inside of the upper and lower limb or on the riser are permitted, and the fact that the by-law is contradictory in other areas well, makes it void of authority. By disallowing camouflage **colors**, which would include bow colors very commonly used such as black, green, brown or tan, it is not possible to enforce the rule.

Due to the contradictory nature of the by-law, the Technical Committee submitted recommended changes to the rule wording to provide better clarity and reduce ambiguity.



**4) Request for interpretation submitted by Archery Austria**

Issue: Is a Barebow sling attached with a weight at the stabilizer bushing considered a shock absorbing device

Decision: It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the bow sling was not considered a shock absorbing device and is legal for the Barebow division. By examining the bow sling, it has a steel grommet in which the stabilizer weight connecting bolt passes through. This grommet acts as a washer providing a solid bearing surface between the weight and the bow riser, the same as a typical washer would provide. Even if the bow sling were solid leather, once the weight is screwed tightly to the bow, the material is compressed sufficiently to produce a sufficient bearing surface where no vertical or lateral displacement of the weight can be achieved.

A shock absorbing device allows for dampening of vibration produced in the bow at the moment of release and throughout the power stroke. Technically, we can see no evidence where this attachment would act to dampen vibration or create some type of advantage.

**5) Request for interpretation Submitted by Swiss Archery Association**

Issue: Double sight window for use in non-sighted divisions (see photos below)

Decision: It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the secondary sight window style cut out (as shown in the photo examples) is not legal in any non-sighted divisions. The top portion of the second cut out by definition creates a *protrusion*, therefore contravening all rules associated with non-sighted bow divisions. In a technical application, the corner of the protrusion is within the bows sighting range where it is close enough to the arrow to be useful for aiming as a sighting reference.

The bow would be allowed in non-sighted divisions if the archer's view of the sight window is taped to eliminate the appearance of the "corner".



**6) Request for interpretation – Submitted by U.S.A. Archery**

Issue: What is the allowable Team Uniform variation during major events

Decision: It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the following information should be adopted concerning team uniforms. Archers like any athletes come in all shapes and sizes and they come from different climates and have different physical makeups. They also have different tolerance levels regarding the elements as well as various medical needs and requirements.

In regard to team uniforms, if the colours, brand and pattern designs are matching, different athletes from the same team should be able to choose between long or short sleeve shirts/blouses, shorts, skirts and pants. They should be able to choose the style of collar they prefer as well. The athletes top is especially critical to athlete performance and should be considered a piece of technical equipment. It must function well for the conditions, not restrict movement in any way nor interfere with the process of shooting. By adopting the idea that everyone on the team should be allowed to dress in the best way a particular athlete feels comfortable and that the uniform meets the technical needs of that athlete (as long as the same colors and uniform pattern are utilized), they should be allowed to have the flexibility and personal comfort to produce best performance opportunities.

**7) Interpretation request Submitted by U.S.A. Archery**

Issue: Barebow Tab with horizontal lines produced by the manufacturer of the product (see photo below).

Decision - It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the Barebow tab is legal for use in the Barebow division of World Archery. The tab has lines of uniform shape, color and spacing produced by the manufacturer of the product. Although there are two lines of differing length, both are uniform in their length and in all other aspects. Should tabs be produced with more than two differing line lengths for the Barebow division, it would be necessary for additional review by the World Archery Technical Committee and Field Committee.



Barebow tab produced by the Yost Archery Products.

## 8) Request for interpretation submitted by Federation of Canadian Archers Inc.

Issue: Use of “look through” riser (see photo below).

Decision: It was the unanimous decision of the Technical Committee that the bow riser shown below is legal in all sighted Divisions. It is however not legal for Barebow or other non-sighted Divisions.

Additionally, the Technical Committee has also determined this riser to be illegal for use on unmarked field courses due to the ease of framing and possible ranging by using the second (“look through”) sight window created by the specific riser design.

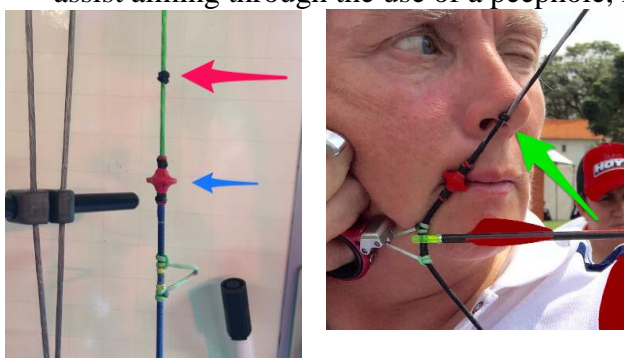


## 9) Request for Interpretation submitted by Archery GB

Issue: W1 Lip and Nose Mark Interpretation

Decision: It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that having two lip or nose marks or combination of two (or more) attachments on the bowstring for this purpose is not legal. Our understanding is that the W1 Division is much the same as the Recurve Division under Chapter 11, with those few exceptions noted in Chapter 21, 21.4.4. For this reason, Rule 11.1.2.1 applies to this request.

11.1.2.1. (Referring to Bowstrings) “Which may be of different colours and of the material chosen for the purpose. It may have a centre serving to accommodate the drawing fingers, a nocking point to which may be added serving(s) to fit the arrow nock as necessary, and, to locate this point, one or two nock locators may be positioned. At each end of the bowstring there is a loop which is placed in the string nocks of the bow when braced. ***In addition one attachment is permitted on the string to serve as a lip or nose mark.*** The serving on the string shall not end within the athlete’s vision at full draw. The bowstring shall not in any way assist aiming through the use of a peephole, marking, or any other means”.





## 10) Request for Interpretation submitted by Argentine Archery Association

Issue: Barebow weights for the Barebow Division.

Decision: It was the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the weight connection device shown in the photo below is not legal in the Barebow Division under Rule 22.3.6.2, which states, “Weight(s) may be added to the lower part of the riser. All weights, regardless of shape, shall mount directly to the riser without rods, extensions, angular mounting connections or shock-absorbing devices”.

The Technical Committee determines that the weight attachment contravenes existing rules considering that the weights are attached to an extension that consists of an extended mounting connection and not directly to the riser as is required under the rule.



## B. Miscellaneous points of discussion and possible future rule modifications

### 1) Submitted by-law change - modified rule for finger tabs

11.1.8./22.1.8 Finger protection in the form of finger tape, shooting glove (wrist strap allowed), finger tab or a combination of finger protection to draw and release the bowstring is permitted, provided they do not incorporate any device that assists the athlete to draw and release the bowstring.

11.1.8.1./22.1.8.1 Finger protection may incorporate an anchor plate for anchoring, thumb or finger rests for non-drawing fingers, finger straps around fingers to secure finger protection to the hand, finger separator between fingers to prevent pinching the arrow, tab plate/s for securing tab materials/layers together and plate extensions for consistent hand placement may be used. Finger protection may be made of any number of layers and material. No part of the finger protection may extend around the hand between thumb and fingers or beyond the wrist joint or restrict wrist movement. On the bow hand an ordinary glove, mitten or similar item may be worn but shall not be attached to the grip of the bow.

#### Existing Rule

11.1.8. Finger protection in the form of finger stalls or tips, gloves, or shooting tab or tape, to draw and release the string is permitted, provided they do not incorporate any device that shall assist the athlete to draw and release the string.

11.1.8.1. A separator between the fingers to prevent pinching the arrow may be used. An anchor plate or similar device attached to the finger protection (tab) for the purpose of anchoring is permitted. On the bow hand an ordinary glove, mitten or similar item may be worn but shall not be attached to the grip of the bow.

- 2) The Technical Committee, in an effort to modernize, streamline and provide more clarity to the current Athlete Equipment rules has presented to Congress rule modifications and by-law changes for both Chapter 11 and Chapter 22.

In conclusion, I sincerely wish to thank all of the members of the Technical Committee, (Susanne Womersley, Jonathan Shales, Olivier Grillat and Dr. Chiu, Ping-Kun) for their hard work and dedication to the past and future success of World Archery.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Rabska  
Chairman, World Archery Technical Committee