

JUDGING NEWSLETTER

WORLD ARCHERY FEDERATION

ISSUE #111

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1. Editorial

from Sergio Font, Chairman of WA Judge Committee

Dear Judges

Newsletter 111 is being published just prior to the World Archery Congress in Berlin. Several motions and proposals have been submitted for Congress approval, but none of the motions will have an impact on the shooting rules, given that this Congress is held in the year before the Olympic Games.

This will be my last editorial as Chairman of the Judges Committee. I am happy that the list of candidates for the Committee at the Congress in Berlin is full of great judges and that the new Committee will for sure be a great one.

After 28 years as a member of the Judges Committee, I have worked with very capable people including Chairmen Don Lovo (1995-1999), Gianpiero Spada (1999-2007) and Morten Wilmann (2007-2019). This interaction with our committee members and our judges along these years has made a decisive impact on me.

I want to thank all my fellow committee members for their hard work and camaraderie. I will miss being part of the Committee but will continue to be an international judge for a few more years. I am proud to have been appointed as a judge for the World Championships in Berlin.

Best regards,

Sergio



2. Passing of Aaron Vamosh, former WA judge

On behalf of the Israeli Archery Association and community, it is with a sad heart that I must inform you of the passing of former WA judge and chairman of WAE para committee, Mr. Aaron (Arik) Vamosh, at the age of 73 in his bed surrounded by friends and family. Arik was a pioneer, and even though he became paraplegic in the 1973 war, he didn't let that stop him. Amongst many other achievements in his life, he was also the first WA judge with a disability.

You can read more about him here:

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2021-10-24/ty-article-magazine/.premium/how-an-injury-in-the-yom-kippur-war-turned-me-into-a-medal-winning-athlete/0000017f-e966-df5f-a17f-fbfe31dc0000>

May his memory be blessed.

Guy Matzkin

Secretary General, Israeli Archery Association

3. Passing of Cliff Bluck

We received the sad news that Clifford (known as "Cliff") Bluck, a former international judge from Wales, passed away in May 2023 aged 90.

Born in 1932 in Wales, he served as an international judge from 1982 into the early 2000s, officiating at the World University Archery Games in Belgium in 1993, the World Indoor Championships in Birmingham, GBR, in 1995, where he was the Chairman of Judges and the World Games in Japan in 2001.

Bluck was particularly active in field archery, officiating several major tournaments including the Europeans in 1995 and three worlds – in 1996, 2000 and 2004.

He was made a judge emeritus in 2005 until stepping down in 2019.

Cliff was a mentor to other GB Judges, most notably Derrick Lovell (who chaired the Judge team at the Sydney Olympic Games) and was very active within the GB Judging team generally, heading the National Judge Committee and ensuring GBR Judge standards were maintained at a high level. Cliff generally kept himself very fit and is known to have climbed part way up Everest – thus tackling a mountain much bigger than the hills of Wales where he came from! The chair of World Archery's judging committee Sergio Font and secretary general Tom Dielen expressed their condolences, Dielen adding that Cliff was, "always calm, with a great sense of humour".



This photo was at the 2000 World Field Championships in Cortina. From left to right the field crew manager, IJ Cliff Bluck, and Sergio Font.

4. 2023 Adaptive Equipment

There have been several bylaw changes and interpretations for Para Archery recently. Assistive devices are now known as adaptive equipment in keeping with the International Paralympic Committee (IPC). An Adaptive Equipment Resource Guide has been added to Appendix 2 of Book 3 to help explain what to look for, how to measure, and the intent behind the use of the equipment.

The recent changes for the wheelchair include lateral support and strapping as well as anti-rolling devices. The biggest change is that **any** wheelchair athlete may now use lateral support without it being on their classification card. If the athlete has a classification card that says body support/strapping, then they are allowed to use a single 5 cm strap for W2 athletes and any type of strapping for a W1 as long as it does not support the bow arm. Newer classification cards will have just strapping on them since all wheelchair athletes may now use lateral support.

1.1.2. For all wheelchair athletes, any lateral support defined as anything that prevents the athlete falling sideways in the chair by providing support to the side of an athlete's trunk above the pelvis is allowed.

1.1.2.1. A lateral support may not protrude further forward than half the width of the athlete's rib cage measured as the half point between the base of the sternum (breastbone) and the spinous process at T7 (midback).

So what is lateral support? Lateral support is defined as anything that prevents the athlete falling sideways in the chair by providing support to the side of an athlete's trunk. The rules state that a lateral support may not protrude further forward than half the width of the athlete's rib cage. It is measured as the halfway point between the base of the sternum (breastbone) and the spinous process at T7 (mid back).



Measuring half the body width

There are many variations of lateral support on a wheelchair. As long as they are half the body width and 110 cm below the athlete's armpit, they are acceptable.



*Uprights as lateral support
 Protrusion*



Molded seat back



Below is a picture of side support that does not give trunk support to an athlete because it is below the pelvis (waist height). Because it is not giving support, it can be greater than half the body width of the athlete. It is very common to see this on the athlete's wheelchair.



Support below the pelvis

A last consideration of potential lateral support is the armrest. Because they are normally above the pelvis and longer than half the width of the athlete's body, they are considered lateral support and the athlete may not lean on them during their shot process. It is our job to observe whether or not they are using it and ask them to move it away from their body. Many athletes have arm rests but do not lean against them while shooting.



Athlete using armrest as lateral support

The new bylaw about anti rolling devices replaces the 2012 interpretation. Athletes are not able to use these unless the ground is sloped. If one side of the wheelchair is lower than the other, then they are allowed to use a piece of wood or other material to level the chair. There is also a limitation to only 2

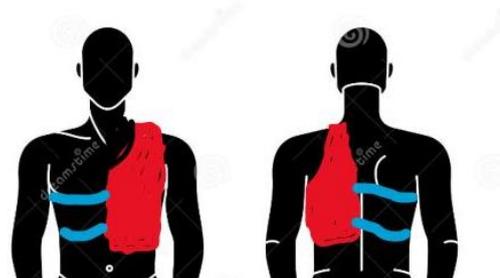
devices in front of or behind the rear wheels. The anti roll devices are not to be used on a final's platform because is flat and even.

1.1.6. A maximum of two anti-rolling devices (wedges) behind or in front of the rear wheel, may be used only if there is significant slope at the shooting line shooting position surface. At flat shooting positions (artificial or ground) surfaces, anti-rolling devices (wedges) in contact with wheel(s) and the shooting position surface are not allowed. Chair mounted wheel brake devices that do not contact the shooting position surface are permitted.

The concept of lateral support of the trunk appears in the new release aid system changes. The new guidelines state that the release aid system cannot give lateral support to the athlete's trunk. As long as the bottom of the system does not go below the ribcage, it is not giving lateral support. The other new criteria for the release aid system is that the rigid material can only cover ½ of the athlete's trunk. Strapping to hold it in place cannot be rigid.



Lateral Trunk support given
Check Level of bottom ribs



Half the body width which is legal

4.2. The release aid system cannot function as a form of lateral support or provide added trunk support.

a. A release aid system must not sit below the bottom of the rib cage. The rigid material of a release aid system may not wrap more than 1/2 of their trunk. Lacing or a strap may be used to secure the system around the rest of the trunk. Any exceptions will be clearly marked on the *comment section on the front of the classification card and the rationale will be explained by the Classifier on the back of the card. A picture of the unique system should be placed on the front of the classification card.*

An assistant is given to an athlete in the W1 or ST class that cannot safely or efficiently load their bow. The new bylaw does not allow the assistant to speak to the athlete during active shooting. They may load an arrow or change the sight during shooting but may not communicate or spot an athlete's arrows. A coach may stand behind the waiting line and spot the athlete's arrows.

10.3. The athlete can give directions to the assistant only for loading arrows or adjusting sight or other pieces of the athlete's equipment. The assistant must remain silent during the end of shooting and not

provide coaching to the athlete in any way. In particular, the assistant is forbidden to spot, or to use a scope or binoculars.

A Spotter, on the other hand, is for the Visually Impaired (VI) Athlete. The biggest change for the Spotter is that they must now sit 1 meter behind the athlete. They are allowed to spot the arrows but they are not allowed to make changes during the shooting sequence. All changes must be made between the shooting end.



21.12.9.1. A VI athlete is permitted to have a person acting as a spotter who must sit behind the athlete 1m behind the shooting line

21.12.9.2. The role of the spotter is to tell the athlete the position of the arrows in the target face and also to inform them of any safety issues.

21.12.9.3. The spotter shall not disturb the other athletes while giving coaching assistance.

21.12.9.4. When the athlete has finished his scoring arrows, the spotter will go behind the waiting line. The athlete may remain on the shooting line throughout the shoot or return behind the waiting line at the athlete's discretion.

21.12.9.5. The spotter may only adjust the sight and/or set up equipment between practice and/or scoring ends. The spotter may guide the athlete to the target and back to the shooting line. The athlete may adjust his tactile sight at any time during the shooting.

The last major change is the interpretation in April 2023 on using a tablet or phone with a scope to spot the arrows. The technical committee found it illegal to use such a set up because the athlete can use binoculars, a regular scope or have a coach spot for them.

"It is the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the use of Tablets, Smart phones or any other electronic media devices for the purpose of enhancing spotting scope images are not legal. Such a device would directly contravene Article 11.3.1. Article 11.3.2 has no provision for allowing such devices to enhance spotting scope images. Para rules have no provision in the rules to allow this type of assistive device. Therefore, such devices are not allowed in any division of World Archery or Para Archery."

Megan Tierney, IJ, IC

5. Judging Structure in Spain

The Royal Archery Spanish Federation is the national federation for Archery Sport Events in Spain. At all Archery Championships in Spain, from WA homologated local championships to the national championships, a certain number of judges (3 minimum, one of them national) and athletes (32 minimum in WA categories) must be present to ensure that everything is in conformity with the rules.

Our judge's system consists of four levels:

1. Autonomic Judges, this level is controlled and formed by some of 19 regional federations, not all of them have Autonomic Judges.
2. Judges or Regional Judges (Level 1), who can Judge at local or regional events, and could be in national events.
3. National Judges (Level 2), who will be present at National Championships and tournament with WA Star or Target Award status.
4. National Judges of Safety (Level 3), same on competitions as Level 2 but with responsibilities with safety on Outdoor, Indoor and Field & 3D Courses. These Judges of Level-3 make the safety report for the authorities, having the field of play or courses must abide a rule (Spanish law) more restrictive than the C&R WA.

You can act as a judge from 16 to 70 years of age, but to be a judge you must meet certain requirements: Judge Level-1, Be at least 16 years old, not exceed 65 years of age, be in good standing, the candidacy must be submitted by your regional federation and approve preliminary access.

National Judge, the requirements are identical, but you must be a Level 1 Judge with accredited 3 years and be at least 18 years old.

National Judges of Safety, same requirements as National Judges, but certifying 4 years of activity accredited as National, and being at least 22 years old.

For all levels, a minimum of 2 tournaments per year are required, otherwise you must attend a reaccreditation seminar. Also reaccreditations are every 3 years for everybody.

The judge access courses have a preliminary online phase of at least two weeks, in which you must complete an online test at the end, which, passing it, gives you access to attend the seminar with the others.

The seminar varies according to the level, being 30 hours of training for the Regional or National and 10 hours for Safety. After the seminar, the following controls are carried out: Minimum 50 questions test, 4 practical cases and a psychotechnical, for Regional.

For National, it is identical but including a personal interview. In Safety is very important, the practical test on a proposed installation.

After the seminars, the candidates must carry out 3 practical tests in real competitions, being for Regional an indoor tournament, another outdoors and another to choose between field or 3D, all of them evaluated individually by a National or Safety Judge, that cannot always be the same judge.

For Nationals, 4 practical tests in competitions organized by the Spanish Federation are required: indoor, outdoor, field and 3D, being evaluated in the same way as in the previous case of Regional.

The agenda of the seminars includes WA C&R, bylaws, interpretations, Spanish Rules competitions (tournament for kids, S-15, longbow and traditional in outdoor or indoor, special categories and events,...) , and theoretical-practical tests at all levels, as well as knowledge of FOP set-up, safety,

procedures on competitions, DOS, manual of judges, reports of the event,... the seminar agenda covers 4 archery disciplines: indoor, outdoor, field and 3D in all judge levels. For Nationals, special cases, specific procedures in championships and alternate shooting are studied. Actually, our family of reaccredited judges in Spain has more than 170 members.

David Catalan Ramon

6. Report on 2023 Hyundai World Cup Stage 1 in Antalya

As we have come to expect from Antalya events, the general organisation and co-operation with the organisers was excellent, as was the co-operation between Judges, WA Head of Events and Marketing (Thomas Aubert), the Results team and other World Archery staff.

A few issues arose during the event which I feel need to be highlighted here:

1. Open Practice

With 391 athletes, and a 64 target field, open practice was "challenging" – athletes had to be reminded it was two detail shooting, and they needed to leave the line after shooting the first detail and not stay on. There were complaints from some teams that they could not get a place to shoot. Additionally, we had a significantly large amount of athletes equipment present such that it was a surprise nothing seemed to get damaged. Nearly all equipment inspection was concluded during the session, and the remaining athletes were picked up the following day.

2. Coaches position on the FOP.

We followed the layout as used last year at World Cups, with a 3m waiting line, and a coach line at 6m, with athlete equipment to be between the 2 lines. Additionally, media "boxes" had been added within the 3-6m area, although many media chose to ignore this, and needed reminding. Coaches were allowed to be at the 3m line, but many remained at the 6m line as they did last year.

During team matches this layout did cause some issues with team space and the positioning of the Judge – one small incident occurred which was well handled by one of the Judge team.

3. During equipment inspection it became apparent that it was really time for WA to invest in new bowscales for the Judges to use at the events. Following discussions with some of the compound athletes, new scales were ordered by Thomas Aubert, and were available at the second World Cup Leg.

4. Difference between being "Pre-Seeded" and having a "Bye".

This occurred during the Team Matchplay, with pre-seeded teams having a space to shoot "warm-up", and two teams also having a bye. We allowed all pre-seeded teams to warm-up and shoot a bye, as would the two teams with a bye, as this was a fairer approach to all. A suggestion has been made in the event evaluation that we should look to enhance the rules or have an interpretation to give clearer guidance on what to do when teams or individuals are pre-seeded.

5. There were a few minor dress infringements during official practice which were rectified ahead of competition.

6. Team support in simultaneous team match play shooting.

We did have some issues with the level of support shown by team coaches and team mates during the simultaneous shooting matches. There were 3 teams where not only was the coach very loud, but also the other team mates shouting when their colleagues shot an arrow – this was very off putting to other teams nearby and a complaint was received which was acted upon and the noise level decreased.

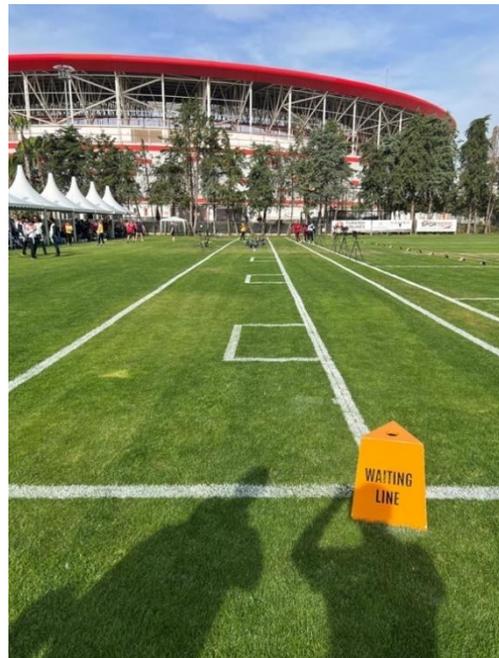
7. For the finals, National/Continental Judges checked uniforms and equipment at the warm-up area which meant that no issues on uniform were seen when the athletes arrived at the call

room. The call room was quite busy as athletes went in and out of the FOP from the same place, and media were present as well for interviews. However, there was generally very good co-operation during the finals.

8. On a very positive note, one senior athlete (who has been competing many years at this level) spoke to me after acting as agent, and said it was possibly the best experience as an agent, with very clear instructions given and a well organised area. It is always gratifying to get these types of complements and know that the hard work does not go unnoticed.

My thanks to the appointed Judge team, DOS, and all the National/Continental Judges from Turkey who gave us invaluable support during the whole week.

Graham Potts, GBR
COJ



FOP layout with the Media Boxes.

7. Seminar in Singapore

The WA Judge Seminar was held in Singapore from 2 to 4 June, 2023. After a long gap of 7 years the seminar was held in Asia again (last one was in Osaka, Japan in 2016). The seminar was also combined with an Asian Continental Seminar so the participants could learn from the WA instructors themselves. The sessions for the seminar was conducted by Indranil Datta, Robert Erica from the WA Judge Committee and was joined by Karla Carbera given her great experience and familiarity with the continental culture. The same format was followed where the participants were required to successfully go through the e-learning process before coming to the seminar and the seminar was complemented with a practical session. The good part was since Asia Cup tournament was being held right after the seminar, the participants were taken to the field for getting the practical experience on a live field where they could carry out field inspection and other activities like arrow calls, target procedure, etc. For the first time, the quick test at the start of our seminar/conference was done online using Slido – in the same fashion the reaccreditation stress test was performed – and it received good appreciation from the participants. Overall the seminar saw participation of over 60 national and continental judges, amongst whom 24 continental judges from Asia, Europe and America took the WA IJc test and we have the below list of Judges who have been successful in passing the exam. On behalf of the WA Judge Committee we take immense pleasure in congratulating and welcoming them in the WA community.

LAW Siew Kie (MAS)
AJETI Benjamin (AUT)
DAVIS Eric (USA)
GAJIC Marusa (SLO)
MATSUYAMA Nanaka (JPN)
Jantan Pangestu Insani (INA)
HOSSEINI FARAHABADI Samaneh Sadat (IRI)
CHU YikFai Sunny Rachel (HKG)
NAMBUKARA WELLALAGE Thivanka Dinindu Thilakarathne (SRI)
HOSSEINI Seyedehzahra (IRI)
SNG Min-Wei (SGP)
AYOUBI Liliana (SYR)



8. Pictures of Recent Judge Commissions



World Cup in Medellin 2023



Central American and Caribbean Games in San Salvador



World Cup in Antalya 2023



World Youth Championships in Limerick, IRL

9. Answers to case studies newsletter N°110

110.1 - At an indoor event, with multiple qualification sessions, there is a shoot off for 32nd place to progress into the elimination round. As the archers had shot their qualifications in different sessions, the shoot-off is planned and announced in the schedule at a set time between the last qualification session and the elimination round. At this event, a shoot off was needed between 6 archers. 5 of them would progress to the elimination round. At the scheduled time, 4 of the 6 archers are present and were ready to shoot their shoot off. How would you handle this shoot off and what happens with the 5th available position in the elimination round?

Answer:

In coordination with the technical delegate, I would declare the four archers who showed up as winners of the shoot-off. There is no need for them to actually shoot the shoot-off. These four archers will proceed to the first elimination round. They would be ranked according to the number of 10's and 9's. The 5th position is left empty. This applies for international events. Other alternatives could be used depending on the level and the specific conditions of the tournament.

110.2 - In the Bronze medal match of the compound women event, archer A brings only 5 arrows to the finals field of play. She realizes only when the second end has started as she finds out that there are only two arrows in her quiver. While her opponent is shooting her first arrow, archer A starts telling her coach that she needs one arrow. The DoS, who is quite near and understands archer A's language, lets the clock run down to zero when archer B shot her arrow in only 8 seconds making time for the runner to bring arrows back from the targets.

Archer A is finally able to shoot her three arrows and wins the match. Archer B's team appeals that the DoS slowed timing down to help archer A.

What would you decide if you were a jury member?

Answer:

It is not Archer A's fault that the DoS let the clock run to zero. The DoS did not abide by rule 13.6.2 that reads "As soon as the first arrow is shot and the score is posted or the time runs, the countdown clock for the opponent athlete is started to indicate the appropriate 20 or 30 second period to shoot one arrow". Jury should not penalize the archer as this was not his fault. Jury should recommend that the DoS be warned for not having followed the proper procedure.

10. Case Studies N°111

111.1

The last archer on team A steps to the shooting line to shoot the last arrow of his team in a match (alternate shooting) versus team B. There are 23 seconds left on the clock when the archer starts his shot execution. He has trouble completing his shot and decides to return behind the 1 meter line, forgetting that he was the last archer and no other team member could step in.

With 10 seconds left on the clock, his team members "push him back" to the line so he could shoot his arrow, and he crosses the line with his arrow on the string.

Scenario a) - The judge raised his yellow card, the archer returned behind the 1-meter-line and stepped to the shooting line again with his arrow in the quiver, but had no time to shoot the arrow. His team manager files an appeal against the yellow card.

Scenario b) - The judge does not raise his yellow card. The archer shot his arrow. The team manager of team B files an appeal.

Scenario c) - The judge raised his yellow card, but the archer did not return and shot his arrow. The judge raised his red card. Team A filed an appeal.

What would you do in each of the three cases if you were the Jury Chairman?

111.2

At an IWS event with multiple qualification sessions, a shoot-off was needed to determine who would go to the elimination round. There were 3 archers for 2 places. At the time of the shoot-off, 2 archers were present. Just when the judges wanted to declare the shoot-off to be forfeited (and won by the 2 archers ready to shoot), the third archer runs to you and tells you he is present. He just needs a few minutes to set up his bow that is with him in his case.

The judge involved tells him he is too late and declares the 2 other archers as the winner, by forfeit, of the shoot-off.

What do you think of this decision of the judge?

The 3rd archer then files an appeal, claiming he was present at the time of the shoot-off and that he should not be declared having lost the shoot-off. Demanding a new time for the shoot-off to be shot. What would be your decision if you were a member of that Jury of Appeal?

***Replies to case studies should be sent to
sderiaz@archery.sport by 1 September 2023***