

## JUDGING NEWSLETTER

WORLD ARCHERY FEDERATION

ISSUE #112

December 2023

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### 1. Editorial

from Indranil Datta, Chairman of WA Judge Committee



Dear Judges,

This is the first Newsletter since the election of the new Judge committee. While it took us sometime to reach this point, as some of you may already know, the committee has been really busy conducting seminars and conference (1<sup>st</sup> one of the next accreditation cycle which was held in Singapore), reviewing the rules and raising interpretation and bylaw requests for further ease of conduct of our judges, appointments for next year, etc. Though this year we did see some judging issues cropping up at events, that does not take away from the fact that the team has performed great work overall across the year at various international and continental levels. Having said that, given that the coming year is an Olympic year, and will have multiple qualifying events at international as well as continental level culminating at the Olympics, I would like to remind our judges the importance of the same and the need to be at the top of our game in the coming season.

And most importantly, from all of us in the committee and the Judge family, I would like to thank the members of the last committee, especially our previous chair Sergio Font, for the tremendous work that was performed under his guidance. We definitely want to keep the ball rolling at the same pace.

Finally, as we near the end of the year, I do want to wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas and a happy & prosperous New Year ahead.

Indranil

## 2. Newly upgraded judges

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The Judge Committee congratulates the following judges for their upgrade to International Judge status:



Li Xinping (CHN)



Nasrin Ghashghaei (IRI)

## 3. World Archery Judge Outstanding Service Award

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The Judge Committee is happy to award with the World Archery Judge Outstanding Service Award



Karla Cabrera (PHI)



Angelina Chan (SGP)



Klaus Lykkebaek (DEN)

Many thanks for all the years of service.

## 4. Indoor archery – Key reminders

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As we all know, archery both outdoors and indoors takes place all year round across the globe, but with this newsletter being published just as World Archery commence the Indoor Series for 2023/24, it seems an ideal time to give a few reminders regarding indoor shooting.

### **Venue Layout:**

- The distance tolerance for 18m and 25m (the two indoor distances) is only 10cm. This also applies if the shoot is taking place outdoors at these distances.

- The waiting line can be as close as 3m to the shooting line – it all depends on the space available for equipment and seating.
- Athlete spacing for indoors is a minimum 80cm.
- Safety – this has to be considered in the context of shooting in an enclosed venue (if outdoors, the outdoor requirements for safety will still apply). The key item to consider is the various access points to the venue are they secure/safe during shooting? Common sense applies!
- No flags or windsocks are required indoors!
- Angle of the Butts – must be between 0-10% (this would also apply outdoors if shooting these distances) as the arrows fly “flatter” with less distance to travel.
- Face layout – check and follow the rule book guidance (see Rule Book 2 – start at 7.2.4). Remember that both vertical triple spot and triangular triple spot faces can be used, as can single 10 zone 40cm faces (60cm for 25m) as well.
- Check a sample of faces for use – remember the “joint 10 ring” (i.e. has both recurve and compound 10 zones) can be used for World Record Status events.

### **Equipment Inspection:**

- In following the same rules as for outdoors, the key difference will be in arrow size – with larger diameter arrows up to the maximum of 9.3mm for shaft, and 9.4mm for point, will be in use. Also ensure that arrow wraps do not exceed 22cm from the throat of the nock. With some other archery organisations, larger diameter arrows are permissible – therefore we must be alert to this and check if necessary. While it is often noted that some size arrows are permissible within the rules, it is necessary for the Judges to check.
- Don't forget to be alert to electronic devices attached to the bow – ensure any batteries are removed or the item itself removed – brackets used to attach the devices to the bow may remain in place.

### **Judge Actions – shooting line**

- With a tight shooting line for space, it is possible judges will have to use tact and discretion to ensure all athletes are safe on the shooting line and not interfering with each other.
- As ever, we need to watch for unsafe draw techniques, in particular drawing to the side indoors, which could affect the athletes alongside them.
- The 3m line is marked as it is outdoors. Depending on the flooring, we may have differences in what happens to an arrow if it falls within the area – if it is a sports hall floor, or hard floor, the arrow may skid outside the 3m area. If it does so, the arrow is considered shot.

### **Judges Actions – Arrow value calling**

With the smaller faces and larger diameter arrows, Judges can spend more time indoors having to make arrow value judgments. So be prepared.....

- Lighting indoors can affect how you see the arrow in the target. One of the best ways to help is to have a magnifying glass with a built in light or have a small torch/spotlight available to use. You will be surprised how much the additional light can help.
- Judges may have to be far more careful, given the indoor face set-ups, to avoid touching other arrows within the target face. We cannot ask for any arrows on the boss to be removed to get a better view, as the removal may impact the face/arrow that you need to look at. In some instances the use of a dental mirror may be beneficial, although we recommend practice with a dental mirror before use.
- Remember that the process of checking an arrow value (looking from both sides, once only) does not change indoors from outdoors – we follow the same process as usual.
- When checking an arrow value for a Compound 10 on a “mixed” face (i.e. has recurve 10 and compound 10) remember that you are checking to the upper scoring line only, and judge it from the compound 10 line only.

- As always, be sure about your process for calling an arrow value and be certain with your decision.
- We may find that athletes call for new faces more often indoors than out, as they believe the target not to be fit for purpose for them. The Judge has the final decision on whether a target face needs to be changed or not.

### Shoot-offs

- Individual shoot-off arrows must be shot at the middle spot of a 3 spot face (vertical) and the top spot of a 3 spot face (triangular).
- The process for measuring remains the same as outdoors – we look for nearest the middle. If this cannot be determined by eye, we then need to measure from the nearest side of the shaft to the centre of the target (the x).
- In many cases in an indoor shoot-off, we find that both arrows have “obliterated” the x, and we cannot see where to measure to. In these instances we have to consider which arrow is more “concentric” to the middle of the target, which would mean the arrow has therefore hit the centre more accurately. An example of this might be, when looking at a compound shoot-off and both athletes using large diameter shafts, that one shaft has taken out the x, but is touching the inside edge of the compound 10. The other arrow has also taken out the x, but does not touch the edges of the 10 ring – thus this arrow is therefore more concentric or central to the middle and be declared the winner.

### Scoring – 3 spot faces

Scoring on 3 spot faces indoors can be likened to scoring on the 3 spot faces shot in Field Archery. The process to determine scores is the same.

Most of the time, we have no issue – there is one arrow in each spot (as per the rules) and it is thus easy!

What do we do if there is more than 1 arrow in one of the spots?

There is a 3 phase process to go through which helps determine the right score in these sort of situations:

1. Work out the individual arrow values.  
When there is more than one arrow in a spot, the highest scoring (highest arrow value) in that spot is given as a miss, and the lowest arrow value retains its score. E.g. with arrows in the 10 and 8 on one spot, the two values would be 8 and miss.
2. Work out all the arrow values and score the lowest 3.  
Having worked all the individual values out, we write down the lowest three – including those recorded as a miss. For example, athlete has shot 4 arrows and has a 10 in the top, a 9 and 8 in the middle spot, and a 7 in the bottom spot. The scores are 10, 8, 7, miss (the 9 in the middle spot is a miss). So we record the lowest three, which is 8,7,M.
3. Apply any other penalty that has occurred – for example an arrow has been shot out of time.  
This is our normal process, that after having recorded the three values on the scorecard, we then apply any penalty by striking through the top scored arrow and giving it as M.

So in our example through the process, if the 4 th arrow had been shot out of time, the result would be a score of 8,7,M recorded, and then the 8 would be struck through and given as a miss – i.e. ~~8~~<sup>M</sup>, 7, M – and of course the scorecard initialled by the Judge.

To help with indoor scoring, there is a presentation available on the Judge Training Aids [link on the WA Website](#) page for International Judges.

One final thing.....all of the above applies when we are Judging WA events. If you are appointed to Judge at Vegas, where you will be Judging both the Vegas event as part of the larger Vegas team of Judges – supporting the NFAA Judges, and also the Indoor World Series Finals, you need

to be aware that the rules for the Vegas shoot differ from those applied for the Indoor World Series Finals. The NFAA team will be in touch with you beforehand, and it is likely that you will undertake their online Judge Course prior to attending the Vegas shoot – it is important you do so, as you will be applying the Vegas rules most of the time, but the WA rules then apply when judging the Elimination and Finals rounds for the Indoor World Series!

## **5. Team officials on the Field of Play**

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This year for the first time we have seen the introduction of a strict control on the number of Team Officials (TO) on the Field of Play (FoP) which has led to the introduction of new sanctions for the teams who were found in violation of the rule.

WA TD was directly counting TOs on the FoP giving them a first warning when the number was exceeding the maximum. If the team was found guilty a second time, they got a second warning and an exclusion for all the TOs on the FoP for one (1) day, finals field included. At the third warn they got an exclusion for all the remaining days of competition. This means that some athletes or teams were shooting the finals without their coach or an official support behind them. Of course, an exception was made for the medical staff in case of emergency.

But how does this rule work? [Book 3 art. 18](#) give us a definition of who is considered a team official (Team Manager, Coaches, medical staff, upgraded athletes, etc.) and it specify that there may not be more than one (1) TO on the FoP for each competing athlete with a maximum of four (4) and can be increased by one TO per category only if the Association has athletes competing in more than two categories at the same time. The intention of the rule is to give fair opportunity to all the teams avoiding having the field full of TOs and TM and also giving more space to athletes. Reaching the TOs limit on the field means that if, as an example, there is the need for a medic to enter the FoP another TO (like a coach) must go out of the field to give its "space" to the newcomer. Also, any athlete who is not competing must be considered as a TO on the FoP and so counted as part of the officials on the field, this (of course) should be applied with common sense. As an example, if an athlete has just lost the match and is disarming its bow is not part of the count but if it's checking arrows with the scope he should clearly considered as a TO and warned accordingly.

As judges one of our duties is, also, to keep track of the count during the competition for this reason CoJ and Deputy, or a specifically designated judge, should collaborate with the TD and randomly check the numbers of TOs on the field to avoid excesses and prevent any unpleasant exclusion.

## **6. Conference in Singapore**

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On December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> the first Conference of this reaccreditation period has been held in Singapore and has seen Graham Potts and Martino Miani as lecturers.

The agenda was a little different from usual and didn't start with the classic warm-up test but with a survey to get feedback from participants and let the committee have some data on topics to improve on. The morning continued with some updates from the committee, recent bylaws and interpretations and a presentation on the role of the DOS. The afternoon continued with a detailed presentation on procedures and different roles and responsibility during match scoring, some word from Graham about the Road to the Olympics and then there was the usual case study moment that have seen the attenders working in groups to solve the presented cases giving their opinions on how they would have solved the problems.

At the beginning of the second day the beloved stress test has put our colleagues under pressure for a while before continuing the agenda with presentations regarding Para Archery, the role of CoJ and Deputy and all the newly approved bylaws regarding 3D and Field. An open forum concluded the conference creating a good moment of constructive sharing of real-life experiences, solutions, and expectations for the future. The judge committee is working on feedback and comments to improve the next event and our performances on the Field of Play.

The next conference will be in Medellin (COL) from 5 to 6 April 2024.



- Judges during case studies -



- From left to right: Paia War Nongbiri, Rupesh Kar, Junji Ozawa, Logan Andrew, Susanne Womersley, Yinan Qu, Martino Miani, Ranjan Bhowmik, Pecilius Tan, Nasrin Ghashghaei, David Tan, Graham Potts, Maki Nakano, Alison Hagaman, Tsung-Yi Wu, Ahmed Koura, Yasuhiro Shiwaku, Eddie Yip, Xinping Li -

## **7. WA Timing software for DOS**

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WA Timing System is now available on the judge's webpage for all the judges who wants to practice with it before an event.

You can find it on WA website at this link:

<https://www.worldarchery.sport/sport/education/judging>

The program is quite simple to install and work directly from your browser after launch, you will find an installation manual in the shared folder while a user manual is in writing and will be our care to notice you when it is published.

Take your time to practice and let us know if there is something that can be improved in the future so we can evaluate it with WA team.

## **8. Youth Judge seminar in Sallanches**

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The WA Youth Judge Seminar was held in Sallanches, France between 20th and 22nd October, 2023.

The seminar saw 24 participants coming from 12 different countries covering 3 different continents.

The session was conducted by WA JC chair Indranil Datta along with Katy Lipscomb (WAE JC member) & Christophe Pezet (WA IJ). This approach on combining WA & WAE JC members for evaluation of the YJs ensures visibility of the individuals and their capabilities in front of the continental committees, which in turn helps the continental federations to consider these young judges for continental events.

The seminar saw 8 new YJs from 7 different countries being accredited for the period 2023-2026 and they will be able to officiate in WA events from the year 2025 as the judge appoints for 2024 was already finalized before the seminar. With the addition of these new judges, WA will have a healthy pipeline of 14 YJs, who we expect will garner more experience by judging at various WA events over the years, and then will follow the path of becoming WA International Judges.



- Sallanches Youth Judge seminar -

## 9. First step to Mental Health

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Every year our sport increases in magnitude.

There are more athletes even from countries that did not participate before. The scores have increased and we have seen new records in the last year. The competition is getting tighter and more and more images/videos are used in social media for the growth of our sport. With this, our actions as judges are more visible than ever before.

The level of competition has increased as has the level of demand on judges.

"One mistake at a major tournament where there are TV cameras and your reputation as well as the sports reputation is gone," said Tom Dielen, World Archery Secretary General, in the welcome video to the judges in Singapore.

We must be aware that our actions can affect the outcome of a competition, a match and even a medal. But we must also not forget that this is still a sport, a hobby (for many of us) that we do because we enjoy it.

We should not allow external pressures to prevent us from doing our duties to the best of our ability for fear of making a mistake, or because we feel anxious or depressed when we do.

Mistakes will happen. The important thing is to know how to deal with them.

An important activity, not only as judges but in our day-to-day lives, is to be aware of our mental health.

The approach to mental health is different in different parts of the world, but according to the World Health Organization, mental health is neglected in many societies and health systems around the world.

"Mental health is an integral part of our general health and well-being and a basic human right. Having good mental health means we are better able to connect, function, cope and thrive. Mental health exists on a complex continuum, with experiences ranging from an optimal state of well-being to debilitating states of great suffering and emotional pain." ([World mental health report: transforming mental health for all](#))

As a Judges Committee we care about you, our judges and would like to contact you if there is anything regarding mental health that we can help facilitate.

As a first step we would like you to fill out this form to get an idea of the needs of our community.

### [Mental Health Survey](#)

<https://forms.gle/MyzPhDSJha5YFcXr5>

### 10. Pictures of Recent Judge Commissions



- Chengdu WUG -



- Berlin World Championship-



- Paris WC4 -



- Hermosillo WC Final-



- Santiago Pan-American Games -



- Santiago Pan-American Para Games -



-Hangzhou Asian Games-



-Taipei IWS-

## 11. Answers to case studies newsletter #111

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**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?

### **Answer:**

The archer was the last one of the team moving to the shooting line and, as far as it's the only one moving in forth and back from the 1m line, there is no time advantage it can get in this movements. Starting from this consideration we can say that:

#### Scenario a)

The action of the judge was not correct because there was no time advantage in the stepping in and out of the athlete but, as the large majority of you have correctly noted, by [book 3 art. 19.3](#) a yellow card used during the team event cannot be appealed and for this reason the appeal of team A has to be refused.

#### Scenario b)

The judge took the right decision to not use the yellow card and, as the majority of you have reported, for the same rule at [book 3 art. 19.3](#) the appeal against the nonuse of the yellow card cannot be upheld.

#### Scenario c)

In this case the archer didn't respect the yellow card admonition and for this reason the judge have correctly raised the red card but an appeal against a red card can always be upheld and analyzing the situation and all the elements we, as Jury, can keep the score as valid. The Chairman of Judges should also take care of explaining the situation to the judge to make clear the intention of the rule ([book 3 15.3](#)) and the absence of time advantage.

**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?

Answer:

It is a shared opinion of the Committee that, as per actual rule, the presence of the archer on the field is sufficient and it does not imply the necessity of being ready with the equipment. For this reason, considering that it is an Indoor event, and the athlete could have been shooting in a different session, considering also that no arrows has been shot yet, we would accept the appeal and allow the three archers to have the shoot-off giving the last athlete the time to set up his bow.

The Committee has already requested an interpretation to deal with such situation.

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## **12. Case Studies #112**

### **112.1**

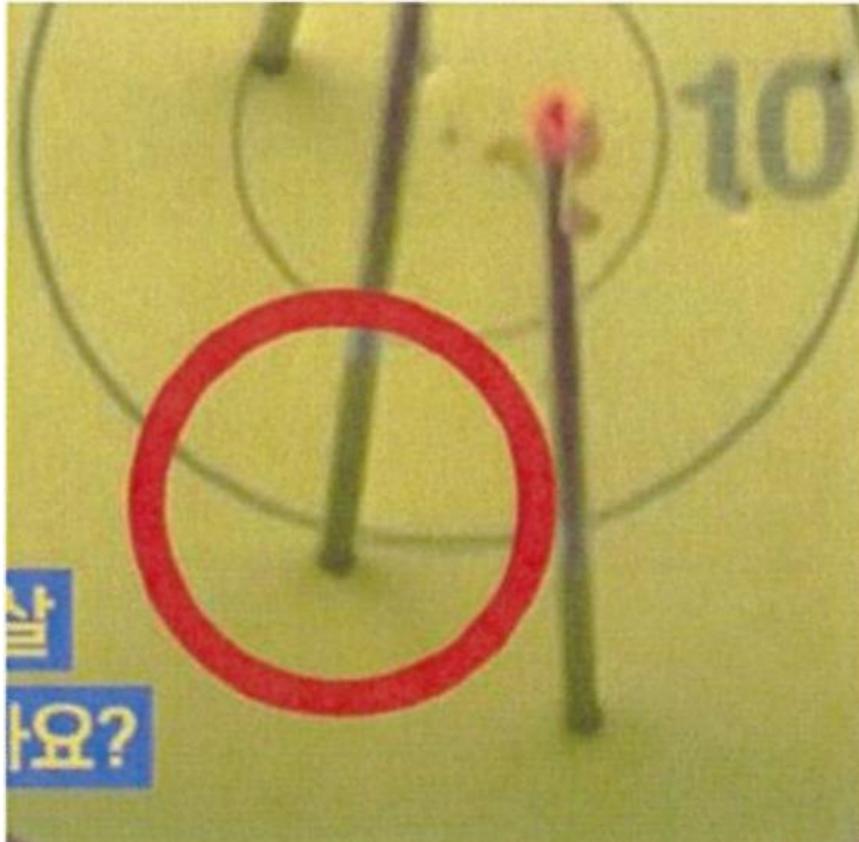
At a continental competition during alternate team matches there was an issue with the timing system and the match was stopped by the judge to allow the DoS to fix it properly. Only team B was missing to shoot its last 3 arrows so, when the issue was solved, the time got fixed at 60 seconds and the judge made the team start from behind the 1m line. At the end of the set the coach of team B wanted to raise an appeal because the team should have started from the shooting line and not from the 1m line as the judge said.

As a member of the jury of appeal what do you think about this situation? Which rules should apply in this case?

### **112.2**

During the Gold Medal match in one of the Continental Games, which was being shot alternately, you are appointed as the scorer for the Match. Inside the blind, while shooting was in progress, there were no arrow which was called doubtful by the Target Judge. Also, the spotter did not have any confusion about the position of the arrows, hence there were no arrow value marked with a \* in the display board. Once shooting was over and everyone went to the target, the Target Judge upgraded one of the 9's to a 10. Below picture circled in red represents the upgraded arrow. Once the call was made, the agent from the opposite team raised some concern which was overruled by the judge by explaining that only one arrow call was allowed and this could not be appealed.

As a scorer how should you respond? Do you wait till the athlete's agents raise a concern or react proactively?



***Replies to case studies should be sent to [sderiaz@archery.sport](mailto:sderiaz@archery.sport) by 1 February 2024***