

FITA JUDGE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

No. 66 – June 2007

Editorial by the Chairman

Dear friends,

This is my last Editorial as chairman of the Judge Committee. After next Congress you will have a new chairperson who will lead the Judge Committee elected in Leipzig. I was elected eight years ago in Riom and confirmed in 2003 in New York; after both elections I was named chairperson by the former President Jim Easton. I thank Jim and all other FITA Officers who gave me the opportunity to serve FITA in this period. The judge organization changed a lot to satisfy the new dynamic activity of FITA and the new rules. I am proud to have been an actor and a spectator of this change, but I think that my time is over and I have decided not to apply for a new term in the Committee. I am sure that the new Committee will be able to manage the "judge system" in this new century.

I thank also all the FITA judges, all the friends I met since 1989, when I was appointed FITA Judge by my master and mentor Don Lovo: their friendship allowed me to spend a very nice period of my life. For reasons unrelated to FITA and the FITA family, I also decided to retire from active judging. I'll miss all of you.

The last job of my Committee before Congress was to perform the re-accreditation process. The process has been run according to the present rules. However, we (and you) have to consider that immediately after next Congress (when the new term starts) the new by-laws of Appendix 4 approved by Council will be effective. Three are the main issues affecting the re-accreditation that will change: (1) according to the new rules the accreditation period is extended to 4 years therefore next term will expire after WC 2011; (2) the age limit of 65 years applies to all FITA judges (not only FITA-IJ) and the accreditation expires at the end of the year of the 65th birthday (therefore older judges will not be re-accredited as active judges); (3) a FITA Judge (including FITA IJ) failing to meet the re-accreditation requirements will lose the FITA accreditation and will no longer be downgraded to the FITA-CJ status.

According to a decision of the C&R Committee, the 3rd point mentioned above does not apply immediately: FITA International Judges who fail to meet the requirements for re-accreditation (see art. 8.2, old numbering) will "temporarily" be given the status of FITA Judge Candidate (if they fulfill the conditions for reappointment as laid down in article 6.2, old numbering of Appendix 4). After 2 years they will have to pass a re-accreditation test. If they meet the re-accreditation requirements they are reinstated as FITA International Judges. If they fail to meet the requirements for re-accreditation again they will lose their FITA accreditation.

I wish all the best to all FITA Judges.

Gian Piero Spada
Chairperson FITA Judge Committee

FITA Judge Reaccreditation Test (2007-2009)

The members of FITA Judge Committee have been busy checking your answers to the reaccreditation test in the last few weeks. Though the individual results of your tests are not available yet, we feel it is important that you check your answers against the following comments made by our committee members so you can have an idea how good (or bad) you did in the test.

Once again, the test was intended to make out judges read the Rule Book, the Judges Guide Book and the recent by-laws and interpretations published in the FITA website. Some judges, unfortunately, did not seem to have taken the time to go over these documents and their results have left much to be desired. Individual feedback on your tests will follow as soon as the reaccreditation process is concluded.

Here is our review on each of the questions included in the test.

Dear Judges,

The 2007 test aimed basically to test your ability of understanding the rules, knowledge of procedures and to see how updated you are on recent rules. Below you will find the answers expected and some further comments.

1.- Answer the following questions on age categories.

a) A young lady will have her 16th birthday on May 30th 2007. Is she eligible to compete in the Cadet Class of the European Championships in June 2007?

Answer: Yes. The Championships take place in the year of her 16th birthday.

b) A young boy will have his 17th birthday on December 1st 2007. Does he have to compete in the Junior Class at the above mentioned championships – or can he still participate in the Cadet Class?

Answer: He is no longer a cadet. He was a cadet until 31/12-06 (the year of his 16th birthday). He has to compete in the Junior Class.

c) Referring to the championships above, one boy will have his 17th birthday on the 31st December 2007 and his teammate will have his 17th birthday on the 1st of January 2008. Can they participate in the same class? Explain how you came to your conclusion.

Answer: One is a junior and the other is a cadet. However, they may both participate in the junior class, as a cadet may participate in a junior class at his discretion.

FJC: A lot of our Judges do not seem to understand the wording of the rules, and we repeat as an example; If someone has his birthday on the 1st January 2007, 2007 is the year of his birthday. The same is for a person who has his birthday on the 31st December 2007.

2.- You are one of the judges at an international tournament in which the buttresses are in poor condition and the arrows begin to penetrate the butts almost

completely as early as in the men's 70 meters. Despite the fact that back-stops have been placed behind the butts, arrows still penetrate well into the butts at the 50 meter distance. During the third end at 50 meters, an archer on target 21 informs you from the shooting line that he has had a pass-through. Both the archer and the other archers at the target stopped shooting.

Explain in detail what you would do in the following situations from the very moment the archer reports a pass-through from the shooting line:

Answer: As in fact all archers stopped shooting, and thus still have arrows to shoot, you will handle this as an equipment failure.

a) The arrow did not pass through completely. It penetrated all the way into the vanes.

Answer: You will take down the score of the arrow in your notebook, according to the position of the shaft. Then you will take down the scores of the other arrows in the target (for respective archers), before you call the field crew to change the buttress.

b) The arrow is found on the grass, about 30 meters behind the target.

Answer: First you will determine if this is a pass-through based on the possible evidence: the position of the arrow on the field, damage to the arrow, traces from the buttress on the arrow, an unmarked hole in a soft part of the buttress, etc. If you are convinced that it is a pass-through, you score the value according to the unmarked hole. Then you get the buttress replaced. Finally you return to the shooting line, give the Dos the number of arrows to be shot and make sure the correct time is given.

FJC: Only 10% of the Judges would change the butt!!! You cannot just copy the rules or descriptions, you have to think and reply on the basis of each specific situation.

3.- What values should appear in the score sheets in the following cases?

a) An archer shoots 7 arrows at 90 meters with the following values:
9, 9, 9, 8, 7, 7, 2

Answer: You score the six lowest values: 9,9,8,7,7,2

b) An archer on target 22 shoots an arrow at 70 meters after the four minutes are over. He shot a total of 6 arrows, one of them after the time limit. The archer has the following values in his target: 10, 8, 8, 8, 7, plus one arrow in the ten-ring on target 23.

Answer: The scores shown are 10,8,8,8,7 and Miss (the other target). You write all these scores on the score sheet, then you change the 10 (cross over) into a M. The total scores will be: 31 p.

FJC: Several judges answered that the score was 8-8-8-7-M-M. This answer is not correct even when the total score is the same. In every case in which an arrow is shot out of time or sequence, the highest score of that end must be entered in the scorecard, and then changed into an M. This is because this decision can be appealed and if Jury reverts the judge's decision on the arrow shot out of time, it should be possible to reinstate the score to the archer.

c) An archer shoots an arrow which bounces from the buttress and falls in front of it. In that target there is an unmarked hole in the 9 zone, and another one in the outer non-scoring area of the face.

Answer: You will score a 9. This is the only unmarked hole in the target. We do not consider holes outside the target, as the description of a target includes only the scoring rings.

d) At the 30 meter distance, an archer shoots three arrows. The last arrow was released after the two minutes had expired. You are the judge assigned to that target and you happened to see that the arrow in question hit the 7 zone. The other two arrows in that target are a 10 and a 9.

Answer: The archer will lose the highest score of the end, jfr. the rules. The score is \pm M, 9, 7.

4.- What would you do in the following cases?

a) An archer draws his bow without an arrow in the area behind the waiting line.

Answer: You will inform him that this is not allowed, as he has to draw his bow from the shooting line.

FJC: Please, remember this rule. It has become a habit for many archers to draw their bows without an arrow in the rest area, and in very few cases the judges take any action. This is a very important safety issue.

b) An archer shoots an arrow immediately after the signal indicating that the two minutes of the last practice end at 50 meters have expired.

Answer: No action – the practice session is not yet concluded.

c) An archer shoots an arrow after the time for practice has finished and all the competitors have advanced to the targets, pulled out their arrows and come back to the shooting line.

Answer: The archer will lose the highest score of the first competition end.

FJC: Here several Judges have not understood the difference between arrows shot in the practice session and arrows shot after the end of the practice session. You must read these rules carefully otherwise you may do an archer severe injustice.

d) An archer fails to shoot a three-arrow end at 30 meters, and runs to the shooting line when the two minutes have expired. The archer claims that he was in the toilet and then asks for time to shoot his arrows.

Answer: If he has not informed the judge or DoS that he had to go to the toilet, he will lose this end. Basically, the rules give no advise that archers in this situation have any right of having the shoot wait for him – but if he has asked for Judge's or DoS' advice in an emergency situation and been told that he may go to the toilet, the situation may be different.

FJC: The rules describe various ways of what the archer might have done, as the tournament cannot wait for individual archers wanting to go to the toilet. Another

thing is that you may not know – as a judge at this moment – if this is the true reason for the delay. The archer may be manipulative, trying to get an advantage. Some of you would consider this to be a medical problem, but that is not for a judge to decide. That requires medical personnel and the rules describe how to deal with it.

e) An archer shoots two arrows and sees that his third arrow in his quiver has a broken nock. The archer leaves the shooting line to get another arrow and he does not inform the judge. When the archer comes back to the shooting line, the two-minute timeframe has expired. The archer asks for time to shoot his arrow.

Answer: The archer will not get more time, as the judge has no possibility of verifying that the archer actually had an equipment failure at the time. The situation may be manipulative, and we have to safeguard the other archers in the fairness of the competition.

5.- How would you solve the following ties? Provide all the details: number of arrows, time (when), where, shooting positions, shooting time, etc.

a) In a semi-final match two archers are tied at 108 points.

Answer: There will immediately be a one-arrow shoot-off, up to three arrows, at the same target with the archers positioned in the same place. 40 sec. (or 30 sec. in alternating shooting, and in that case the archer who started the match will shoot first and continue to do so during the shoot-off).

b) In a team's semi-final match, two teams are tied at 212 points.

Answer: There will immediately be a shoot-off, each archer of the team will shoot one arrow, all within a total of 1 minute. If there is a tie in the scores in all three shoot-offs, the closest to the centre arrow of the last shoot-off will decide. If this is also a tie, then it is the second arrow closest to the centre which decides etc. This will be shot at the same targets as the match.

c) When the Qualification Round (FITA Round) has finished, two teams are tied for place 16 at 3766 points.

Answer: There will be a shoot-off on neutral targets in the centre of the field. Each archer on the team will shoot one arrow each at the target similar to the target used for the last distance of the FITA Round. They will all shoot at the same time, within 40 seconds (as this is a continuation of the Qualification round). This is quite detailed in the Judges Guide Book. If they are shooting at triangular set up, the members of the team may chose their face, one each. Some of you were not aware that 16 teams are the cut for the elimination round.

d) When the Qualification Round (FITA Round) has finished, two teams are tied for place 6 at 3902 points.

Answer: The tie will be solved on the basis of the number of 10s (including the x's), and if there is still a tie, only the X's will be decisive. If still a tie, a draw will be made to decide the ranking position to enter the match round.

e) When the Qualification Round has finished, two archers are tied for 38th place at 1245 points.

Answer: As d) above.

f) When the Qualification Round has finished finalizing at 30m at multiple targets, two archers are tied for 64th place (last qualifying place) at 1220 points.

Answer: There will be a one-arrow shoot-off on neutral targets in the middle of the field, each archer will have 40sec. and will shoot at the same time. They will also be positioned to shoot similarly to the position on the line during the qualification; A, B, C or D position.

6.- While shooting at 50 meters, an archer releases her arrow and, because the arrow nock is broken, the arrow falls in an area close to the archer, around the 3 meter area. The archer asks you what to do because she is not sure whether the arrow is in or out. What would you do?

Answer: If the archer actually stops shooting due to the incident, you will handle it as a normal equipment failure. After checking if the arrow close to the line is a valid arrow or not, the archer will be given 40 sec per arrow to finalize her end. This incident occurs in the qualification round, so it is possible for the judge to wait until all the archers have finished their end to check the position of the arrow on the ground.

7.- Say true (T) or false (F). In case of a False statement, provide the right answer.

a) ____ The flags which are placed on top of the targets may measure up to 40 cm. on each of their sides

Answer: False. Windflags may measure max. 30cm and min. 25cm in each direction.

b) ____ Only two buttresses are allowed in each lane.

Answer: False. Up to three targets in each lane is permissible.

c) ____ In a 45-meter wide field it is possible to set 30 buttresses to shoot on an AB-CD rotation.

Answer: False. A minimum requirement you will have if archers are shooting four at a target (two details of two archers), is 160cm per target, (80cm per archer) which gives a need of 48 m.

d) ____ Archers should always position themselves on the shooting line following this order: A to the left, B in the center and C to the right.

Answer: False. Position according to mutual agreement. If they cannot agree, then they go by the original drawing; A to the left, B in the centre, and C to the right.

e) ____ Coaches are allowed to use binoculars in the team matches as long as they do not use tripods.

Answer: True (the binoculars must be hand-held).

f) _____ The time for practice at the beginning of the competition day may last between 30 and 45 minutes.

Answer: False. The practice may be up to 45 min. but the length is at the discretion of the Organizers. At the World Championships practice may last between 20 and 45 min.

8.- An archer has had an equipment failure. The sight screw has loosened up and he asks for time to repair it. He only shot one arrow in this end. This event occurs when there is only one end to shoot before finishing the 50 meter distance. The other archers proceed with the scoring of that end. Several target faces have to be replaced and the scoring and return to the shooting line takes a long time delaying the start of the last end. When the last end starts, the archer has not been able to repair his equipment yet and he does not shoot the end. Once all the other archers are back from scoring the last end, the archer in question informs the judge that he is now ready to shoot his pending arrows. The judge tells the archer that it is not possible because he was not able to solve his equipment failure within the first 15 minutes immediately after his equipment failed. Do you agree with this judge? Explain why or why not.

Answer: In this case you do not agree with the judge, because the rules do not say that you have to repair your equipment within 15 minutes, but that you cannot delay the tournament more than 15 minutes. In this case the archer, due to the delay of changing faces, has not delayed the tournament at all. He will be given two ends to shoot, the first one only two arrows (80sec).

9.- How would you score the following cases in an Indoor Tournament?

FJC: In general we are both surprised and disappointed that several Judges are still unable to deal with these cases.

9.1 Upper target: 10
Middle target: 8 and 10 **Answer: 10-8-M**
Lower target: No arrows

In this case the archer has shot his three arrows, unfortunately with two of them in the same target- the middle target. The highest scoring one in this target will become a Miss. Then you will have the following score 10-8-M.

9.2 Upper target: 8
Middle target: 10 and 8 **Answer: 8-8-M**
Lower target: 8

Here the archer has made two mistakes: two arrows in the middle target give an 8 and a Miss there. Then he has the following scores: 8-8-8-M. But since he has shot 4 arrows, we score the three lower ones; 8-8-M

9.3 Upper target: 9
Middle target: 10 **Answer: 10-9-M**
Close to the lower target, one arrow out of the scoring area

This is a normal scoring of two hits and one miss.

9.4 Upper target: 10
Middle target: 9

Answer: 8-M-M (in the scorecard you will have a crossed 9 changed into M)

Lower target: 9 and 8
One of the arrows was shot out of time.

Here you have three mistakes, and we have to deal with all of them. The actual scores are: 10-9-8-M (because of two arrows in the lower target, the higher of which becomes an M). Then you score the three lowest scores because four arrows have been shot: 9-8-M. But one arrow is shot out of time, so you take away the highest score. In the scorecard you enter 9, 8, M and then you cross the 9 and write an M.

9.5 Upper target: 10, 10, 10
Middle target: 10
Lower target: No arrows

Answer: 10-M-M

Here you have to change the two higher scores of the upper target, as only the lowest score will have a value other than zero, the others become Misses. So you have the following scores: 10-10-M-M. Then, because four arrows have been shot, you score the three lowest: 10-M-M.

10.- In a team match with simultaneous shooting the following occurs:
The first archer shoots three arrows (9, 8, 6), the second archer shoots two arrows (8, 8), and the third archer shoots one arrow (10). What is the score?

Answer: In this case we deduct the highest score of the team, given they actually have 7 values, as the unshot arrow is a Miss: 9,8,8,8,6,M. To several of you; please note that a team is seen as a unit. Therefore it is the highest scoring arrow of the team that is deducted.

11.- In a team match the following situations occur at different moments:

a) In the first end, the first archer cannot shoot his second arrow because he cannot pull through his clicker. His coach tells him to leave the line and the archer leaves the line with his arrow in his bow. The second archer goes to the shooting line when the first archer's feet are both out the one-meter area.

Answer: No violation.

b) In the second end, the second archer crosses the one meter line before the first archer has come out of the one meter area.

Answer: This is a violation as the second archer crosses the line too early. The judge will raise the yellow card and call the name of the team loudly, and the second archer has to step back again. If he shoots, the team will be given a red card indicating that they will lose the highest score of the end.

c) In the third end, the last arrow of the team is shot out of time.

Answer: In this situation, the judge will show a red card and the team will lose the highest score of the end. (In this case it is not necessary to call the name of the team, as they do not need this message instantly).

FJC: In question 11 you were expected to refer both to the way to indicate each violation (yellow or red card) and to the penalty to be applied (time, points). Several judges missed either one of the two requirements in their answers.

Refer to what violations have occurred, the way to indicate the violations and what penalty is applied in each case. Note: Some situations may not necessarily be a violation.

12.- During an equipment inspection, you detect a sight with a 2.2 cm long tube which projects to the target. Is this sight allowed according to the rules? Explain.

Answer: The sight is illegal, as the rules limit the length to 2,0cm. A longer tube (or other items) may be used for leveling.

13.- Say true (T) or false (F). In case of a False statement, provide the right answer:

a) ____ The judges are the ones who decide what target faces are replaced.

Answer: True

Some of you are saying that also the Organizers are replacing faces. Yes, but that is normally not denied by the Judges, who theoretically may decide otherwise.

b) ____ In a finals match, the archer with the higher score in the FITA Round shoots first.

Answer: False. The archer with the higher score from the Q.R. has the right to choose if he will shoot first or second.

c) ____ In case of a tie in an individual match, the archer who shot the last arrow in the last competition end shoots first in the shoot-off.

Answer: False. The archer who started the match will shoot first in case of a tie.

d) ____ In a team with four archers only three of these archers can compete in the team match.

Answer: True.

FJC: The main issue is that changes in the by-laws say that there is no more a 4th archer in the team events. Some of you guys are not updated! At some tournaments four archers are allowed per country, but a team of three needs to be announced prior to the start of the competition. The fourth archer can only compete in the individual event.

e) ____ A team match consists of 27 arrows.

Answer: False. A team match consists of 24 arrows (since Congress 2006).

14.- An archer shoots an arrow at 50 meters. The target face was in poor condition and part of it is blown over. The center of the target remains intact but the arrow hits the area where the target face was blown over. Do you consider this arrow as not being shot? What would you do?

Answer: The rules give the possibility of considering the arrow in this area as not being shot, but JC advice is to try to find the "correct score" by measuring. In this specific case, the value can actually be determined by the judge because the center of the target is there, and it is thus possible to measure.

15.- At an event a Team Captain approaches you as a judge, drawing your attention to a disabled archer (recurve) sitting on a chair, who consistently pulls his string firmly to his thigh when shooting. The team captain claims that the sitting archer is getting an unfair advantage in the windy conditions on the field, as he in this way is stabilizing his bow. What is your consideration? Please, explain.

Answer: This must be considered in the same way as standing archers pulling the string to their chest (protector), and thus being allowed. (ref. Judge Guide Book re disabled).

WORLD INDOOR ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIPS IZMIR, TURKEY, MARCH 2007

Judge Committee Observer's Report

Submitted by Sergio Font

Judging at the World Indoor Championships was very good in general. I do not intend to submit a very long report with routine details that are not relevant to the purpose of this Judge Committee Observation. I would rather focus on some important items that call for immediate attention.

The inspection of the field of play by the Judge Commission was carried out professionally. An issue was raised during the commission's debriefing session that day on what marks should be made on the shooting line when shooting indoors with different target columns for each archer. The problem of what to mark on the shooting line was discussed at the Conference in Lillehall, but there is still confusion and discussion in this regard among the judges.

During the equipment inspection the judges had to check passports for dates of birth. This caused delay during the inspection. This is important for future junior and cadet events, and it should be made clear to the O/C that it is their job to do so.

There were two bow scales available. The chairman suggested using one of them only. No major problems were found regarding bow poundage. As this was a world championship, FITA should be able to provide certified bow scales to avoid problems. Not many of the judges on our present list have a good bow scale.

There was a little problem at the beginning of the equipment inspection when the judges were asked to distribute back numbers. The organizers took over this job shortly after.

Uniforms were a problem again. Several archers showed up at the equipment inspection wearing jeans or not wearing their team's uniform. There was also a case of an archer who shot the whole qualification round wearing jeans and a fancy t-shirt that was far from looking like a sports uniform. FITA should make it clear in the preliminary information we send to the MAs attending a WCH that uniforms are mandatory from the day of official practice.

I found some judges pulling arrows out of the archers' quivers and even touching the arrow vanes. This is NOT necessary. We are not entitled to do this; nor are we entitled to press to cushion plungers on the bows.

There is still confusion among the team captains regarding the new rules for the team event. I saw several team captains asking around. When it comes to the implementation of new rules, it should be the chairman's responsibility to prepare and distribute in writing all necessary information to the team captains previous to the start of the competition.

Lots of archers were pulling their bows in the waiting area. No one on the field told them that that was not allowed. This rule is very seldom enforced by the judges at the international tournaments I have been to (many, by the way). Is this rule not necessary? I would say it is very necessary for safety reasons. Why not enforce it then?

Rule 8.2.3.2. This rule dictates that the numbers should be 30 cm tall. The numbers in Izmir were smaller, but they worked. We do not need such big numbers for indoor tournaments. The targets are close enough for smaller

numbers to be seen from the shooting line. A possible change in the rules for indoor archery may be that "these numbers will be 20 cm tall."

Some of the issues reported by the judges at the end of the official practice and the equipment inspection were some long sight pins and arrow points embedded in the buttresses. No other important issues were reported.



One problem with the butts was that they were built together so that several bolts and screws needed to be removed in order to replace one single buttress. The structure was quite solid, which was good to ensure that none of the butts would fall forward when the arrows were being pulled out, but there was this inconvenience that would eventually cause trouble when replacing a butt.

The judges reported safety problems. On the right side of the field of play an arrow had clearly passed through the plastic wall behind the targets.

A couple of archers on the field of play used a very high draw. As a matter of safety, and much more in fields of play like the one in Izmir, it is important to control this to avoid a problem. A reminder at the team captains meeting, or much better, in the information sent out to the MAs, this issue should be noted.

The judges discussed with the DoS and his assistant how soon pending arrows should be made up in case of equipment failure. They all agreed to do it as soon as possible and not wait until the end of the distance. This is important. I have been to several tournaments in which the judges and DoS prefer to leave pending arrows for the end.

An issue was raised regarding the use of plastic pins to set up the faces on the butts. Several judges suggested using staples. In fact, stapling the faces on the butts makes the process much faster. This becomes crucial when you are using hard brand-new butts which do not allow easy pin penetration.

There was lots of confusion among the archers as to whether you score X's indoors. One of the judges was approached by an archer, and he said "yes". After the second end, the DoS made an announcement that you do not score X's.

In most cases, the judges were very professional when calling arrow values. There were some cases in which the judge did not look from the correct angle. We must continue to work on this in our seminars and conferences.

A situation in which an archer shot two arrows in one little target. The judge handled the situation properly.

Shoot offs were necessary at the end of the qualification round. The following occurred:

The time given by the DoS was not for 1 arrow, but for three arrows. Problem with the equipment for a tie-breaker.

The archers shot exactly at the same targets they shot in the ranking round. Rule 8.6.5.3.1 does not really specify. Conflict with outdoor rules.

The DoS gave two beeps and one of the judges told the archers to keep on waiting behind the waiting line.

No indication given by the judges about the results of the shoot-off. A second shoot-off was necessary, but nobody knew the result.

The procedure does not look very professional. Shoot-off as something extraordinary. Nobody seems to be involved. Whose job is it to conduct the shoot-offs? The judge's? The FITA officers? The Organizing Committee's?



A judge approaching a target to call an arrow in Izmir

It was necessary to use Turkish National Judges for the team event. The schedule was made without considering the number of judges. This has become a usual problem. We either bring more judges or consider this when the schedule is prepared.

Set up for targets for the team event. A target was left between the two teams involved in one match, and between two teams involved in two different matches.

It was not possible to identify which team was shooting against which in a match. A better layout would have been with the two targets in a match just next to each other with more room in between matches.

Field layout for the team event. A new layout everywhere we go. Here the coach's boxes were marked always to the right of the archer's area. This is very important. A layout is suggested in the book, but many people believe it should always be like that. Flexibility is possible, but it has become so flexible lately that a different layout is found at each and every tournament.

Team shoot-off. The judges decided to put three lines of vertical targets for the shoot-off. There is nothing in the rules in favor or against this. Suggestion: why not just one horizontal strip of the three targets for team shoot-offs?

During the junior team matches, there were photographers in the team's area. There was no control on the part of the organizers over the photographers and what area they had access to. This has often been delegated to the judges, but I do not think it is our job to control photographers. Photo marshals should be made available by the O/C to usher photographers in, out and around the field.

The chairman made sure no judge would be judging their own countrymen during match play.

The DoS reports that radio communication among the judges is obstructed by the organizing committee's channel (common channel). For future events it is important that the judges have their own channel to avoid communication problems.

There is no sound signal when the clock comes to zero in individual and team matches with alternating shooting. This brought about a situation in which a team apparently shot their last arrow after the clock had come to zero. The archer did not know his clock had come to zero, and the judge (unaware of the fact that there was no sound signal at the end of the sequence) did not realize that had happened. It is the general feeling of the judges that there should be a sound signal after the 30 seconds (individual) and two minutes (team) have expired. This will make the judges' job easier and will also prevent an archer from shooting an arrow out of time.

On the day of the finals it was necessary to use one judge per team in the finals because of the venue layout to please the TV. The coaches are positioned behind the teams. It was not possible to show the card to the coach, but to the archers themselves. It was much more difficult for the team on the left. The judge was right behind them. A possible solution for world championships finals would be for the judge to press a button that would immediately produce a peculiar sound signal to indicate that a minor violation has occurred and the archer has to return behind the one meter line.



Observe the position of the coach watching the target with his binocular.
There was no room for the coaches on the elevated platform.

The procedure when the judges moved to the targets to score was as follows: one judge per match. The scorers score before they move to the targets, they show the scores to the AA's and the judge becomes involved only if there is a discrepancy.

JUDGES: You should try to get the best angle to look at the arrows. The lights did not project evenly on the faces, sometimes causing the arrows to project an unwanted shade which affected not only the judge's view, but the image of the arrow on the TV screen. Better lighting should be sought in future events, JUDGES: Make sure your AA's have a pen to mark the holes.

The rules about team shoot-off with alternating shooting are not clear in the book. It is clear in the Judges' Guide Book though.

These are some of the most important issues regarding procedures at the World Indoor Championships in Izmir, Turkey.

The chairman of judges, Stefan Lehmann, did an excellent job, and so did the DoS Konrad Van Warmelo and his assistance Bob Smith. There were no appeals against decisions made by the judges.

My compliments go to the whole judge commission who were very professional and hard working.

Sergio Font
Judge Committee Observer

FITA Judge Conference 2006, Auckland, New Zealand

by Graham Potts and Morten B. Wilmann

Hosts: Oceania – President: Carole Hicks

Speakers:

Morten Wilmann (FITA Judge Committee)

Rocky Bester (Great Big Events)

Juan M. Charquero (International Judge)

Susanne Womersley (International Judge)

The Conference was held in Waipuna Hotel and Conference centre, situated in a nice area a bit outside the centre of Auckland north in New Zealand.

There were 15 attendants who gave priority to judging between Christmas and the New Year, and for parts of the Conference there were also some sit-ins – a relative small group but with varied experience which they shared with the rest of us.

MW opened the Conference with a formal welcome to all, reminding us that this is a reunion for Judges, and input from all attendees is important. Carole Hicks welcomed all to New Zealand and covered all housekeeping matters.

All continents were represented apart from America and Africa.

All attendees gave a short introduction of themselves, including last appointment, and next appointment.

MW reminded us all that a Judge is not there to be the main character at an event, but to ensure a good and fair event takes place. Next year (2007) a number of Judges are being used several times at events, and it is a good year for Judging possibilities – The IPC World Championship Judges have yet to be selected, as information is awaited from the IPC.

Presentation by Rocky Bester

RB was there to give a presentation on "Sports Presentation in Archery" and how the role of the Judge fits within the overall aim of Sports Presentation.

Great Big Events have a significant background in Sports Presentation, and have been used by FITA during 2006 at all World Cup events, including the finals.

The role of Sports Presentation is to provide a link between the Public and the Athletes, with the aim of keeping the Athlete comfortable so that they can perform at their best, and keep the spectators informed, educated and entertained, whether this be live or by broadcast.

The Athlete must, however, remain paramount, and protected by the Judges and Technical Officials, but the Public pay and expect to be entertained by commentary and announcements, but never to the detriment of the athletes.

RB outlined the background to the introduction of Sports Presentation in Archery through Jim Easton's desire for "Rock and Roll Archery", and covered the brief of Sports Presentation.

The Sports Presentation Team:

Show Director

Athletes

Spectators

Commentators/ Announcers

Audio Operator / DJ

Video Operator

Results & Timing

Broadcast (FITA TV)

Floor Manager (Broadcast)

Sports Presentation Assistants and Volunteers

(Spotters, Field of Play (FOP) and Marshals

Director, DOS and Tournament Officials)



Rocky Bester "at full draw" at the World Cup in Antalya, 2007

TOOLS Used by Sports Presentation:

- Video Wall
- Audio System (Clearly defined Specifications based around venue demands)
- Spotters
- Voices (Announcers and Commentators)

RB then ran through the requirements of Daily runsheets, placement on field and coordination with others.

Role of the Judge / DoS:

It is more than just applying the rules, with Judge being there for athlete comfort, ensuring coordination of entry onto FOP and introductions, and ensuring whether the sound quality on the FOP is good enough for the athlete.

The Judge is necessary for keeping the event running on time, which is vital for Live TV schedules, and for reporting back on the performance and presentation on the FOP.

RB then ran through a number of the key requirements and timings for Pre-Show, Gate opening and "show time".

The ultimate key is for Sports presentation and the Judges (Through the Chairman) to get involved as soon as possible (Sports Presentation do not get involved during

the Qualification Rounds), and ensure they can plan ahead of time. Equally important is the role of the DOS.

RB stressed that despite the importance of the Sports presentation, this must not detract the Judges from doing the best Job. For example, a Target Judge must not think about delaying TV, but must make correct decisions.

One key point raised was that the DOS needs only one "Captain" to respond to, and not a number of people asking him questions or instructing him.

Second key point was to ensure that the Line Judge position is good enough to allow the LJ to do their role, and not kept out of the way just for TV. The LJ needs to be able to see both archer and clock.

Third key point was the safety aspect of the TV people, and whether, if there was an accident, the Judge / DOS would be to blame? The FITA Officials need to be firm, but ensure we do not destroy the whole image.



Procedure Issues for Judges (MW)

Feedback from Chairman of Judges and Judge Observers over the last 3 years has shown there are judging procedures that continually need to be stressed.

Arrow Value Calls

It is necessary to ensure you are at the correct angle to judge the value, and to get as close as possible to the target face without touching the face or the arrows if at all possible.

A magnifying glass must always be used, and look from both sides – left / right, or above / below. This gives a good impression of professionalism.

Only look at both sides once, as this should be sufficient for you to determine the value, with the benefit of the doubt to the archer if you are unsure. The emphasis is on a quick but professional approach.

Dental mirrors can be very useful to use when arrows are high in the target, but ensure you train with them first, as getting the right angle can be difficult.

Make your decision clear to the archers, and when you have given it, remain to see that your call has been taken down correctly on the scorecard.

Equipment used

FITA are looking to create a tackle box for Judges to be used at all major events, which will have within it the tools necessary for the Judges to do their job, including magnifying glasses, dividers, cards, dental mirrors, whistles, walkie talkies, scales and other necessary tools. The Judge committee are requesting that this be available as soon as possible.

Equipment Control

It does not look good to have all judges involved in equipment control, and 6 or 7 should be sufficient to get the job completed. The remaining judges should be used for other duties, with 1 or 2 checking Compound Bow poundage on the warm-up field, and others looking again at equipment and also draw techniques whilst the archers are warming – up to ensure they do not breach the safety rules around draw technique being unsafe. The other judges can also examine arrow penetration on the targets, and whether this will be an issue during the event.

Use of Red Cards

All Judges must be aware that Red Cards must now be shown during normal shooting if a late shot occurs, or if someone shoots on the practice field after the practice session has finished (It finishes once the arrows are pulled on the last end of practice).

Shoot-Off procedure

For all shoot-offs the Judge must indicate at a very early stage who the winner is, addressing the spectators with the result using an outstretched arm/hand to indicate the winner (Do this even before the arrows have been recorded on the score sheet). Do not use the finger to point as this may not be acceptable to some countries, so use the hand in an open palm position.

Arrows falling within the 3m line area – what should the archer/judge do?

In Match Play – Archer decides if it is in and shoots another arrow straight away. If there is doubt about whether it is in the three meter area, then the Judge must make the decision from the same viewpoint as the archer had – if it looks like it is inside, then it is.

The question was raised if the archer disagrees with the Judges decision on “in or out” then the archer should not pick up the arrow, as they may wish to make an appeal to the Jury, and the evidence would be needed. It may therefore be useful, if there is disagreement, to get a jury member to immediately view the arrow from the same position on the shooting line. The Jury is supposed to be present all the time – at least one of the Jury members.

If it happens in qualification the archer has two options; ref. previous Judges Newsletter

Should judges on medication be Judging?

This is an ethical area, and must be determined by the judge and his own medical advisors, or the medical commission. The Chairman at an event must be prepared to help Judges on deciding if they are fit to Judge, which may involve the need to make some harsh decisions.

Layout for finals, and actions of Target and Scoring Judges

The standard set up as shown in the FITA rule book may not necessarily be adhered to, given the media involvement in events now. For example, the scoring and target Judges in Athens were not in blinds, but behind a wall, watching monitors to call the arrows.

We have to make the best out of it, and ensure that we are close enough, or the image is big enough for us to our best job.

The scoring judges are really no longer "Judges" as they only need now to record the arrow values as they see it, and if there is then a dispute on arrow value, this will be confirmed by the Target Judge. The Scoring Judge should stand between the targets when undertaking the scoring, and as the Judge calls the values, they tick off the values they have previously written down. If there has to be an alteration to a value, the Target Judge must sign it.

The Target judge should position themselves slightly to one side to allow a clear view.

The key is to undertake the role of scoring the arrows quickly and efficiently, but also correctly.

9. A new Finger Tab by SOMA is on the market, and it was determined that it is legal, with a shelf part way down the face of the tab for the thumb to rest on, rather than a shelf at the top of the tab – and also a separate hook for the resting small finger.

Role of the Chairman of Judges (MW)

A number of key points were raised as follows:

If the CoJ does not do the role as well as anticipated, don't just accept it, but raise the questions.

Don't miss meetings called at the end of the day's competition, as these are often used not only to cover any incidents during the day, but to ensure all know the plans and assignments for the following day.

Even if there might be long days, judging is your main duty (even if you may be tired and/or hungry).

CoJ must instruct his/her Judges well, and accept that not everyone understands everything in the same way. It is also important to give clear instructions to Team Managers.

The role of the CoJ is to be a Manager of his/her team, and Leadership Skills are called for. The Committee, when appointing the Chairman, try to find those who they believe have the ability to manage a team (although not always easy to predict).

It was recommended that the Judge Committee consider a potential seminar for future Chairman of Judges, covering the necessary Leadership Skills. (Noted).

The Chairman should select a Deputy Chairman, who helps with allocation of duties etc.

However, the attendants underlined that we must not get into a structure where we are too "Top Heavy" at an event, but whatever we do, the Chairman must make the roles very clear.

CoJ Reports

The CoJ is required to send a confidential report to FITA at the end of each Tournament which will include an assessment of each Judge involved. Presently not enough reports are being received by FITA.

There was a debate around the use of these reports for educational purposes, and to be more directed to the individuals rather than general points. It was also agreed that the Judges involved should see the report, although there was then concern that if the CoJ knew the Judges were to read the report they may not write it the same as if they were not going to read it.

The reports must clearly emphasize the positives as well as weaknesses. A general concern was expressed at the report on Madrid, which was very negative about the Judges.

ACTION : The Committee would like feedback from the Judges on the value of the use of the feedback form on page 98 of the Judges Guidebook.



The judges at the Conference celebrating the New Year

Role of the Observer

The Observer is not there just to find fault with Judges, but to find constructive ways of improving judging (both procedures and the individual performance).

It is expected that the Observer will spend time talking to the Judge Commission at each event, an input MW promised to take back to the Judge Committee.

Due to the fact that International Judging is "on the move" to a higher level, there is a tendency to point out things that could be improved. Though, the attendants would appreciate also to know some positive evaluation.

MW said that as far as he could tell, the Observers are more than happy to give feedback to individual Judges on their performances – however he would try to avoid getting directly involved in the actual judging. He might, though, discuss some issues with the Chairman of the commission.

Basic Judge Seminar – Presented by Juan Maria Charquero

Juan Maria has, upon request from the FJC, been working on a proposal for a Basic Judge Seminar which could be used around the world, and in particular in developing areas. His work is dedicated and in memory of Don Lovo, the Master of Judges.

The presentation, comprising a significant number of slides, is not to substitute the rule book or the Judge Guide book, but to provide explanations with images. It incorporates all rule changes, Bylaws and Interpretations up to 21st December 2006.

The presentation is divided into four key areas:

- Basic FITA Rules for Outdoor Target Archery, except the Olympic Round
- Basic FITA Rules for Indoor Target Archery, except for Indoor Match Play
- Olympic and Indoor Match Play
- Basic Field Archery Rules.

The presentation was distributed on disk to those present at the conference, and on request, additional disks will be provided.

Juan Maria was thanked for his very hard work in putting the presentation together and making it available to help with the training of future Judges.

Rule Book 1 Appendix 4 – Judges Organization (MW)

MW outlined some important changes that are to be put to Congress in July 2007. Assuming FITA Congress agree, the following will apply in future:
FITACouncil limits the number of International Judges to 80 at present, and currently there are 64 (so when more seminars have been conducted, there is room for up-grading some Judges to full international standard).

All FITA Accredited Continental Judges will change to be FITA Judge Candidates – it has been deemed that the title of FITA Accredited Continental Judge has been confusing.

There will be no limitation on the number of FITA Judge Candidates. Continental and National Judge positions remain in place. The intention of the limitation is that the 80 allowable IJ's should be better trained and better qualified for the big events.

Accreditation tests will take place, and to be re-accredited you will need to pass. There will be no down grading to FJC, either you pass or fail. Any Judge or Candidate Judge who fails a re-accreditation test can ask for a 2nd opportunity, but only one further opportunity will be given.

A re-accreditation test will be taking place in early 2007, although recently qualified judges may not have to take it.

Thereafter there will be 4 years between tests, as rules can only be changed every four years by Congress.

There will be a fixed retirement age for IJ's of 65. If this is accepted, then in 2008/9 we will lose 25 of the current International Judges, and numbers then will be too low, and upgrades will be needed.

To upgrade, the following will occur:

- 1) FITA will announce there are vacancies
- 2) Continents must request a place for each Judge they wish to move on. (May need to prioritize these)
- 3) The Judge Candidate must have fulfilled re-accreditation criteria
- 4) Appointment will then be made by the Judge Committee.
- 5) The number of IJ's per Country is currently limited to 4, but there can be exceptions by agreement.
- 6) There is a need to encourage more female Judges

Composition of Judge Team for FITA Competitions (MW)

We need to have new and younger Judges and train them well.

Continental events minimum of 50% IJ or IJC.

World Cups/World Ranking Events – IJ or IJC as Chairman, + one other. For the World Cups in Europe, EMAU have appointed 2 per event as well as FITA.

The Judge commission for events for bodies such as IPC, World Games, University World Champs, Universiades and others will be appointed in co-operation with those Governing bodies.

It was recommended that there be more co-operation between EMAU and FITA on allocations of Judge Commissions, particularly as EMAU have a strong European Cup and Grand Prix circuit, and we should be seeing at least 1 IJ for each competition.

Survey Results (MW)

A number of questions had been answered by the participants in the early stages of the conference, and there were two or three that were more about opinion than correct answer.

What markings should be seen on shooting lines – centre of shooting position or the zone (i.e. 80cm) for each archer?

The responses were mixed, but the need is for something that helps resolve a dispute should the archers not be able to sort themselves out on the shooting line. Some felt the shooting positions were sufficient, whilst others felt the actual zone was more beneficial for the archer to see they should not go outside it. Care must be taken when dealing with disabled archers, and recognizing they may need more room.

However, MW underlined that the rules are quite specific; each shooting position to be marked.

What to do if the first elimination round has been shot, and then errors were discovered in the results of the qualification round such that two match pairings were incorrect?

Again, the results differed as to what to do, but the key points are:

- It is of utmost importance to get the pairings correct in the first place
- It would be unfair to re-shoot a "correct match" which by now had a result
- Generally speaking, the wrong pairings will be deemed invalid, and the shooting in the correct pairings will take place (but again, should be avoided).

Equipment Failure occurs at the last end of a distance – what do you do regarding timing?

Again, there was a healthy debate about what was right or wrong. It was decided that we should:

- Move all the targets etc except the one that the archer with the equipment failure was on
- Change the faces where appropriate

- Once the field is ready, then the 15 minutes commences for the archer to make up arrows – if they can they will, and if not, then they lose out, as at the end of the 15 minutes the target will be moved with the others and the next distance will commence.

This is seen as a very practical approach to a difficult situation, but gives the archer some time to effect a repair and then shoot his few remaining arrows.

What do you do if you find the target faces are larger than the tolerance allowed at a World Ranking Event?

- Majority agreed that the shoot should continue, but that it could not be considered valid for World Record Purposes, or requests for FITA Target Awards could be allowed.

- All agreed that it was important for the archers to be informed of this before shooting commenced

- All agreed that if the faces were smaller in size, then World Records and FITA Award claims could stand.

It is important for the Judges to measure a sample of faces. In Shanghai at the World Cup event, Suma Faces were used and ok. At the Junior World Championships, faces from the same supplier were used but found to be too small in one direction. The manufacturer had a problem with their machine and had to re-set it, and had possibly put in the wrong dimensions.

We also then discussed Target face Colors and problems that had arisen in various places. We should, as a matter of course, send poor ones to FITA so that they can take this up with the manufacturers.

MW pointed out that Krueger is now manufacturing Target Faces with a light Grey inner 10, which works for TV. These faces are permissible.

It would be helpful for Judges to have a Pantone Color chart, but these are very expensive, and as far as MW knew, FITA Office is working on this issue.

Case Studies

The Conference delegates split into smaller groups and looked at a number of good case studies presented by Morten Wilmann.

Indoor Scoring on 3 Spot faces

The delegates reviewed a series of scores for shooting on 3 spot faces. The principles of ensuring correct scores are recorded are to take time to get to the right result, and follow through the rules in this order if multiple mistakes;

- If there are more than 1 arrow in a face, then the lowest value arrow keeps its score, and the rest are then treated as misses (i.e. find out the individual value of each arrow)

- Then apply the rules for when more than 3 arrows have been shot – take the lowest 3 arrow values

- Then deal with arrows shot out of time, and remove the highest scoring arrow that has been recorded on the score sheet for that end.

Disabled Archery

Morten Wilmann gave the Conference a presentation on Disabled Archery, with the IPC World Championships in Korea in 2007 and the Paralympics in Beijing in 2008 very much on Judges' minds.

A short outline of each class was given, but it was re-iterated it was not up to FITA Judges to determine which category they could shoot in, as this is determined by the IPC Technical Commission.

Shooting is conducted according to FITA Rules, but this can lead to some issues around the equipment used. For example, where the archer has a prosthesis, can they have a bow that snaps on in place? MW pointed out a few examples of difficulties seen, and the need to ensure FITA rules are followed, and where they are not, the equipment is referred to the IPC.

In the Team Event the Americans were disqualified for having a loader for one archer when he was not entitled to one.

One thing we must be aware of is the appointment of the archers agent for finals. The archers agent may be disabled and we must do all we can to ensure this works well.

DISABLED TEAM EVENTS:

All 3 archers will be permanently on the shooting line, and change over is done by the archer who has finished raising their hand above their head to indicate to the next archer to shoot.

In FITA the rules are not so clear when a disabled archer is a part of the team. In Athens it was determined that the archer indicated they had finished when the bow was placed on the waiting line side of the chair. Basically the Judge must find a suitable solution that would take a similar length of time to the action of walking off the line. (Currently the rule book says the archer must place the bow flat on their knees, but this is not seen as practical, as some archers choose to rest the bow on their knees).

The IPC events are seen as very good training events for FITA Judges, and the Paralympics in particular is a main event and an excellent one to do. FITA are often asked late about Judges for IPC events, so keep an eye out for the IPC 2007 World Championships, as FITA will be asking for Judges once IPC have determined how many they need.

It was accepted that neither IPC nor FITA have followed up on a number of actions from earlier meetings, but both organizations do need to work very closely together to get the best for the archers.

Ski – Archery and Run Archery

MW reminded Judges that were opportunities for Judging the archery part of these events, and that the Judges are chosen by the Ski-Arc and Run – Arc committees.

Beijing Olympics 2008

MW was able to spend some time running through some detail relating to the Beijing Olympic Games. The event concept will probably remain the same for Beijing, London and also 2016.

MW was able to show slides of the Field of Play layout and surrounding arena. There will be two fields of play, and whilst Field A will be for finals and live television, field B is equally as important and all matches will be filmed for eventual broadcast.

The requirements of the IOC are for the following Officials to be appointed:

International Technical Officials (Judges and DOS) – 14 (1 DOS and 13 Judges, including the Chairman)

National Technical Officials – 15, normally National Judges. All of these people will be under the Control of the Chairman of Judges

Jury of Appeal – 3 Members appointed by FITA Council

The IJ's will be staying in single rooms within a hotel that is to a good standard, and have their own transportation to and from the venue, which will be only 5 minutes away from the accommodation.

Field Archery

Susanne Womersley updated the Conference on issues that had arisen at the World Field Championships in Gothenberg 2006, and some of the attempts made by archers to use aids in the unmarked round to judge the distances.

Some of the aids were:

Having a sized gap in the ring on a sight

Having more than 2 sighting aids within the sight itself - compound (i.e. a ring and a dot and a cross)

Using different sized screws to hold the lens in place

And others as well. It was commented that it would be better to only have marked distances, than the system of "cheats" to help with distance in unmarked rounds would fall away. Unmarked rounds now only occur in qualification, and all eliminations and finals are shot on marked distance targets.

BAREBOW

At the last congress, it had been decided to remove any limitations on tabs for Barebow archers. One tab was presented to the Judge Commission, and because it had a scale marked on it, it was not allowed, although the archer was advised they could appeal to the Jury – they chose not to. Later, a further tab was presented which not only had a scale, but also numbers on the scale, and a note with the "sight marks". Whilst notes are against the rules, an Interpretation has been asked on for on this particular instance.

RANGE FINDING WITH BOW

It was pointed out that on the Unmarked course, no Compound Archer ever shot on their first attempt, but you are not allowed to use your equipment solely for range finding. There was one archer who had to be informed of this, who was pulling the bow a little without an arrow, and then took down. If done the once, no reaction, but as it was frequent, a couple of Judges addressed her to put it right.

PROBLEM WITH ARROW REST (When is an equipment failure not an equipment failure?)

A Judge was asked to call for the Team Manager to bring spare equipment over as archer had a problem with her rest. The Team Manager was surprised, as the rest on the spare bow was destroyed already!

It turned out the bow being used was the number 2 bow, the archer was not happy, and wanted to change the bow, and took the rest off the one she was using and

transferred this to the other bow the Team Manager had brought out. Not really an equipment failure, and means we have to verify, as far as possible, when an equipment failure occurs.

FINALS MATCHES

The CoJ and TD had to meet to determine what to do, as the "Left and Right shooting position rules" in finals matchplay contradicts normal matchplay rules. The Field Committee are to propose changes to make it all fit.

Target Archery – Shooting "BYES"

The Conference discussed the issues we often meet about shooting "Byes" in Elimination rounds. For example, if we have 66 competitors, we need to shoot 2 matches to bring down to 64, and there may not be enough room on the field for all archers to shoot while these matches are taking place. If the others do not shoot, the archers who have already shot a match may have an advantage of having shot on the tournament field.

Couple of options were put forward:

Shoot these matches on the training field

Allocate archers 3 to a target where they are not involved in the matches so that they can get time on the competition field the same as those in the matches.

No final solution was agreed, but we must be aware of archers requirements in this respect.

Target Archery Team Matches

MW advised that the layout of the team event is often different to that shown in the book, with the Coaches behind the archers' box as opposed to alongside it. There is also unlikely to be a separate lane for Judges, and the Judge will have to stand across the two boxes. **We should, where possible, insist on the Judges box being marked in between the two team boxes to avoid any confusion and give us as clear sight as possible.**

Where the above is now the case, there is no need for the Judge to step forward to show the yellow card, as the coach is standing behind them.

Alternate shooting in the finals is now like shooting a shoot-off, with each archer having to shoot one arrow only in a set of 3 before the timing is held and the other team shoot. Then the first team shoot again (remember, matches are now 4 ends of six arrows, 2 per archer)

We are finding tournaments where the organizers are trying to schedule 16 team matches at one time, which is impossible for a Judge Commission to officiate successfully. The Judge Committee have insisted that a maximum of 8 Team Matches are scheduled at any one time.

If you are a CoJ at a World Cup, then bear in mind the training some National Judges may or may not have had with team events, and even if they have been trained, is it up to date?

Other Recent Rule Changes

CHANGE IN TOLERANCES FOR TARGET FACES

This has changed from 3mm to 2mm for the outer zones. Therefore, when checking target faces, we must note the date of production, because if they were produced before the tolerance change the larger tolerance is still permitted. In all fairness to the competitors, we should not mix faces produced at different times

ALTERNATE SHOOTING IN MATCH PLAY TIMING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 30 SECONDS PER ARROW

SHOOT-OFFS FOR TEAM INDOOR

The Team will shoot 3 arrows, but we only have 6 centres (2 Vertical Triple spots) on the target. In the absence of a change or a directive, we must therefore add another target face, but move the others to accommodate this so that the archers can all shoot at the middle centre.

CORRECTIONS OF SCORECARDS

In target archery, archers can now correct their own arrow values on the scorecard, but all need to sign. If you are called as a Judge to undertake this, do it to avoid further delays, but inform the archers of the ruling and advise them of how to do it.

SIGNATURE OF ARCHER

In Match Play (Elimination and Finals) the archer is now signing for the score, and not just the values, so if they sign for an incorrect score the matches will continue. This does not apply in qualification rounds, where the archers are still signing for the arrow values.

Be aware that the recent Judge Guide Book is not quite correct on this issue.

BRACE BAR on BOWS

MW advised all to read the article in the Judges Newsletter on the difficulties in ascertaining if the brace bar is being touched, but also the need to take action if you believe it is happening on a regular occurrence

Team Uniforms

The question was raised as to whether the Team Uniform rules under 3-22-1-1 (Book 1) also comprised Junior and Indoor Championships?

The C&R Committee have advised that it is valid for all Outdoor and Indoor World Championships for Men and Women, and since Juniors take part in the Indoor they should look the same – therefore valid for Junior Indoor, but not Outdoor!

Other events such as World Cups and Continental Championships are not regulated in the same way, and neither are Field Tournaments.

Be aware that this is not an official interpretation, but a guideline for the Judges.

Rule 3-22-1-4 Shooting name on back of shirt.

It seems this is for Seniors only, and valid for outdoor target, and desirable for Indoor and Field.

What is a FITA Championship?

This question arose because Book 1 refers to Indoor/Outdoor FITA Championships. 3 or 4 years ago this was defined as World Championships, and is considered a valid interpretation.

Judging Consistency and Training

MW advised we are getting closer to International consistency, and need to ensure this is brought down to Country level.

All International Judges must make themselves available for training of Judges in their own Country, and it is expected that they are active on a National basis.

We must work hard to ensure the status and importance of Judges in each Country is recognized, and to keep raising the standards.

Conference Closure

MW brought the Conference to a close late afternoon on the 31st December, thanking Carole Hicks for organizing the conference, Susanne Womersley for assisting him, and all the participants for attending. Morten was presented with a gift from New Zealand as a thank you for taking the event and running most of the sessions in the absence of Sergio Font.

Before the Conference finally closed, John Womersley addressed those present to announce his retirement from International Judging. I cannot do justice to his words here, but he received a warm ovation from all present, acknowledging his work and many years service.

The Conference then closed, and we all gathered again to see in the New Year later that evening, with an enjoyable dinner and glass of champagne!

Three generations of one family Judge at an Archery Tournament together

The Potts family of Great Britain has managed what is believed to be a first for Judging in Archery, with Father, Son and Grandson all Judging together at one Competition in Spelthorne, near London.

George Potts, at 77, has been judging for many years in England, and has been in Archery for 50 years. Graham, his son, is now a FITA Accredited Continental Judge, and has been an archer for 40 years. Robert, Graham's son, is 16, and having seen his father progress, decided he wanted to take up Judging as well, and is undergoing training in GB. He has been in archery for 10 years already!



So, 100 years of Archery experience in the three generations, and all able to work together at one tournament – what an achievement! Graham said it was very strange working with the two of them, but nice to know that when Robert was told something, he had to do it, and his father was very proud to have his son and Grandson working alongside him.

Congratulations to the Potts family for this fantastic achievement.

Signs on the field

Sometimes the judges take it for granted that the organizers know where to place all the signs on the field. However, it is still necessary to check that every single sign is located exactly where it has to be.

First of all, we would like to refer to the position of the photo lane in relation with the waiting line. The photo lane should be placed in between the shooting line and the waiting line for obvious reasons: you want the photographers to be able to walk along their lane without the risk of tripping over a bow or bumping into an archer. The following picture shows a WRONG placement of the signs. The order should be inverted, even if the waiting line is located more than 5 meters away from the shooting line (permissible within the rules).



It is also important to see to it that the numbers at the shooting line are NOT placed right on the 3-meter line. An arrow hitting these numbers (if positioned as in the following picture) will certainly remain inside the 3-meter area. The number will probably prevent the arrow from falling outside this zone. Make sure the numbers are placed about 1 meter in front of the shooting line. The following picture shows us where NOT to put the numbers.



Judge Conference 2007

An International Judge Conference for international judges and judge candidates (FITA accredited continental judges) will be held in Rome, Italy, on October 26th-28th this year – starting in the afternoon of the 26th at 16.00 and finishing at 13.00 (lunch) on the 28th.



The programme will mainly cover the same subjects as in the latest Conference in New Zealand, although recent items will be added. More on this subject will follow in the next Judges Newsletter. The Conference is organized in cooperation with FITARCO and will take place at Centro de Preparazione Olimpica Acqua Acetosa, Largo Guilio Onesti 1, 00197 Rome.

FITARCO will take care of the pick-up at the airport according to the information received from you.

The stay at the centre is based on double room accommodation, full board for two days (Friday supper – Sunday lunch) at a price of Euro 60,- per person.

The number of rooms are limited and distributed according to receipt of registration. Possible further registrations may lead to accommodation in a nearby hotel – at the price available at the time.

Registration to be made at latest on the 15th August with:

Morten B. Wilmann
e-mail: bue@nif.idrett.no

Your registration message must also include the flight details if you want a pick-up at the airport.

Vacant positions for FITA International Judges

This is an announcement that several vacancies are available for International Judge Status. These positions can be filled by FITA accredited continental judges according to article 8.1 en appendix 4, Book 1, of the FITA Constitution and Rules.

The deadline for submitting the applications will be September 15, 2007.

Comments to case studies no. 65

1) Advertising /Dress Code.

The vast majority of the Judges correctly applied the rules in the favor of the archer in this case.

Advertising is allowed within specific sizes, and nowhere our rules claim that all the archers from the same member association need to have the same sponsor (advertising). The request that teams should be dressed in the same uniform is a kind of "look good" and "being identified by nationality" request.

Normally advertising would not lead to identification problems – and wearing a sponsor’s logo is quite common within sports and does not create any image problem whatsoever.

Some judges said that they would allow this for the individual competition but not for the team event – a position that would be totally impractical. The same considerations as above would also be valid for the team event, where the identification would be even easier as all the team members are situated in the same box/area.

You are of course aware that the Olympics have their own rules for advertising, which are communicated far in advance to the member associations, but this is another story....

2) Scoresheet with no space for the last end.

As most of you underlined, there may be various reasons for this mistake, and you certainly have to check all possibilities to find the mistake and correct it.

First of all, since this is a problem there must be only one set of scorecards, otherwise it would be easy to compare and find out.

Obviously one end has been taken down twice (for the same archer) or one end for both archers have been put on the scorecard in question. You may find out by checking the various ends – and if you are lucky it may also be possible to compare with the holes in the target, looking for specific hits or count back the scores.

If there is no possibility of finding out where the error is, then you have to change the scores of the last three arrows entered in the scorecards to the values of the arrows still in the target (because this is obviously the last end – and in fact the only evidence you may have).

New Case Studies

66.1. At a National Championship two archers showed up at the equipment inspection with slings attached to the bow as shown in the following pictures. The judges were not sure whether to allow them or not. What would you have done?



66.2 At a World Ranking Event only one judge was in charge of controlling the two teams in a match. The judge was not aware that the timing equipment used would not sound if the clock ever went down to zero. When there were only 5 seconds left, the last archer of Team A drew his bow to shoot his last arrow. The judge was watching the archer while listening for a sound signal that was never given by the timer. The archer shot his arrow, and the judge, uncertain of whether it was shot within the time frame or after it, decided not to raise the red card and deemed the arrow as shot within time. The coach of Team B claimed that the arrow was shot after the clock had come down to zero, and filed an appeal against the judge's decision. What would you have done if you had been a member of Jury in this case?