



JUDGES NEWSLETTER

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INTERNATIONAL ARCHERY FEDERATION

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1. Editorial

By Morten Wilmann, Chairman

Dear friends,

Recently there have been several incidents involving judges, and unfortunately not all of them were handled according to the standard we like to see.

It has been about not showing up, about understanding of the rules, about focusing on the job, about following procedures laid down, just to mention a few areas.

For sure our interest in judging is mainly our hobby and not a profession, but on the other hand the standard of our sport is important, and the standard of judging should reflect that we have important roles to play. In this respect, we are not there only for ourselves, but as a part of a team. We therefore also have the responsibility of fulfilling our duties as a judge to the required level.



Archery is striving for its goal to be an important Olympic sport. Then we cannot accept strange decisions, lack of awareness and poor performances. Our archers are improving, so must the judges. Having said that, I am still convinced that most of you are doing a very good job and represent FITA Judges in an excellent way.

We have finished another international judge conference, this time in Guatemala, and according to my impression and received feedback, the conference was a success (more about the Conference in this edition of the Newsletter). Again we stressed important issues like consistency in judging, various procedures and latest news. Be especially aware of the Errata Sheet that you will now find together with the latest rules on the web.

The most important issues for our committee have been and will be as follows;

- a) Chairman's meeting with the FITA President, Secretary General and Event Manager on the Olympics and World Cups in order to settle some procedures.
- b) International seminar in Chinese Taipei – in cooperation with the Asian Archery Federation.
- c) Investigate the possibilities of special training for commission chairpersons – as a separate group.
- d) Plans for special training of young judges with the aim of Youth Olympics 2010.
- e) Finalizing an updated version of the FITA Judge Guide Book

Finally on this occasion, I would like to remind all of you who might be Commission Chairpersons to send a copy of your report to our committee – also the assessments re the judges present – even from continental level tournaments.



2. FITA Judge Conference in Guatemala

The FITA Judge Conference held in Guatemala was a complete success. Our three Committee members conducted the three day conference tackling basically the topics dealt with in Rome in October 2007.

Judges from Canada (1), the United States (2), Mexico (2), Cuba (3), Puerto Rico (4), Brazil (1), Colombia (1), Venezuela (1) were in attendance.

The judges present thanked the Guatemalan Archery Association, and especially Dr. Freddy Hermes, for their support.



Dion Buhagiar, Morten Wilmann and Sergio Font in Guatemala

A message from Marty Swanson after the Conference in Guatemala

Morten,

Now that I am back from Guatemala I wanted to express my thanks to you for a really great conference there. The FITA

Judge Committee has really brought a professional image to FITA Judging and you, Sergio and Dion are to be thanked for this. Hope your return home was uneventful and that you will soon be enjoying the holiday you spoke about. Mary and I look forward to seeing you again.

Marty

3. New International Judge Candidates

Seven new judges have been accredited as International Candidates at the seminar held in Chinese Taipei in July. The seminar was conducted by FITA Judge Committee members Morten Wilmann and Dion Buhagiar.

The new candidates are:

Didier Gras (FPO), Randall Jones (CAN), Davood Nematnia (IRI), Karen O'Malley (AUS), Somsak Saengpao (THA), Sanjeeva Singh (IND), Wu Tsung Yi (TPE)

The Asian Archery Federation had invited all the Asian counties to attend the combined International and Continental Judges Seminar in Chinese Taipei in the very beginning of July, giving some financial support to the

Conference participants during a break





Asian attendants. The response was overwhelming and there were more than 80 participants from more than 20 countries. The final exams were taken by 13 judges for the International Candidate status, and 55 for the Continental Judge status.

Among the candidates (for both categories) there was a lot of potential, and hopefully we will see lots of them as active judges in the future.



Seminar participants in Chinese Taipei

4. Correction to a by-law

Article 7.6.5.2.3 has been amended as follows:

"In team match play competition when alternate shooting is used, during the tie break the team that started the match will shoot all three arrows (one arrow per member) in succession, and then the second team will shoot their three arrows (one arrow per team member)."

This amendment helps clarify the previous wording which was rather ambiguous, even for native speakers of English.



A team match at the Good Luck Beijing Test Event last year

5. Upgrade to International Judge Status

International Judge Candidates wishing to be upgraded to full International status may request so according to Appendix 4 in the FITA Constitution and Rules. A form will be sent out by FITA Office.

6. Continental Re-Accreditation process in COPARCO

COPARCO Judge Committee concluded the re-accreditation process for continental judges in the Americas. The process included two stages, after which 23 judges were re-accredited. Unfortunately 7 judges were not successful and lost their accreditation. At present COPARCO has 11 International judges, 5 International Candidates and 38 Continental judges from 11 countries.

At the COPARCO Congress held in July in Venezuela, their Judge Committee defined its goals for the next twelve months, including developing judge seminars in Central and South America, the regions with fewer judges. For further information visit COPARCO's website: www.coparco.org

7. Confirming scores to the spotters: very important!!!

Judges assigned to work behind the blinds at World Championships, World Cups and other major events where spotters are used, may be faced with a situation in which you cannot see the scoreboards from your position in the blinds.

The fact that the scores are being entered in the scoreboards by the spotters, usually from behind the waiting line, puts the judges in a situation in which they need to be quite accurate in their confirmation of scores to the spotters once you have verified the scores in the targets.



Make sure you discuss with the spotters, and usually with Juan Carlos Holgado as well, how you will confirm the scores. At a recent World Cup event the judges confirmed only the total for each end, and not the cumulative score. This brought about a problem, due to which a winning result was announced based on the scoreboards while the actual score in the scorecards showed a tie.



The spotters at the Olympic Games

8. Getting ready for Beijing

This is a short account of what our Olympic judges were doing just a few hours before the Games were officially opened.



The judges try on their uniforms. Morten's hat was too big, Tom Green's jacket's arms were too short, and Irena's skirt was not long enough. All uniform items were finally changed or altered so that the judges would look neat.



A short meeting before inspecting the archers' equipment

9. Numbers are no longer back numbers

In order to allow the archers to fully display their names and their country in their uniform, they are no longer required to wear their numbers on their backs. Look at these two archers at the World Cup in Boe wearing the numbers in their quivers.





10. Judges appointed for World Cup Final in Lausanne

The following judges have been appointed to officiate at the World Cup Final in Lausanne:

Stefan Lehmann	(Germany)
Graham Potts	(Great Britain)
Masatoshi Seki	(Japan)

11. Applications for 2009 Events

The FITA Judge Committee will meet in Malta in late November and, among other topics, we will make appointments for 2009. You will receive the proper application form from Chantal very shortly, but you may start planning on which of the following events you would be available and willing to officiate next year:

March 2-8	World Indoor Championships	Rzeszow (POL)
March 31-April 5	World Cup 1	Santo Domingo (DOM)
May 4-9	World Cup 2	Porec (CRO)
June 2-7	World Cup 3	Antalya (TUR)
July 2-6	Summer Universiade	Belgrade (SRB)
July 13-19	Youth World Championships	Ogden (USA)
July 23-26	World Games	Kaohsiung (TPE)
August 4-9	World Cup 4	Shanghai (CHN)
September 1-10	World Outdoor Championships	Ulsan (KOR)
September 26	World Cup Finals	Copenhagen (DEN)
October 10-18	World Master Games	Sydney (AUS)

12. Problem with target faces at a major FITA event

Unfortunately not all FITA licensed target face manufacturers are keeping the same quality standards for all the lots they produce and sell. That is why it is so important for judges, technical delegates and organizers to make sure the target faces used at a major event do comply with certain requirements that go beyond color and size.

We had an issue at the World Cup in Santo Domingo early this year with target faces that were good for nothing in the presence of rain. The judges who worked there, chaired by Johnny Hernandez, did a great job in trying to run a tournament in the middle of very heavy rain all through the week, and they should be complimented for this.

If you ever run into faces which do not comply with minimum quality standards, please inform our Committee Chairman so that the information is passed on to the FITA Council for further research and action.



Target faces almost destroyed by the rain

13. Case studies 68.1 and 68.2

As for the first one we were a bit surprised that as much as approx. 30% of the judges not only would deduct the highest score for an extra arrow in the first sequence but would also count an un-shot arrow in the second sequence (which was shot in the first sequence).

These judges have overlooked the fact that 6 arrows, two per archer, in fact is the correct number of arrows. Un-shot arrows are only counted if an archer has shot fewer arrows than required.

In this case, a consequence of such a mistake would be that an archer would gain points by making another mistake; shooting an extra arrow. And as you should know, you will never gain any points by making mistakes.

The short and precise answers would be:

68.1

In a team match with alternate shooting, the archers in Team A shoot in the following sequence: archer A-1 shoots one arrow, archer A-2 shoots one arrow, and archer A-3 shoots two arrows before crossing the 1-meter line. The DoS stopped the clock after this third archer crossed the 1-meter line, and started the clock for team B, and archers B-1, B-2 and B-3 shoot one arrow each. Team A had 46 seconds left for the second section of their six-arrow end. Archer A-1 comes onto the line and shoots one arrow, archer A-2 shoots one arrow, and archer A-3 did not shoot any arrows.

- a) Would you apply a penalty to team A?*
- b) If so, what would the penalty be?*

Each archer shot 2 arrows (the team shot their 6 arrows). It seems correct, but they made one violation. One archer shot 2 arrows in a sequence. The team lose the highest scoring arrow in this end.

The procedure: We have to score all 6 arrows and the highest value will be crossed over and become a M. The judge has to announce this violation by showing the red card, and he must inform the Target Judge."

68.2



Same situation as 68.1, but in this case archer A-3 shoots an arrow in the second section of his team's turn to shoot.

Here we have two violations; too many arrows shot in total and 2 arrows shot by the same archer in the first sequence.

The procedure:

1. There are 7 arrows, we will score the 6 lowest values.

One archer shot 2 arrows in a sequence, so the highest value of the six scored being crossed over and become an M.

As above, the judge has to announce this violation by showing the red card, and he must inform the Target Judge." Furthermore, some of our judges stated that the judge should interfere when he sees an archer is about to make a mistake, and that is very good judging. We have a responsibility of the conduct of the shooting and must try to avoid any such mistake and the mess-up that follows from such mistakes.

Two additional comments:

- a) Some of the explanations given to these cases are confusing and would not be proper if given on the field. One important issue here is that if there are shot too many arrows, we score the 6 lowest values (we do not deduct the highest score, which easily may lead to take away an extra score).
- b) Some of you are referring to the rules prior to the last issue of rules (1/4-08) saying that according to previous rules no violation (68.1) has happened. We admit that previous rules were not quite clear, but 7.8.2.8 in 2006 edition covers the issue (what should it else mean ...?)

However, it is clarified in the Judge Guide Book (Jan.06) under 6.3.4.2. Don't forget to update yourself.....

14. New Case Studies

69.1 At a Continental Championship the individual finals were shot with alternate shooting, 30 seconds per arrow. The electronic equipment used did not incorporate a sound signal at the end of the 30 second sequence when the clock came down to zero. In the last arrow of the match, archer A had a hard time pulling through his clicker and shot his arrow just one second after the clock came down to zero. The judge immediately raised his red card indicating that the archer would lose his highest scoring arrow for that end.

The archer's coach claimed that there was no sound signal, and files an appeal with jury. Was the judge right? Explain.

69.2 At an international tournament an archer brings six arrows in his quiver to the shooting line when shooting at 90 meters. When there are only 25 seconds left, the archer still has one arrow to shoot, and he finds out the nock of this arrow is broken. He raises his bow claiming an equipment failure, a judge comes and the archer says his nock is broken, the judges says that is a broken nock is not a reason for an equipment failure and the archer cannot get extra time. The archer then runs to his bow case looking for another arrow.

When he comes back to the line he has no time to shoot this arrow. The archer's team captain appeals to Jury and the jury members overruled the judge, and allowed the archer to shoot his arrow in an additional 40 second time.

Whose decision was correct? The judge's? The Jury members'?

The deadline to send the replies (to FITA Office) is 15 September 2008