

JUDGES NEWSLETTER

Fédération Internationale de Tir à l'Arc
INTERNATIONAL ARCHERY FEDERATION

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1. Editorial

By Morten WILMANN, Chairman

Dear Judges,

We are now in the second half of 2010 and some of you have already been in action this year, while some still have events to do. I am saying "well done" and "good luck" respectively.

You have been given a deadline to make applications for duties for 2011 - and the same deadline will be used for answering the case studies in this Newsletter; 15th October. In addition, our International Judge Candidates now have an opportunity to ask for upgrading, as we will have some places available as full status judges at the end of this year. Again the deadline will be the same - and everything is planned for the committee meeting in the beginning of November in Malta, a very important meeting where we will suggest the Judges for the London Olympics 2012 to FITA Council.



Of course, "the final decision" will be made after the London test event in 2011, but nevertheless....

The present year has given our Judges some new challenges: first of all the set shooting and then - at certain events - also the new compound round and set shooting using hit/miss targets.

I am happy to conclude that the feedback about our judges has been very good so far, which means that we are improving as a group, and consistency in judging is getting (much) better, and the implementation of new rules has not produced any difficulties.

What is ahead of us? Well, first of all, again we are losing many experienced judges by the end of this year due to the age limit, and unfortunately some of our judges will not renew their accreditation due to absence from our Judge Conferences, where attendance at minimum one of them now is considered as a "must".

On the other hand, a lot of new judges are entering the stage, and we have many promising candidates at present who have to be given the possibilities to reach in a high performance level.

We may also be hoping for fewer changes to our rules. However, I do not think that such a hope will be met within short. I can already foresee some changes re the new compound round, and within short our rules will be totally re-edited and re-organized. Hopefully, the outcome in the end will be to the better.

In the meantime, let's keep up to our high standard of judging.

Regards

Morten

2. Judges Conference – Porec, Croatia 9-10 May 2010

Minutes taken by Richard BREESE, IJC (GBR)

This year's Conference was the last of the current Accreditation Period and was held in the Hotel Parentium, Plava Laguna, Porec, CRO. Most Judges were from Europe but there were also delegates from French Polynesia, Argentina, Iran and Malaysia, and there were a number of 'sit-ins' of EMAU Continental Judges and Croatian National Judges.

The arrival day for the judges coincided with the Finals Day of the 2010 World Cup Stage 1 and many judges were able to arrive in time to enjoy the spectacle of the new Set System finals, basking in the sun in the area of the town's Marina.

There were 38 delegates in attendance and 3 FITA Judge Committee members. Unfortunately, a number of judges were prevented from attending due to the flight restrictions caused by the volcanic dust cloud from Iceland.

DAY 1

Opening

The Conference opened with the Chairman of the FJC, Mr Morten WILMANN formally welcoming all the delegates, followed with a welcome by the organisers from the Croatian Archery Association. Mr Dion BUHAGIAR was introduced to the conference, for those who had not met him before, as the most recently elected FJC member. Morten explained that a conference is different to a seminar in that it does not incorporate an exam but is rather for gathering information, asking questions and modifying views and opinions.

Mr Tom DIELEN, FITA Secretary General, added his own welcome and good wishes for a successful Conference. He conveyed greetings from the FITA President, and congratulated the Judge Commission from the recently completed World Cup tournament for a very smooth event in difficult weather conditions, and thanked the Croatian Archery Association for convening the Conference. He confirmed his belief that FITA Judge Conferences are very important for retaining accreditation and for keeping up to date with both the written Rules and procedures on the FOP. He understood that the role of the DOS/Judge is developing all the time as archery has to submit more and more to the requirements of TV and the camera. It is therefore very important that there is a healthy combination of efforts between the Sports Presentation Team and the Judges.

He sees 2010 as a 'test year' for all the new rules and formats and explained that the changes were brought about after listening to external observers who recommended that for the future development of target archery the bow styles of Recurve and Compound needed to be separated. FITA Council will be analysing the progression of the new Set System formats and are already receiving comments about the 3 arrow sets. Discrepancies found with any of the new formats will be constructively discussed and modifications may well follow later in the year.

Tom clarified that the FITA FOP uniforms are to be updated to a new style in 2012 and no more of the current style will be issued. In the meantime those issued to newly accredited Judges will be very similar in style as a temporary solution. He especially underlined that the future raingear would in fact be waterproof.

He concluded by appealing to all Judges to cooperate more efficiently with Séverine FREYMOND, FITA Office Coordinator, and thanked the FJC for their work.

Warm-up Survey

Morten began by inviting all delegates to introduce themselves to the others and distributed the agenda for the Conference, then in traditional manner everyone completed an anonymous 23 question, multiple-choice, question paper of FITA rules and procedures; the answers to be given and discussed the following morning.

Book 1, Appendix 4 (p83) - Morten Wilmann

Morten spent time clarifying the 'Organisation and Procedure for the Judges' Committee'.

The total number of FITA IJs is set by FITA Council at 80, and currently there are around 60. The retirement age is also now set by Council as the end of the year of the judge's 65th birthday, although at present they would still be eligible to officiate for their Continental Associations. There are a maximum of 4 FITA IJs for each Member Association, although in certain circumstances exceptions may be made. The FJC are solely responsible for the accreditation of IJs and IJCs.

He stressed at this point that on the FOP there was no distinction made between IJs and IJCs with regard to their authority, as this would only lead to a confusion of expectations on the part of archers, coaches and team managers.

Accreditation - the minimum requirement for consideration as FITA Judge is 3 years experience as National Judge. Morten acknowledged that different MAs have different procedures for the appointment of NJs. The applicant must also have come through the relevant Continental Judge accreditation system and have experience of a major continental sanctioned tournament or world ranking event for fuller experience. The FJC are totally reliant on the MAs and CAs for administrating these aspects and for supporting the application. The accreditation of IJCs allows for more than 80 judges to be available in any one year when a large number of officials are required at tournaments. The accreditation period is 4 years with new accreditations running to the corresponding World Championships, the year before the Olympic Games.

Re-accreditation is reliant on a number of considerations. Each judge must respond to the Case Studies published in the periodic Judge Newsletters, although the FJC will consider just one 'drop-out' for personal reasons; be available for at least 1 international duty in a two year period, ensuring that they are actually available; participate in at least 1 Judge Conference during the four year accreditation period; complete and return the re-accreditation form; have positive reports from tournament Chairmen and maybe Observers; pass the re-accreditation test (this is a written, open-book test and the FJC are happy for judges to work together on these papers as this is seen as a means of clarification and learning). The main change for the 2011 re-accreditations is that an IJ who fails the test will no longer be down-graded to IJC – from now on they will return immediately to Continental status, and it is up to the relevant CA as to whether or not they then instigate their own re-accreditation procedures.

The planned Judge Conferences for the new accreditation period are as follows in order to give all judges a fair opportunity for attendance: 2011 - none, as this is re-accreditation year, 2012 - the Americas, 2013 - Asia, 2014 - Europe. Any judge who is unable to meet the requirement to attend at least one of these must apply directly to FITA Council for dispensation – this is not a matter for FJC as they themselves must abide by the rules.

Upgrading from IJC to IJ requires that there must be a vacant position within the MA, and the upgrade must be requested by the relevant CA and MA who have to confirm that the judge is active and has positive evaluations. Appointment then is totally at the discretion of the FJC who will also take into account factors such as gender, geography and age. At this stage Morten announced that later in 2010 the FJC intend inviting up to 15 IJCs to upgrade to IJ to help fill the short-fall in IJs.

Olympic Games attendance needs a FITA IJ to have been accredited for at least 5 years totally - as IJ or IJC, show the highest quality responses to Case Studies, the highest level of performance in the re-accreditation tests and similar performance reports from Observers.

The composition of the Target Judge Commission is as follows :

Olympics - all IJs

World Championships - IJs and a maximum of 5 IJCs

Continental Championships - IJs or IJCs with a maximum 50% of CJs

World Cups – Chairman and 3 IJs or IJCs

World Ranking events - Chairman and 2 IJs or IJCs

Other games or events such as the World Games, University Games, Commonwealth Games, Paralympics - agreement between the Organising Committee and FITA

Youth Judges must be between 18 and 30 at the time of accreditation. They cannot automatically transfer to other FITA judge categories but must follow the CJ/IJC/IJ route as normal. They can have a background of judging or be an archer with international experience, be recommended by their MA and attend a seminar based on invitation and pass the relevant exam. Fifty YJ applicants have been recommended for 2010 and 14 will be invited to attend the seminar planned to coincide with the World Cup 4th Stage in Shanghai in September in order for them to gain some international hands-on experience. Once accredited, they can serve at the Youth Olympics, the World Youth Championships, Universiade events, and the University Championships. Some YJs from previous years are already progressing towards FITA IJC/IJ. The FJC have recognised the need to discuss the possible appointment of YJs to events such as the World Field Championships where juniors attend.

Archery Sport Presentation - Juan Carlos HOLGADO, FITA Events Director

FITA are always looking to make archery more interesting and more available to spectators and in this respect they have been achieving more success in this field in recent years.

The Show and its overall success is the clear brief of Archery Sports Presentation and they are the link between the public and the athletes. The overall success of the event is achieved through good team-work, clear communication and the efficient passage of information between the organisers, archers, COJ, DOS, judges, TV, and the show director and all his team, whilst all the time ensuring that the archer has a comfortable experience and the spectators are entertained.

The TV companies very much determine the progression of the event and 'zero time' is defined by them, not by the signal to start shooting or the introduction of the match. The Show Director then controls the timings of the event with the COJ as the interface between himself, the SD and the judges, but the DOS can always over-ride these timing instructions on the grounds of safety, etc. The Show starts 1.5 hours before the advertised tournament start time with all the technical checks of audio and visual equipment, cue sheets, communications and broadcast requirements. This is followed by official welcomes, informative announcements, commercials, house-keeping announcements, all accompanied by appropriate music. Archers are now even being asked what music they would prefer to be played during their matches.

The Sports Presentation Team consists of the Events Manager (Juan Carlos), the Commentator (George TEKMITCHOV), the Announcer, the Audio Operator (Rocky BESTER), the FITA TV Crew, the TV Floor Manager, the scorers and spotters, the timing operators, the FOP Director, the DOS, the FITA Judge Commission and the volunteers. This team operates from a highly advanced technical booth strategically situated on the FOP with the agreement of all parties.

The SPT have several 'tools' at their disposal - the Video Wall, the Sound System, the 'Voices' of the commentators, and the Spotters. The Video Wall is now being augmented by smaller LCD/plasma screens around the competition venue such as the archers' tents and hospitality areas.

The Commentators operate to a specific script approved by FITA and the OC as to what to say and how to say it and in what language/s.

More and more nowadays the judges are playing a vital role in providing essential feedback to the SPT from the FOP.

The Award Ceremony itself is a major staged event having to observe strict timings, correct protocol and anthems and correct equipment including medals, flowers, podium, flags. It must be well-planned and it is essential that it is rehearsed.

The SPT complete their duties by ensuring that the event is 'closed down' correctly and that everyone leaves the stadium orderly and safely.

The World Cup events are seen as a vehicle for testing new procedures and techniques, a good example being the wind speed and direction indicators used for the first time in Porec and being trialled there for the London 2010 Olympic Games. Juan Carlos mentioned that some issues which arose the previous day in the Porec Finals had already been discussed, for example the relative positions of photographers and the timing screens, and George's commentary whilst archers are shooting and his quoting/misquoting of the rules. Morten intervened at this point and asked judges not to take their lead from George but to ignore him and go with their own judgement and assessment of the situation. The 3m Line is also not being used now in some of the more glamorous venues which are being chosen for the World Cup Finals and it was discussed that agreed procedures needed to be put in place whenever this was the case on how to deal with the 'unshot arrow'. Also, at the Finals the EM is now asking that personal scopes are not used in order to allow the TV company and photographers the most freedom for their coverage, but screens are being provided to assist archers to review their shots and other options are also being looked into.

Juan Carlos concluded by saying that for an event to be successful then much detailed discussion has to take place between all groups before the event and even to hold rehearsals where possible. He emphasised that at all times safety was paramount.

3D Archery - Irena ROSA (SLO)

Much of the purpose behind this presentation by Irena was to familiarise delegates with the format of 3D as applications for these events are usually very low and the FJC appealed for more in the future. She began by informing everyone that 3D is very similar to Field Archery and there is nothing to be afraid of.

2003 saw the first 3D World Championships in France followed by Italy (2005), Hungary (2007), and Italy (2009). The next Championships will be in 2011 in Austria. The first EMAU European Championships were in 2008 in Punta Umbria, Spain and this year they are in Sardinia, Italy.

The appropriate section of Book 5 which relates to 3D Archery has been extensively re-written for the 2010 rule book. Mrs Trudy Medwed (AUT) is the FITA 3D Archery Coordinator and Chairman of the EMAU 3D and Field Archery Committee.

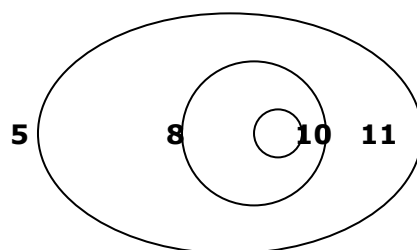
3D Archery uses only life-size animal targets of which there is a wide choice available, made by several manufacturers in natural colours, although colour and style can vary slightly between these manufacturers. As they are life-size they will clearly vary in size, and where the smallest are used the organisers now have to place two targets side-by-side so that archers can shoot A B (left and right) in order to limit target and arrow damage as these will also be at the shorter distances. The full animal must be visible to the archer.



All targets have the same style of scoring zone, varying in size with the size of the target. The different value zones are divided by lines moulded into the surface of the target and an arrow touching this line will score the value of the higher zone, just as in target archery, but care must be taken when judging arrow calls as they are not as clear and distinct as on a printed paper target face. 5 – 10 metres before the shooting peg/s there will be a target number board incorporating a picture of the animal to be shot at with an indication of the relevant scoring zones.



The appropriate scoring values are 11, 10 and 8 in the vital zone where 11 will be about 25% of the size of the 10. An arrow outside this area will score 5 and an arrow hitting a horn or hoof or not touching any body colour will score as a Miss, as will any glancing shot.



Within 3D there are two Classes (Men and Women), and 4 Divisions (Compound, Barebow, Longbow and Instinctive). Juniors, Cadets and Veterans do not shoot in international events but may do nationally.

Compounds shoot from the red peg with a maximum distance of 45m whereas BB, LB and IB shoot from the blue peg with a maximum distance of 30m. There are no minimum distances.

The two Qualification Rounds comprise 20 targets each and all must be completed by each archer. The two Elimination Rounds are 12 targets (starting with 16 qualifiers from each category), and the Finals matches (Bronze and Gold) are shot over 4 targets.

There are many similarities between 3D Archery and Field Archery :

- The course must not provide undue difficulty of passage and be accessible by all
- It must be as condensed as possible
- It must be contained within 1km or 15 minutes walk of the central area
- It must be no higher than 1800m above sea level
- The height difference across the course/s must not be bigger than 100m
- There must be safe paths
- There must be the best use of terrain
- There must be the maximum variety and a fair balance of target sizes and distances
- Target numbers must be at least 20cm tall – black on yellow, yellow on black – and be 5-10 metres before the shooting pegs.
- The target numbers are the waiting area for the group.
- Signing around the course must be clear.
- Archers decide arrow value disputes in the Qualification Rounds by majority but this is the responsibility of the judge in the Eliminations and Finals.
- Prohibited items include electronic devices, range-finders, modified equipment that may assist in determining distances and angles, and written memoranda.

The main differences include:

- Field is a combination of Marked and Unmarked distances - 3D is all unmarked.
- Field has 4 target sizes - 3D has 3 main sizes of targets
- The range and spread of distances is very specific in Field - in 3D it is far less prescriptive
- In Field, archers shoot in groups of 3/4 in AB/CD format and rotate - in 3D the group size is between 3 and 6 and the archers shoot individually moving through the group at each target for the one who shoots first
- In Field the archers can stand up to 1m behind or to the side of the shooting peg - in 3D they must touch the peg with their foot (which actually means the archer himself may be in front of the peg).
- 3 minutes is the time limit to shoot three arrows at each target in Field - in 3D only 1 arrow is shot at each target in a time limit of 1 minute.

The presentation moved into a discussion on some general aspects of 3D and a number of interesting points were raised especially on the subject of archers' equipment. Morten said that perhaps it was time for the FJC to look at streamlining the bow set-ups within 3D; for example the question was raised as to whether or not the American Flat-bow should be included within the Longbow or Recurve division. The weight limit of 60 lbs for the Instinctive Bow was raised and the problems of how to the weight the poundage at the archer's individual draw length.

Irena concluded with an appeal for more judges to apply for 3D events and an instant survey of those present at the conference showed that only about one third had 3D experience. Morten thanked Irena for her presentation.

New 2010 FITA Rules of Shooting - Sergio FONT

Sergio began his presentation with a brief summary of the new Set System format for the Olympic Round matches.

Up to 31.03.11 both Recurve and Compound will continue to shoot the same familiar format of the Olympic Round (From 01.04.10 the Compounds will have their own Hit and Miss format - discussed later)

The Qualifying Round is still shot in 'Ends' but the Olympic Round now has these re-named as 'Sets' and they are either 6 arrows or 3 dependant on the stage of competition. The winner of the match is decided by the number of set points accumulated by each archer on the basis of sets won, tied or lost with 2 points awarded for a win, 1 for a tie or 0 for a loss. It is still important to record arrow values for ranking purposes.

Up to the 1/8th Eliminations a maximum of three 6 arrow sets are shot with the winner being the first to 4 set points (or 5, eg 2-0, 3-1, 5-1), each set being shot simultaneously in four minutes. The Quarter Finals to Medal Matches are a maximum of five 3 arrow sets with the winner being the first to 6 set points (or 7, eg 2-0, 3-1, 5-1, 7-1), shot in alternating format with 20 seconds for each arrow. Some matches may conclude tied after the third or fifth set at 3-3 / 5-5 in which case a single-arrow shoot-off will decide the winner - 40 seconds or 20 seconds respectively. The winner of the shoot-off will be awarded an extra point giving 4-3 or 6-5, shown to the spectators on the flip-charts and by the out-stretched arm of the target judge.

Archers with Byes in the first round may shoot on their assigned target/s without scoring but only for the first two sets after which they must leave the competition field whilst any three set matches continue.

The order of shooting in the alternating match format is determined in just the same way as previously but with the running total of set points deciding the alternation rather than the running arrow value totals; the highest ranked archer chooses who shoots first, the archer with the lowest set point total shoots first the next end, and if tied the archer who started the match shoots first. Similarly the archer who started the match will start the shoot-off.

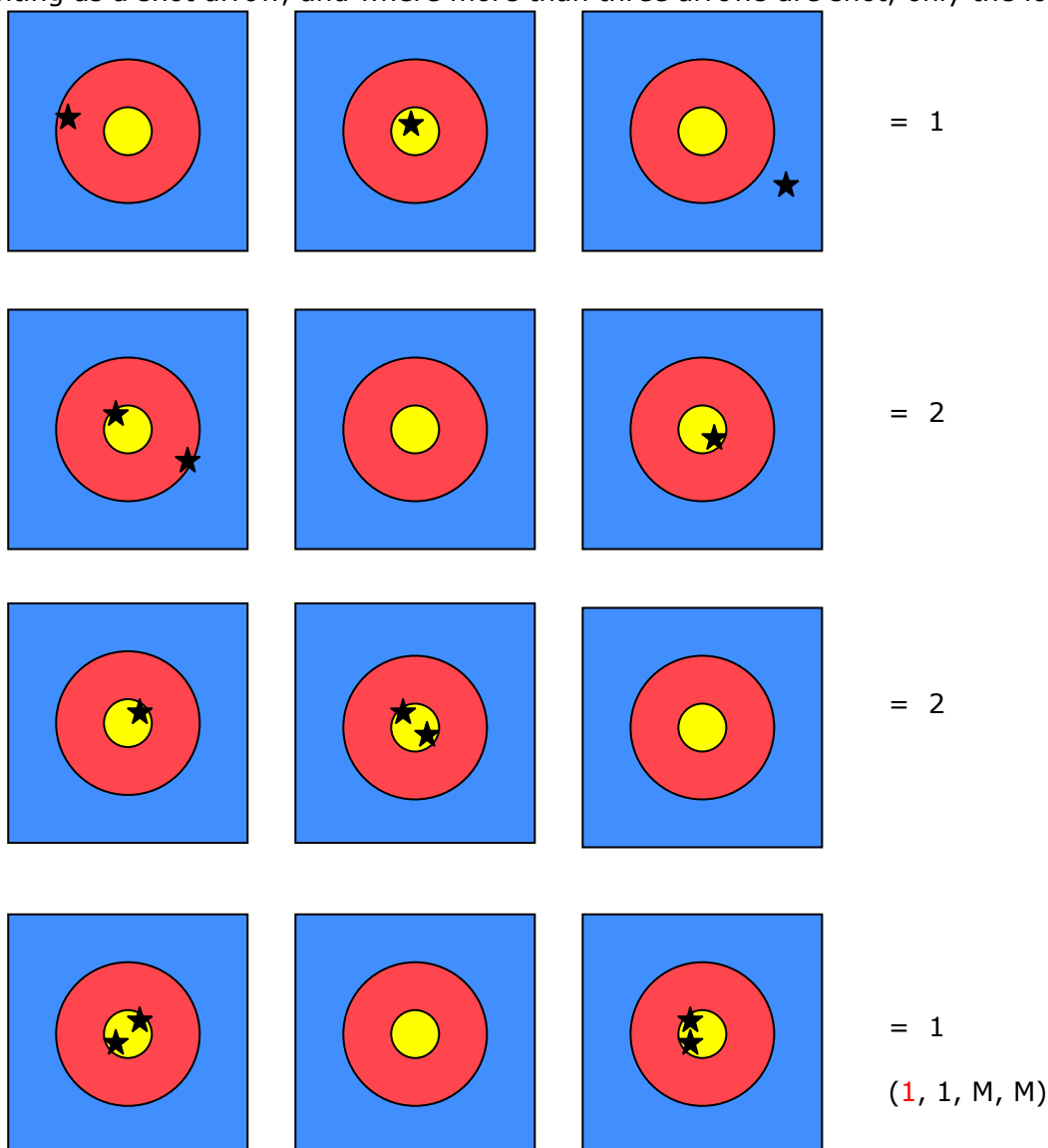
The Olympic Team Round remains unchanged in the new 2010 FITA Rules.

The new Compound Round comes into effect on 1st April, 2011, but is being trialled this year at the World Cup legs in Antalya and Ogden.

The Qualification Round will be 6 dozen arrows shot at 50 metres on the new 6-ring 80cm target face to the standard FITA Rules (Book 2, App.1, p41).

The match-play element of the competition will be in set system format, up to and including the Semi-Finals being four sets of 3 arrows (shot simultaneously in 2 minutes), and the medal matches being six sets of 3 arrows (alternate shooting with 20 seconds per arrow). The winner is the first to 5 or 7 points respectively. Matches are shot at 50 metres on the new 40cm Hit and Miss target with the 10cm centre (Book 2, App.1, p44). For the Elimination Matches the archers will shoot their three arrows at a single face, but for the Finals matches they will have three target faces placed horizontally on their own butt, 1 face for each arrow. The change from simultaneous to alternate shooting will occur at the same point as in the Olympic Round. Tied matches will be resolved by a single-arrow shoot-off for score up to a maximum of three, and if still tied at this point then the highest ranked archer from the Qualification Round will be declared the winner. Sergio explains that this rule is very likely to be changed soon to a single arrow closest-to-the-centre shoot-off.

Only a hit in the gold will score - a value of 1 point; line-cutters score up as always. An arrow striking any other part of the face will score as a Miss (the red zone is only to help the archer with sighting). Too many arrows in one scoring centre in an alternating match will be scored by an application of the indoor scoring rules whereby only one value will be allowed, the other being classed as a Miss but counting as a shot arrow, and where more than three arrows are shot, only the lowest three will count.



The Compound Team Match Round is for teams of three archers ranked from a Qualifying Round of 6 dozen arrows shot at 50m on the 6-ring 80cm face. This is also shot on the Set System format.

In the Elimination Rounds each match consists of four sets of 3 arrows each shot simultaneously in 1 minute. Each archer shoots 1 arrow at their own face on a horizontal 3-face set-up. (NOT 2 MINUTES AS STATED IN 'FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS' ON THE FITA WEB-SITE). The team winning the set based on the total number of hits is awarded points, with 1 for a tie and 0 for a loss. Strangely, each team can even be awarded 1 point if neither scores ! The first team to achieve 5 points is the winner. A tied match at 4-4 will go to a single-arrow shoot-off for score (1 arrow per archer) shot to the same procedures as for the individual compound matches.

Sample score-sheets were provided by Sergio.

Much confusion and humour was expressed by the delegates at the complexity of all these different formats and the inconsistency from one to another. This will be particularly noticeable at national level. The FJC reiterated their belief that changes would be taking place in the not-too-distant future through By-Law changes to bring them more into line with each other.

Sergio issued a warning to make sure that we all carried our measuring device now that there are many more shoot-offs in which a measure may be needed.

He also drew our attention to the new Matchplay Charts which are presently only mandatory for the World Championships (and possibly the World Cups). The top 104 archers from the ranking round qualify for matchplay with the top 8 advancing without shooting in either or both of the 1/48 or 1/24 Elimination Rounds.

In the Mixed Team format there is one male and one female archer in teams of Recurve and Compound. The match comprises four ends of four arrows (2 each, shot in any order in 80 seconds) and all is performed in just the same way as for the standard team match regarding penalties for crossing the 1 metre line early, etc.

By-Laws and Interpretations - Dion Buhagiar

Dion explained the procedures for By-Law changes and Interpretations of Rules. The By-Laws and Interpretations passed at the 2009 Conference in Ulsan, Korea are now fully incorporated into the 2010 FITA Rule Book as well as others which have been agreed since Congress.

Dion warned that the wording in the Rule Book may be slightly different to that of the original By-Law or Interpretation. A good example was given of the Interpretation regarding Foot Lifts; the original article (November 6, 2008) appeared to limit the raising of only the front or back of the foot with separate lifts, whereas the 2010 rule refers to the whole foot.

Morten advised everyone to cross-reference the 2010 edition of the Rules with the previous 2008 version to ensure that they are not taken by surprise by any of these anomalies, and to keep updated by regularly checking the FITA web-site especially for those By-Laws and Interpretations which post-date Congress.

A selection of Interpretations and By-Laws were selected for discussion of which the following remarks were worthy of recording for these minutes:

- the length of the Recurve sight fibre-optic and the sight ring/tunnel **are** measured as separate units with regard to the 2cm limit
- clarification of the 'foot lift' device (as above)
- the sight-scope shroud – the judge must use common sense as to what size poses a safety problem
- the ability of the judge to change a flagrant scoring error – although this interpretation is only listed for Book, 2 it was agreed that this was applicable to all disciplines
- advertisements on the riser in the line of sight of the archer – this is legal for Recurve and Compound but any of these risers used for Barebow, Longbow or Instinctive Bow (and in all classes for unmarked Field) must have this writing taped over
- The arrow wrap by-law created some interesting discussion which concluded with confirmation that the only arrow that this really applies to is the 2315/2312, being the only one where oversized shafts due to the use of wraps becomes an issue. It was also agreed that this was applicable to all disciplines, although the latest by-law change only refers to indoor archery.
- the archer who shoots a late arrow after the close of Practice; the correct procedures were confirmed - the archer/team manager will be advised that **all** arrows in the first scoring end (3 or 6) must be shot and the highest value will be lost (2 late arrows will mean the 2 highest values and so on) and that a Red Card will be raised by the judge at the close of that first end to show that this is to happen. The judge must accompany scoring, see that all values are recorded, then strike out the highest and mark as an 'M', the original value being still available for re-insertion should an appeal to jury by the archer be successful

DAY 2

Warm-up Survey results – Sergio Font

The morning began with detailed discussions of the various questions on the survey. Some notable comments were raised and are recorded here:

- Indoor Scoring - the same strict procedure must be followed every time where arrow values and score have to be determined following arrows in the wrong face or too many arrows shot - 1. work out the values of the arrows in each face; 2. list all the arrow values in descending order; 3. take the lowest three when more have been shot; 4. then deal with of any arrow shot out of time.
- the time when an Equipment Failure 15 minutes starts - there was quite a difference of opinion and a lot of discussion showing that this scenario receives a different interpretation around the world. The FJC will ask for a clarification re "when a delay starts".
- judging the value of an embedded arrow - always first try to determine from the rear of the butt by the position of other protruding arrows, then, if necessary push the shaft back to the front.
- archers are allowed to have their tripods and scopes behind them whilst shooting and retire from the shooting line after each arrow to spot the target, but only if there is insufficient room on the shooting line.
- the variation in the answers to the series of questions relating to the Mixed Team Event, which no-one has any experience of yet, clearly showed that some judges were not keeping up to date with rule changes by not having read through the new Rule Book.

- A discussion covered each delegates preference for the best way to conduct scoring during a Finals Match with the use of blinds, and there is no definitive answer. The solution is determined by many factors such as the number of available judges and archers' agents, the weather, the space available, language, the number of blinds. The format used in the Porec Finals was considered by many to be a good working solution - 1 blind, 1 TJ, 1 scorer and 2 agents. A primary consideration is the number of people on the stage which could clutter the view for spectators and the TV cameras. There was further discussion on who actually calls the arrow values - the agent or the TJ? In the 2008 Olympics the practice was for the TJ to call and the agents were only involved if it was a close call, upon which the judge refrained from calling at first and only judged the arrow if the agents disagreed. This was found to be an efficient method, avoiding any language problems and saving time.

Case Studies

As is the normal practice at conferences and seminars the delegates were divided into equal sized groups to discuss a series of case studies and the conclusions were presented and discussed. The following salient points arose:

- **pass-through** - before awarding a value for a pass-through the judge must always be convinced that a pass-through did occur by executing clear checks and there must be very clear evidence
- **match not shot on the assigned target/s in the Olympic Round** - there was a clear difference of opinion here between the delegates which ranged from allowing the result to stand to disqualifying the archers under the forfeit rules. The eventual conclusion was that if it was clear that the archer/s had made a simple mistake, misread or misheard their instructions, and were shooting on say the neighbouring target to where they should have been (18 instead of 17) then the result would stand as long as they were placing their arrows in the target which corresponded to where they were standing. Similarly, if they were at the point in the tournament where they moved from sharing a target to individual targets and mistakingly they both continued to shoot on only one of the assigned targets, then the conclusion would be the same. However, if it was clear that a conscious decision had been made by the archer/s to shoot on say a target more conveniently positioned to their last match position, and several targets from their assigned targets (9 instead of 17), then that would be regarded as a forfeited match. It was stressed how important it is for judges to be ahead of the game and to step in where necessary to avoid an archer making or compounding a mistake such as this. (There is actually a precedent of this situation from the 2005 World Championships in Madrid where two archers accidentally reversed their target positions and the result was allowed to stand by the Jury of Appeal following an appeal by other teams)
- **mistake with the pairings** - this is similar to the above but in this scenario there was a mistake made by the organisers in determining the pairings of matches which resulted in all but one match being paired wrongly - this was discovered half-way through the first elimination stage. The majority of answers were in favour of allowing the correct match to conclude and the others to be re-paired and re-started. This was the agreed correct procedure.
- **scores only entered on one of the score-cards** - there was a unanimous decision that if a mistake was made by the archers and only one out of the two score-cards was completed before the arrows were withdrawn then the values could be transferred to the other on the evidence of the first and with the agreement of all archers on that target.

- **arrow wraps** - it was stressed that more vigilance is now required at Equipment Inspection to ensure that the largest arrows conform to the new requirements. It was also repeated that these must apply to all disciplines and not just Indoors as was suggested by the relevant Interpretations.
- **start of a Field Tournament** - the signal to start a Field competition is not the same as for Target in that it does not signal the start of a specific timed period therefore flexibility should be shown should a group begin shooting before the start signal believing that they had heard it. This is particularly important given the nature of this form of archery and the area covered by the course/s
- **Red Card** - the showing of the red card indicates that the archer/team will lose the highest scoring arrow for the end. Firstly, this must only be shown as indicated in the Rule Book and not for other infringements where this penalty is not applied. Secondly, the practice of showing the red card is really for the 'show' and the benefit of spectators or TV audience; not doing so for whatever reason does not mean that the penalty cannot still be applied by the judge
- **simple mistakes** - several of the case studies highlighted the fact that archers can make simple, non-deliberate mistakes. We should not be looking to punish them for these types of situations, but try to solve the situations in the best interest of all.

'The Chairman' - Sergio FONT

Sergio gave an outline of the duties of the Chairman of the Judge Commission ranging from initial contact with all the judges once the appointments have been announced to the running of the event itself:

- collating information for all the judges on contact details, arrival and departure, accommodation, dress code for the event, tournament schedule, pertinent rules
- meetings with the tournament organising committee, the event manager, the TD, results team, field crew
- holding the pre-tournament Team Captains' Meeting and any subsequently needed meetings to clarify the understanding of the rules and procedures for the tournament or for any schedule changes, etc.
- conducting the Equipment Inspection
- overseeing the tournament
- the qualities and strengths necessary for a good COJ
- the skills required to manage the team of judges
- the importance for the COJ to be involved with the judges throughout the tournament
- aim to ensure that the event is an enjoyable experience for all

General discussion also covered the importance of the clarity of good language required for the COJ, the need for a Deputy COJ and for regular feedback meetings with all the judges.

Sergio highlighted the fact that not many judges had taken up the opportunity to be trained as COJ and confirmed that if this was due to a fear of the lack of ability, experience or knowledge then that is precisely what the training is designed for. Morten confirmed that funding had not yet been secured for this training programme to proceed, but this subject as a part of the Conference may be seen as the first step.

One major point that Sergio was keen to put across was that if the Chairman felt it was necessary to over-rule an obvious rule mistake by a judge then, that was acceptable in that it would prevent an almost certain appeal going to Jury with all its accompanying complications and delays. Arrow value decisions of course do not fall into this category.

The FITA Judge Committee work and plans - Morten WILMANN

Morten gave a brief outline of the work of the committee stressing that they too were all volunteers.

Seminars - convened around the world for the training of judges at the request of Member Associations and Continental Associations. Where possible those for Continental Judges and FITA IJCs are combined but with the difference of separate exams. Youth Judge seminars are separately instigated by the FJC. The FJC set and mark the exams.

Conferences - convened annually and rotating around the continents.

Appointments to tournaments - made by the FJC dependant on applications and taking into consideration geography, gender, federations represented, mix of experience, personalities, etc.

FITA Judge Newsletter - produced three times a year (Morten invited judges to submit articles of more general interest for inclusion).

FITA Judge Guide Book.

Re-accreditation Tests - set at the start of the new accreditation period and conducted by correspondence. The FJC agree the answers in advance and undertake the marking with any borderline cases being looked at closely by the full committee. Feedback is given individually.

Observers - may be appointed to tournaments to check on procedures, mostly for one event a year, unless there was a possibility of combining with other duties.

Coaching - written input is given to FITA Coach Committee for publishing.

Upgrading of judges from IJC to IJ - this is normally done following the request by the individual and is subject to the maximum capacity of 80 and the individual member association limit of four. Available places will be announced.

Honorific Titles - the FJC agrees on these awards.

Case Studies - a database of scenarios is being compiled by the committee and Morten invited judges to submit any interesting ones to him for inclusion.

The FJC are planning to place files from seminars and conference on the internet for the global usage of Member Associations in order to try to ensure an even more consistent approach.

Any Other Business

Throughout the Conference other areas outside of the agenda were discussed and notes on a number of them are gathered together here for convenience.

There was a request that the individual judge should be able to see the report written on them by the COJ or Observer in order to know where to improve or modify their performance. Similarly, some experienced COJs felt it would be nice to know from their judges how they had performed.

Fear was expressed by some judges that if this were to be open feed-back then there was the potential for 'revenge' at subsequent events. The conclusion was that with the standards of judging now being so high the current system would continue but matters requiring attention would be relayed to the individual judge by the FJC - so 'no news is good news'. Morten offered to give his Observer report if requested.

Irena Rosa (SLO) raised two issues regarding judge appointments. She asked if those judges over the age of 65 years could be invited to keep themselves updated and Morten suggested that the FJC were considering still using these judges as DOSs. She also suggested that Tournament Organisers themselves should be allowed to appoint more high level judges in addition to those appointed by the FJC. The committee agreed to discuss this.

Morten clarified the situation regarding the re-shooting of an arrow. There are quite specific situations laid down in the rules covering when an arrow can be re-shot and he conceded that at other times it may appear unfair not to allow this to be done. He was insistent, however, that this would not change as FITA did not want to see the opening of the flood-gates to numerous requests to re-shoot an arrow, followed by wave after wave of appeals. Furthermore, not allowing re-shooting is also a signal that archers should have control of their weapon from a safety aspect.

Confirmation was given that Coaches may now use a scope and tripod in the team events.

Confirmation was also given that in the team events an archer is not allowed to remove an arrow from their quiver until they are actually on the shooting line, not after just crossing the 1m line. It is sometimes very difficult to verify and it was generally agreed that the position of the judges as dictated more and more by the TV camera positions makes this even harder so we must be extremely vigilant.

Some licensees are now printing target faces without printing the licence on the front. We cannot use these faces as without the licence we are unable to guarantee the consistency of standards and quality.

There is now no longer a formal uniform for FITA Judges following the majority preference expressed at the previous Conference in Ulsan, Korea.

The Conference was closed by Morten with heart-felt and genuine thanks to all delegates for an extremely enjoyable and productive gathering. The compliment was returned on behalf of all the judges by Jay Ben-Ari (ISR).

3. AAF Judging Seminar in Bangkok

During the recent International Judge Seminar in Bangkok, FITA got 9 new candidates after a successful seminar in cooperation with Asian Archery Federation, which at the same time graduated new Continental Judges – totally 25.

The new International Judge Candidates are:

Ranjan Bowmik, India	M
Angelina Chan, Singapore	F
Leon Eng Liaw, Malaysia	M
George Loh, Singapore	M
Buyantseseg Namkai, Mongolia	F
Ahmed Roushdi, Egypt	M
Sunethra Senevirathne, Sri Lanka	F
Pecilius Sheau Jiuan Tan, Singapore	F
David Zheng Yuan Tan, Singapore	M



Participants in Bangkok



Morten discusses target faces with the participants



Morten "checks out" group discussion of case studies in Bangkok



Is the chairman answering the test?

4. Appointing International Judges - Upgrading

Recently all our International Judge Candidates have been informed that there are some vacancies in our group of International Judges, giving a possibility to be upgraded according to Appendix 4 at the end of this year.

Basically there are two requirements that need to be met in order to be upgraded; there must be a request from your Continental Association, practically speaking your CA must sign your application, and you must fulfil the criteria for a FITA-IJ status – following from Appendix 4, article 12.2.

Shortly speaking, these criteria are:

- a) You must have been active, having served recently in an event of an international standard acceptable to your FITA Judge Committee.
- b) You must have been responding adequately to the case studies in the FITA Judge Newsletter in the latest two years (which also implies that you need to have been a candidate for a minimum of 2 years (since 2008)).

Among those who are applying we will consider further aspects, such as gender, geography, evaluations (chairperson of commissions and Judge Observer) and the quality of response to case studies.

Please substantiate your application by informing us of your judge duties at important events during the last two years.

5. Reply to case studies 74.1, 74.2 and 74.3

74.1 *The first day of a FITA round a compound junior man archer shoots his first two ends of practice at 90 meters, and then moves to a target in which compound cadet men are shooting their practice at 70 meters and shoots two ends of practice at this distance. A team captain complains to the judges that this archer is violating the rule that states that practice is only allowed at the first distance of the day. This team captain argues that this archer must be disqualified because he is taking undue advantage over the rest of the archers on the field. What would you do if you were the judge?*

Reply: We are here talking about the practice taking place just before the start of the competition, and the only real reference is Book 1, 3.19 – as most of you quote; “The practice targets will be set up at the first distance to be shot by each class”. Therefore we may say that using a free position at another distance is not according to the intention of the rules re practice arrows.

Then the question is if this is a huge offence? Almost all of you have given a good consideration re that question, concluding that this is hardly any advantage at all and as such no reason for a disqualification. You will therefore only advise the archer that practice is supposed to be at his first distance, so he has to return to his original position at 90m to shoot further practice arrows if time allows.

74.2 *In an elimination stage of the team event, team A released their last shot very late, both teams move forward to score, accompanied by the judge standing behind when shooting and now moving forward. Team B addresses the judge claiming that the shot was too late. When at the target the Judge tells Team A that the last arrow was shot out of time and therefore he would deduct the highest score of the team. The team's manager upon knowing that decision filed a protest, saying that the judge cannot deduct the score, as no red card was shown when the shot was released. What is your opinion?*

Reply: All responses concluded correctly that the action of the involved judge was not up to standard, both by forgetting the red card and giving the impression that he reacted on the other coach's approach to him (although we don't know if he actually did). The main question is, however, if the consequence of a late shot is depending on the red card or not. In our opinion it is not. If the judge is convinced that there was a late shot, it would be unfair to the other team if there was no penalty. The red card is merely – although important enough – a show for the spectators and media (and possibly the commentator), to inform them of the violation.

74.3 *At an international tournament only one line with ABC archers is used for the FITA Round. The lanes for each target are 3 m wide. Based on the FITA rules the judges marked the center of the archers' position on the shooting line. The center for archer B was marked in the center of the 3 m wide lane. Then they measured 80 cm to the left and marked the position for archer A. They marked the center for archer C 80 cm to the right of the center of the lane. Archer B complains that archers A and C have a lot more space than him. What would you do? Where would you mark the center positions for archers A and C?*

With few exceptions our judges concluded that action must be taken to ensure that all the archers will have the same shooting conditions. This is even more important for the guy "in the middle" as archers have a tendency of getting closer to the "centre of the target position". There were various suggestions on how to solve the situation, but all the archers should have a space of one meter.

In general this gives your committee a possibility to underline that checking, and dealing with the shooting line markings, is an important task in trying to prevent possible problems later on. Unfortunately we sometimes notice that shooting positions on the line are not marked according to the rules (as well as the target line numbers are not placed in the middle of the 3m area). Here you have some work to do.....!

6. New Case Studies

75.1 In a team match the third archer of team A crossed the shooting line with the point of his arrow visibly out of the quiver. The judge immediately raised his yellow card indicating that the archer would have to return behind the 1-m line. The archer in question purposefully dropped his arrow on the grass, pulled another arrow and shot it. The judge raised his red card and deducted the archer's highest scoring arrow for that end. The archer's team captain appealed to jury, claiming that by dropping the arrow on the grass, the archer no longer had any time advantage as he pulled the arrow he actually shot only when he was standing on the shooting line. Explain your view on this case.

75.2 While shooting at 50 meters, archer 20 A claims a pass-through. When the judge came to the target, he found an arrow behind the butt in a position that he considered to be that of an arrow which had passed through. The judge went to the target and tried to find an unmarked hole. There were more than 30 holes in the yellow (10 and 9), but they were all marked, as were all of the remaining holes in other zones of the target face. This was the fifth arrow passing through that target face today. The butt and the face had not been replaced because there were no spare ones. The judge initially said that the arrow was a Miss because he had not been able to find an unmarked hole. The other two archers shooting on that target claimed to have seen the arrow hit the target and disappear from the face (as having passed through). Having heard the archers' opinion, the judge decided to give this arrow a 10. Did the judge make a correct decision?

THE DEADLINE FOR REPLYING TO THESE CASE STUDIES IS 15 OCTOBER 2010