

JUDGES NEWSLETTER

Fédération Internationale de Tir à l'Arc
INTERNATIONAL ARCHERY FEDERATION

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Content

1. Editorial from our Chairman
2. Presentations on the FITA website
3. Judges' Uniform
4. Judges seminar in Colorado Springs, USA
5. FJC and FCC Information n°10
6. New bylaws
7. Recent Committee interpretations
8. News from Continental Associations
9. Judge Seminar, Bangkok (THA) – 3-5 June 2011
10. Reply to case studies N°76.1 and 76.2
11. New case studies

1. Editorial

By Morten WILMANN, Chairman

Dear Judges,

I would like to wish you a Happy New Year, even if a quarter of the year has already gone and you have been busy with the re-accreditation test. Nowadays we are busy in creating useful replies to your test as we have promised to give you a personal feedback.

Unfortunately we started out with a little bit too less specific information re who would need to reply, but in the end it seems that we managed to provide the correct information.

As you may have noticed, the test mainly aimed at checking if you were updated re the latest rule changes and that you know how to deal with the most common situations that occur in our judging. Actually there should be very little room for mistakes here, you should be confident in such situations. Besides, this is an "open book" test.....

We are sorry that we have lost some of our experience judges because you did not attend any of the conferences during the accreditation period. We guess this is a choice you have made, and we thank you for your involvement in international judging. Some of you will be considered for honorific titles later on in correspondence with your judging career.

This is the case of Jocelyn Acop, Andrew Omalla, Guo Bei, Manfred Weinlich, Burak Demiralp, Ronaldo de Carvalho, Norio Heya, Ron Saar, Patrick Wiggeleer, Muriko San, Arie Archeria and Colin Mitchell.

On the positive side we have educated more Youth Judges, hoping that they will continue in our family for many years, and recently we have also approved several new candidates who passed their exams in Colorado Springs, USA. Welcome to all of you, guys.

Now a new and busy season is ahead of us, and the majority of you have got important tasks this year. We trust you will do an excellent job.

Morten





2. Presentations on the FITA website

Some of you have already noticed, but we take this opportunity to inform you that the presentations we use at our judge seminars now are available (at least some of them so far) for downloading on the FITA web.

From www.archery.org you chose Organisation in the left menu and then Judges on the new menu (at the bottom) that pops up. Then you click on Documents on the page on judging and you will find "FITA judge's training aids" with all the presentations.

The idea is of course that these presentations may be used for national training of judges, but since many of them only have "clue words" we believe it is best if they are used by international judges – and of course you know that you have a commitment to be helpful in training national judges.

The presentations may be used freely, that is that you may translate the wording into your own language if necessary and keep the drawings/photos.

We would appreciate feedback from you when you use them for such purpose.

3. Judges' Uniform

There are some rumours around that there will be a new judges uniform shortly. Well, you have to be a bit patient. We have been promised to have some new gear, delivered in 2012.

Our guess is that FITA is waiting for an official name change. There is a motion for Congress to that fact, before they put on a logo on the uniform. May be the deal with the producer is not quite settled yet, either.

One of the main issues we have is of course to have some raingear that actually prevents the water from making you completely wet on duty.

There is a bit of optimism within our committee on the subject.

4. Judges Seminar in Colorado Springs, USA

Twelve continental Judges from the Americas and Europe successfully passed their exam to be accredited as International Judge Candidates in the seminar held in Colorado Springs, USA, on 21-23 January 2011.

The seminar was conducted by FITA Judge Committee Member Mr Sergio FONT and FITA Field Archery Committee Member and International Judge Mr Tom GREEN. The US Olympic Committee and US Archery organised the seminar and provided all the necessary logistics to the participants at the US Olympic Training Centre in Colorado.

Five of the participants wrote perfect exams (100% score), and all of the successful judges proved very knowledgeable and skilful to be ready to officiate in upcoming international events.

Here is the list of the new International Judges Candidates:

Robert ERICA (NED), Sabrina STEFFENS (GER), Lena FAZZOLARI (ARG), Céline GRAVEL (CAN), Mariya LARKINA (RUS), Laura Lynne CHURCHILL (CAN), Flemming SKJOLDBORG (DEN), Paola PRASCHKER (ARG), Patti-Jo MIDDLEBROUGH (CAN), Roger GARROD (CAN), Adam MARTINEZ (PUR) and Robert PANNEL (CAN).



A session of the Seminar in Colorado Springs

5. FJC and FCC Information N° 10

The Judges and Coaches Committee have published the No. 10 piece of information of a series of small inputs helpful to coaches and enhance their knowledge on rules and procedures to avoid extraordinary stress on their archers. This time it is about **the 3-metre line**, which is a topic that caused some judges to lose a couple of points in their re-accreditation test just sent to the Judges Committee in the last few days.

On rare occasions an archer drops an arrow (due to a nock breakage or some other reason), or shoots an arrow into the 3metre area in front of the shooting line when in the process of letting down, etc.

Judges sometimes observe archers in this situation looking bewildered, not knowing what to do and turn to their coach, or a judge, for advice—and the time is ticking by. Let us take a closer look into this question. As archers and coaches know, an arrow within this area is considered as not having been shot (with the exception of rebound arrows).

Let us clarify this situation: if the rear part of the arrow is within the 3-metre area, the arrow is deemed not to be shot. The part inside the 3-meter zone does not need to lie on the ground, as the point (possibly outside of this zone) may be embedded in the ground.

If the above situation occurs during the Qualification Round (or a single round event):

The archer has two options:

- a) If the archer is sure a part of the arrow shaft is within the 3-metre zone, the smoothest action is just to shoot another arrow, however they must not step forward in front of the shooting line to pick up any arrow.
- b) But if the archer knows he will have a time problem, or does not have another arrow at hand to shoot, or is unsure if the arrow is within the area or not, he may take a step back and call a judge, explaining the situation. The judge will then handle the incident as an equipment failure, and at the expiry of that end, the other archers will be held back and the situation will be handled. The archer will have his 40 seconds per arrow to shoot any unshot arrows of that end before all archers are permitted to go forward to the targets for general scoring.

During match play

As archers and coaches know, during a match the time will not be stopped for equipment failures or similar situations. If an arrow falls inside the 3-metre zone (for whatever reason), the archer could just have to shoot another arrow within the time allowed, which means that the archer should always have an extra arrow in his quiver.

The archer must decide if the arrow is inside or outside the 3-metre area, if there is doubt they should shoot another arrow (THIS IS NOT A RULE, JUST SOME ADVICE TO THE ARCHER). If the arrow is inside the 3-metre area, then the archer shot the required number of arrows. If the arrow is outside the 3-metre area it is classed as a miss and the archer will then score the lower three of the four arrows shot (normally not a big difference between the scores of the arrows in the target).

Coaches should ensure that all their archers know what to do and how to react quickly, if an arrow falls or is shot into the 3-metre area.

To avoid disputes, coaches should advise their archers that they must not remove any arrow from the 3-metre area before a judge has confirmed its location, particularly if it is a doubtful one.

And to the judges;

If the archer stops shooting (equipment failure solution), you will certainly judge the arrow (if in doubt) by walking to the 3m line by the finish of that end, while if the archer continue shooting, a doubtful arrow shall be judged from the archers position on the shooting line. A significant difference.

6. New bylaws

April 1st is a very important date for archery this year, and it is much more important for the compound archers. FITA Council passed a number of bylaws in its November 2010 meeting, including a radical change in the competition format for the compound division, which will become effective on the first day of April.

As we have explained several times, rule changing in FITA is much more dynamic now than it was several years ago. This calls for our judges to regularly check on possible rule changes in the FITA website.



Here is a list of the articles which have been recently modified and/or added. Look for the changes in the website and make sure you do not enforce old rules in the relation to the situations described in these articles:

Article 4.5.1.4	Team selection
Article 4.5.1.5 – 4.5.1.6	Compound Round
Article 5.3.11	Compound Round
Article 7.2.1	Compound Round
Article 7.2.1.4	Compound Round
Article 7.5.1.6	Shooting Positions
Article 7.2.2	Compound Round
Article 7.2.2.4	Compound Round
Article 7.5.2.4	Compound Round
Article 7.6.2.2.1	Compound Round Scoring
Article 7.6.5.2.3	Scoring
Article 7.8.2.8	Compound Round Scoring
Appendix 1	Compound Round Target Face
Article 8.5.1.8	Shooting Position
Article 8.6.5.2.2	Scoring
Article 9.6.3.2.1	Scoring

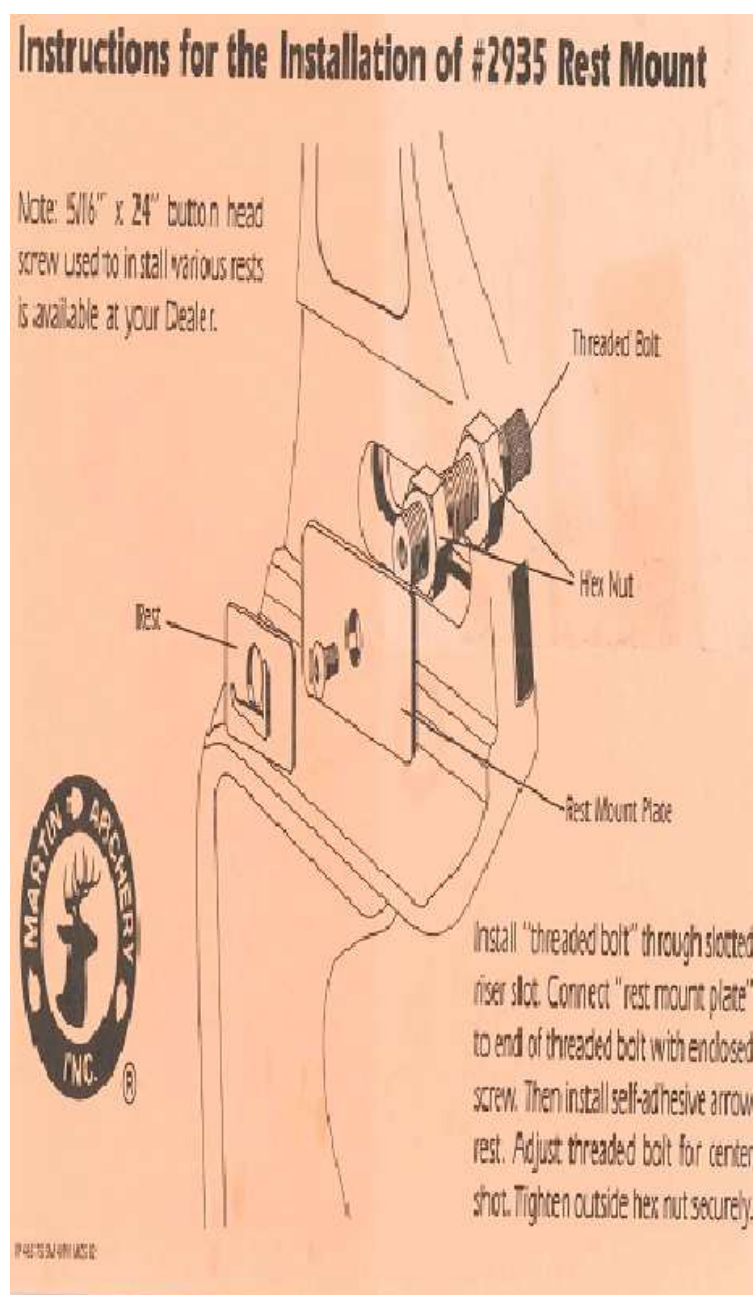
The new compound round and the bylaws about the number of sets in individual recurve matches, as well the new procedures to solve ties will make it easier for judges, archers, coaches and organizers to understand and remember the rules. Consistency in solving individual and team ties is something good about the new bylaws. It is also good for organizers to see that all matches will be shot with a maximum of 15 arrows, for both recurve and compound.

7. Recent Committee Interpretations

The following are some important interpretations made by the relevant FITA permanent committees in the last few months. They may be useful to you while you officiate in 2011.

- **Book 5, Chapter 11, Article 11.10.3.2.3**

The Federation of Canadian Archers has requested an interpretation on whether the pictured arrow rest and mechanism would be allowed in the Instinctive Bow Division.



The Constitution and Rules Committee finds the question presented to be within terms of reference of the Technical Committee.

The Constitution and Rules Committee has determined that the following interpretation of the Technical Committee is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

Response from the Technical Committee:

It is the majority opinion of the Technical Committee that the Federation of Canadian Archers is actually requesting a two part answer to their submission concerning the legality of an arrow rest and a mechanical attachment device.

The Technical Committee agrees that the actual arrow rest as shown in the diagram is legal in the Instinctive Bow Division; however the mechanism that it is being attached to is not legal for the Instinctive Bow Division. If the arrow rest alone is attached directly to the sight window of the bow and has no lateral adjustment, it is legal. If it is attached to the lateral adjustment device shown in the same diagram, it is not legal for use in the Instinctive Bow Division of FITA.

The rule under article 11.10.3.2.3 states that a simple plastic industry standard arrow rest that is glued on (glue or double stick tape, etc.) is legal, with the intent that it is attached directly to the riser. However, the lateral adjustment device it is being attached to in the diagram is outside the scope of the rule and therefore contravenes the spirit and intent of the rule.

FITA Technical Committee, 7 January 2011
Approved by the FITA C&R Committee, 10 January 2011

- **Book 2, Chapter 7, Articles 7.3.1.10, 7.3.3.10**
- **Book 3, Chapter 8, Articles 8.3.1.10, 8.3.2.10**
- **Book 4, Chapter 9, Articles 9.3.10.1**

Archery Australia Inc. has requested an interpretation on whether the pictured wrist support is permitted. The support is being used as the result of an injury to the wrist. The support is a temporary measure whilst the injury persists. The supports are made from thermoplastic and Velcro (no metal is used) and that the consistency of the thermoplastic is fairly stiff about same as an armguard.



The Constitution and Rules Committee finds the question presented to be within terms of reference of the Technical Committee. The Constitution and Rules Committee has determined that the following interpretation of the Technical Committee is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

Response from the Technical Committee:

It is the majority opinion of the Technical Committee that the wrist support as shown in the photos is of a rigid nature and is therefore not legal in any division of FITA regarding official competition.

An earlier interpretation dated 28 August 2005 on Book 2, art. 7.3.1, concerning the taping of human joints, i.e. fingers, elbows, wrists, etc. clearly stipulates that a firm, "stiff" brace that would in any way aid in supporting the bow arm is not legal.

We fully uphold the above-mentioned original interpretation between the C&R Committee, MSSC and Technical Committee.



Clarification on the interpretation on wrist supports: This interpretation is only valid for archers that are not classified for Para-Archery. Para-archers that are classified are allowed under Book1, Appendix8, art. 6.9 to have a wrist support.

FITA Technical Committee, 7 January 2011
Approved by the FITA C&R Committee, 10 January 2011

8. News from Continental Associations

The COPARCO Judge Committee has concluded its re-accreditation process for Continental Judges. As a result of this process, the accredited judges will be able to officiate at World Ranking Events in the Americas in 2011-2014.

The process is similar to the one used by the FITA Judge Committee for International Judges and Candidates. The judges must pass an open-book exam, and be supported by their national archery associations.

The current list includes:

- 9 International Judges
- 11 International Candidates
- 49 Continental Judges
- 1 Judge Emeritus accredited to work at continental level
- 2 Honorary Judges accredited to work at continental level

These 72 judges come from 15 countries.

A complete list of these judges can be found at www.coparco.org

9. Judge Seminar in Bangkok, THA – 3-5 June 2011

The seminar will be held at the Egypt Hotel, 453 Ladprao 122, Wongtonglang, Bangkok 10310, Thailand
Phone: 662 5397101-11

The seminar will start on 3 June 2011 in the morning (arrival on 2 June) and end on 5 June 2011 (early afternoon).

Lecturers and examination board: Morten B. WILMANN, FITA Judge Committee Chairman, and Simon WEE, FITA Target Archery Committee Member

The Seminar will be conducted in English.

The accommodation rate is USD 80 per person per night for single occupancy and USD 60 per person per night for double occupancy, including full-board and transfer from/to the airport.

No Participation fee will be charged to the participants.

**You have to register your participation with the FITA Office
at sfreymond@archery.org,
mentioning the type of room requested, the transfer,
as well as your flight schedule (date, time and flight number)
by 15 May 2011**

Application for FITA International Judge Candidate status

The applicants must possess the requirements listed in Book 1, Art. 7.1, App. 4 (C&R). In particular they must be accredited as Continental Judges and have been accredited as National Judges for at least three years, must have an adequate knowledge of English and must have served at least once in a World Ranking Event (or a major tournament sanctioned by their Continental Association) with positive evaluation of the chairperson of the Judge Commission.

Application must be submitted to FITA Office according to Book 1, Art. 7.2, App. 4 (C&R): the application (signed by the applicant (the judge), his/her MA and his/her CA) must indicate the personal information of the applicant (name, gender, birth date, nationality), languages spoken, when appointed NJ and CJ, experience at WRE (or equivalent) level.

The participants passing the final examination will obtain the status of "FITA International Judge Candidate".

The participants must bring with them the FITA C&R Book and FITA Judge Guide Book (both available from the FITA website www.worldarchery.org) and a magnifying glass.

The seminar will be a combined seminar with the Asian Archery Federation for possible accreditation as AAF Continental Judge status. Further information will be given by AAF.

10. Reply to case studies 76.1 and 76.2

76.1 *During a bronze medal team match alternating shooting, when the last archer of a team was about to shoot his arrow in the second sequence, the clock stopped and went black due to an overheated server. The director of shooting immediately communicated the problem to the line judge who made the team aware of the problem by asking to stop shooting. The archer at that time was at full draw aiming and seemingly ready to shoot. He interrupted his shot and everyone awaited the correction of the timer. Then the timer was reset to the time left plus 5 seconds and the end was completed.*

Would you have followed the same procedure?

If yes, explain why you think this is the most correct way of handling the situation.

If no, explain why you would use another procedure

Reply:

It seems that some of our judges "did not quite see the point" in this case. Certainly most of our judges agreed in how to solve the situation after the match was stopped.

But the real question was if the judge should interfere when an archer is at full draw?

He should not, unless there is a dangerous situation (The DoS would then give the emergency signal).

In this case the archer may be distracted and in the worst case shoot a bad shot, or at least he might be disturbed being in a good rhythm. In fact, most archers have a controlled shooting rhythm and would finalize their end before the expiry of time – and no harm is done.

If the archer is bewildered due to the occurrence and does not shoot for that reason, he will be given new timing for that arrow when the problem somehow is fixed.

76.2 *At a major event, in the Elimination Round for teams, simultaneous shooting, the start signal was given for 8 matches on the field. The DoS was not aware that there was no judge present at one of the matches (due to a misunderstanding re communication among the Judge Commission).*

In the first end Team A reacted to an obvious violation from Team B (should have been a yellow card), then realizing that a judge was not present.

After this first end Team A was several points behind and claimed to re-start the match as no judge was present and therefore the match was not a valid match.

What do you think about the situation and how would you solve it?

Reply:

First of all, some of the judges mentioned that this will never happen in reality, because the teams would react. Unfortunately, having started simultaneously shot team matches without a judge present has happened more than once in high profile events.

This is not a good situation and should of course be prevented; the Chairman of Judges Commission or his deputy should be on alert, and so should the DoS (who should not start shooting until the judges have confirmed their presence).

But in the case given, the matches did start and the situation as described occurred.

Approximately 70% of our judges said the match and the result would still be valid, and we agree with them.

In our procedures we are saying that there should be one judge per match (for obvious reasons), but our rules do not claim that. And since the teams (they also have a responsibility) did not bring up the issue on beforehand, the match is valid. And a yellow card situation cannot be appealed (some judges also pointed out that even with a judge present, a yellow card might not be given due to not noticing the incident).

And with a valid match – we never re-shoot an arrow.

11. New Case Studies

77.1 During an indoor tournament, shooting on triple faces, one archer writes the scores, another one removes the arrows. The one removing the arrows removes the arrows before the other archer's arrows are scored. What to do? The arrow holes were not marked at all? No one knows exactly what the score would be.

77.2 In a finals match with alternate shooting, it is archer A's turn to shoot first in the second set. She raises her bow to shoot but she hears archer B (who's standing behind her on the line) release an arrow out of sequence. Confused by what happened, archer A does not shoot her arrow and looks back at her coach asking for advice. Her coach tells her to wait and not to shoot. The judge raises his red card pointing at archer B, indicating that she has shot out of sequence. Archer A's 20 seconds are gone and she did not shoot. Then the 20 second signal is given for archer B. Archer A asks for time to shoot her arrow, claiming that the confusion caused her not to shoot. The judge says that her time was gone and she will get a Miss for that unshot arrow.

Do you agree with the judge's decision? Explain.

THE DEADLINE FOR REPLYING TO THESE CASE STUDIES IS 30 APRIL 2011