

JUDGES NEWSLETTER

WORLD ARCHERY FEDERATION

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1. Editorial

by Morten WILMANN, Chairman

Dear Judges,

Your committee has been indeed busy with the re-accreditation process, some «political issues» re rules, and the Judges Guidebook (which is now on the World Archery web page).

The next is World Archery Congress in Copenhagen where the committee is up for election, but we will for sure continue working up to that point. Then we will see.....

A bit about the Judges' Guidebook which has been updated: I have been asked why we don't highlight the changes. My feedback would be that you all need to read and repeat, and thereby you will also find the new things or changed wordings.

However, I might draw your attention to one subject, now updated in the Guidebook, and that is the question how to do if one member of a team shoots an arrow too much in the first half of an alternate team match.

We have been discussing this subject at all our conferences during this period, and our judges more or less were equally divided in their opinion. Now we have got an interpretation saying that the archer who shot two arrows in the first half does not shoot in the second half.

If this should happen, the line judge must be alert and inform the coach what to do in the second half. The team will lose the highest score of the end, though, so a communication with the target judge is also essential.

Best wishes for the new archery season. Keep focused.

Morten



Judges Committee Congress Report

By Morten B. Wilmann, Chairman

Committee Members: Morten B. Wilmann, Sergio Font, Dion Buhagiar

2.1 General Comments.

During the past few years the “**art of judging**” has become more challenging, this primarily due to the fact that our sport has made a huge leap into the media world, especially with television, social media, etc. This has made archery more visible to the public and inevitably added some stress to the judges, in addition to the development of 3D archery, which has shown significant growth, bringing yet more rule changes.

Regretfully, we have observed in the recent past, several individual judging mistakes. This contrasts greatly with the relatively stable period of a decade ago. The judges committee cannot but stress that **there is no room for mistakes**. Archers have become much more professional in their approach to this sport; and in doing so this requires that all judges also become more professional in their attitude toward judging: a fact that this committee has taken and is taking very seriously. In order to meet these challenges the Judges Committee is tackling this issue on several fronts, notably:

- (a) We need to ensure that the judges are completely focused, alert and knowledgeable of all the competition procedures/rules, at all stages of a competition. To achieve this, the Judges Committee issues regular Judges Newsletters, holds Judges Conferences, updates the Judges guidebook, prepares judging seminars and organizes tests. Accredited Judges will, in the future, be required to demonstrate a strong working knowledge of the rules, and display practical interpretation and personal initiative.
- (b) We need to emphasize the need of having rules, interpretations and procedures that are applicable, for judges to handle on the competition field.

Since 2013, the Judges Committee has successfully held two Judges Conferences: one in Bangkok (2013) and another in Antalya (2014), two international Judge Seminars (Thailand and USA), and in addition to these, we have successfully held an International Youth Judges seminar in the UK (2014).

We have also introduced a quick stress test, at the international judges’ conferences, and this has given us very useful feedback. The information gathered will be used to address areas where the application of the rules needs strengthening and/or clarification.

We have also successfully concluded the Judges reaccreditation exam with **54** international Judges and **50** International Judge candidates being re-accredited for the period 2016 – 2019.

2.2. The Way Forward

From a Judges' perspective, it would be better if less changes in the rules were to occur, this would certainly usher a period of consolidation of our present rules. However, the Judges Committee and all Judges appreciate that our sport has undergone considerable, necessary change and we therefore understand the need for adapting to the "changes brought about by the World Archery Plan".

Archery is being televised on social media and television, with ever increasing air-time. As a result of this, the judges have become extremely visible, as they are now an integral part of the competition, bringing with it a greater need for the Judges to show that they have control of the field of play. In order to achieve this, the judges must look and act professionally, and show initiative.

The continued education and formation of new judges will always remain two important factors of the Judges Committee work program. We feel that the present process needs to undergo some changes, we also feel that a better understanding of the Judging procedures may require a more practical approach to certain aspects of the competition, and this might be achieved by showing specific judging footage and/or practice on the field. Further emphasis will be given to quick tests, where the results obtained during such tests will form part of the overall assessment when considering re-accreditation.

And as always, judges selected for duty will have to demonstrate greater skills and professionalism.

In addition to educating our present Judges, we also need to have some cooperation with our member and continental associations, in order to promote judging for younger people, both by finding talents and by giving them practice in domestic and continental events. The Judges committee has shown the way forward by introducing the International Youth Judges scheme, we have held three successful seminars, and many of these young judges are now following the mainstream Continental and International Judges routes. We are very pleased by having more than 20 new and promising youth judges at our disposal after a successful seminar in UK in 2014. **However, they need trust, challenges and experience to become future International Judges.**

Having said all of the above, we believe that there is much more work to be done.

I would like to thank my committee members for their dedicated work during this period of service.

Morten Wilmann
Chairman

3. World Archery Constitution and Rules. New Bylaws.

BOOKS 1-5 World Archery Constitutions and Rules. (Bylaw approved to 14 December 2014)

Book 3, Chapter 11, Article 11.1.10.1:

Including arm guard, chest protector, bow sling and belt or ground quiver. Foot markers may not protrude more than 1cm from the ground. Devices to raise a foot or part thereof, attached or independent of the shoe, are permitted provided that the devices do not present an obstruction to other athletes at the shooting line position or protrude more than 2cm past the footprint of the shoe. Also permitted are rubberized bow limb dampening devices. Wind indicators (non-electric or non-electronic) may be attached to the equipment used on the shooting line (e.g. light ribbons) electronic wind indicators may be used behind the waiting line.

Book 3, Chapter 11, Article 11.3.3:

Athlete equipment shall not include camouflage colours of any kind.

Book 3, Chapter 20, Article 20.1.1 (Bullet 4):

During the Olympic Games, World Championships and World Cup Events, athletes and team officials shall dress in sports clothing on the field of play.

- ☐ All members of one team by category shall be dressed in the same team uniform. The teams of one country may wear different design and colour uniforms. Team officials may wear a different style but should wear the same colours and should be easily identified as the official of their team;
- ☐ Women shall wear dresses, skirts, divided skirts, shorts (these may not be shorter than the athlete's fingertips when the arms and fingers are extended at the athlete's side) or trousers, and blouses or tops (covering the front and back of the body, be fixed over each shoulder while still covering the midriff when she is at full draw);
- ☐ Men shall wear trousers or shorts (these may not be shorter than the athlete's fingertips when the arms and fingers are extended at the athlete's side) and long or short sleeved shirts (covering the midriff when at full draw);
- ☐ No denim, jeans or camouflage clothes and equipment may be worn nor any oversize or baggy type pants or shorts;
- ☐ During the Team and Mixed Team match play competition the same colour and style shirt/blouse/top and the same colour pants/shorts/skirts shall be worn;
- ☐ Due to weather conditions, protective clothing such as sweaters, track suits, raingear, etc. may be worn following approval by the Technical Delegate of the event or, in his absence, the Chairperson of the Tournament Judge Commission;
- ☐ Headwear is optional

Book 4, Chapter 33, Article 33.1:

Shall wear shirts with name and country at all times.

Sport shoes or walking boots shall be worn by all athletes and officials, these may be different styles but shall cover the entire foot.

Trousers of their choice, including denim, for the Qualification, Elimination and Semi-finals rounds.

Full Team uniform, which shall not include denim, for Team Rounds and Medal Matches.

Clothing and equipment shall not be camouflage. No oversize or baggy type trousers are allowed.

3.1 Committee interpretations.

Book 2.

The Norway Archery Association has requested an interpretation as to the following with respect to venues and outdoor competitions:

- a) Is it possible to stand indoor and shoot out of the windows?
- b) Is it possible to cover the shooting line with a roof (rain/sun protection). If not – what kind of distance is required vis-à-vis the shooting line (horizontally speaking).
- c) Is it possible to protect the archers from wind (by sails, walls or other means). If not – what kind of distance would constitute a limit?
- d) If a stadium is used, may the roof be closed (possible at new constructions)?

The Constitution and Rules Committee ("C&R") finds the question presented to be within the terms of reference of the Target Archery Committee.

C&R has determined that the following interpretation is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

Response from the Target Archery Committee:

It is the opinion of the Target Archery Committee that in order to be considered "outdoor" competition, the athlete needs to be subject to any two of the following three factors: (i) rain, (ii) wind and (iii) sun.

This allows for a definition of "outdoor", which could be used when analyzing a stadium or other structure for an outdoor event: - Shooting out of a window would not be an outdoor event since there would be no rain, sun or wind (0 elements present) –

Shooting under a roof would not be an outdoor event as only wind applies (no rain or sun) (1 element present) –

Shooting in a stadium with roof closed would not be an outdoor event since no wind, rain or sun (0 elements present) –

Shooting in a walled stadium with roof open would be an outdoor event (no wind) rain and sun (2 elements present) unless the athletes are shooting under an overhang (0 elements present) –



Shooting with athletes protected from wind (sails, walls) is an outdoor event (no wind but rain, sun) (2 elements present) –

Shooting in a stadium would be an outdoor event if the athlete could be subjected to both rain and sun (and possibly wind) (2 elements present)

Shooting in an open stadium however the athletes (or some of them) are under the 'overhang', then the event is not an outdoor event (no, rain, no wind, no sun). In every case, the facts and circumstances will have to be considered to see if the athlete is subject to at least 2 of the 3 (as above).

The above is not to suggest that walls or sails to block winds are allowed on the field of play.

World Archery Target Archery Committee, November 29, 2014 Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee, December 23, 2014

Book 3, Article 15.2.8

World Archery Americas ("WAA") has requested an interpretation as whether a procedure is permitted if a team member shoots more arrows than permitted during the first half of an end in alternate shooting.

Book 3, Article 15.2.8 states: "If a member of the team shoots more than the required number of arrows in alternating shooting before returning behind the 1m line, the team shall lose the highest scoring arrow of that end."

WAA cites the following situation published in the Judges Guidebook (Nov. 2012): If the situation occurs that during alternate shooting an archer of the team shoots more than one arrow in the first end, the team will be given a red card and lose the highest score of that end. Furthermore the match will be stopped after the first end of this end and the situation dealt with before the shooting resumes. If one archer shoots more than one arrow in the second end, the situation will be taken care of by scoring. Still a red card will be given and the team will lose the highest score of the end. In this situation you will in addition have to deal with a "seven arrows issue".

WAA states that the rule does not require that the team shoot three arrows in the second end. WAA believes that a more equitable resolution is for the team to shoot only two arrows in the second half (the archer who shot two in the first half will not shoot in the second half). According to WAA, the team will have 6 arrows shot with one shot out of sequence, and will lose the highest score. WAA notes that if the procedure set forward in the Judges Guidebook is followed, the team will have two mistakes: 7 arrows and one of the out of sequence.

WAA requests an interpretation as to whether its suggested approach is appropriate

The Constitution and Rules Committee ("C&R") finds the question presented to be within the terms of reference of the Target Archery Committee.
C&R has determined that the following interpretation is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

- Response from the Target Archery Committee:

It is the opinion of the Target Archery Committee that the proposed solution of WAA is permitted. In this case, the athlete who shot two arrows in the first round may elect not to shoot an arrow in the second half of the end. In this case, the team will lose the highest scoring arrow of the end due to a shot being out of sequence (i.e., highest scoring arrow of the six shot arrows will be deducted). If the athlete who shot an extra arrow in the first half of the end does not shoot in the second half of the end, only six arrows will have been shot and there will not be a deduction for shooting seven arrows.

*World Archery Target Archery Committee, 9 March 2015
Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee, 26 March 2015*

Book 3, Chapter 21, Article 21.6.7

The Para-Archery Committee has requested an interpretation on whether a mouth-tab, which is permanently attached to the bowstring and made of any material or design as long as neither electronic, electric or a mechanical release. Below is a diagram of one type of mouth-tab.

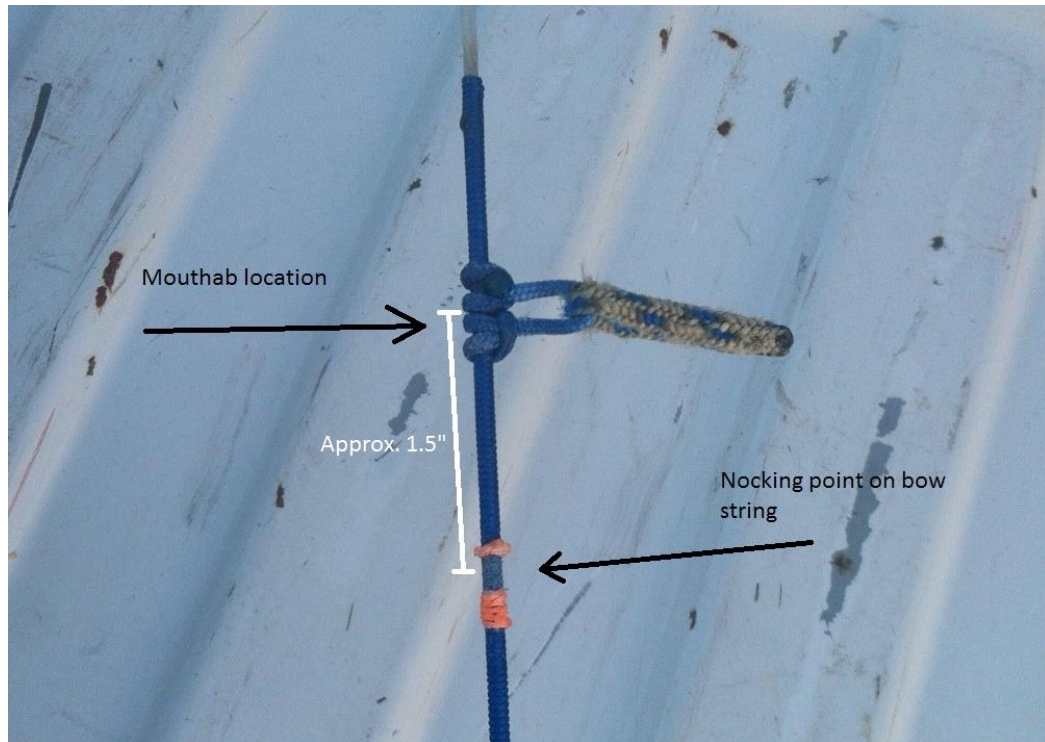
The Constitution and Rules Committee ("C&R") finds the question presented to be within the terms of reference of the Technical Committee after consultation with the Para-Archery Committee.

C&R has determined that the following interpretation is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

- Response from the Technical Committee:

It is the decision of the Technical Committee that the use of a mouth tab, which is described above and does not have any ridged mechanical parts, is similar to a finger tab for an able-bodied athlete and, accordingly, is not a "release aid" when used by a Para-archery athlete.

*World Archery Technical Committee, 29 March 2014
Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee, 29 March 2014*



Book 3, Chapter 11, Article 3.1 and/or 3.2 - Comments

This interpretation is about the use of some portable devices (smartphones, tablets) with software allowing impact plotting of arrows, which is allowed. On the other hand these devices must not be used for calculating bow sight adjustment based on arrow impact in the target..... (You may read the full interpretation on WA web).

We have got questions from judges on how to manage the control of such disallowance, and we are in fact not able to answer that question. We are of course unable to check all kind of devices for possible programs enabling archers to calculate bow sight settings, neither at the target, nor in the archers rest area behind the waiting line.

We don't really believe this is a practical issue for archers, especially if the wind is not stable in direction and strength, and therefore we cannot recommend our judges to use a lot of time for possible checking; more important things have to be focused on.

However, if we somehow find out that someone is using a device in a way not allowed, we must of course take the relevant action according to the interpretation.

4. News from the Continental Associations.

By Sergio Font

World Archery Americas

A Continental Judges Seminar has just concluded in Salinas, Puerto Rico. It was conducted by International Judge Adam MARTINEZ, and was attended by participants from Canada, Brazil, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. In addition to the usual theoretical sessions, the seminar incorporated several hours of practice on the field. Six new Continental Judges passed the exam successfully.



Another Seminar, for both National and Continental Judge Status, was run by International Judge Vladimir DOMINGUEZ in Guatemala with attendees from the host country and Costa Rica. This seminar focused very much on judging skills on the field as well.



The Judge Committee of World Archery Americas opened a facebook page with information for judges both in English and Spanish: @Comité de Jueces World Archery Americas

5. Photos of Judges Commissions at recent events.



International and Continental Judges at the 2015 Arizona Cup. Nice shirts provided by the organizers.



Deputy Chairman Randall Jones (CAN) and Chairman Tom Green (USA) wearing the second uniform provided by the Organizers in Arizona. A very bright color that made it easy to identify the judges on the field.

6. 3D – longbows and instinctive bows.

For a while there have been discussions around the world re such bows, what is allowed and what is not allowed, and your committee has to admit that even if there has been new bylaws and interpretations there are grey zones.

We have consulted one of our “specialist” in the area, the international judge Hannah Brown from Great Britain – a country with long traditions in the more traditional archery and thus also a lot of discussions on the issue.

Let us try to sum up a bit; starting with **longbows**

- a) A strung longbow may not have the string touching any part of the bow, except of the string nocks.
- b) With a certain modification (see below), the bow may not have a recurve (like i.e. barebow/instinctive bow/recurve bow).
- c) If it is a take down, it might only be in two parts, divided in the handle.

See photos and the text.



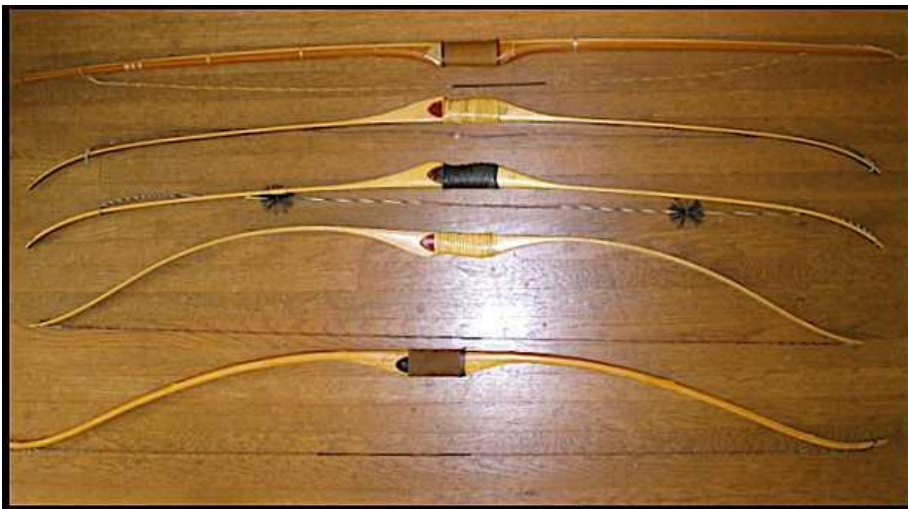
Traditional English Longbow – it is straight when un-strung, and there is no recurve, it curves the same way as it does when it gets strung. There is no centre shot and the arrow is rested on the top of the hand of the archer.



The centre shot is allowed on the WA Longbow



American Longbow/flat bow – where the limbs are flat and not round in shape and the centre shot is cut out and the arrow shot off the shelf.



The American longbow with the handle shaped.

The 4th from the top, would be permitted as the string only touches the nocks, but on the 5th the limbs are clearly recurved and the string rests on the limbs so it would not be allowed.



This bow is take down in 3 parts, so now not permitted



Again, takedown in 3 parts – should only be 2 parts.

The unstrung bow does have a recurve, but it isn't when it is strung – this is what we would think the statement "not significantly recurved" in the latest interpretation comes from. So if it wasn't 3 pieces (take down), this bow would be allowed.

Instinctive bows.

Instinctive bows are meant to be traditional compared especially with barebow, in order to separate these classes. However, there has been some adjustments to that original idea (read the rules) and lately it has been a discussion re ILF limb system.

Here it is vital that the judges have the same approach to the issue, and we advice the following understanding and approach;

An instinctive bow may be a take down in three parts, which means that the limbs may be removed. The rule says that one limb may be adjustable for tiller (which in fact also mean that the poundage May to a certain extent be adjusted). The other limb has to be stationary. Since some bows may be made with two adjustable limbs, the archers may block one of the limbs from being adjustable at an event. This will be acceptable (and we may add that it is quite unlikely that archers would remove the block and change tiller/poundage during the shooting, which would influence the "set up" of the bow). However, we have to make spot checks – and judges may even put on some taping to avoid any block removal/adjustment.

7. Replies to Case Studies.

88.1. At an indoor event with archers shooting in an AB-CD rotation, the lights in the hall are accidentally dimmed causing the archers in the AB group to have a lower level of lighting when they shoot a three-arrow end. All archers in the AB detail shoot their 3 arrows though. The lighting problem is fixed at the time archers CD walk onto the line to shoot their end. Archers CD shoot in proper lighting. When the archers go to the targets to score, archer 10A complains to a judge that he had shot in disadvantageous conditions in relation to the CD archers, and he asks that the CD archers are made to shoot one end in dimmed lights as well. What would you do if you were a judge here?

. Answer:

In this case we are happy to notice that most of you are "on the ball". We must presume that the dimmed light was not that crucial, because if it had been the case, the DoS would probably not have started the shooting until it was fixed.

Of course the situation should not happen, but even the athletes have some responsibility to react by not shooting and call a judge if they feel it is a serious problem. And for sure we do not make a poor lightening for the other detail of archers, who are not shooting only for the competition but may also shoot for records and awards etc. and we don't reshoot any arrows.

88.2. At a continental championships, a judge is asked to call the value of an arrow in a 1/8 elimination team match. In trying to position himself to call the arrow, the judge clearly touches the face and slightly leans on the target. The judge gives the lower value to the arrow, and the archers in the team whose arrow had been called complain to this judge that he should give them the higher value because he touched the face. The judge claims that as a judge he has the right to touch the face if necessary when he is calling an arrow value. What's your opinion about this incident?

. Answer:

As the vast majority of the judges underlined, the judge in this case made a poor performance. Certainly he should avoid touching, but if this happened unintentionally or by carelessness, he has made a call according to what he saw upon checking. And this is what he should do (just as if another archer touches arrows). We do not give a higher score because of the incident (we never know if – or how – that would influence the arrow's position in the face). Afterwards the chairman would have a serious talk with the judge.....

8. New case Studies:

89.1 In a team match an archer uses a quiver in which the point of the arrows is visible, as in the following photo.



When the archer with this quiver crosses the 1 meter line, his arrow is still in the quiver, but his point is visible. The judge did not take any action, but the coach of the opposing team filed a protest indicating that the point of the arrow was visible and that contravened what is stated in the judges guidebook.

Would you have done the same as the judge did? Nothing? Or would you have raised your yellow card? Explain.

89.2 Do you find anything wrong or suspicious with this archer's form and equipment? Once you have identified the issue, can you explain how you would handle it from a judging perspective?



Replies to the case studies should be sent to jbrugger@archery.org before June 15, 2015