



NATIONAL JUDGES NEWSLETTER

Issue 39

April 2003

Dear Judges,

You will have read in the "Australian Archer" about the changes to the structure of Archery Australia. This also had effects on the structure of Officiating within the organization.

Early this year I was appointed as Chairperson of the Officials Committee (the position of Officials Director no longer exists) and asked to nominate prospective members of the Committee, as it is no longer part of the constitution, that the Officials Committee is formed by the RGB Judges Administrators. The role of the committee has not changed dramatically, and has been described in the "Australian Archer".

I am pleased to inform you that the Officials Committee now consists of myself as Chairperson, **Gavin Bicknell** (SQAS), **Ed Crowther** (AV), **Gretel Dabovich** (ASA) and **Graham Wilson** (ASNSW).

We held our first meeting on 30 March in Melbourne, and resolved that each member of the Committee will be first port of call for RGB Judges Administrators and judges from two RGBs, if any issues need to be raised with the committee.

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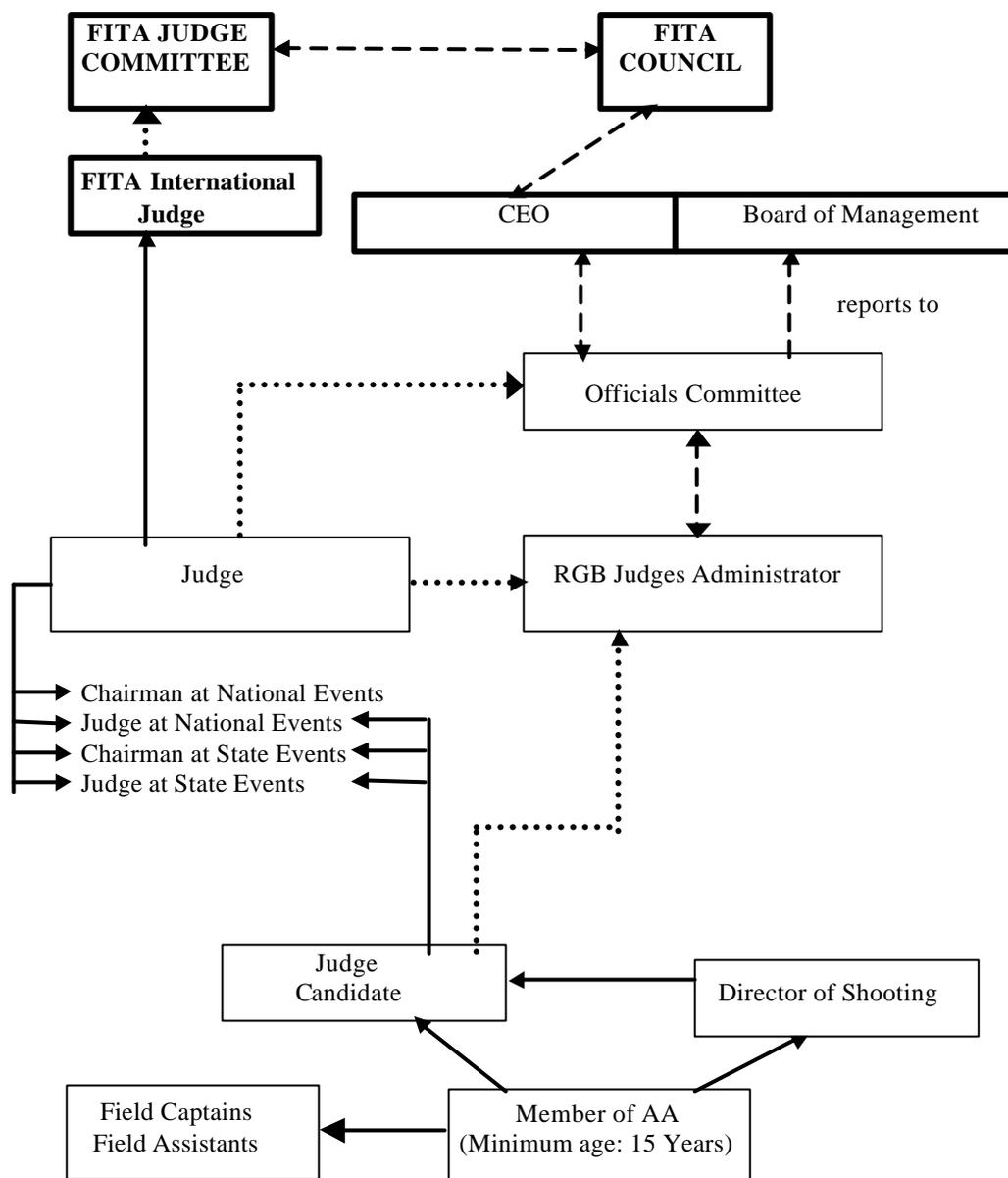
Obviously you may still communicate directly with me, and nothing changes for case study replies.

On the following page you find a diagram outlining the structure of officiating within AA and FITA.

Warmest regards to you all

Susanne E Womersley

Structure of Officiating.



Key:

- Liaison with: -----
- Possible Administration Career:
- Possible Officiating Career: _____

FITA Interpretation (as printed in FITA Information 4/2002)

The question has been raised whether an archer may take part during one event in the competition of more than one division (recurve and compound).

The Constitution and Rules Committee is unanimous: An archer may compete in more than one division of the same event, but under no circumstances may the event be altered or held up simply to accommodate that person.

Changes to FITA By-Laws

This document has been widely circulated by the CEO, but I attach it again for your reference. These changes are effective immediately.

Marking Arrow Holes (by John Womersley)

This article has been prompted by an incident that occurred during the outdoor target tournament at a recent major international event. Following a request to mark all arrow holes – firstly due to the very windy conditions, and secondly the archers were frequently missing the target and buttress, one competitor loudly remonstrated against the request, even to the extent of saying, *“What do you want us to do, mark the grass as well!”*

Initially, I should clearly state there are certainly differing opinions as to the competition regulations and requirements between competitors, Judges and tournament organisers as to the marking of arrows holes on the target face, both on the target face and outside the scoring area. Many archers feel it is necessary to mark all holes on the buttress, and often even the holes in the wood of the target stand; a procedure that is supported by many Judges, even internationally. Others feel equally strongly this procedure is not necessary, and I certainly have no problem with these differing opinions. Having been trained many years ago to mark all arrow holes, I have always held the opinion this is a good procedure to adopt. Un-expectantly, the next end after the brief confrontation a bounce-out occurred on an adjacent target, to which I was called to decide the value of the arrow. All arrow holes on the target face inside the scoring zone had been marked (with one exception), also outside the scoring zone and on the buttress – as requested previously. As there was one unmarked hole, which could be clearly identified, the archer was awarded the appropriate score. With adverse weather conditions and archers not shooting well as a result; what if there had been one unmarked hole in the target face and a number of holes outside the scoring zone – both on the face and buttress? The rules clearly state a rebounding arrow *“will score according to the mark it makes on the target face, providing that all the other arrow holes have been marked and an unmarked hole or mark can be identified.”* What if a Judge and

other archers clearly witness an arrow rebound from the buttress *outside* the scoring zone but, upon inspection of the target face an unmarked hole could be identified? Should the archer be given the benefit of the doubt according to the rules relating to the scoring of a rebounding arrow? Can the Judge ignore the fact the arrow was clearly seen to rebound from outside the scoring zone and simply give the archer an unfair advantage and award points he did not legally gain or deserve by simply applying the rule as stated above? As one of the archers competing in the same Division and Class, what would be your reaction to awarding points in this situation?

Following the event, and as time would permit, I carried out some research into this subject in an endeavour to establish a common consensus or procedure for marking arrow holes. There is no reference at all in the AA National Judges Manual but, there is a brief reference in the FITA Judge Guide Book which states, *“Many Judges and archers feel that it is necessary to mark all holes on the target face, both inside and outside the actual scoring area.”* As I am aware the FITA Judge Committee is in the process of revising the Guide Book, I contacted one of the members to query if the current wording may be amended or retained. The answer came back advising the words *“Judges and”* had been deleted; mainly I suspect for the reasons a great many of the target buttresses now being used at major international events, World Championships and Olympic Games are made of material that is practically impossible to mark successfully: and at the elite level of competition the FITA Judge Committee are concerned with, the possibility of misses and rebounding arrows is very remote. Also the key word in the rules is *“target”* and not the paper outside the ring. The committee member pointed out even though *“Judges”* has been deleted, the marking of arrow holes is purely an individual matter; so I guess with the majority of target buttresses being used in Australia at tournaments are stramit, the matter of marking arrow holes still remains basically unresolved.

To mark or not to mark – it’s up to the individual!

Judges Uniforms

It has been brought to the Officials Committee’s attention, that there is some dissatisfaction with both the white bottoms (trousers, shorts, skirts) and the current judges shirts. To find out, whether this dissatisfaction is wide spread or just experienced by some judges it is imperative that all judges complete the survey on the next page and send (mail, fax or e-mail) it back to me **by 31 May**.

If you don’t reply, it is assumed you favour changing from the current uniform!



2003 UNIFORM SURVEY

Please keep in mind this is a preliminary survey only; to see whether judges wish to make changes or are content with the current uniform.

Further investigations into new colours/designs will only be made if the majority of judges want changes made.

**To be returned by 31 May 2003. No reply means you favour the change.
Please place a X next to your choice.**

1. Trousers/Shorts/Skirts

- I prefer to stay with white ()
I prefer to switch to a dark fawn/khaki
(Yakka/King Gee brand) ()

2. Shirts

- I prefer to keep the current design ()
I prefer to change the design
(no design developed yet) ()

Name:

RGB:

Thank you for your participation!

Indoor National Championships 2003

The nomination form is attached. Please consider and reply by the due date.

Arrow sizes

An interesting fact was brought to my attention regarding legal arrow sizes. Remembering that 9.3mm is the maximum diameter, Easton 2315s and smaller are legal, but Easton 2317s (for some technical reason that not many people understand) is not.

Clarification on fibre optic sight pins (from the FITA Judges Newsletter issue No. 60)

If measuring the length of fibre optic sights the sight pin itself is to be measured (max 2cm in line of vision towards the target). This means that the total length of the sight (house and fibre optic pin) may exceed 2cm, since they are not in the same level of aiming.

You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 37

The following table gives an indication of the number of Judges in each society and the number of replies received this time:

*Total: Judges (at the time of the newsletter): 80 Replies: 30 Proportion: 38%
Well done again, ASA! You set an example!*

Society	Judges	Replies	Society	Judges	Replies
AACT	3	nil	ASA	14	12
ASNSW	12	3	AV	20	6
AST	7	nil	SQAS	8	2
ASWA	10	4	NQAA	6	3

37/1: *More than three arrows shot during practice ends.....*

The majority of judges would take points away from the archer, because he did not comply with directives given.

We need to be very careful with "inventing penalties".

8.8.2 clearly states the instances for losing the score of arrows – they all deal with situations during the actual competition, except 8.8.2.4, which describes arrows shot after closing the practice.

8.8.1.7 deals with a situation during the competition.

8.8.1.8 or 8.9.1.13 could come into play, if the competitor continues to shoot more arrows despite having been warned – more than once.

37/2: Scoring of an arrow from the outside line....

Again, the majority of judges agree with the action taken. Those that don't, mention the problems of tolerances on the face (including tolerances on line thickness), the fact that the arrow had to be exactly square on the face and the principle of "benefit of the doubt". *I tend to agree with that reasoning. Although it might be "mathematically possible" to work out the score, there are too many variables for my liking.*

37/3: Wrong distance at World Field Championships....

About half the judges would have the peg repositioned to the correct distance and let the two competitors "start the competition again", the other half would have eliminated this target for the Women Compound division. *Although the latter half is correct according to the letter of the rulebook; as it is the first two competitors I cannot see any harm in agreeing with the first half – there is no unfair advantage these two women would have. If other countries wish to protest, then the Jury can eliminate the target later – if they uphold the protest.*

You be the Judge (Case studies)

Please have your answers with society administrators by the end of May, who in turn are asked to collate and forward replies by mid June. Alternatively, judges can e-mail me their answers directly (but inform your society administrator, you have done so).

39/1: At a tournament, a judge was called to a target to correct the scorecard. Upon checking the values of the arrows with the scorecard, he/she realizes that one of the arrows noted as a 7 could hardly be more than a 6. He/she pulled out the magnifying glass, checked the arrow properly and declared it to be a 6.

One of the archers, however, blamed the judge for intervening without having been called for that purpose, as the archers on the target had agreed on the value.

How would you consider the judge's action?

39/2: At an equipment inspection you find a fibre optic sight pin of approx 5cm long. However, this sight pin extends towards the archer and not towards the target as usual. The judge claims the pin is illegal, and the archer protests due to the design mentioned.

As a member of the Jury of Appeal, would you accept this sight pin?

39/3: During the inspection of the field the judges overlooked that the individual shooting positions were not marked on the shooting line. During practice before the competition started, one of the judges realized so, and came up to the chairman of judges. The chairman, however, was not willing to possibly delay the start of shooting in order to correct the field. He said that they would just wait and see if somebody protested.

Give your thoughts in this respect.

