



NATIONAL JUDGES NEWSLETTER

Issue 49

September 2005

Dear Judges,

Slowly winter changes into spring, and it is time to get ready for the tournament season – either to compete or to officiate – or even both. Enjoy the warmer weather!

Warm regards to you all

Susanne E Womersley

Summarising Officiating (taken from an NOP Update – date unknown)

Good officiating helps to produce a healthy, educational and sportsmanlike environment, associated with a fair determination of the winner.

The fundamental aim of sports officiating is to cause the competition to progress smoothly within the rules.

What makes a good official?

- A love and feeling for the sport
- A thorough knowledge of the rules
- An understanding of the participants involved so that the sport can be officiated according to the level of competition
- Firmness, fairness and consistency of decisions made
- A level of fitness to match the demands and requirements of the sport
- An ability to communicate with the competitors
- The courage to believe in the decisions that have been made
- The concentration to remain alert during the full period of competition
- The motivation to perform the role well

Another Reminder - Code of Ethics

There are still some officials (Judges and Directors of Shooting) who have not returned the Code of Ethics form. This is a requirement of the Australian Sports Commission; as such any official cannot be accredited or keep their accreditation, unless s/he signs it.

If you have not returned your form, please print off the one I have attached again and return in **hard copy – snail mail** (do not fax or e-mail!) **as soon as possible**, but definitely **before 15 October 2005**.

New RGB Administrators

AACT and ASNSW had a recent change in RGB administrators: Anthony James took over from Mick Turner, and Ken Payne is replaced by Bob Armstrong. Thank you to Ken and Mick for looking after your respective RGB judges and Directors of Shooting; and welcome to Bob and Anthony!

Junior National Championships 2005

Would you like a week in sunny Queensland? Attached is a nomination form for officiating at the Junior National Championships in January next year. Please consider and reply by the closing date.

News from the FITA Congress

The CEO has compiled a list of rule changes, which have been approved by FITA Congress. I attach the document for your information. Thanks, Jim, you beat me to doing this!

FITA Interpretation (taken from FITA Info 08/05)

A question has been raised concerning supports and taping of various joints, especially referring to wrist, elbow and shoulder areas.

Response from the Constitution and Rules Committee, after consultation with the Medical Committee and the Technical Committee:

The taping of human joints, ie fingers, wrists, elbows, shoulders, knees etc. is legal within the rules of FITA. Although no rule supports this question, in the same regards no rule disallows it. Furthermore, the taping of joints has been a long time practice for many decades and therefore falls under a widely accepted and allowable framework of acceptable equipment. Within the last 50 years plus, no judge to our knowledge has proposed that taping is not legal. Therefore, we have to assume that under these circumstances, it is legal.

However, it is to be stipulated that no such taping may contain a firm, "stiff" brace that would in any way help support the bow arm or drawing fingers in regard to any assistance in drawing and releasing the bowstring.

You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 48

The table below gives an indication of the number of Judges in each RGB and the number of replies received:

RGB	Judges	Replies	RGB	Judges	Replies
AACT	8	7	ASA	13	7
ASNSW	15	11	AV	10	4
AST	9	nil	SQAS	7	2
ASWA	7	nil	NQAA	5	2
<i>Oceania</i>	7	2	Total	74	35

47% - that is below half! Should I blame it on the winter?

48/1: By mistake an archer had brought with him his mobile phone to the shooting line. Unfortunately it started ringing when 10 seconds remained. The archer next to him, who repeatedly had problems with getting his arrows through the clicker, although without any late shots, claimed he was disturbed by the ringing as he took down and asked for another 40 sec to shoot his last arrow.

Would you give him these 40 seconds?

Opinions were split nearly 50-50. 16 judges would allow the archer 40 seconds to shoot his last arrow, and 19 would not give him/her this opportunity. I am one of the 16 – I would allow the archer the extra time, as he was disturbed by something out of his control; and a phone going off next to you on the shooting line is different from noises coming from the spectator area. He would not gain any unfair advantage by having the extra time. I agree with all those judges who said the “offending” competitor with the mobile should be given a warning.

48/2: A series of sound signals are suddenly given in the middle of an end because a dog is entering into one side of the large field. One archer immediately realises that the dog is far away from his target so he shoots his last arrow of that end some seconds later. A judge promptly takes action and when this end later on is scored, he deducts the highest scoring arrow of this archer.

What is your opinion?

Most replies (26) stated that the judge made the right decision. Most reasoned that the DoS who is in control of the field had stopped the shooting, so the arrow shot after that can be interpreted as shot “after the specified time”. Some judges commented on the fact that it is not up to the competitors to decide what is dangerous. There might have been something else (and much closer) than the dog, eg its owner, and was not noticed by the archer in question. So far so good..... On the other hand the rules about the taking of points are quite specific – and none of them applies to this situation.....

48/3: At an international event ranking round shot at 70m the following occurred: An archer raised his bow to shoot his sixth arrow but ran out of time. Surprised by the sound signal, practically without aiming, he shot his arrow and missed the target. This archer was completely out of his shooting style, and the Judge was standing just behind him and clearly saw the arrow missing the target. The Judge listened for the arrow hit, but heard no sound.

The Judge participated in the scoring on that target and scored the last arrow as a Miss. He didn't take away the highest scoring arrow, considering that he was able to clearly identify the sixth arrow as a miss.

What do you think of his decision?

Only three judges agreed with the judge's decision – please read 7.8.2.3. All other replies would deduct the highest scoring arrow under Rule 7.8.2.3. It is not relevant whether the arrow shot after the signal was a miss or not. In this case the competitor will score two misses – one for the miss shot after the signal, and another one instead of the highest scoring arrow of this end.

You be the Judge (Case studies)

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

Please remember to give reasons and quote appropriate rules for all your answers. And please don't forget to put your name on the attachment, so that I can give you credit for the reply. I print them out and with no name.....

49/1: At a FITA Star Tournament the numbering of the ladies' targets are from no. 1 until 7. These targets are on the 70m line.

Because the field is small compared with the number of archers, there is no space between the ladies and the men on the shooting line, although the men of course are shooting at 90m. The top male archer is shooting on target 8.

During the break after the first distance, the targets are moved towards the shooting line; the ladies' targets now on 60m and the men's targets on 70m distances. However, as no female archers were shooting on target 7 (they didn't turn up), this target was not moved and remained on 70m, next to the men's target no. 8.

Starting at 70m the top male archer, leading the event, shot at the wrong target (no. 7 instead of no. 8) as the target furthest to the left no longer was his target but the remaining target no. 7. The numbering of the targets is, however, correct.

The archer is protesting against the field set-up, and wants to re-shoot his three arrows, alternatively he wants the score as they are (in no. 7).

What do you think?

49/2: At a National Field Championships an archer calls a judge to the target saying he has had a pass-through on his thirs arrow. This is the final (24th) target for the round and so far this archer has scored all 5s, as he is a top shooter. His first two arrows on this target are also both 5 spots. There is only one unmarked arrow hole and that is in the 3 zone. The archer insists that there is no way he would have shot a 3 and that the pass-through almost certainly went through the hole of a previously shot 5 spot. He insists – and he is very insistent – on shooting another arrow, which he does – and it's a 5, giving him a perfect score.

As the judge, what would you do?

49/3: When you check a target range just before the competition starts, you find three target faces that have been slightly used. There are only a few holes in them which have all been clearly and correctly marked. When you check with the organisers you are told that because of bad weather during the practice days more faces than expected have been used. That is why some used faces have been mounted on the butts. An archer on one of the targets in question complains that he will be handicapped by this situation.

What action will you take if any?