



NATIONAL JUDGES NEWSLETTER

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Contents

Judge Retirement

Message from Morten Wilmann

FITA Judge Newsletter

FITA Interpretation

Reaccreditation for Nat. Judges

Change of Contact Details

Yellow Cards in Matchplay

Collective Noun for Judges

You be the Judge – Answers

New Case Studies

Dear Judges,

I trust you all had a great Easter, but I hope you did not eat too much chocolate. We don't want to get complaints that the judges are not fit enough (or that they are not sharing their chocolate...).

As of 1 April there are a number of changes to the FITA rules. Please make sure you familiarise yourselves with those that are relevant for shooting in Australia. The updated version of the FITA rule book (including all by-law changes since 2006) is now available on the FITA website. If you wish to purchase a hard copy, this is available from the Archery Australia office for \$15.00.

Warm regards to you all

Susanne E Womersley

Gretel Dabovich retired

After approximately 21 years, Gretel Dabovich (ASA) has retired as a National Judge. We thank Gretel for her contribution to officiating in South Australia and the country as a whole. Her professionalism and dedication to judging is exemplary.

A message from the Chairman of the FITA Judge Committee

Dear Susanne, Ed and all the rest of you.

I learn from your latest Newsletter that I am given the possibility to make a "correct" feedback to some of your tricky cases, and yes sometimes I may be "correct" based on the common international understanding among judges, or by decisions made by the FITA Judge Committee, or of course by the intention of the rules. I do have the advantage of having been involved in archery for a pretty long time and thus happen to know the intention of most rules we have.

And certainly I believe I give you valid input (otherwise I would probably not have been in my position). However, I feel I should say - in fairness to all - that my opinion does not reach further than to a possible contra decision made by a Jury of Appeal or to a different opinion conveyed through an interpretation made by FITA.

We are working hard to create a best possible consistency in judging around the world, and we are heading there, but 100% agreement in all aspects we will never reach.....

Yours
Morten

FITA Judge Newsletter

The latest issue of the FITA Judge Newsletter is now on the FITA website – as always very interesting reading!

FITA Interpretations

Book 2, Article 7.4.2.3

Book 2, Article 7.8.2.4

Book 3, Article 8.4.2.3

Book 3, Article 8.8.2.4

A question was raised by the FITA Council regarding the number of arrows that an athlete is to shoot in the first end following the athlete having shot one or more arrows on the competition field after the DOS has officially closed the practice session or during the breaks between distances or rounds in violation of the C&R articles referred to above.

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

Response from the Target Archery Committee:

If an athlete violates such rules by shooting an arrow on the competition field after being closed or during the breaks between distances or rounds, he or she should shoot the full end (3 or 6 arrows) in the next official end and lose the highest scoring arrow of that end.

If the athlete shoots a second arrow (or more) in violation of such rules, he or she loses the second highest scoring arrow (and so on for each arrow shot on the competition field after being closed).

FITA Target Archery Committee, 17 December 2007

Approved by the FITA C&R Committee, 18 December 2007

Reaccreditation for National Judges

It is reaccreditation time again – the four-year accreditation period for National Judges expires 30 June 2008.

- If you are a National Judge and have fulfilled your reaccreditation requirements (see below), please complete the attached reaccreditation form and submit to your RGB administrator.
- If you are a National Judge Candidate and have fulfilled the requirements for accreditation as a National Judge (see below), please complete the attached accreditation form and submit to your RGB administrator.
- **Make sure you use the correct form, please!**

RGB administrators, please collect all forms from your RGB, chase up those you do not receive, and **only send to me when you are satisfied you have the forms from all of your judges who want to be (re)accredited.**

ACCREDITATION AS A NATIONAL JUDGE

Requirements:

- (1) Attain a minimum age of 18 years (if applicable).
- (2) Serve as a National Judge Candidate for a minimum period of 12 months and a maximum period of three years.
- (3) Gain a minimum of **6 credit points** (one point per day) by officiating at approved tournaments under the supervision and assessment of a National Judge.
- (4) Gain a minimum of **1 credit point** by acting as Director of Shooting or Assistant Director of Shooting under the supervision and assessment of a National Judge.

- (5) Gain a minimum of **6 credit points** by responding in writing to the case studies published in the National Judges Newsletter (one point per case study, unless the answer is obviously wrong to a clear question).

NATIONAL JUDGE REACCREDITATION

Requirements:

To be recredited, a National Judge must gain a total number of **24 credit points** over four (4) years, which can be made up of any combination of the following, as long as the minimum numbers are adhered to:

(1) Officiate as a Judge, Director of Shooting or Jury Member:

one credit point per day

two extra credit points for Chairman of Judges at National Championships, one extra point for Judges at National Championships or Chairman of Judges for state events and FITA award tournaments.

minimum:

8 credit points

(2) Respond in writing to case studies published in the National Judges Newsletter

one credit point per case study (points will be given for each response, unless obviously wrong to a clear question)

minimum:

12 credit points

(3) Attend a Judges conference/seminar/workshop etc:

one credit point for every four hours

one extra point per day for conducting the seminar

no minimum requirement

Change of contact details

Just a reminder to inform the Archery Australia office, the chairperson of the Officials Committee (Susanne) and your RGB administrator, if you change any of your contact details, i.e. address, telephone number or e-mail address. It is time consuming and costs money, if letters or parcels are returned by Australia Post and e-mails bounce back. Your assistance is appreciated.

YELLOW CARDS IN MATCHPLAY – SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

By Ed Crowther

Recently at the AIS Invitational Tournament at the Canberra Stadium I was Line Judge for a Women's Teams Bronze Medal Match involving Great Britain and Korea. The second Korean archer (they were shooting one at a time, alternate shooting) crossed the 1 metre line before the first girl had returned to the box. I obligingly pulled out the yellow card and showed the coach, calling out loudly, "Yellow, Korea." He took no notice and by this time the second archer was on the shooting line and had knocked her arrow on the string. I again faced the coach and yelled in a similar fashion, also gesturing with my hand for him to withdraw the archer back into the box. This time he responded and the girl came back into the box. I then allowed her to return to the shooting line.

However, amid the frantic action and my concern for the coach I neglected to spot that she had returned to the shooting line with the arrow still knocked! I should have given another yellow card. Better still I should have indicated to the archer and coach in the first that she had to replace the arrow in her quiver before moving out to the shooting line for the second time. This would certainly have used up more of their time and I'm not sure that with an

obvious language difficulty it would have been understood – not my problem, however, but the coach’s. Of course, the coach could have sent out another archer but I’m sure that they had their set routine and didn’t wish to depart from it.

When the match was complete I took the time to speak with the coach through an interpreter to make sure that this did not happen in the upcoming Gold Medal Match when he would again be acting as coach for the No.1 Korean women’s team. The girl was only 15 years old and in her first medal match, not that this absolved me from blame!

I must admit that this has never happened to me before since a foot-fault problem has always meant that the archer has immediately returned to the box without even reaching the shooting line or knocking an arrow. Nevertheless, the scenario does not absolve me from blame and I was certainly at fault. As Ian Thorpe would have said, “Oops!”

It does go to show just exactly how vigilant we need to be in the hurly-burly of Teams’ Matchplay.

Interestingly the Manager of the Great Britain Team came along over half an hour later to enter an appeal to the Jury. This was well outside the 5 minutes allowed under matchplay rules. In any case there really could be no appeal against a judge’s error – or could there?

Interesting – a new FITA by-law comes into practice on 1st April. 7.10.2.2 now states “the decision made by a judge in the team event concerning the use of a yellow card (ref 7.8.3.1) is final.”

Collective noun for judges? A competition for all

We all know that there is a ‘pride’ of lions and a ‘murder’ of crows. But what do we call a collection of judges banded together? During an infrequent lull at the AIS Invitational Tournament in January it was suggested that there ought to exist such a term. As a result we are throwing it open to all judges to come up with some ideas. One bright spark who shall remain nameless (Bruce Hall), coined the term ‘a **confusion** of judges.’ Can anyone do better? Send your collective noun to Susanne and the combined intelligence of the Officials Committee will select the best 3 for you to vote on. Who knows, there may even be a prize for this!

You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 56

Edited by Ed Crowther

The table below shows the number of Judges in each RGB and the replies received:

RGB	Judges	Replies	RGB	Judges	Replies
AACT	7	4	ASA	12	9
ASNSW	22	7	AV	12	6
AST	6	2	SQAS	10	2
ASWA	15	2	NQAA	5	3
<i>Oceania</i>	7	2	Total	89	35

Again only about 40%! Come on this time - you need a minimum of 12 case study replies for reaccreditation in June.

56/1: Since Ed likes the Indoor scenarios – here is another one, but with only three arrows shot this time: During a major Indoor tournament vertical triple faces are used. An archer shot his first arrow touching the line between the 10 and the 9 in the upper face, his second arrow in the 8 on the bottom face, and the third arrow in the 9 of the middle face. During scoring another archer on the target calls you and claims that the arrows have not been shot in the correct order. *How would you score this end?*

Everyone agreed that Arts. 8.5.1.6 and 8.6.2.3 meant that “when triple faces are used, arrows may be shot in any order” and so the score would be 10 9 8.

This was just too easy, wasn't it? 100% success rate! Well, not quite. You see the question did not actually stipulate whether the archer concerned was shooting recurve or compound. Consequently, we need to provide two answers here – 10 9 8 (recurve) and a 9 9 8 (compound – Art.8.2.1.3)

Things are never as simple as they look in judging, are they? Well done to the two judges who got this correct (apart from Susanne and me, who put it together) – Robert de Bondt and Alan Reid.

56/2: At a Field tournament (FITA Arrowhead) archers are required to shoot their arrows from the top of a 3 meter high platform (accessible by a flight of steps). When the judges inspect the course they feel a bit uncomfortable about everyone having to climb onto the platform and request the organisers put another peg at the bottom (at exactly the same distance from the target), so that those competitors who don't want to shoot from the top can shoot from the bottom. *Do you agree with that course of action?*

I'm pleased to say that this time we had almost complete agreement with most quoting Art.9.1.1.5 – “at all targets, one peg or mark for each division shall be placed...” and went on to elaborate, taking into account such factors as the slightly different distance from a height of 3 metres as well as differing angles/slopes, all of which would create a situation whereby the archers would not be shooting under the same conditions. Some judges said that they would “reluctantly agree” with the judge's decision and quoted Art. 9.4.1.1; but I think this only refers to a case where there is one peg anyway and it is impossible to shoot from approx. one metre to the side or behind that peg because of a puddle of water, etc.

56/3: An archer is calling you due to an arrow that almost passed through the face, though you can see its nock in the 9 zone and one of the feathers cutting the line to the 10 zone. *How do you score the arrow?*

80% of judges would score the arrow as a 9. Art. 7.6.2 was quoted by many – “an arrow will be scored according to the position of the shaft in the target face.” We do not need to worry about the fletches, only the shaft. If we can see a fletch then we must be able to see part of the shaft.

The Judges Manual (Section 7.5, page 35) provides guidance in relation to arrows embedded in the butt (FITA Art. 7.6.2.5). Some judges alluded to it but saw no necessity to use this process.

Incidentally, some correctly noted that paragraph 3 of the Judges Manual is contradictory and will need to be revised.

The FITA Judge Guide Book 2006 has a slightly changed wording that makes more sense:

“If the arrow is deeply embedded in the butt the judge must try to identify the value of the arrow before pushing it back to the front of the buttress. This can be done by measuring the distance to other arrows on the backside or to the edge of the butt.

Pushing back the arrow should only happen if it is necessary to identify the value of the arrow.....” This is probably only applicable if you can’t even see the nock.

Until next time - Happy Judging!
Ed Crowther

You be the Judge (Case studies)

Here are the new case studies, the second last ones before reaccreditation.

Please have your replies with RGB administrators by the end mid JUne, who in turn are asked to collate and forward replies by the end of June. Alternatively, judges can e-mail their answers directly to Ed on jilled@bigpond.net.au (but inform your RGB administrator, you have done so).

Please remember to give reasons and quote appropriate rules for all your answers.

Since we have an article on match-play, the first two case studies relate to matchplay.

57/1: In a team match with alternate shooting, the archers in Team A shoot in the following sequence: archer A-1 shoots one arrow, archer A-2 shoots one arrow, and archer A-3 shoots two arrows before crossing the 1-meter line. The DoS stopped the clock after this third archer crossed the 1-meter line, and started the clock for team B, and archers B-1, B-2 and B-3 shoot one arrow each. Team A had 46seconds left for the second section of their six-arrow end. Archer A-1 comes onto the line and shoots one arrow, archer A-2 shoots one arrow, and archer A-3 did not shoot any arrows.

a) *Would you apply a penalty to team A?*

b) *If so, what would the penalty be?*

57/2: Same situation as 57/1, but in this case archer A-3 shoots an arrow in the second section of his team’s turn to shoot.

57/3: At the Field event of a National Championship (Marked FITA Field Round containing walk-ups and fans) you observe the following: A competitor (and you know him – he has been shooting for years) shoots one arrow from the first peg of the walk-up hitting the five, then shoots another arrow from the same peg. The other two archers in the group make him aware of his mistake and tell him he will loose the highest scoring arrow of this end; but he disagrees. He proceeds to shoot his third arrow from the third peg of the walk-up. At this point in time the other two archers see you standing nearby and call you over. *What are your actions?*

