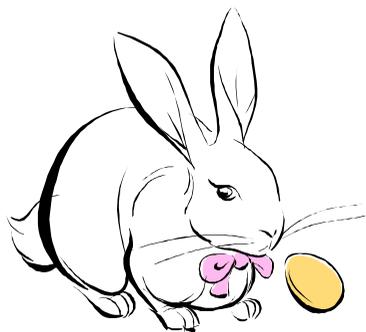


Dear Judges,



Happy Easter to all of you!

I hope the Easter bunny finds you and you get lots of chocolate eggs – just don't eat them all at once! Someone with obviously far too much time on their hands has worked out that a judge walks an average of 6.4km per tournament.

Contents

Service Awards

Frequently Asked Questions

Blue Card

Archery Limericks

You be the Judge – Answers

New Case Studies

We don't want to get complaints about the judges not being fit enough, because of all these Easter eggs.

Warm regards to you all

Susanne E Womersley
Chair – AA Officials Committee

SERVICE AWARDS 2009

As of 1 January 2009, the following judges have served Archery Australia as National Judges for these milestones and will receive their service award badges at the Open National Championships in Adelaide, or if not attending, at a suitable function in their own RGB:

20 YEARS:

Murray Frith (AST), Susanne Womersley (AV)

15 YEARS:

Ed Crowther (AV), Donna Mee, Emerson Mee (both AST)

10 YEARS:

Carol Ashlee, Peter Mantell, Glenn Martin (all ASA)

Frequently Asked Questions on Athlete's Equipment

(From FITA Info – March 2009)

Book 2, Articles 7.3.1.7, 7.3.2.1.5 & 7.3.3.7

Book 3, Articles 8.3.1.7 & 8.3.2.7

Book 4, Article 9.3.7

Book 5, Articles 11.10.3.1.7, 11.10.3.2.6 & 11.10.3.3.7

Question: Is the Starrflight FOB Engineered Airfoil legal for FITA Competition? This is an airfoil which is attached to the arrow shaft in place of fletchings. A description of the airfoil may be viewed at www.starrflight.com.

Response: Legal in all divisions.

Book 2, Article 7.3.3.2

Book 3, Article 8.3.2.2

Book 4, Article 9.3.2.4

Book 5, Article 11.10.3.3.2

Question: Is the Timberline No-Peep Bow Attachment legal for FITA Competition? A description of the No-Peep may be viewed at www.timberline-archery.com/nopeep.

Response: Legal in the Compound Division but not legal in any other Division.

Question: Are string silencers legal for use in the Recurve, Compound and Longbow Divisions?

Response: Legal only in the Compound Divisions and not in the Recurve or Longbow Divisions.

Blue Cards

Queensland state laws require anyone working with children to have a so called "Blue Card" certifying their suitability to work with minors. This caused some confusion regarding judges from Queensland and/or other states officiating at events held in this state.

Archery Australia CEO Jim Larven followed the issue up (Thanks, Jim!) and provided an explanation.

You do not require a Blue Card in Queensland (North or South) if:

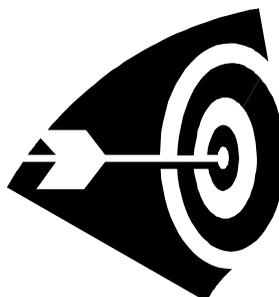
- you are a guest of a school or "recognised body" (Archery Australia, NQAA and SQAS are recognised bodies) for the purpose of observing, supplying information or entertainment to ten or more people for a sporting, cultural or skill based activity;
- performing the function of employment at a national or state event organised by a school or "recognised body" (operating at a state or national level)
- the event is attended by more than 100 people;
- the activity is for ten days or less on no more than two occasions per year;
- you are unlikely to be physically present with a child without another adult being present.

So it would be a good idea that all SQAS and NQAA judges, coaches, administrators for their own safety to have a Blue Card, including those living in northern NSW. However, non Queensland judges attending events such as the Youth Nationals with more than 100 people attending (not necessarily shooting) do not require a Blue Card.

Archery Limericks

Here you go – get your creative hats on again! This time we are looking for archery or judging limericks. Ed Crowther has started things off with the following example to get you into the mood:

An archer came up to the line
"This ten, I know, will be mine"
He pulled back the string
Let it go with a ping
It just landed up in the nine



You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 60

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	7 again!	ASA	11	11
ASNSW	20	10	AV	10	7
AST	5	2	SQAS	9	2
ASWA	14	7	NQAA	3	3
<i>Oceania</i>	7	nil	Total	79	49

62% - Great work, nearly two thirds of all judges replied. But special congratulations to AACT: 100% for the third time in a row! Also to ASA and NQAA for a 100% response rate as well!

60/1: This one elicited a more controversial response than usual. About two-thirds would not opt to recommend disqualification with the remaining third arguing that the judge was correct.

Under Section 9.8 there are nine instances which relate to the consequences of breaking the rules. The **only one** which could possibly be invoked in this particular case is 9.8.1.8. However, a careful reading of this reveals that the archers must be "**proved** to have broken any rules **knowingly**" and even then they only "**may** be ruled...to be eliminated." Ask yourself; are you absolutely certain this occurred here? At face value, it seems that both the organisers and at least two judges made mistakes. The result was to penalise the archers – hardly a logical consequence! Of course, it is possible that we might treat the matter differently if the archers were experienced as opposed to first-timers. If they were virtual novices in this type of event then do we really want to turn them off our sport by taking this sort of action? Is it their fault in any case? Let us also remember that it is not the judge's role to disqualify, rather to recommend action to the Organising Committee.

Donna Mee should be commended as the only judge to point out that the normal procedure would be for each of the (say) four judges to accompany their six groups to the assigned targets and, when all archers are in place, to then notify the other judges who will institute a pre-arranged audible signal indicating that it is safe for the shoot to begin. If this had been carried out the fact that there were only two archers on a starting target would have been picked up and could have been rectified.

Full marks also go to a very observant David Robertson for drawing my attention to a clause in the AA Rulebook. Although this was a FITA event, the archers *may* have been shooting barebow compound and, as such, could have been governed by the AA rules. Under AA rule 7.11.5, dot point 3 (p.93), "the number of athletes assigned to a target shall be....**where practical** a minimum of 3 in Field shooting." This has been passed on to the C & R Committee for review.

60/2: Only 3 judges argued that the scope and tripod were not part of an athlete's equipment. Almost everyone quoted 7.3.1.9 and 7.3.1.10 and felt that "accessories" came under the broad heading of Section 7.3 and therefore were seen as legitimate equipment.

Nonetheless, **19 judges would disallow the request** for an equipment failure, arguing that the scope and tripod were “not essential” or that they were “optional and not necessary.” Whilst this may be true for a small number of archers, I know many archers who would deem them vital. We cannot presume to make our own rules on what is “essential” and what is not. The matter could also be a safety issue and common sense should prevail. It’s possible, for example, that an arrow might strike the tripod whilst an archer is letting down within the 3-metre area. In any case the archer is not attempting to gain any advantage and has no other legitimate means available to him other than to call an equipment failure.

60/3: The responses here were split almost 50/50 with some allocating a 9, the others a 10, usually based on the benefit of the doubt principle, with one judge arguing that at least the bird died for a 10! Those giving the lower value argued (12.8.4) that the arrow should not be touched before being removed by the appointed person. If the bird were to be lifted to “get a better view” it is highly likely that the arrow would be moved. They also supported their stance by quoting 12.8.7, saying that the value should be determined “at that part of the arrow closest to the point **which first becomes visible.**” Most agreed that a decision should be made before the bird is moved. Some referred to FITA rules, but since it was 10-ring scoring the round would have been shot to AA rules.

It was all too much for some who just applied the benefit of the doubt, also suggesting a “one under par birdie.” Others were simply not into birds and would make the archers clean the arrow and wash their hands as well as bury the bird! It was also suggested that one minute’s silence be observed.

General comment: It was pleasing to see everyone quoting rules; this is happening far more frequently than in the past which indicates that the Rulebook is being diligently consulted.

Well done, all – till next time, Happy Judging!

Ed Crowther

You be the Judge (Case studies)

Here are three new case studies to keep you thinking.

Please have your replies with RGB administrators by the end of May, who in turn are asked to collate and forward replies by mid 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).

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

61/1: An archer has just shot his three arrows in his normal rhythm, but he sees no yellow light after his third shot (which he usually does), and he is a bit confused about the number of arrows he has actually shot. Therefore, he shoots a fourth arrow, a bad shot.

However, it turns out there has been an error with the timing, and the yellow light was switched on 20 seconds too late. The archer has the following scores: 10-9-9-5, and if only the lower three arrows are scored, he will lose his qualifying place by one point.

You are one of the judges and must give your opinion on how to deal with this matter.

61/2: At equipment inspection before a tournament, you observe a recurve string with two sets of two nock locators. The archer says the reason is because his string is often damaged at the nocking points during shooting, so after a while he turns his string upside down. He only has one string with him and in this way his string lasts much longer.

How do you react in this situation?

61/3: During a FITA field event you observe an archer standing forward of the shooting peg and holding a score board above another archer who is about to shoot in order to provide shade on that archer's scope.

Is this allowed?