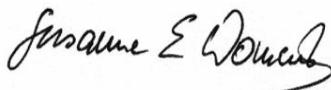


Dear Judges,

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2011 – this time a bit later, as John and I were fortunate to spend some time around Christmas and New Year with my family in Austria. We had a great time, despite the temperatures occasionally dropping to -12 degrees.

I hope you all had a happy Christmas and a good start to 2011; although our thoughts are with those of you and your families who may be affected by the floods that devastated so much of the country.

Warm regards to you all



Susanne E Womersley
Chair – AA Officials Committee

International Judges

Heartfelt congratulations to **Karen O'Malley** and **Jim Larven**, who have been upgraded to full International Judge status, when the FITA Judge Committee met in November last year!

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International Appointments 2011

The following Australian International Judges have received appointments by FITA for 2011:

World Championships and World Para Championships (Torino, Italy) – Karen O'Malley

World Cup Final (Istanbul, Turkey) – Jim Larven (chairman)

Olympic Test Event (London, United Kingdom) – Jim Larven

Congratulation on your appointments and good luck!

Archery Australia National Events 2011

Attached is a nomination form covering all three major national events for this year: the Youth National Championships in Morwell, the National Championships in Brisbane and the Australian Open Tournament in Adelaide.

If you are nominating for more than one event, please indicate your preferences. Also, please consider whether you would accept an appointment as Chairperson of the Tournament Judge Commission and tick the relevant box.

Archery Australia Rule Book

The 2011 Archery Australia Constitution & Shooting Rules are now available. It can be downloaded from the AA website; or hard copies can be purchased from the Archery Australia Office in two formats (both loose leaf) in either A4 (large format) or A5 (small format) for \$15.00.

Archery Australia Age Groups for 2011

(as circulated by the CEO in October 2010)

Cubs - Athletes born in the year 1998 or since 1998

An athlete may compete in the Cub class in tournaments until December 31 of the year of his or her 13th birthday.

Intermediate - Athletes born in the years 1996 or 1997

An athlete may compete in the Intermediate class in tournaments until December 31 of the year of his or her 15th birthday.

Cadets - Athletes born in the years 1994 or 1995

An athlete may compete in the Cadet class in tournaments until December 31 of the year of his or her 17th birthday.

20 and Under (Junior) - Athletes born in the years 1991, 1992 or 1993

An athlete may compete in the Junior class in tournaments until December 31 of the year of his or her 20th birthday.

Open - Athletes born in 1962 to 1990 inclusive

An athlete of any age may compete in the Open class in tournaments, but those born in the above years have no alternative.

Masters - Athletes born in the years 1952 to 1961

An athlete may compete in the Master class in tournaments from January 1 of the year of his or her 50th birthday and thereafter.

Veterans - Athletes born in 1951 or prior to 1951

An athlete may compete in the Veteran class in tournaments from January 1 of the year of his or her 60th birthday and thereafter.

Please remember that:

Anyone can shoot Open

Veterans can shoot as a Master

Cadets can shoot as a 20 and Under (Junior)

Intermediates can shoot as a Cadet or 20 and Under (Junior)

Cubs can shoot as an Intermediate, Cadet or 20 and Under (Junior)

NOTE - Clubs and Regional Divisions may develop younger or older age divisions to cater for their own needs. The age divisions above are the only age divisions recognised for Archery Australia Tournaments, National Records and National and Youth National Championships.

The term Junior is a FITA term; in Australia we have decided to call this classification 20 and Under as it is felt the term Junior can be confusing.

FITA Rule Interpretation (taken from World Archery News December 2010)

Book 4, Chapter 9, Article 9.3.1.4

Archery Australia Inc. has requested an interpretation on:

- *the use of International Limb fitting (ILF) take-down bow in Longbow division*

- *definition of "centre shot".*

The Constitution and Rules Committee finds the question presented to be within terms of reference of the Technical Committee.

The Constitution and Rules Committee has determined that the following interpretation of the Technical Committee is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

Response from the Technical Committee:

Regarding the use of International Limb Fitting (ILF) type limbs in the Longbow division, the Technical Committee believes that the ILF type limb is designed to be an adjustable limb, allowing for manipulation of the bows draw weight, tiller and in some cases lateral alignment. No traditional Longbow has an adjustable limb feature. Additionally, this type of take down design is not compatible with the traditional form of the long bow. Bow risers using ILF type limbs fall outside the design parameters of traditionally designed Longbows and therefore are not legal in this division. Under Book 4, article 9.3.1.4. "The

bow will correspond to the traditional form of a longbow..." This point was noted in the Technical Committee reply to the Norwegian Archery Federation on whether a long bow could be of a take-down design.

Note: The type of traditional takedown designs for Longbows have been to separate the bow at the grip, either by a bolt or tubular male/female fitting at the grip section, comprising a two piece takedown. A bow design that utilises an ILF type limb would expand a Longbow well outside its traditional form. Although currently written into the rules that take-down Longbows may be two or three piece, the intention of the Technical Committee was for a two piece take down in order to retain the spirit of the traditional design and rigidly fixed limbs. The reason for allowing a take-down long bow was for convenience of travel, but not to deviate from its traditional look. By design, a long bow limb is fixed rigidly and not of an independent adjustable nature, where the limb is allowed to float until braced.

- Regarding the "centre shot" definition, it is the elimination of material at the handle/riser section of a bow where the arrow would be placed in a shooting position and creates an "arrow shelf". True Center Shot allows the centre of the arrow to be launched through the centreline of the bow. A bow may be centre shot only in the area where the arrow is placed on the riser or extended vertically upward to create a "sight window". Centre shot means that the material removed at the bows centre is cut deep enough into the riser to allow the arrow to be launched from the bows centre rather than being offset to the vertical line of the riser and limbs. Centre shot of a bows riser is most often cut past the bows vertical centre in order for the arrows centre to be placed within the vertical centre or centreline of the bow.

FITA Technical Committee, 19 November 2010

Approved by the FITA C&R Committee, 19 November 2010

The Team Event (taken from World Archery News October 2010)

The team event is an area where some coaches do not seem to know exactly what is going on, and sometimes cause their team to lose a match or a medal, as has happened in the past. We are of course talking about when a yellow card is given and the team loses time, or worse case, getting a red card and the team losing the value of the highest scoring arrow.

The current rules show the coaches are placed behind the teams, while the judge is somewhere between the competing teams (and thereby in front of the coaches). It should therefore be easy for the coach to realise that a yellow card is given, as well as notice that the judge will call the name of the offending team.

The yellow card is given on two occasions:

A – The archer who is going forward to shoot passes the one-metre line too soon. This could be either before the shooting signal is given, i.e. the timer has started, or before the previous archer has come back behind the one-metre line.

B - The archer removes the arrow from the quiver before being on the shooting line. The judge will look to see if the point of the arrow becomes visible and the body position when this happens.

When either of the above happens the primary task for the coach is to call the archer back behind the one-metre line before he/she moves forward again (the arrow must be back in the quiver at this time). Or, the coach can select one of the other team members, who still have an arrow to shoot, to go forward to shoot instead. The coach does not need to know why the card is given (A or B above) as long as they instruct the offending archer to act according to the rules.

It is often noticed that teams get time problems when several yellow cards are given in a row because the archer is not putting the arrow back in the quiver before they move forward again to the shooting line. The coach must notice this and advise the archer accordingly. On rare occasions the archer shoots in spite of receiving a yellow card, but in that case the judge will show a red card and team will lose the highest scoring arrow of that end.

The judges sometimes get asked the question "if an archer who is given a yellow card or deciding not to shoot their arrow need to put the arrow back in the quiver before they leave the shooting line." The archer does not; only archers moving forward to the shooting line must have the arrows in the quiver.

Furthermore, a team may receive any numbers of yellow cards during a match without further action, but the team will of course lose a lot of time having archers moving back and forth.

A late shot in the team event causes the same penalty as in the individual event; the team will lose the highest scoring arrow of the end and a red card will be shown to indicate to everybody that such an action will be taken.

Coaching on the line (taken from World Archery News November 2010)

The current FITA rules allow the archers on the shooting line to be coached verbally by the coach from behind the waiting line. This was not allowed some few years back in our history. This has been a part of our development, as we are no longer a "silent sport."

There is an ongoing discussion whether this is a wise way of coaching or not, but that is not the topic of this article, the point is that it is currently allowed.

This verbal coaching whilst shooting is taking place, however, needs to be clarified. This coaching, or coaching information, is not meant to be a discussion or a conversation between the archer and the coach, as that could be quite disturbing to other archers on the shooting line. The "communication/sound" must come from behind the waiting line where the coach has to be standing. Sometimes the coaching may also be too loud and the judge may ask the coach to lower their voice to a more normal noise level where it would be acceptable within the general noise level of the event.

A question has been asked "whether the coaches have the right to be in front of the waiting line during the practice arrows." This has been accepted, over the years, without protests that coaches have been closer to the archers during this period, but the judges may be contacted and may interfere if the behaviour is obviously to the disturbance of other archers.

Actually this way of coaching started with the team event, where the coach was seen as a part of the team (although they never got any medal). During the team event the coach may coach, and even touch, their archers if they are able to do this from their position within the coach's box. The coach may even use a telescope; though this is not advisable as they should be fully aware of their own team's actions should they be shown a yellow or red card.

Drawing the Bow (taken from World Archery News December 2010)

Quite often judges have to tell archers not to draw their bow in the archers' resting area, and sometimes these archers make adverse comments or gestures. This is a behaviour that archers should be told not to do from the very beginning of their archery career, and thereby, they would avoid being annoyed close before the beginning of a tournament.

The rules clearly states that a bow, with or without an arrow, should only be drawn on the shooting line. This means that if an archer wants to "warm up" by drawing his bow, or wants to "check his bow" by drawing, he should go to the shooting line. The reason is obvious; if a string or bow breaks in the rest area, it may cause harm to other people around, and furthermore people do not like being "aimed at" with a bow, whether it is loaded or not (it may be quite frightening). It could be even worse if an archer in distraction puts an arrow on the bow in this area. Therefore, it is "good behaviour" to follow the rules in this respect, and the coach has an important role to play to ensure this. Let us add that even "shooting" with a rubber band in this area is not advisable, it is in fact possible to hit other people upon "release". Even using a rubber band may be preferably when standing on the shooting line, or at least in a safe position away from other people who may be moving around in the rest area.

FITA Judges Newsletter Issue 76

I draw your attention to the December 2010 issue of the FITA Judge Newsletter. As always there is some very interesting reading. You find it on the FITA Website (www.archery.org) under Publications > Newsletters.

Please be aware of the following message by the Chairman of the FITA Judge Committee to all judges:

Unfortunately we have noticed that there is a confusing mistake in our latest Judge Newsletter, concerning point 2 – Council decisions affecting shooting rules – the last paragraph; "When teams are in alternate shooting etc."

The new decision on how teams should alternate, is only for shoot-offs!

Therefore the example should read as follows:

In a Mixed Team round, Athlete 1 from Country A will shoot one arrow, then Athlete 1 from Country B will shoot one arrow, the Athlete 2 from Country A will shoot one arrow and then Athlete 2 from Country B will shoot one arrow.

In a Team Round (3 athletes) the alternation will be similar, you just add Athlete 3 from each Country.

You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 67

Edited by Karen O'Malley

Firstly I wish to acknowledge an error on my part in the last newsletter, which made it appear that there had been no responses from the AACT judges, who regularly get together as a group and complete case studies. The ongoing paperwork has been corrected and I apologise to those concerned.

Thank you to everybody who replied to Issue 67. Your responses showed effort and most were appropriately referenced to a Rule or Guide book.

However, possibly because of the holiday break ... we are not even reaching a 50% reply rate here, despite a kindly reminder email!

The table below shows the number of Judges in each RGB and the replies received for Newsletter 67:

RGB	Judges	Replies	RGB	Judges	Replies
AACT	7	7 (group effort)	ASA	15	8 (group effort) + 1
ASNSW	20	8	AV	16	4
AST	11	2	SQAS	11	2
ASWA	10	2	NQAA	4	1
<i>Oceania</i>	7	0	Total	94	35

Let's revisit the case studies and have a look at the variety of responses.

67/1: At a high level Field event, the competitors are finished for the day and coming back to the muster area. You as a judge wait at the furthest distance out, to call in on your radio that your allocated targets are clear. A straggling group comes past and tells

you that they started on Target 14 and have somehow missed 2 targets. They have only recorded scores for 22 targets on the scoresheet.

They tell you they have photographed each target that they shot and want to cross-reference with your field layout so they can work out which targets they have missed, so they can correctly complete their scoresheets, and shoot the missing targets. From what you hear on the radio, the rest of the field is clear.

What do you do as a judge in this case?

This case helps to remind us that when we Judges check a field course, it is important to remember that there may be total novice shooters trying to navigate the course. Try to view the course signposting as if you had never been there.

Do not allow yourself to be led around by the OC personnel. Judges should work as a group with allocated duties/items to observe. *If something is not as it should be, then the event does not go ahead until it is fixed.* This is a big part of what we do as judges. Preparation prevents problems.

There are at least 2 things to consider in this case study. Firstly, how could this have happened, and then, what would we do to solve the situation?

Several respondents questioned how, if the Field was sufficiently well signposted (9.1.1.12), that the group could miss not one, but two whole targets. However, they did, and the issue is how to deal with this under the Rules.

Fortunately, the majority of respondents agreed that the first thing to do was to notify the CoJ of the problem. This is good and reminds us not to make potentially controversial decisions alone.

This group of 4 archers between them had little experience, despite being at a high level event, as can be the case in our sport. It was a marked field and they were taking photos as mementos, not to gain any advantage. (By the way, cameras do not come into the category prohibited in 9.3.11.4.) As it happened, the targets they identified as having missed were on the way back to the muster area – earlier in the course – and they would not be doubling back to shoot them. However, the scores could not count, as field targets must be shot in sequential order (9.5.1.6).

The archers were informed of their right to Appeal the decision, but were actually so embarrassed at their mistake that this did not proceed. They chose to record 2 targets of MMM. However, the country's coach was also informed of what had happened by the judge, so that he would ensure his archers were more alert for future events.

These archers were the last competitors escorted from the field; the CoJ and OC were informed that the scoresheets were incomplete and probably recorded incorrectly (9.6.1.2 and 9.10.1.2) and all that had happened was recorded in the Judge's notebook, in case the archers appealed.

67/2: There is a power failure when the archers are shooting an end at 70m (Qualification Round). The lights disappear and the countdown clocks stop working. At the end of the 4 minutes the DOS stops the shooting by giving two beeps (as two archers are still on the line, aiming with their last arrow). The archers claim to get another 40 seconds to shoot their last arrow. *What is your decision?*

Although Rule 7.2.4.1 states that acoustic control takes precedence in the event of a discrepancy, in this case there was a breakdown in the timing equipment and archers should not be penalised for this.

The archers are correct in their claim to have another 40 seconds to shoot their last arrow as per AA Judges Manual (7.5.7) 'The archer has the right to have the correct time warning signal 30 seconds before the end of the time period. If less than 30 seconds is given the archers will be allowed 40 seconds per arrow to shoot the remaining arrow(s), even if the total timing has been correct.' This is also covered in the FITA Judges' Guide Book (4.16.1) and its reference to FITA's official interpretation (Dec 2001).

It is out of the control of the archers that the equipment has failed; accordingly, the archers should be given extra time to complete their end.

67/3: At the end of the competition, the organising committee collects all the score cards and enters the scores into the computer. Where the double scored cards for a target do not agree, the committee enters the lower score. After the results have been announced and the archers have received their copy of the score cards, several archers find adding errors that have penalised them places and come to you as chief judge for advice. *What will your advice to them be?*

Fortunately, the Judges who responded are in 100% agreement on this one. Most would have given the advice that the scorers and archers should check that scores are accurately recorded during competition and double check before signing and submitting their scorecards at the end of the day.

Also, as a preventative measure, the DOS should give all the competitors a friendly reminder before the last end to double check their scorecards before signing them.

While FITA Rule 7.10.2.1' allows questions to be lodged with the judges in time to allow corrections to be made...', by signing the scorecard and handing it in, the archers show they have accepted and agreed with the arrow values and the additions (7.6.4). The organising committee is acting according to FITA Rule 7.6.4.1 and, although the archers have the right of Appeal, the Rules are clear about this.

You be the Judge (Case studies)

Please have your replies with RGB administrators by the end of March, who in turn are asked to collate and forward replies by mid April. Alternatively, judges can e-mail their answers directly to Karen on dragonladyofthelake@gmail.com (but inform your RGB administrator, you have done so).

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

68/1: A group of 4 archers are shooting an unmarked field. Archers A and B approach a set of 20cm targets. Archer B shoots his first 2 arrows into the 4th row, before Archer A tells him he has shot the wrong row. The archers call you as the judge close to that target, as they are unsure how to proceed because it is an unmarked field.
What do you do?

68/2: An archer calls you because he is annoyed by the competitor next to him on the shooting line. The other competitor is making huge movements with his stabilizers after he releases, though he is not actually touching the archer who has complained.
What would you do?

68/3: In a field event, Archer A shoots row 1 of a set of bugs eyes, but is standing at the RHS of the peg, there is no Archer B. Archers C and D believe that Archer A has done the wrong thing. You are called to help the archers score their arrows correctly.
How should this archer's arrows be scored?