



## Dear Judges,

Even the Easter Bunny had a go!

I hope you enjoyed the Easter Break and tucked into some yummy chocolates....

Warm regards to you all

Susanne E Womersley  
Chair - AA Officials Committee

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## **Australian Masters Games**

We have been requested by the organising committee to ask whether there are any judges coming to South Australia during October for the Masters Games who may wish to judge at the event.

Please be aware that judges will be responsible for their own travel costs, accommodation and meals except lunches. The dates will be 9, 10, 11, and 13 October 2011.

If you are interested, please contact the ASA Officials Administrator, Ms Carol Ashlee (c\_ash@optusnet.com.au).

## **Officials Committee Forms**

All forms related to judges and judging have been updated and are attached to this newsletter. They are all marked "July 2010". Please save them on your own computers, use as required and ensure that previous versions are destroyed.

Attached also is a document circulated by the CEO that gives an overview of who shoots what distance.

## **Australia Day Shoot, Canberra (sent by David Waller)**



### **The judges and DoS on a well earned lunch break.**

Seated left to right are: Mick Greenland, Ken Winkler (both Queanbeyan AC) Steve Caldicott, Kevin Watts, (both TAC) John Dowden, and standing Mick Turner, David Waller, Tom Caldicott, (all TAC) Stuart Atkins, and Jim Larven.

## **Vale Vince Nimmo**

It is with regret that I inform you of the passing of Vince Nimmo on 6 April after a short illness. Vince was a Judge in NSW for a few years before he moved to Victoria to be closer to his family. Nationally, Vince officiated last at the 2008 Open National Championships in Morwell. A card has been sent to Vince's family on behalf of all judges.

## **New By-laws - FITA Rules (taken from FITA Judge Newsletter March 2011)**

April 1st is a very important date for archery this year, and it is much more important for the compound archers. FITA Council passed a number of bylaws in its November 2010 meeting, including a radical change in the competition format for the compound division, which will become effective on the first day of April.

As we have explained several times, rule changing in FITA is much more dynamic now than it was several years ago. This calls for our judges to regularly check on possible rule changes in the FITA website.

Here is a list of the articles which have been recently modified and/or added. Look for the changes in the website and make sure you do not enforce old rules in the relation to the situations described in these articles:

Article 4.5.1.4 Team selection

Article 4.5.1.5 – 4.5.1.6 Compound Round

Article 5.3.11 Compound Round

Article 7.2.1 Compound Round

Article 7.2.1.4 Compound Round

Article 7.5.1.6 Shooting Positions

Article 7.2.2 Compound Round

Article 7.2.2.4 Compound Round

Article 7.5.2.4 Compound Round

Article 7.6.2.2.1 Compound Round Scoring

Article 7.6.5.2.3 Scoring

Article 7.8.2.8 Compound Round Scoring

Appendix 1 Compound Round Target Face

Article 8.5.1.8 Shooting Position

Article 8.6.5.2.2 Scoring

Article 9.6.3.2.1 Scoring

The new compound round and the bylaws about the number of sets in individual recurve matches, as well the new procedures to solve ties will make it easier for judges, archers, coaches and organizers to understand and remember the rules. Consistency in solving individual and team ties is something good about the new bylaws. It is also good for organizers to see that all matches will be shot with a maximum of 15 arrows, for both recurve and compound.

*Editor's Note: Most of these changes refer to the new round for Compounds, which is not often shot in Australia. But it is important that all judges are familiar with the current rules!*

## **FITA Rule Interpretation (taken from World Archery News January 2011)**

Book 2, Chapter 7, Articles 7.3.1.10, 7.3.3.10

Book 3, Chapter 8, Articles 8.3.1.10, 8.3.2.10

Book 4, Chapter 9, Articles 9.3.10.1

*Archery Australia Inc. has requested an interpretation on whether the pictured wrist support is permitted. The support is being used as the result of an injury to the wrist. The support is a temporary measure whilst the injury persists. The supports are made from thermoplastic and Velcro (no metal is used) and that the consistency of the thermoplastic is fairly stiff about same as an armguard.*



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:**

It is the majority opinion of the Technical Committee that the wrist support as shown in the photos is of a rigid nature and is

therefore **not legal** in any division of FITA regarding official competition.

An earlier interpretation dated 28 August 2005 on Book 2, art. 7.3.1, concerning the taping of human joints, i.e. fingers, elbows, wrists, etc. clearly stipulates that a firm, "stiff" brace that would in any way aid in supporting the bow arm is not legal.

We fully uphold the above-mentioned original interpretation between the C&R Committee, MSSC and Technical Committee.

*Clarification on the interpretation on wrist supports: This interpretation is only valid for archers that are not classified for Para- Archery. Para-archers that are classified are allowed under Book1, Appendix8, art. 6.9 to have a wrist support.*

FITA Technical Committee, 7 January 2011

Approved by the FITA C&R Committee, 10 January 2011

**The 3m – line (Taken from World Archery News February 2011)**

On rare occasions an archer drops an arrow (due to a nock breakage or some other reason), or shoots an arrow into the 3metre area in front of the shooting line when in the process of letting down, etc.

Judges sometimes observe archers in this situation looking bewildered, not knowing what to do and turn to their coach, or a judge, for advice—and the time is ticking by.

Let us take a closer look into this question. As archers and coaches know, an arrow within this area is considered as not having been shot (with exceptions of rebound arrows).

Let us clarify this situation: if the rear part of the arrow is within the 3-metre area the arrow is deemed not to be shot. In other words the arrow does not need to lie on the ground, see the picture to the right.

This arrow would be deemed to be inside the 3-metre area.

**If the above situation occurs during the Qualification Round (or a single round event)**

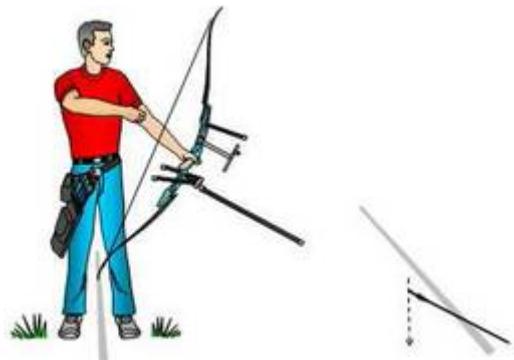
The archer has two options:

a) If the archer feels confident that no other equipment failure has occurred, and is sure a part of the arrow shaft is within the 3-metre area, the smoothest action is just to shoot another arrow, however they must not step forward in front of the shooting line to pick up any arrow.

b) But if the archer knows they will have a time problem, or do not have another arrow at hand to shoot, or is unsure if the arrow is within the area or not, they may take a step back and call a judge, explaining the situation. The judge will then handle the incident as an equipment failure, and at the expiry of that end, the other archers will be held back and the situation will be handled. The archer will have their 40 seconds per arrow to shoot any unshot arrows of that end before all archers are permitted to go forward to the targets for general scoring.

**During match play**

As archers and coaches know, during a match the time will not be stopped for equipment failures or similar situations.



If an arrow falls inside the 3-metre area (for whatever reason), the archer could just have to shoot another arrow within the time allowed, which means that the archer should always have an extra arrow in their quiver.

The archer must decide if the arrow is inside or outside the 3-metre area, if there is doubt they should shoot another arrow. If the arrow is inside the 3-metre area, then they would have shot the required number of arrows. If the arrow is outside the 3-metre area it is classed as a miss and the archer will then score the lower six of the seven arrows shot (normally not a big difference between the scores of the arrows in the target).

Coaches should ensure that all their archers know what to do and how to react quickly, if an arrow falls or is shot into the 3-metre area.

To avoid disputes, coaches should advise their archers that they must not remove any arrow from the 3-metre area before a judge has confirmed its location, particularly if it is a doubtful one.

## **You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 68**

**Edited by Karen O'Malley**

The table below shows the number of Judges in each RGB and the replies received for Newsletter 68:

RGB	Judges	Replies	RGB	Judges	Replies
AACT	7	7	ASA	15	10
ASNSW	20	13	AV	16	5
AST	11	2	SQAS	11	3
ASWA	10	3	NQAA	4	2
<i>Oceania</i>	7	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>45</b>

It is disappointing that we did not reach a 50% reply rate, despite a kindly reminder email!

*Remember, our re-accreditation is due next year and you currently need 12 credit points from responses to Case Studies as part of re-accreditation as a National Judge.*

Thank you to everybody who replied to Issue 68. Your responses showed effort and most were appropriately referenced to a Rule or Guide book. Be careful that you refer to the right chapter and number. (Don't support a 'Field' case study with reference to 'Target' or 'Clout' rule numbers, for example.) Overall, don't just quote Rules. Please say what you would do to deal with the situation, not just what the score would be.

Also remember, we are dealing with people, often under stress caused by competition.

Don't jump to conclusions.

Do observe before you act.

Do make a judgement.

Do apply the Rules appropriately.

Do use your Judge's notebook if there is anything out of the ordinary; don't rely on your memory.

And thank you to all those of you who recognised the difference between *Columns* and *Rows*! I stand corrected.

Before we revisit the Issue 68 Case Studies, I would like to give you more information about Case Study **67/1** (the story of the Field archers who had lost 2 targets ... remember?)

We received some input from the Chairman of the FITA Judges Committee, Morten Wilmann, who receives copies of our *Judges News*. He says we must "always remember that our main task as Judges is to safeguard the score of the archers, within the frame of fairness, unless the rules specifically say differently".

So what needs to be more and more at the forefront of our decisions is the "unfair advantage" consideration. Would the group of archers have any unfair advantage over the rest of the competitors, if they are allowed to shoot and score the two targets that they missed (assuming it can be worked out beyond any doubt, which ones they did not shoot, of course)?

The rule quoted (9.5.1.6) states that archers "will complete the round at the target before the one at which they started." This means, for example, start on T24 and finish on T23.

"The reference is of course correct, but this rule is obviously an organisational rule (to avoid a total mess and delays in a field event). It is not meant to deal with exceptional cases and it does not say that otherwise the archers lose their scores."

So if, by mistake as a group of archers move around, they leave T6 and arrive for some unknown reason at T8 and shoot it, then having realised their error, they *are* able to safely return to T7, and shoot it. Consider the implication that, since T8 was not shot in sequential order (ie, after T7) then should the scores for T8 also be disallowed?

As Judges, we need to ditch the "bad luck" attitude. We do what we can to help, within limits. Additionally, while there does not appear a penalty in the rules to allow a Judge to make the lost targets score as M's, they would **HAVE** to be recorded as misses if we don't allow them to shoot, since there is no other way of handling it.

I would argue that a Judge should allow the archers to shoot the targets IF those targets could be easily and relatively quickly identified. I don't think we are disadvantaging the other competitors by helping this group to shoot all 24 targets. They should be allowed to rectify an honest mistake and this is exactly how I handled the situation described, which occurred at an international tournament.

In reality, at the event, using the archers' camera and my plan of target faces, we looked at what they hadn't photographed (and therefore hadn't shot?) to work out which targets they had probably missed. They were targets off a walkway,

numbered and signposted appropriately, had the archers only been paying more attention.

After talking to the CoJ on the radio and walking the archers back towards the muster area, we went to T4 and T5 (I think) so they could shoot them, to complete the round. The group had already admitted they had made 2 mistakes, but wanted to know 'what they might have shot'.

Despite the diminishing light, we walked back to those targets they had identified as having been 'not shot'. When we got there, in spite of all my best efforts, the archers said, 'oh yeah, we *have* shot these. It must have been some others we missed. Never mind, m'am, thanks for taking all this trouble'. There was no issue about whether or not the scores would count. The archers in this case had chosen not to seek the scores in any event, but it made for an interesting case study.

*(Thanks to all those who had input into the above.)*

### **Now for our most recent Case studies responses.**

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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?*

The relevant rules quoted are:

*9.5.1.5 which explains the order of shooting in a field course at 20cm faces.*

*9.6.2.7.4 which explains how to score if the wrong face is shot.*

*9.4.3 which talks about not approaching a target until all archers have finished shooting.*

*9.4.4 which reminds us under no circumstances may an arrow be re-shot.*

*9.4.5 which says no athlete may relate the target distances to anybody on unmarked courses during the tournament.*

Archer B has clearly shot the wrong column of faces and should have shot into column 3. The first two arrows shot are to be scored as misses. The Judge should tell Archer B to shoot his remaining arrow into the correct column (ie column 3), then the Judge should go forward to the target and remove the two arrows from column 4 and mark those arrow holes and place these arrows on the ground behind the target.

As it is an unmarked course, it is important that the judge approach the target in an oblique way, so as not to advantage the remaining archers (more relevant, had this been in an unmarked field on multiple face set up at *longer* distances).

The judge should stay with the group whilst they shoot their remaining arrows and then participate in the scoring to ensure that the first two arrows for Archer B are scored correctly as M's.

**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?*

The relevant rules are:

*7.1.1.7 allowing 80cm shooting space on the line.*

*7.3.1.6 allowing stabilisers, but they may not (7.3.1.6.1) represent any danger or obstruction to other athletes on the shooting line.*

*2.2.1 requiring athletes to respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence, and behave accordingly on the sports field.*

*7.8.1.4 and 7.8.1.8 outline the consequences for an archer knowingly breaking the Rules.*

*7.9.1.7 and 7.9.1.10 both of which state the responsibility of Judge to intervene in a dispute, or deal with a complaint.*

The first thing is to acknowledge the archer's complaint, then decide if it is an ambit claim or a genuine grievance. It is important HOW you deal with these things, because if a Judge cannot resolve an initial complaint, then it may become an official Protest which would need to go to a Jury of Appeal (7.9.1.7).

As this is not an immediate safety issue, it is important that we ensure it is not a vexatious complaint to disturb an opponent psychologically. Equally, it is important to prevent escalation, as the 'perpetrator' may be innocent and unaware of the effect of his shooting style on his opponent.

A Judge should observe the shooting over several ends to see if the archer is encroaching upon the shooting space of the complaining archer at release and follow through. It would be worthwhile to have the CoJ or another Judge also observe the shooting to decide if the behaviour is timed to distract or designed to intimidate.

If the Judges are in agreement, then on the way to the targets for scoring, the Judge should privately explain the issue to the offending archer (or the Team manager, as appropriate) and give a warning that this action could be construed as menacing or interfering with the performance of another archer and that the shooting style must stop.

The warning should be recorded in the Judge's notebook and the archer concerned should be told that repeated infringements could result in disqualification. The COJ should be informed of the Judge's action, and the complaining archer should also be informed that you have acted on the complaint. Finally, keep an eye out that the behaviour does not continue after the warning has been given.

**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?*

The relevant rules are:

*9.4.1.1 which relates to the standing position 1m behind or to the side of the peg.*

*9.5.1.3 which relates to a single archer shooting from the LHS position throughout a field round.*

*9.5.1.5 which relates to which face should be shot in multiple face set ups.*

*9.8.2 outlines when an archer may lose the score of an arrow.*

*9.8.1.8 and 9.8.3 refer to disqualification for knowingly and repeatedly breaking the Rules.*

Be careful here! The archer has shot the correct column, but has addressed the target from the wrong shooting position.

The arrows should be scored as shot. Archers B and C should be informed that Archer A is within the rules, but archer A should be told that the correct position is on the LHS of the shooting peg and that this must be the shooting position for the rest of the round.

Was there an advantage? Possibly, depending on the terrain. However, there is no penalty outlined in the Rules and we must be careful not to implement Rules of our imagination.

It needs to be explained to the archer that there are consequences if he repeats this violation and note on the scoresheet that a warning had been given, as well as in the Judge's notebook, including Target number. It is also worthwhile to walk with the group for a target or two to make sure they have understood what you mean.

Single archers always shoot on the LHS, so on a 40cm face, this means LHS top or bottom, depending on the shooting order, and columns 1 or 2 on a 20cm face.

## **You be the Judge (Case studies)**

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 Karen on [dragonladyofthelake@gmail.com](mailto:dragonladyofthelake@gmail.com) (but inform your RGB administrator, you have done so).

**Remember to give reasons and quote appropriate rules for all your answers. Also, you don't necessarily have to answer all three case studies, if you don't feel confident for one or two – just send in what you want, but have a go! It's 1 point for every question you send, unless your response is clearly wrong to an obvious answer.**

**69.1** *During an indoor tournament, shooting on triple faces, one archer writes the scores, another one removes the arrows. The one removing the arrows removes the arrows before the other archer's arrows are scored. What to do? The arrow holes were not marked at all. No one knows exactly what the score would be and they call a judge. What would you do?*

**69.2** *At a State Target Championships there are three archers per target. On Target 1 there is archer A on the left, archer B in the middle and archer C on the right. After lunch the three archers approach the judge assigned to their target and tell him that archer A and archer B want to swap positions on the shooting line, because archer B has a rather large telescope that was in the way in the morning and there is more room at the end of the line.*

*The judge does not allow this, saying they should have sorted out this issue before the start of the competition. Do you agree?*

**69.3** *At a FITA Field tournament you come across a competitor wearing a wrist support made from rather stiff plastic and Velcro. She claims she will need to wear this support for another three weeks because of an injury. What is your response?*