

FITA JUDGE COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER 67 – SEPTEMBER 2007

Editorial from the Chairman

Dear Judges,

Hereby I address you in the capacity of your Chairman, a new role for me after having been appointed by the FITA President, Dr. Ugur Erdener, based on my re-election at the Congress in Leipzig.

Lately I have had the privilege of discussing some important judge issue with him, and I am pleased to feel that our President is very supportive to the development of judging – an area both of us believe is of the greatest importance.



I am very happy also to have with me Sergio Font in the Committee, ensuring that the work will continue along the lines previously laid down. And, of course, I also wish Dion Buhagiar Welcome to our "team"! Dion may be not so known to most of you, but he is introduced in this Newsletter. I am sure that he will contribute well to our work, as I am sure also the other good candidates for the Committee would have done.

As you may know, Congress accepted unanimously the by-law changes that have been made since the Madrid Congress in 2005, among them the decision of having a maximum age of 65 for FITA-level judges. This is a great challenge for us, as approximately 25 judges, among them many of our most experienced ones, will retire within a couple of years.

We therefore have to intensify our efforts vis-à-vis our member associations in order to establish a useful judge structure and to bring forward possible good candidates for future judging, candidates at a reasonable age for long time service to FITA. All of you can contribute in this respect within your own association, in the same way as we expect you to be judging and otherwise contribute "at home".

We, the new committee, will have our first official meeting in Rome in late October, shortly before the important Judge Conference. Among other things we will make a suggestion for the Judge Commission for the Olympics 2008, and we will appoint Judges for the various 2008 events; Paralympics (CHN), World Field Championships (Great Britain), World Jr. Championships (IND), World University Championships (TPE), and World Cups (DOM/CRO/TUR/FRA).

In other words, there are a lot of opportunities to serve at FITA level in addition to the possibilities that exist at the continental level. We will try to cooperate better with the continental associations to avoid the appointment of some judges for too many events, while others may not be appointed at all.

Other items on the agenda will be upgrading of Judge Candidates to full international status, special training for young judge "students" to meet possible requirements for the Youth Olympics which is on its way, cooperation within FITA

on coaching seminars implementing some rule issues – to mention some important ones. We will update the Judge Conference on recent issues from our meeting.

Finally, the most important resources for international archery judging are you. You are members of a family that is proud of being FITA Judges, so be conscious in doing your utmost to fulfil your duties and keep the family standard at the very best.

Regards,
Morten

Thanks and Good Bye, Gian Piero!

Gian Piero Spada is no longer our Chairman. Due to a very busy professional life at the University where he works, he decided to resign from International Judging and not to run for re-election in Leipzig.

Gian Piero became a member of our Committee in 1999, and he was immediately made our Chairman by the FITA President. At the time of his election he had been the Chairman of EMAU's Judges Committee for a while, so he was experienced enough to run our Committee successfully.

For the other two members of the FJC in the last 8 years, it was a real pleasure to work with Gian Piero. He was very efficient in planning committee work and in keeping good interface between us and FITA Council. G.P. was very wise and precise in handling political issues connected with our Committee.

As a Judge, Gian Piero excelled for his abilities and performance on the field. He was the Chairman of Judges at the World Championships held in Riom in 1999, and was the Deputy Chairman at the Olympic Games in Athens 2004.

We will certainly miss Gian Piero in our Committee and on the archery fields around the world. We wish him lots of success in his professional career and personal life.

Thanks, Gian Piero.

Self Introduction by Dion Buhagiar



When I sat the FITA Judge's exam in Belgium, little did I know that someday I would be addressing my fellow Judges through our newsletter. Over the last thirteen years I have been fortunate to have actively participated in our sport as a compound archer and as a Judge. Since being accepted as an International Judge I have had the pleasure of working with many of you, yet there are many others that I have still to meet for the first time.

I have over recent years been fortunate to have become part of a family of Judges who seek professionalism, who are proud of what they do, and who are extremely dedicated to the sport of archery.

It is important that we as Judges realize that inconsistency in our methods undermines the archer's confidence in us all. We must work together to standardize

and formulate a common approach to Chairing and Judging major/national/local events, and I believe we can achieve this through continual education at both the International and Continental level.

Having recently been elected to the Judge's committee, I now look forward to working with two very experienced Judges namely Morten Wilmann and Sergio Font, I am sure that during my time as a committee member I will certainly benefit greatly from their collective knowledge.

The sport of Archery will inevitably undergo self analysis and have to embrace change if it is to remain one of the major Olympic sports. FITA, during the Leipzig congress, launched its Archery World Plan 2007-2012. I believe that the Judge's committee has a very interesting period ahead of it, and all Judges will be instrumental in the implementation and eventual success of this ambitious endeavor.

I have been warned that this is a very busy committee; I look forward to the challenge, I also look forward to being of service; to you all, to FITA, and especially to all archers. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those associations that have shown confidence in me, and I trust that we will all work together to further raise the already high standard of Judging.



***The Judges at the World Junior Championships
Merida, Mexico, October 2006***

Using the red card in the individual competition

By Sergio Font

Back in 1992, when FITA started using match play for the team event, archery judges first came into contact with rules that would require them to raise yellow and red flags. These flags were soon replaced by yellow and red cards that would only be necessary for the team event. Our judges would not even bother to carry these cards onto the field on the days of individual qualification, elimination and finals.

It was only a few years ago that we realized there was no signal to indicate that an individual archer had shot an arrow before or after the time allocated to an end of three or six arrows, and we decided that we would use the red card to indicate such a violation.

This means that we should keep our red card at hand, and we should raise it immediately after the archer has shot his/her arrow out of time. As we all know, this violation is penalized by the loss of the highest score for that end.

In two very important international events held quite recently, we had the case of archers who, after hearing the beep indicating that their time was over, decided not to shoot their third/sixth arrow. This means those archers had only two/five arrows on their targets, which is NOT a violation to the rules.

The judges, however, raised their red cards, causing confusion to these archers, their coaches, and everyone else watching the incident. To make things worse, in one of these two cases, the judge indicated that the archer would lose the highest scoring arrow on the target anyway.



The rules are clear. You raise the red card and the archer loses the highest score only when the arrow HAS BEEN SHOT out of time. When the arrow is not shot, no penalty may be applied.

Marking Arrow Holes

By Sergio Font

Once again we would like to dedicate a few lines to discussing a very simple issue, which is often neglected by archers and judges during a competition, and which may cause problems in the competition if it is not properly addressed.

I am sure everyone is aware of the importance of marking arrow holes. The judges will need to resort to the unmarked holes when deciding the value of an arrow that passed through or bounced from the target. Some archers, who are completely responsible for this procedure, take this issue very carelessly. This is what happens in some cases:

- The archers decide not to mark the holes.
- The archers mark the holes drawing lines that are too long.
- The archers draw lines that do not touch the actual hole, and they mark an area of the target where there is no hole.



If the three (or four) archers decide not to mark the holes, all you can do is advise them and their team captains that they should do it to protect their own scores. If they still decide not to mark them, do NOT mark them yourself. That is not your job. Those archers are taking whole responsibility for the possible consequences.

If the problem is that the archers do not know how the lines should be drawn, take a few seconds to teach them. I know from experience that they appreciate that from the judges.



What is advisable is that two perpendicular lines should be drawn. These lines should be approximately 4 mm long and should touch the hole left by the arrow. The reason why we need two lines is because a new arrow may come and hit the area marked by one of the short lines. When this happens, the second line still remains on the face marking the hole.

A problem of a different sort, but still related to the way holes are marked, occurs when compound archers mark their arrow holes (mainly at 50 and 30 meters) with very thick dark markers. The marks left on the target very quickly turn into a dark spot in the middle of the target, which eventually helps the archers aim.

The judges should replace target faces in which the holes have been marked with these thick markers, and should warn the archers not to do so anymore. These dark spots give unfair advantage to these archers over the other competitors on the field. A good solution to this problem may be advising the team captains at their meeting that these marks would not be allowed.

From the Chair of a Judges' Commission

By Sergio Font (Chairman of Judges – World Outdoor Championships, Leipzig, 2007)

Having been a FITA judge for 25 years, I have had the privilege to work at many FITA events with many good chairmen, including Kari Nohra, Knud Andresen, Klaus Schulz, Klaus Lindau, Gian Piero Spada, Rene Koot and Horst Helfrich. I have also been "on the other side" several times: I was the Chairman at the World Championships in Jakarta 1995, the World University Championships in Madrid 2004, the Olympic Games Athens 2004, the Universiade Izmir 2005, and several other international events.

Chairing the Judges Commission at the World Championships in Leipzig was a hard job that was made easier by the excellent judges I worked with, by the promptness and willingness of the Organizing Committee, and by the interface with the FITA Technical Delegate and Events' Manager. I should first of all thank them all for their cooperation and good job.

I would only like to highlight some issues which I have thought could be useful to future chairmen of judges commissions at FITA Championships and other major tournaments. Do not take this as THE check list to use, but just as some tips that may assist you to do your job a bit better.

- In your first meeting with your judges, discuss the “rules of the game” for the commission. Make sure all of your judges understand that you, as the chairman, are the one person to interface with the Organizing Committee and the Technical Delegates. This is very important, not only for the fluent work of the commission, but mainly to avoid communication problems with the organizers and the FITA officials. You may, of course, appoint a judge to deal with a certain matter in close connection with the O/C, provided that you have agreed on this with the latter. Another important topic to settle down is the protocol to use radio communication devices between the judges and with the DoS.
- Ask to have a meeting with the Technical Delegates, the FITA Event Manager, and if possible, with the FITA Secretary General, to discuss all matters related with the role, position and deportment of the judges on the finals field.
- Do not use more judges than necessary on each competition session. Tournaments are rather long now, and the judges, as human beings, do need a break to rest. My experience in Leipzig was that a single judge was able to take care of eight to ten targets in the Qualification and Elimination Rounds without undue delay of the competition.
- Discuss with the field crew manager the position of the field crew members who are on the field to replace butts and/or faces. It does not look good to have more field crew on the field than necessary. They do an important job on the field, but they should not obstruct the view of the spectators while scoring is taking place.
- In the Team Captains Meeting make good use of the time you are given to address the Team Captains. This is the moment for you to make sure all team captains are aware of new rules that will be applied in this competition. Ask the Team Captains if they any questions. They usually ask more questions than you can anticipate. Do not take anything for granted. They may ask questions about whether the archers will get practice arrows at 50 meters when a FITA Round is shot in one day, the shooting sequence at 90 meters when the competition is run in two details (AB-CD), how many arrows will be shot in each end in the quarter finals, etc. Every question they may ask is important, and they should all be answered. Questions, whose answers may already be known to most of the team captains, may still be crucial to this one team captain who asked it, and may prevent his archers from making a mistake and losing some points.
- Hold as many additional team captains meetings as necessary when something new comes up. Make a role call of all the participating countries before you start your meetings, to make sure the new information is transmitted to each and every team. These additional meetings may be held to address topics like: number of officials per team on the field, necessary changes to the competition schedule (starting half an hour earlier, perhaps), several archers marking holes with thick markers, among other matters.
- Have the DoS present at all of the commission’s meetings. The DoS and his assistant are very important people on the field. They provide our meetings with necessary input regarding the timing equipment, the competition tempo, etc. Foster good communication and cooperation between the judges and the DoS. In Leipzig, for instance, the shooting line was very long, and



there were lots of telescopes on the line. This made it sometimes difficult for the DoS to see whether there were archers still on the line at the far ends. The judges who were furthest away made a hand signal to the DoS indicating that the line was clear.

- Make judge appointments to targets zealously considering judge nationality, even during the qualification round.
- Go over most judging procedures in your morning meetings every day or in the afternoon meetings the day before. Once again you should not take it for granted that all of your judges have the same experience and expertise in their job. The Chairman is also an educator, both for the archers and his fellow judges. Revisiting judging procedures may help you ensure that all judges act the same way while facing the same situation on the field.
- Appoint the same judges for the same positions (Line Judge / Target Judge) for all the finals matches. Specialization does help a lot in guaranteeing high quality standards. Some judges have preferences for one position or the other. You may even choose to ask your judges if they have some special preference. I did so in Leipzig. One of the judges said he wanted to be a line judge, while another judge told me he would rather be behind the blinds. Combine preferences with the nationality factor, and make provisions for possible replacements.
- Keep good working relations with the announcer. He may assist you and the DoS in transmitting important information to the archers, team officials and the public. Pay close attention to all the announcements he makes and have him correct any wrong information he may have given, mainly when it is related to competition schedule and rule applications. The announcer is not expected to make such comments as: "What's that judge doing? Why hasn't he raised his yellow card?"
- Do not make your meetings with the judges too long. It is useless to dedicate time to asking how many arrow calls the judges made today.
- Be on or around the field as long as possible. Don't just wait for other people to tell you what has happened on the field or what your judges have done.
- Enjoy your job, and make it possible for your judges to enjoy theirs as well.



***The Judges at the Outdoor World Championships
Leipzig, Germany, July 2007***

Practice during the competition?

A question was raised at a recent judges seminar in relation to whether an archer who has had an equipment failure may go to the practice field and shoot some arrows after he has fixed the problem, and then come back to the competition field and get time to shoot his pending arrows. The answer to this question is NO. The practice field may be used before or after the competition at times designated by the organizing committee, as well as during the breaks between distances. No archer is allowed to go to the practice field during competition to test his equipment after it has been repaired, even if by doing so he does not cause a delay longer than 15 minutes to the competition.

New International Judge Candidates after seminar in Toronto

Three COPARCO Continental Judges passed their exams to become International Judge Candidates in the seminar held in Toronto, Canada, on August 8-10. The new International candidates are:

1. Mrs. Linda Cockrell (USA)
2. Mr. Michael Camacho (PUR)
3. Mr. Cesar Araujo (MEX)

The seminar, which was very well organized by the Canadian Federation of Archers, also served to train new continental judges for Coparco:

1. Mr. Roger Garrod (CAN)
2. Mr. Randall Jones (CAN)
3. Ms. Laura Lynne Churchill (CAN)
4. Mr. Leonard Schwade (USA)
5. Ms. Christiane Murphy (CAN)
6. Mr. Robert L. Pian (USA)
7. Ms. Celine Gravel (CAN)
8. Ms. Patti-Jo Middlebrough (CAN)
9. Mr. Jean-Marie Robert (CAN)

The seminar was conducted by FITA Judge Committee Member Sergio Font, who was accompanied in the examining board by FITA Target Archery Committee Member Gloria Rosa. They were both very impressed by the level of all the participants.



The examining board in Toronto: Gloria Rosa and Sergio Font

EMAU Continental Judges / FITA Candidate Judges seminar programme and schedule, 24 – 26 October, 2007

Wednesday, 24 October 2007 – start at 9:00 h

Opening of the seminar	lecturer: EMAU (Ney)	est. duration: 30'
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the lecturer• Presentation of the participants	

Being a judge at an archery event lecturer: FITA (Wilmann) est. duration: 60'
• Philosophy of judging

Break 15'

Basic reference documents lecturer: EMAU (Ney) est. duration: 30'

- FITA Constitution and Rules (Book 1 to 5)
- Need to have regulations
- Bylaws
- Interpretations
- FITA Judge Guide Book
- Organizer's manual

Championships and major events lecturer: EMAU (Ney) est. duration: 20'

- Organizing Committee
- Technical delegate
- Team officials
- Tournament judge commission
- Director of shooting
- Jury of Appeal, procedure for an appeal
- Draw
- Dress regulations
- Anti-doping

- Anti doping
- Venue inspection, outdoor/indoor lecturer: EMAU (Martens) est. duration: 70'
- Distances and tolerances
- Security and safety aspects
- Butts
 - stability
 - angle
 - arrow stops
 - faces, face set-up
- Licensed faces
- Colors
- Tolerances
- Special considerations cf. four and five zone
- Numbers and flags
 - at target
 - at shooting line
 - lines and lanes
 - shooting position markings

- Timing
 - count down clocks
 - traffic light type devices
 - sound signals
 - emergency devices
- Practice field(s)

Lunch break 30' - 60'

Inspection athletes' equipment lecturer: EMAU (Stanescu) est. duration: 60'
 • Basics and recurve division
 • Specifics of the compound division

Judges procedures lecturer: EMAU (Martens) est. duration: 40'
 • Equipment and dress code
 • Duties and position of the judges

- moving to the targets
- involvement at targets

Break 15'

Running the competition lecturer: FITA (Wilmann) est. duration: 60'
 • Practice

- duration
- infringements

 • Shooting, coaching

- arrows considered not be shot
- rebound and pass through procedures
- handling 3m line issues

 • Timing

Scoring lecturer: FITA (Wilmann) est. duration: 90'
 • Basic rules of scoring

- judging line cuts

 • Ties

- procedures for ranking purposes
- procedures to progress to further stages of the competition

 • Scoring indoor

Workshop on equipment and scoring lecturer EMAU/FITA

Dinner

Thursday 25 October, 2007 – start at 9:00h

Olympic round procedures lecturer: FITA (Font) est. duration: 180'
 • Eliminations and finals
 • Team rounds
 • Olympic rounds, individuals and teams

Archers with disabilities lecturer: FITA (Wilmann) est. duration: 30'
 • Lunch

Field archery rounds lecturer: EMAU est. duration: 90'
 • Basics

- types of faces
- unmarked rounds
- marked rounds

- Athletes' equipment
 - bare bow division
 - long bow division
 - spectacles and scopes
- Scoring
- Eliminations and final rounds
 - individuals
 - teams
- Venue inspection
 - checking of distances
 - safety aspects

Break

Case studies

lecturer: FITA

est. duration: 2h

Summing up

Friday, 26 October, 2007 – Exam 9:00 to 12:00

Sad news: Harold Kramer and Rene Lin

Two of FITA's long serving judges have recently passed away. Harold Kramer (USA) and Rene Lin (MON) are no longer with us. Our judges' family mourns their passing and thanks them for their many years on archery fields around the world. They will always be remembered.

Report from the seminar for Slovenian and Croatian National Judges Terme Čatež, Slovenia, 3-5 November 2006 By Irena Rosa

Program:

FITA Judge Guide Book

Case Studies

Lecturers:

FITA International Judges: Henk Wagemakers, Alojz Mauser, Miroslav Villi, Irena Rosa

Official language: Slovenian and Croatian, translation from/to English by Brane Štefančič



Participants:

National Judges from Slovenia: Rosa Irena, Trojnar Mladen, Šantelj Irena, Šuštar Dorjana, Šuštar Igor, Pozaršek Bojan, Merela Frane, Štefančič Brane, Justin Vlado, Vran Svetlana, Likar Istok, Upelj Vojko, Valjan Boris, Ilar Marjan, Miklavc Bernarda
 National Judges from Croatia: Mauser Alojz, Villi Miroslav, Praskalo Annelko, Šincek Vlado, Mihinjač Draško, Videc Zdenko, Kinemet Alan, Stolnik Dušanka, Žugec Daniel

Irena Rosa translated FITA Judge Guide Book into Slovenian language. The translation was published and distributed to all participants. It was also published on the web site of Slovenian AA: www.archery-si.org (Zveza/Publikacije/Predstavitev/FITA sodniški priročnik). Instead of some original pictures and advertising some pictures of Slovenian Judges and judging matters were added.

In the stage of the preparation of the seminar FITA was asked to help us with sending the member of FITA Judge Committee Mr. Morten Wilmann. He was ready to come and we appreciate very much his availability, but we were informed that there is no money to cover his expenses by FITA. Unfortunately these expenses were too high for our budget and we decided to run the seminar with FITA International Judges from Slovenia and Croatia. Later we invited Henk Wagemakers from Netherlands to help us as he agreed to cover him only the hotel costs. We thank him very much for his help.

The main goal of the seminar for presentation of FITA Judge Guide Book which is a very big help for all judges and we thank very much to the members of FITA Judge Committee for this work. The content of the book was split between the lecturers and everybody of us presented few parts of it.

The biggest contribution was done by Henk Wagemakers. He presented Ethics, Inspections and The Competition (Parts 1, 4 and 5). His interactive presentation (drawings, pictures, slides, questions, discussions, explanations, case studies...) was excellent and he was asked to be in future with us again on such seminars. At the end of the seminar he added few case studies and conducted the discussion. He cleared very well a lot of doubts about scoring arrows which made our national judges also very satisfied. We thank him very much for his availability and for his great contribution.



Misroslav Villi presented Tournament Organization and Finals (Parts 3 and 6). His presentation was also very good. The most important part was presentation of the Communications. Communication with signals is not in use on big international tournaments because of radios but it is still very important for the communication between judges and DoS on smaller tournaments. There are many judges who do not know to use signals.

Alojz Mauser presented Judging Aspects and the meaning and importance of Judge and Judging (from Parts 5 and 8). On slides from his computer he presented his new presentation of Judging arrow values which is really good. It would be nice if he could present it also on the seminar for FITA International Judges.



Irena Rosa presented Appointment and Roles, After the Competition and Director of Shooting duties and Jury of Appeal Procedures (Parts 2, 7 and 8). She was also the organizer of the seminar.

Summing up re the case studies in no. 66:

66.1 There was more or less total agreement among our judges in allowing the "bow slings" shown in the photos. Some judges remarked that they would look at it in practical use, to ensure that the slings did not have any other function than exactly that: being a bow sling, and not in any way strap the bow to the bowhand. A couple of judges mentioned that by placing the "bow slings" on to the stabilizer instead of the bow, they were not really "bow slings" any more, but they correctly added that the function is precisely the same and therefore allowed according to our rules.

66.2 The majority of the judges correctly mentioned that our rules more than once state or indicate that there shall be an audible signal to control timing, and that visual signals are therefore only additional aids in this respect. Attention was then drawn to the need for judges to check the venue equipment thoroughly.

However, that has not always been the procedure when it comes to alternate shooting, and especially in the team event, where it would be strange perhaps to have a stop shooting signal while one team still has arrows to shoot. And in the alternating individual shooting you may say that the one beep signal is a start signal for the next arrow rather than a stop shooting signal if an arrow is shot late in a sequence. Maybe we have to clear up a bit here.

To the case itself; you may say that the judge should have placed himself in order to watch both the countdown clock and the archer, but the situation described is that the judge did not discover any late shot and he did not watch the clock at the actual moment. Good judging or not, we do know that most of jury decisions on matters like this, have been in favour of the archer (benefit of the doubt) – realizing that it is not easy to decide on late shots.

In this case there is also a point that the archer did not get any signal, and was not able to make a decision; shooting or not shooting. Losing an arrow, or losing the highest score, is not exactly the same.....

So even if there was a late shot (we don't really know) the archer did not get the proper signals. In our opinion it would therefore be difficult for the Jury in this situation to decide on taking away the highest score.

A compliment to our judges for a lot of good reasoning related to this case.

New Case Studies

67.1 At a recent Indoor championship a female archer had a bouncer. Confused by the incident she stopped shooting and turned to the Judge informing him of the incident. The Judge asked how many arrows she had left, but the archer misunderstood the question and answered by showing two fingers (meaning she had shot two arrows/or that maybe that this was her second arrow. The Judge then told her to continue shooting two arrows, which the archer did within the time limit. Upon scoring the archer now had the following situation on the target;

Upper centre	9
Middle centre	10
Lower centre	8

And a bouncer on the floor in front of the target.

None of the archers on the target had marked the arrow holes and there were several unmarked holes in the various centers, the lowest unmarked hole in the upper centre was 7, in the middle centre 8, and in the lower centre another 7. There was also one unmarked hole in the paper outside, but close, to the lower centre – in the corner of the paper.

As a Judge you are called to this target, how would you score the arrows?

67.2 At a FITA outdoor tournament there were four archers at each target, they shot in two details: AB-CD, then CD-AB, etc. The order of shooting was indicated on a visual electronic board close to the countdown clock. At one stage the archers on one target got confused, with the consequence that archers CD shot when the sign showed AB, and archers AB shot when the sign showed CD. The incident was noticed by a team captain of archers not involved on this target. He protested and claimed that all the archers on the target in question should lose all the values for that end, as they shot out of sequence. The judge called to the target agreed with the team captain and decided to score all the arrows as M's. However, all the team captains of the archers on that target protested, claiming that this was highly unfair. The incident was presented to the Jury of appeal.

As member of the Jury of appeal do you agree with the Judge's decision in this case? Why?

Deadline to answer case studies: 20 October 2007