

## Dear Judges,

I hope this newsletter finds every one of you safe and well. It has been a trying time for us all over the last few months.

Archery Australia has been using this time to rebuild the AA website. The Officials pages are up and running, now under the COMPETITIONS heading.

It is a 'work in progress', so should you find any dead ends, or missing documents, please get in contact with me. We are already aware of some errors, but as yet do not have editing access.

Kind regards,

*Karen O'Malley*

## Contents

*Congratulations ...*

*Extension of time for NJCs*

*Event Judges*

*Upcoming Events:  
Next Webinar*

*You be the Judge -  
Answers to #104  
New Case Studies #105*

## Congratulations ... and thanks

Welcome to the NJCs who have recently completed training using the online Modules - **Stuart Gauld** and **Alan Whitton** from NQld, **Norman Biggs** and **Christopher Lech** from South Australia.

Most of our National Judges are in the process of re-accrediting and we have 15 National Judge Candidates active in the sport. Thank you all for your support of our archers.

Thanks to all those judges who have seen this as a timely opportunity to retire and have chosen not to re-accredit. I especially appreciate those people who emailed me with their intention.

Finally, thanks to the 47 judges who were present at our first National webinar for 2019, on Wednesday 15th May. There were another 6 who sent apologies because they were working, travelling, competing in another sport or running a club event at that time.

For those of you who did not make the meeting, please pay special attention to the **Webinar** section of this newsletter so hopefully, you can make it to the next one.

## Extension of time for NJCs

NJCs, the Officials Committee is granting you an additional 3 months to attain the requirements to upgrade to National Judge, since there have not been any events held for most of this year. I will extend all NJCs 'must complete' date by 3 months in the database. If you are unsure of your end date, it was on your NJC letter, or you can email me for that information.

Ensure you keep a copy of all your documentation so you can provide these evaluations when you apply for National Judge status. While your RGB Co-ordinator should receive copies from the CoJ, this may not always be the case and it is very difficult to establish your effectiveness as a judge at an event two years after it has happened!

It is preferable that you email them to [officials@archery.org.au](mailto:officials@archery.org.au) as soon as each event is over, where they can be kept electronically in your file. It is not necessary to send a scanned copy; a photo of the Evaluation is fine.

## Event Judges, National Judge Re-accreditation

There are now 72 people who have become Event Judges using the online accreditation system. A further 25 people are eligible to apply for Event Judge status and more than 20 others have undertaken the modules for their own interest.

As part of the changes to the Officials section of the Archery Australia website, there is a page called 'Event Officials' dedicated to the Event Judges and there is an Application form to become an Event Judge is on that page. However, it needs to be replaced by the more current and simpler version which we have prepared but which is yet to be made live.

For any of the Judges who have decided not to re-accredit as a National Judge, please be aware that you are entitled to become an Event Judge and just officiate at QREs, if you wish. However the swap over is not automatic. Please let me know if you wish to continue as an Event Judge officiating at QREs only!

Any National Judge who has not submitted their paperwork to their RGB officials co-ordinator by the end of July IS NOT PERMITTED TO OFFICIATE AT ANY LEVEL OF EVENT. If you have just 'not got around to it' yet, now is the time! You must complete the 2020 Officials Code of Ethics (which includes quoting a current Working With Children number and expiry date), and, from Judges Online Diary, 'export' your officiating into an Excel spreadsheet by clicking on 'export' in the top right hand corner.

If you are able to, sort into 'officiating', 'case studies' and 'collegial activities' and attach to the 'Application to re-accredit as a National Judge' which is located in the Password-protected part of the Officials web pages. I also sent it out with the newsletter #104 earlier in the year.

## Judges Webinar

Thanks to those judges who took the opportunity to join our first online Judges seminar in May. For some people this was a 'collegial activity' to include with their Application for re-accreditation. For others, it becomes the first in the 2020-24 accreditation period. Thank you to Susanne and Andrew who were our presenters.

The next opportunity for collegial connection online is scheduled for Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 7.30pm EST. Alison Hagaman is an experienced DoS and she will be doing a session on the Role of the Director of Shooting. Please put this in your diary now.

You will get another reminder in September, with the invitation link. And, as with the last webinar, those attending will receive additional materials afterwards.

## You be the Judge - Answers from Issue 104

Thank you to those who replied to the Case Studies from Issue 104. The number responding is down, presumably because many judges re-accrediting did not 'need' to complete this set!

***For those responding who had already achieved the required number of Case Study responses, I am recording #104 as your first in the new accreditation period.***

A particular thank you to **Continental Judge, Eric Halil** for collating the Case Studies.

RGB	Judges	Replies	RGB	Judges	Replies
AACT	10	8	ASA	13	1
ANSW	13	6	AV	17	7
AST	10	6	SQAS	13	9
ASWA	7	1	NQAA	5	3
<i>Oceania</i>		1	<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>41</b>

### Case studies answers from last edition are given below.

**104.1** An archer presents the following bow at Equipment Inspection. What is your opinion regarding its legality?



The first point we note is that the bow is a Sighted Recurve. It was good to see most judges also mentioned how markings such as this would be treated for other bow types besides just the pictured Recurve! We'll briefly discuss those at the end.

Noting your decision on the equipment inspection form is a good idea since this is somewhat unusual and could be questioned later on. Documenting decisions you make for out of the ordinary situations is a good habit to develop.

We'll discuss just Sighted Recurve initially. The most cited Recurve rules were:

**WA 11.1.1.1.** *(Target Recurve) Multi-coloured bow risers and trademarks located on the inside of the upper and lower limb or on the riser are permitted.*

**WA 22.1.1.1.** *(Field Recurve) Multi-coloured bow risers and trademarks located on the inside of the upper and lower limb or on the riser are permitted.*

A small number of judges referred to:

**WA 11.1.5.** *A bow sight is permitted, but at no time may more than one such device be used.*

**WA 11.1.5.1.** *It shall not incorporate a prism, magnifying lens/lenses, or any magnifying device, levelling, electric or electronic devices, nor shall it provide for more than one sighting point.*

WA 11.1.5 directly relates to whether an archer may be advantaged by the markings should they provide more than one sighting point.

The responses were significantly split with approx. 2/3 of judges believing the bow was legal "as is" and the other 1/3 saying it was not legal and would need the riser taped to make it compliant. This difference in rulings and the associated reasons are summarised by the SQAS combined judges' response as follows:

*The decision on this issue was split with about half in favour of not allowing the bow to be used without covering the markings, as the markings are on the inside of the riser including the sight window and is not a manufacturer's mark. The feeling among some of the judges is that with recurve if something is not mentioned in Ch 11 then it is not allowed.*

*The other opinion was that these words do not act as an aid to sighting as this is a sighted bow and the markings could be considered along the same lines as a multi-coloured bow. This would become more of an issue if the archer was shooting barebow as the marks could be used for sighting.*

One of the most crucial factors in making any judging decision or applying rules in unclear situations is determining whether an archer may be advantaged or disadvantaged. In this case, that means deciding whether the markings provide any advantage to a Sighted Recurve.

Anabela Robertson provided a very useful reference to an article in WA Judges' Newsletter 98 (May 2019) which discusses this exact issue for Sighted Recurve in Target. The conclusion, in summary, was:

*[...] an archer would not be able to use any such things [marks on a riser] to their benefit.*

*[...] There would not any longer be a need of asking archers to tape the archer's side of the riser to cover "suspicious" marks etc. [...]*

Below is the complete article, as it provides the details and reasoning of the decision, and an interesting perspective on how it came about.

## 12. Marks on the riser

*This article is about recurve bow in target archery and was written by Morten Wilmann and published in one of our newsletters a few years ago. At a recent Continental Judges Seminar, the question came back regarding marks of the riser. Here is Morten's article again, for the newer judges:*

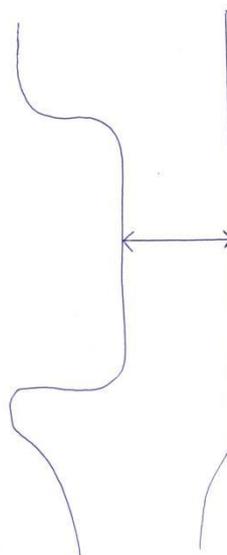
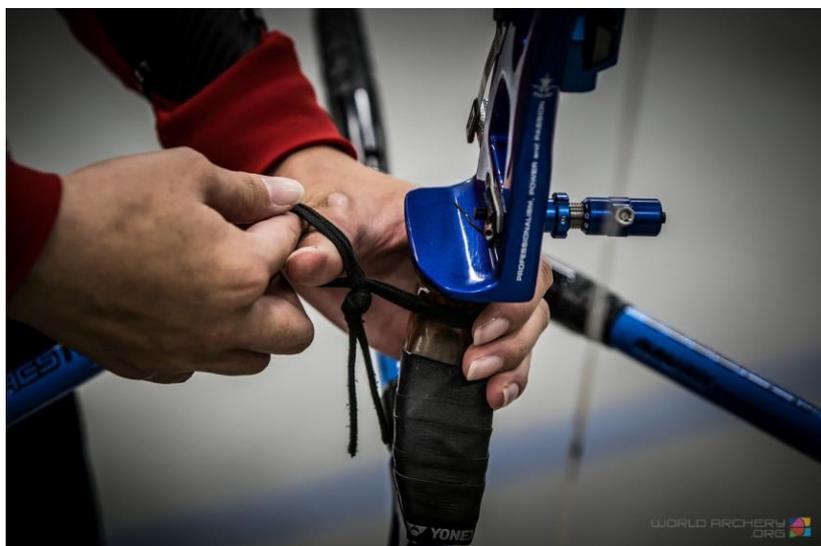
*The basic recurve rules which state "what is allowed" have been our guideline for many years when checking the recurve equipment in order to disclose items and manipulation that might give an illegal advantage – also when we have been checking the riser of the bow for marks, scratches, lines etc. we believed might give such an extra advantage.*

*But interpretations and bylaws have later given us a multi-coloured riser, and even trademarks on the archer's side of the riser, which have made our life more difficult. What now? This would make it difficult to act upon other things, such as alignment lines or creative advertising; archers would not see the difference – and would we?*

*We launched the issue at a common meeting (all WA committees were gathered in Lausanne), and the feedback from the Technical Committee, Coaches Committee and Athletes Committee was unanimous; an archer would not be able to use any such things to their benefit.*

*Based upon that, we should definitively change our procedure in this respect, which in fact would make life easier for judges. There would not any longer be a need of asking archers to tape the archer's side of the riser to cover "suspicious" marks etc.*

*Looking at the drawing here, we should not be concerned about possible issues in the riser area limited by the arrow. But remember strongly, we are talking about target archery. However, if we have any protrusions outside of the width of the riser that might be used for aiming or framing, we should of course act as before.*



We can conclude from that article it's clear the WA Committees believe a Sighted Recurve for Target with markings on the riser does not provide any advantage and does not need to be taped over.

What about the same recurve bow being used for Field? What about a compound bow with similar riser markings in Field? The WA Field rules have this additional rule:

*22.6. ACCESSORIES FOR ALL DIVISIONS For athletes of all divisions the following equipment is not permitted*

*22.6.4. Any part of an athlete's equipment that has been added or modified to serve the purpose of estimating distances or angles, nor may any regular piece of equipment be used explicitly for that purpose.*

Given this Field rule and to remove any perception that added riser markings could be used to estimate distances or angles, it is suggested such markings be taped over for Sighted Recurve and Compound in Field events.

In relation to Barebow Recurve and Longbow, the markings on the riser would definitely have to be taped over as they could provide assistance in aiming. And unlike the Sighted Recurve, the rules for those bows are quite clear:

**WA 11.4.1.1.** *(Barebow Recurve Target) Multi-coloured bow risers, and trademarks located on the inside of the upper and lower limb or on the riser are permitted. However, if the area within the sight window is coloured in such a way that it could be used for aiming, then it must be taped over.*

**AA 8.2.1.4** *(Longbow) The bow as described above must be bare, except for the arrow rest, and free from protrusions, sight marks, marks or blemishes or laminated pieces (within the bow window area), which could be of use in aiming.*

**104.2** An archer is using the following lens at an Indoor event. What is your opinion regarding its legality? (Permission given by the archer to use these photos)



If you were there, you'd ask the archer for some clarification about his setup which would help provide some context and possibly inform your decision depending on the information provided. However, for this case study we need to decide just from the photos and the rules!

You should also make a note on the equipment inspection form about the equipment and the reasoning behind your decision (even if brief).

Most responses indicated they would rule the lens as legal as it seems likely the lens is prescription and is not marked in any way which could assist in aiming (WA 11.1.9.3). Some judges noted that there appears to be a mark in the centre of the lens on the left photo and if this was the case the lens would not be allowed according to WA 11.1.9.3. However, despite its appearance in the left photo the lens is clear with no markings (as is apparent in the right photo).

Logan Andrew (NZ) has provided an excellent overview (which is included verbatim here) of the relevant rules and reasoning behind the decision that this lens setup is legal. Logan writes:

*For this question, the following rules are relevant:*

*11.1.9.3 Prescription glasses, shooting spectacles and sunglasses may be used. None of these may be fitted with micro-hole lenses, or similar devices, nor may they be marked in any way that can assist in aiming.*

*11.4.9.2 Prescription glasses, shooting spectacles and sunglasses may be used. None of these may be fitted with micro hole lenses, or similar devices, nor may they be marked in any way to assist in aiming.*

*Additionally, the World Archery interpretation dated 22 Feb 2019 for Rule 11.1.9.3 is also relevant, as quoted below:*

*Historically, the Technical Committee has been presented nearly identical requests for interpretation in the past concerning these types of specialized shooting glasses/spectacles. In each of those cases, the spectacles have not been allowed, other than a single lens on a custom frame where the lens can be adjusted right or left, tilted and adjusted fore and aft. The two examples provided in the photos below shows one set of spectacles that have two lenses for the same eye and the other spectacles with a frame within a lens, providing a clear reference line. The committee has not allowed this type of dual lens system, lens and frame within lens and frame or other possible bowstring alignment or head position reference points. By offering consistent head position and or bowstring alignment, these devices provide an advantage/aid in aiming.*

*Except for the compound division, where any lenses of any description (provided they are not electronic) are allowed, the use of lenses has a number of restrictions. In particular, those listed in Book 3 focus particularly around assistance for aiming through the use of markings or reference points. The examples given in the interpretation back up this idea, citing that the main reason most shooting glasses designs are rejected is because of clearly defined aiming points or the presence of multiple lenses. However, the use of angle adjustable lenses is acceptable.*

*With these points in mind, the proposed shooting lens does not seem to contravene any of these guidelines. There are no clear edges providing aiming points, nor are there multiple lenses present. Therefore, under the combined guidance of the rules and the interpretation, I would allow this piece of equipment.*

*As a note, I happen to know that this was an indoor event and the athlete was a compounder, in which case it was always legal due to the lack of restrictions on lenses for the compound division.*

In particular, the referenced interpretation is definitely worth noting. It's very useful to be aware of this as it provides some practical guidance for determining the legality of

spectacles/lenses/etc. It was fantastic to see a number of responses referencing this interpretation! The complete interpretation may be found here:

[https://extranet.worldarchery.org/documents/index.php/Rules/Interpretations/English/2017-2019/Bk3\\_Art11.1.9.3\\_Shooting\\_glasses.pdf](https://extranet.worldarchery.org/documents/index.php/Rules/Interpretations/English/2017-2019/Bk3_Art11.1.9.3_Shooting_glasses.pdf)

For completeness, in relation to other disciplines and bow types it is worth noting the following rules which are identical in wording to WA 11.1.9.3

*WA 11.4.9.2. (Target Barebow Recurve) 22.1.9.2. (Field Recurve) 22.3.9.2. (Field Barebow Recurve)*

**104.3** You arrive as a judge for a WA Field event, only to find the Organising Committee has accidentally printed the scoresheets for the National Field round. There is 90 minutes until the muster and you need to check that the course is legal. How do you handle this situation?

The case study implies you are the only judge for the event so it's essential that tasks are delegated as appropriate and your (judge's) time is prioritised on the roles judges are responsible for, such as checking the course. If you are lucky enough to have more than one judge you can assign duties more easily.

Note that if you are judging on your own and start feeling overwhelmed due to unforeseen circumstances, it can be tempting to start skipping normal processes. However, it's in these stressful situations that mistakes are more likely to be made. Therefore, it's even more important to work to checklists such as the Event Verification Form and Field Inspection Checklist. You can find these on the AA website under COMPETITIONS/Officials/Officials Resources:

<https://archery.org.au/officials-resources/>

Almost all responses followed a similar approach

- Alert the OC to the incorrect scoresheets
- Determine what options are available to correct the scoresheets
- Let the OC work on the scoresheets while you check the field course and carry out your other judging duties
- At muster if the correct scoresheets are not available then inform the archers how this will be dealt with (such as still needing to use the incorrect National Round scoresheets, possibly transcribing results from National Round to WA Field scoresheets later, or anything else as needed)

Almost all judges said the correct WA Field scoresheets should be printed. The rules referenced were:

**AA 7.6.1.** *Archery Australia approved scorecards must be used for all tournaments registered with Archery Australia.*

**AA 4.1.3.4.** *Only Archery Australia approved score sheets shall be recognised when submitting record claims.*

The responsibility for having the correct scoresheets lies with the OC. While events are certainly a team effort amongst the OC, judges, and other volunteers, it's important to ensure your time is primarily spend on judge's duties and providing feedback to assist others as

needed. It is also important that archers are not disadvantaged due to errors made by any organiser. The event should go on and archers scores considered valid as long as the integrity of those scores is maintained.

Dealing with the score sheets then comes down to if, and when, they are available.

*If the WA Field scoresheets can be printed before the event starts*

- Then this is the ideal situation! The event proceeds normally.

*If then WA Field scoresheets will **not** be available before the shoot starts*

- Modify the National Field scoresheets to reflect a WA Field scoresheet as much as is practical. The National Round consists of 28 targets of 4 arrows each. The major changes are cross out the 4<sup>th</sup> column of each scoring end to make them 3 arrow ends and remove the scoring rows for last 4 targets. The emphasis is on changing the scoresheet to reflect a WA Field round and minimising scoring mistakes. Other minor changes could also be made. Note it should be the OC that organises this with just your initial recommendation on how the scoresheet should be modified.

*If the WA Field scoresheets are available before the event finishes but after it starts*

- Hand out the new scoresheets and request archers transcribe their scores from the National Round to the WA Field scoresheets. Before transcribing they **must** check their paper scorecards match electronic scoring. If the values don't match, any discrepancies should be fixed **before** transcription. This process is already error prone and we don't want errors upon errors creeping in! If the scoresheets become available during the event you'd likely want the archers to move to the WA Field scoresheets ASAP and hand them out during the shoot and transcribe the scores then. If it's close to the finish you'd probably wait and have them do it afterwards.
- Both National Field and WA Field scoresheets should be handed in. Of course, being filled in as expected, signed and witnessed. Double scoring will be with the WA Field and electronic scoring.

*If no correct WA Field scoresheets will be available*

- The National Field scoresheets will be the official paper record for the event.

If the scoring did not start with the WA Field scoresheets then this should be noted on the Event Verification Form with explanation of what happened and how it was handled. This process should maintain the integrity of the scores and it is expected that this will be taken into account by the State and/or National Recorder when accepting the scores including any record claims.

## **NEW CASE STUDIES      You be the Judge, No 105:**

**105.1** A young archer is having a bad day at a tournament. They are visibly crying when they go to score but to their credit are still shooting.

- a) Is it suitable to try to support the archer as a judge?
- b) What kind of support is appropriate?
- c) When might it be considered too helpful?
- d) What if the archer is an adult?

**105.2** You are judging and realise another judge has made an error in applying the rules. You explain the situation and they agree it was a mistake but say not to worry about it as, 'we can't do anything now'. How do you react:

- a) If the mistake had no consequences to the results of the competition?
- b) If it does affect the final standings?
- c) If the judge we are talking about who has made the error is the CoJ?

**105.3** In the second last end of a WA 720 a junior girl accidentally 'releases' her Release Aid and it ends up 10 metres down the range. With three arrows left to shoot she calls for help. Upon inspection it is found that the Release Aid had broken her arrow rest on the way through (it had also injured her knuckle).

As the Release Aid had broken her arrow rest on the way through, the equipment failure technically occurred before the Release Aid was lost. So in this case the judges allow her to make up the three un-shot arrows because of an equipment failure.

Is this a correct decision?

**Please remember to give reasons and quote current World Archery or Archery Australia rules and/or judge guidebooks to reference each of your answers.**

Please have your replies with RGB administrators by mid August, who in turn are asked to collate and forward replies by the end of August. Alternatively, Judges can email their answers directly to [officials@archery.org.au](mailto:officials@archery.org.au) by August 31st, (but inform your RGB administrator that you have done so).

REMEMBER to log your Case Study responses in your *Judges Online Diary* at [www.archery.org.au](http://www.archery.org.au) in the OFFICIALS section, now under COMPETITIONS.

**Until next time - Happy Judging!**

*Karen*