

IFAA EXECUTIVE REPLIES TO LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATIONS

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#01 Aiming Aids not fixed to the Bow

The Technical Committee has been requested to interpret Rules for the unsighted Styles with the general reference to objects with marks / scales etc. held towards the target before shooting.

Since the Technical Committee can only interpret existing Rules and by this had to confirm that there is no technical rule preventing archers in the unsighted Style to use such references as they are not part of the Equipment rules per se, the Executives are in agreement that this use of technical assistance constitutes unfair behaviour and by this violates the provisions of the Code of Conduct: *“Any competitor found by the Tournament Director / Range Captain to have wilfully contravened this Code of Conduct or to be cheating or acting in an “un-sportsman-like” manner may find his/her entry to the tournament denied, restricted or revoked, may be ejected from the shooting range(s) and associated areas and may be reported to his/her National Authority”.*

According to these provisions, the unsportsmanlike behaviour needs to be identified by the Tournament Director and/or his supporting Officers at the ranges. If such cases, with the Consent of the IFAA Representative, a disqualification from the Tournament will be the consequence. The Protest Committee shall act as an appeal board in case the Athlete concerned claims unfair treatment, and act on evidence presented.

Further Clarification

Reference is made to the definition of a **Sight** in Article IV, Section A of the Book of Rules.

For the avoidance of doubt, Clarification #01 applies equally to manufactured devices, self-made aids, markings, scales, body parts, arrows, tabs and any other reference used to estimate distance, establish an aiming point, or otherwise assist aiming when held towards the target.

The principle of the clarification is that archers competing in Unsighted Styles shall not use any external aiming aid or aiming reference that is not expressly permitted by the Equipment Rules of their style.

Tab Clarification

A tab, with or without markings, may be used to assist the archer in establishing the gap between the arrow and finger position (for example, in Barebow styles) or as a finger protector (for example, in Bowhunter, Traditional Recurve, Longbow and Historical styles). However, a tab must not be held towards the target for the purpose of measuring distance, assessing angle, or establishing an aiming point.

#02 Usage of different Arrows

The Executives have been approached repeatedly regarding the question whether Archers in styles where only one set of matching arrows are permitted, may change the set of matching arrows. This relates to the following styles: Barebow Recurve & Compound, Bowhunter Recurve & Compound, Bowhunter Unlimited, Bowhunter Limited and Traditional Recurve. For Longbows and Historical bows, the same principles apply with the exception that arrows may vary in length up to 25mm at the start of competition.

We clarify hereby the understanding that

- a) The Style rules are clear about the usage of matching arrows
- b) The Bow inspection form to be used on sanctioned tournaments does not allow recording of two different set of arrows for a specific bow. It only allows an alternative set of matching

arrows for the spare bow. Bow inspection forms are valid for a specific tournament and may not be altered.

- c) The Tournament rules are requiring archers to comply with the rules of the style with the clear understanding that the tournament comprises multiple days of competition with different rounds

Taking all this provisions into account it is logical that Archers in the relevant styles are **NOT** permitted to change the set of arrows either between targets, between round or between days of competition.

#03 Changing Age class

We have been approached by Delegates clarifying whether or not Young Adults may change into the Adult-age class for a tournament opt to return back to the young adult age class.

With reference to the provisions of the By-Laws the Executives wish to clarify:
Like other classes for young archers, the intent of the class is to allow archers to develop amongst others being age-wise in similar situation – hence the age group is limited from 17 to 20.

With the request to participate officially in sanctioned tournaments in the adult category, the Athlete agrees to follow the provisions of the Adult Class.

In lower Age Classes for Juniors and Cubs, the decision to shoot in the next higher age class is irreversible. (Reference is made to Article IX and X of the By-laws).

Applying same logic as outlined in the By-laws in this article, once young adults have decided to compete in the adult class, they may not return to the Young Adult Class.

#04 Clarification on Scores Eligible to be Added to the Score Record/Classification Card

APPLICABLE REFERENCES

ARTICLE II – Tournaments, Prizes and Trophies

E. Eligibility to Participate

1. Individuals

a. Any individual archer who is a registered member of an IFAA affiliated Class A, B or C member association (see Constitution Article IV: Membership) and has a valid Score Record/Classification Card is entitled to participate in an IFAA sanctioned World Championship or IFAA sanctioned Regional Championship tournament.

b. If an archer wishes to attend an IFAA sanctioned outdoor tournament, that archer must have at least two tournament scores from a Field, Hunter, 3D round or similar recorded on their Score Record/Classification Card.

Exec Note 1: Many tournaments are conducted over several days. The score of each day should be recorded.

Exec Note 2: Scores obtained at any tournament advertised as being run under IFAA tournament rules apply to this rule.

Exec Note 3: Some associations host 3D tournaments that are similar to the IFAA 3D Round. Scores obtained in such events may be recorded on the classification card.

c. If an archer wishes to attend an IFAA sanctioned indoor tournament, that archer must have at least two tournament scores from an indoor tournament recorded on their Score Record/Classification Card.

Exec Note 4: Qualifying indoor tournaments are the Standard Indoor, Flint Indoor and World Indoor Mail Match rounds (see also Exec Note under Article E.1.b above).

ARTICLE VII – Score Recording and Classification

A. Score Records

1. Each member shall adopt and maintain a system which accurately records scores shot by archers in any of the official IFAA rounds. Only scores shot in tournaments conducted under IFAA tournament rules shall be recorded.
2. Scores so obtained shall be recorded on an official Score Record/Classification Card, including the date scored, type of round shot, and signed off by a tournament official.
3. Scores obtained in the 28-target or 2 × 14 target Field or Hunter Round, or alternatively in a round consisting of 1 × 14 target Field combined with 1 × 14 target Hunter standard unit, shall be used in the classification of the archer.
4. In all tournaments sanctioned by the IFAA, each archer shall, at registration, make available his/her official Score Record/Classification Card to the Tournament Chairman to ensure that the archer is in good standing with an IFAA member and that the proper classification is applied.
5. An archer may not attend an IFAA sanctioned tournament without an official Score Record/Classification Card.
6. The IFAA World Field Archery Championships shall be used to establish world ranking.

C. Classification Procedures

For World and Regional tournaments, and other tournaments sanctioned by the IFAA, the Tournament Director or designated person shall follow the procedures set out in this Article to determine an archer's class:

1. Classification of an archer shall be determined by the archer's two highest scores obtained within the twelve-month period immediately prior to the tournament.
2. In the event that two score records are not obtained within the same class score range over the twelve months immediately prior to the tournament, the time frame shall be extended until three score records are obtained. The two scores within the same class score range will determine the classification of the archer. No score recorded more than twenty-four months prior to the tournament shall be considered.
3. Classification is determined by shooting style. An archer who shoots more than one

style may hold more than one classification. If an archer changes style, a new classification period shall commence from the date of the first recorded score.

4. An archer who has insufficient score records to be classified shall compete in the highest contested class in his/her style at that tournament.
5. An archer shall be reclassified to a higher class if he/she obtains two scores within a higher classification range within a twelve-month period, calculated from the date the first higher class score was obtained. This reclassification process shall continue until the archer reaches "A" class.
6. An archer shall be reclassified to a lower class if he/she consistently obtains scores within a lower class over a period of not less than twelve months, calculated from the date of the first score used for reclassification.

IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE

If an archer wishes **to participate** in a specific IFAA World or Regional Championship, a valid Score Record/Classification Card with a minimum of **two recorded scores** for that discipline is required.

For classification purposes, only scores recorded in that discipline within the **twenty-four months** prior to the tournament will be considered.

Valid scores are those that have been signed off by a tournament official. This also applies to Mail Match scores.

Classification may be used by the Tournament Director to divide the field of archers competing in the same class but at different performance levels. This may be necessary where the number of archers exceeds the capacity of a range or an indoor flight.

In Field Archery, in addition to Championship titles and medals, awards are also provided to the best archers in Classes B and C.

#05 Clarification of the term "Straight Stabiliser"

The Technical Committee has been approached to clarify the term "Straight Stabiliser" with respect to the provisions in the equipment rules for the Bowhunter Styles.

After consultation between the Executives and the Technical Committee it was concluded that this clarification request is not requiring an interpretation of technical aspects of a rule but the clarification of the understanding of the term and how it has been used in the technical rules: The term "straight", if not combined with any further definition making references to other aspects than the component Stabiliser itself, defines an aspect of the form of the stabiliser that can be reduced to one (1) symmetric centreline from one end of the stabiliser to the other end that does not change direction in its entire extend (straight centre line).

The rule also defines that Quick-exchange couplings, screw-in plungers etc. are considered being part of the stabiliser. The specification of the symmetric centreline applies to these components as well. With the installation thread of the connection end of the stabiliser and/or the associated coupling device being concentric installed with the tapped hole of the riser, the stabiliser is installed straight to the tapped hole of the riser.

Whether or not the tapped hole of the riser is parallel to the arrow axis when the bow is in full draw is subject to the design of the manufacturer and to the production quality and is not part of the consideration whether or not a stabiliser complies with the requirement to be “straight”.

#06 Adding Weight to the Riser

The Technical Committee has been approached to clarify whether or not a riser allowing archers to increase / reduce their mass by adding /removing weight are in compliance with the rules for Recurve bows in general and in particular with the Bare-bow and Bowhunter Recurve style.

- After consultation between the Executives and the Technical Committee it was concluded that technically, there is no rule related to the riser in the two styles which could be applicable.
- Furthermore, it was concluded that in Bare-bow Recurve any stabilisation system is acceptable.
- For the Bowhunter Recurve Style, reference is made to the definition of Stabiliser under Article V Clause A Terms: “Any device attached to or incorporated in the bow that in the opinion of the IFAA Technical Committee will assist in improving the stability of the bow.”
- The Term “incorporated in the bow” makes weights added to the riser a form of stabiliser. With this understanding it must be clarified that only one (1) added weight within the riser shall be permissible – no multiple weights at different locations along the riser.
- The term “stability of the bow” refers to the behaviour of the bow during the launching phase of the arrow as well as the behaviour of the bow directly afterwards, once the arrow has cleared the bow. It is considered an unfair competitive advantage if the balance of the bow is modified during a competition to modify the balance to meet changing shooting conditions / optimise the balance after bow inspection during registration.
- The term “added weight” refers to any component being made of a material of different density than the riser with the sole purpose to modify the weight in specific areas of the riser to influence static and dynamic momentums related to the pivot point of the bow.
- It also shall be clarified that the term “counterbalance” being mentioned under paragraph n) of the Bowhunter Recurve & Bowhunter Compound rules refers to ADDITIONAL components compensating either entirely or partially the momentum of an attached stabiliser. Therefore – if stabilising weights are integrated in the riser, no additional stabiliser shall be used.

#07 Applicable Rules for the 20cm Face

APPLICABLE ARTICLES

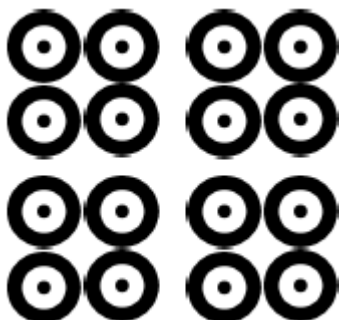
ARTICAL IV – General Rules for Field Archery Games

B. Targets

Faces shall not be placed over other larger faces, nor shall there be any artificial marks on the butt or in the foreground that could be used as points of aim.

All butts must be positioned square to the centre of the shooting lane, with a tolerance angle of +/- 15°.

If not stated otherwise in the Tournament Rules, in all IFAA sanctioned tournaments using official IFAA rounds, a minimum of 16 faces must be used on all butts requiring 20 cm faces. Faces shall be arranged 4 × 4 so that vertical rows of four targets result.

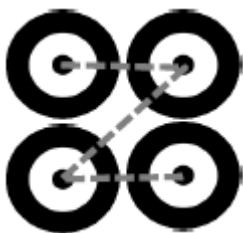


Remark: The rules related to targets are silent about “spot” targets.

C. Shooting Positions

20 cm faces shall be shot in sequence:

(1) top left, (2) top right, (3) bottom left, (4) bottom right (see diagram).



H. Tournament Rules

Tournament rules for indoor archery

Remark: There are no rules regarding the scoring of wrongly shot arrows.

I. Scoring

1. General scoring rules

iii. The position of the shaft on the surface of the target determines the score.

2. Scoring rules for outdoor archery (Field archery, 3D archery, etc.)

d. An archer who shoots from the wrong marker or at the wrong face will lose the score of that arrow. No new arrow may be shot.

*ARTICLE V – Official Rounds***I. Flint Indoor Round****2. Targets**

a. The targets are standard 20 cm and 35 cm field target faces placed in two rows on each butt. The centre of the upper row shall be a maximum of 62" (157.5 cm) from the floor. The centre of the lower row shall be a minimum of 30" (76 cm) from the floor and directly below the upper target.

4. Shooting Rules

c. All other shooting rules shall apply as listed under IFAA Tournament Rules.

Remark 1: By specifying the targets as "standard 20 cm" targets, the general rule under Article IV, Section C (Shooting Positions) applies.

Remark 2: There is no specific statement regarding scoring in the specification of the Flint Indoor Round; however, there is a specification regarding the shooting sequence in the Tournament Rules of the IFAA Championships (see below).

*TOURNAMENT RULES OF THE IFAA***IFAA WORLD INDOOR ARCHERY CHAMPIONSHIP (WIAC) RULES****8. Flint Indoor Round**

e. For target faces comprising four targets, a single arrow shall be shot at a target in any sequence. In the event that more than one arrow is shot into a target, only the arrow with the lower value will be scored.

Interpretation of Rules Related to the 20cm Face

The rules are unclear regarding the distinction between "target" and "face"; in fact, they are inconsistent in their use of these terms.

It is the interpretation of the Executive that the intention is to differentiate between a *face*, which is a printed sheet of paper or plastic foil, and a *target*, which is printed on a face. The target consists of a circular area with different scoring zones and may also be split into multiple targets arranged in a predetermined pattern to minimise potential damage to arrows, all printed on the same face.

When scoring, all hits on the face, according to their location in the scoring zones of the target(s) printed on the face, shall be recorded and added to one (1) score. The rules clarify, for each official round, the shooting pattern that must be followed when shooting faces with multiple targets.

Article IV, Section C (Shooting Positions) is relevant for **all rounds using 20 cm faces**.

Article IV, Section C is **not applicable to spot faces**, which are a reduced form of larger faces (35 cm Field / 40 cm Indoor) showing only the higher scoring rings.

The shooting sequence for 20 cm faces is specified under Article IV, Section C, Item 4. This applies to all rounds unless otherwise specified.

For the **Flint Indoor Round**, the prevailing rule is **Tournament Rules – WIAC, Clause 8(e)**, which overrides the shooting sequence rule of Article IV.

For all other rounds shot in IFAA sanctioned tournaments using 20 cm faces, Article IV applies (shooting sequence following the “Z” pattern).

For wrongly shot arrows, **Paragraph 1 (General Scoring Rules), Clause I (Scoring), item iii applies**, and is further detailed for outdoor rounds under **Paragraph 2, item d** of Clause I.

IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE

In all outdoor rounds where faces with multiple 20 cm targets are used, they must be shot in a “Z” pattern:

first arrow – top left, second arrow – top right, third arrow – bottom left, and fourth arrow – bottom right.

Wrongly shot arrows will not be counted.

For all indoor rounds using faces with multiple targets, there is **no prescribed shooting pattern**, other than that only targets on the assigned face are to be shot.

#08 Ruling on Wrongly Shot Arrows

With the targets in question, archers shoot in groups, and other group members are required to observe the shooting. This can be deduced from various rules relating to correct shooting, safety, and the scoring of hits.

Therefore, wrongly shot arrows should be recognised by the group.

Furthermore, the interpretation of the value of an arrow in doubt shall be subject to a group decision, as specified in **Article IV, Section H (Tournament Rules), Item 4 – Target Groups, paragraph f** (applicable to all tournaments).

As guidance for group decisions, the following principles should be considered:

Rounds with a predetermined shooting pattern

In rounds such as the **Field Round, Hunter Round, and Expert Round**, the group is obliged to observe the shooting and confirm that each arrow has struck the correct target in accordance with the required shooting pattern.

To assist this process, archers may inform the group *before shooting commences* that they will use ring-marked arrows, for example:

one (1) ring – first target (top left)

two (2) rings – second target (top right), etc.

If agreed by the group in advance, where two arrows strike the same target, the arrow corresponding to the correct sequence (based on ring marks) will be scored, and the other arrow will be recorded as a miss.

If the wrongly shot arrow cannot be identified, and the archer cannot provide evidence (ring marks or supporting witnesses), the archer will lose the score of the higher scoring arrow.

Rounds without a predetermined shooting pattern

In rounds such as the **Indoor Flint Round**, the group is obliged to observe the shooting and confirm that each arrow has struck a target not previously hit during that end.

The same use of ring-marked arrows may be applied, subject to agreement by the group prior to shooting.

If two arrows strike the same target, the arrow corresponding to the intended sequence may be scored, and the other recorded as a miss.

If the wrongly shot arrow cannot be identified, and no evidence is provided, the archer will lose the score of the higher scoring arrow.

IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE

If there are two (2) arrows in a target where only one arrow should be present, and no evidence can be provided (such as ring-marked arrows or witness confirmation), the archer will lose the score of the higher scoring arrow.

#09 Active Coaching / Spotting at IFAA Championships

The Executives have been approached by Delegates to clarify matters relating to active coaching / spotting and the role of sighters at IFAA Championships.

Relevant Articles/Provisions in the BOR:

Article IV – General Rules for Field Archery Games

Clause A “Terms”

Responsible Adult: An adult person who is appointed formally by the Tournament Director to accompany minors (normally Cubs) on the ranges for the duration of the tournament.

Clause H “Tournament Rules”

Paragraph 2B “Tournament Rules for outdoor archery”

b. Cubs shall shoot in their own groups with a non-shooting “responsible adult”, who is appointed by the Tournament Director. This adult will be allowed to assist the cub archers with their scoring but is not allowed to assist the archer with repairs to archery equipment, coach/instruct the archer(s) or carry their equipment.

Paragraph 5c & d “Tournament Rules for indoor archery”

c. *“Sighters” are permitted if the organisers of the event so allow.*

d. *Cubs shall shoot in their own groups, separated from the other age groups. Only “responsible adults” who are appointed by the Tournament Director are allowed on the floor and shall stand at least two yards behind the shooting line. These adults will be allowed to assist the cub archers with their scoring and drawing of arrows (if out of reach of the cub) but they are not allowed to assist the archer with repairs to archery equipment or to coach/instruct the archers.*

ANNEXURE 02 – IFAA Basic Code of Conduct for Competitors

1. *This tournament is conducted in accordance with the Rules of the International Field Archery Association [IFAA], the Rules and Regulations of the tournament organisers and local law, health and safety regulations. It is the sole responsibility of the individual to be informed about the above Rules and Regulations as well as local laws and regulations. Entry by a competitor to the shooting range(s) and associated areas shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all of these rules and regulations.*

...

4. *Behaviour likely to constitute, or that could reasonably be construed to constitute, a cause of danger, confusion, annoyance or nuisance of any kind, such as the persistent use of foul and abusive language is not permitted.*

...

Range Officers and other official representatives of the tournament organiser may report to the Tournament Director / Range Captain anyone who does not comply with this Code of Conduct. Any competitor found by the Tournament Director / Range Captain to have wilfully contravened this Code of Conduct or to be cheating or acting in an “un-sportsman-like” manner may find his/her entry to the tournament denied, restricted or revoked, may be ejected from the shooting range(s) and associated areas and may be reported to his/her National Authority.

IFAA Compliance By-laws

Article X – Catalogues of Consequences

Clause 2: Consequences of violations of rules applicable to IFAA Championship participants and

Clause 2: Consequences of violations of rules applicable to Instructors

Clarification by the Board of Executives

- a) With general reference to spotting, coaching, and other external communication between athletes in competition and others:
- b) Archers competing in IFAA-sanctioned tournaments have agreed to follow the Code of Conduct.
- c) Minors may be supported by responsible adults appointed by the Tournament

Director. By registering their child for an IFAA-sanctioned tournament, parents accept that a responsible adult will supervise their child within the engagement rules applicable to adults (national law applies).

- d) Instructors, being trained by the IFAA and/or its Member Associations, have agreed to follow the Code for Instructors.

- e) Any visitor entering an area which is part of a Championship venue, whether identified by information boards and/or accessible public information, accepts, upon entry, the house rules of the organiser/host.

Under these provisions, direct communication with athletes in competition is limited as follows:

For Athletes among themselves and towards external parties not directly or indirectly involved in the competition, Clause 4 of the Code of Conduct applies, in that any verbal communication or gesture on the shooting line is considered behaviour likely to constitute a cause of danger, confusion, annoyance, or nuisance of any kind.

For Instructors/Coaches recognised by the IFAA, the Instructors Code of Conduct / Instruction Protocol applies, with reference to Clause 3, paragraph (e), indicating that an Instructor's licence/certificate may be removed on the basis of:

1. Behaviour unbecoming an instructor or coach (by breaching the Athletes' Code of Conduct)
2. Bringing the status of IFAA certification and certification procedures into disrepute (by ignoring rules an instructor is expected to teach athletes)

For Visitors, the house rules/facility rules established by the organiser and published on the event webpage/official announcement board apply.

Under these provisions, only accredited coaches/instructors may actively coach from dedicated coaching areas when no archer is at the shooting line/marker.

Sighters, as mentioned under Clause 5c of Article IV, are only allowed if permitted by the host to enter dedicated areas. In all other cases, communication by sighters is restricted to non-verbal gestures. This is "one-way" communication only, and athletes shall not respond to sighters while at the shooting line.

If not otherwise stated, sighters fall under the rules for visitors, and the organiser has the rights as defined therein.

Other stakeholders are not permitted to communicate with active athletes, coaches, and/or organisers' representatives, as this may constitute a cause of danger, confusion, annoyance, or nuisance of any kind.

#10 Clarification on Submission of Legislative Proposals

It has been brought to the attention of the Board of Executives that Delegates consider the time between the issuing of the Invitation to the General Assembly and the deadline for the submission of Legislative Proposals to be insufficient. Clarification has also been requested regarding what constitutes Legislative Proposals and Non-Legislative Proposals.

REFERENCES:

- Statutes Article 10 – The World Council
- General By-Laws Article IX – Voting Rights and Procedures
- Administrative By-Laws Part 1 Article III – Invitations to Official Meetings and Assemblies

The Board of Executives wishes to clarify the following:

According to Article IX(b) of the General By-Laws, Full Members and elected Officers may submit matters to the World Council for voting. It further states that such proposals must reach the Office of the Secretary 120 days **before** the General Assembly.

Remark 1: The date is intentionally defined as 30 days prior to the official deadline for the Invitation to the General Assembly (90 days prior), as per clause (d) of Article IX. This allows the Chair to review whether a proposal meets the outlined requirements or whether it requires amendment. It also provides an opportunity for the Executives to comment on the proposal before it is distributed, allowing the proposing Member to review and, if deemed necessary, update it for the final distribution of the Agenda, which is then to include all proposals in their final form.

Remark 2: Article 10 of the Statutes distinguishes between Legislative Proposals, bids for Championships, and Nominations for Elections. The term “legislative” is an established legal term referring to the provisions of the Statutes and the By-Laws.

In addition to the items mentioned in Article 10, Non-Legislative Proposals may include matters of a strategic nature, proposals to establish workgroups and/or committees for specific purposes, and items that should be discussed either as a separate agenda item or under “Any Other Business”, where no formal decision by the General Assembly is required.