

Report from Coaching Committee

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The pandemic period has been a challenging one, for coaches and for athletes. Keeping our athletes safe whilst maintaining a high-quality training programme involved ingenuity and was stressful at times. The high level of performance at the recent tournaments showed that all coaches and their athletes have still been able to improve their level of competition.

Online coaching seminar

In October and November 2020, WA held an online coaching seminar with many experts and many interesting topics, amongst which Marcel van Apeldoorn as member of the coach committee shared his knowledge on using Artemis as a coaching tool in a high-performance programme. These seminars were attended by coaches from around the world.

Joint committee meeting in November 2020

In november 2020, CC members participated in the joint committee meetings where productive meetings were held.

Motions and proposals.

The coaching committee has been involved in the preparation of motions 10 (100cm target face), 11 (60 arrows instead of 72 arrows) and 13 (compound outdoor scoring 11). The main reason for supporting these proposals is that they will result in a higher differentiation in the currently very close (in some cases too close) qualification and elimination rounds scores, and at the same time enable competitions to be shorter. They allow reducing the number of arrows from 72 to 60 in outdoor qualification rounds. A study by World Archery Target Archery Committee and Coach Committee showed the expected consequences of changing the target size from 122cm to 100cm was indeed more differentiation in score¹.

Coach committee is of the opinion that these motions (10, 11, 13 and 14) are a ‘package deal’ and should be treated as such. Together with reducing the overall time per arrow to 30 seconds, it helps to shorten the tournament schedules (preferably by at least a day) and therefore reduce the cost of World cups and title tournaments, whilst still guaranteeing high quality competition formats and fairness to athletes.

Coach committee also acknowledges that the reduction in 122cm target face size is challenging for beginner or average athletes, which is why the motions are aimed at the highest level of competition and only to be used for the 70m and the 50m rounds.

Competitions under Covid-19 regulations

The coaching committee would like to express their appreciation to World Archery, the LOCs, and all volunteers for being able to compete in these very difficult times. There are some reports of misbehaviour of athletes and coaches and we ask all coaches and team-managers their cooperation in being respectful towards members of the LOC, judges, and volunteers, both on the field but also on social media.

1 The study has been added to this report as an appendix.

Tokyo Olympics

Coach committee member Hana Majarová has been elected to the Jury of Appeal at the Tokyo Olympics. With Hana, the JoA will consist of total 3 members from the Coach Committee and members of the Judges committee.

Also note that there are still some countries that haven't signed the form for the heart-rate monitoring at the Olympics. We hope this will be resolved soon.

The future, 2022 and beyond

First of all, we hope to be able to have competitions with less restrictions for us all. We further like to invite coaches to have more and open discussions on coaching aspects, rule-changes, competition improvements and many other subjects together with the coaching committee. Which is why we will again be more visible at the TM meetings during World-cups and major title events in the next seasons.

Some topics to be discussed in the near future amongst coaches.

How to get more national coaches or continental coach committees involved with the WA coach committee?

How to get the cost of World cups transparent and what possibilities are there to reduce the cost?

Should all medal matches be shot on the final's venue, or should we have medal matches on the regular FOP (as was introduced this year)?

How to ensure fairness in shooting conditions during qualification rounds in e.g. stadiums? For example, shooting in windy conditions inside a stadium or on some fields where windy conditions are not the same for all targets. Is a random target allocation a solution? What would it mean for coaching staff if athletes can be located anywhere on the shooting line?

Finally, we like to wish all participants at the Tokyo 2021 Olympics good health and good luck in their strive for Olympic success.

-World Archery Coach Committee, July 2021

