

# Judges' Committee Congress Report

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**Report by:** Sergio Font (Chairman)

## Tasks since the 2019 Congress

In the last two years, our committee has worked hard with the purpose of further raising the level of judging around the World. The following tasks have been carried out:

### 1. Committee Meetings

Our first committee meeting was held in Tokyo in July 2019. We worked on preparing a bylaw change proposal to update appendix 4. The proposal included actions (warnings, suspensions, and accreditation withdrawals) to take when infractions are made. Changes were also proposed regarding the requisites prior to attendance to International Judge Candidate seminars, the upgrade process, and the re-accreditation of Continental Judges.

The Committee improved the scoring procedure for finals. This new procedure was successfully tested at the Olympic Games Test event and was later published in the Judges' Newsletter. The procedure to disqualify archers who fail to complete their scorecards properly was also discussed and defined.

Other areas covered at the meeting were the relationship with Continental Associations, E-learning, the appointment of judges for the 2020 World Archery Events, reaccreditation second sitting for judges named in 2019, bylaw proposals and interpretations requests.

Our second meeting was held online on November 28, 2020. The topics discussed in this meeting included the results of the joint meetings held with other World Archery Committees, and with the World Archery Secretary General. Some of the areas covered were the review of the Judges Committee Role Description, our committee's strategic plan proposal, the progress of our E-learning program, future international conferences and seminars, appointment of judges for the 2021 season, and the assessment of commission chairmen.

### 2. System of competencies

The Committee worked on the definition of a system of competencies our judges must possess and put into practice. We were assisted by four task forces involving 16 international and continental judges. The final version of the system is now published on the website. It is expected to help design judging seminars and exams, as well as to assess judge performance at events.

### 3. Online meetings and webinars

The following meetings and webinars were held:

Online Conference Call April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This conference call was held to provide information to the World Archery Member Associations on how to design and implement judge training systems locally. It was conducted by three members of our committee.

Three webinars were held with our judges:

- August 16, 2020: updates, information on events, conferences, system of competencies, E-learning.
- August 30, 2020: rules hard to enforce, new interpretations, new equipment.
- September 20, 2020: questions and answers on topics suggested by our judges.

Though not directly conducted by our committee, some of our members and judges were involved in the Summit held by World Archery in August 2020. The topics addressed included what a good judge is like, ways to improve, younger judges, and professionalism vs professionalization in judging.

### 4. Newsletters

Newsletters 99, 100, 101, 102, 103 and 104 have been drafted and released by the time this report is submitted to World Archery. Issue 105 will have been published before Congress in September.

### 5. Bylaws and Interpretations

In the 2019-2021 period, our committee submitted 14 bylaw change proposals and 8 interpretations requests to the Executive Board and the relevant committees, respectively.

### 6. E-Learning

The Target Archery E-Learning programme for Judges was re-written to include rule changes made in 2019/2020 and in particular the inclusion of the Barebow discipline for Target Archery. The new version was released in 2021.

Work will begin now on development of new courses to cover other areas including Para Archery, Field and 3D, and the role of a Director of Shooting.

### 7. Other tasks

Our committee has reviewed and approved the name of the Chairmen of Judges appointed by the Continental Associations for World Ranking Events.

Given the importance of Para Archery, the specific rules regarding this discipline and the classification of archers, our committee has appointed International Judge and International classifier Megan Tierney as the liaison with the Para and Classification Committees. Ms. Tierney has already started working with the Para Committee in this regard.

We have continuously monitored judging procedures and have made adjustments every time we believe something can be changed to make our events smoother and fairer to the archers.

## 8. Challenges faced

Our committee have had to deal with several unexpected situations in the last two years, mainly due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Some of these challenges include the cancellation of the 2020 and 2021 Judges Conferences, continuous replacement of appointed judges for the 2021 events, and the impossibility to hold international seminars.

## 9. Future plans

We have identified the following tasks as some of the areas we need to focus on in the next period:

- Update of the Judges Guidebook after new rules are passed by the 2021 Congress.
- Hold conferences and seminars in which more time is devoted to practical sessions.
- Review of reaccreditation requirements in the special circumstances caused by the impact of COVID 19.
- Inclusion of the revised version of our E-learning program in judge training.
- Developing new courses on E-learning formats, and making more material available online for national federations to develop their own national judge training programs.
- Further improving our partnership with the Continental Associations' Judges' Committees.

## 10. Final remarks

Our committee has worked in a very coordinated matter since the 2019 Congress. As Chairman, I take pride to say that we have a great committee of knowledgeable and committed volunteers who have done an excellent job. I look forward to working with the same group in the next two years.

I would like to thank Indranil, Graham, Sabrina and Robert for their availability and contribution to the work of the Committee. I would also like to thank Severine Deriaz for her support and for keeping record of everything regarding appointments and replies to case studies (among many other areas), much more now that we have needed to find replacements and communicate with the judges almost on a weekly basis.

Our most sincere appreciation to our judges, who have done their best to keep themselves updated and active despite the pandemic, and mainly to those who have faced the challenge to travel internationally to ensure that World and Continental events are run in full compliance with the rules.

Sergio Font  
Chairman