

COMMITTEE REPORT

Technical Committee

Committee members:

Jonathan Shales (Chair), Park Sunghyun (Deputy Chair), Susanne Womersley, Kurt Nuenlist, Douglas Denton

Report by:

Jonathan Shales, Chairman

Technical Committee Decisions

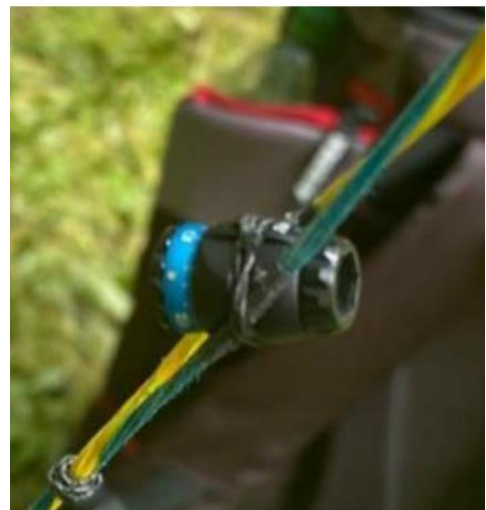
Following is the list of interpretation requests submitted to the Technical Committee since last Congress held in – Yankton, South Dakota, USA, 2021

1) Interpretation request – Adjustable peep sight

Submitted by – German Shooting Sport and Archery Federation (DSB)

Discussion: It is the majority decision of the Technical Committee that the adjustable aperture peep-sight (small iris diaphragm) submitted by the German Shooting Sport and Archery Federation is fully legal in the Compound Division of World Archery.

There was some concern that the adjustable peep-sight aperture could possibly be used for ranging on unmarked courses. However, after further research and discussions with experienced compound archers as well as our own empirical testing, it was concluded that the adjustable aperture is a poor tool for that purpose and should not be restricted for use on unmarked field courses.



By following the guiding principle governing the Compound Division, Articles 11.2/ 22.2, along with the original intent or spirit of the rule when written, it was clear that the Compound Division was to be basically an unrestricted division with few exceptions. The decision of the Technical Committee is further reinforced by Articles 11.2.1.4/22.2.1.4 specifically governing bowstring attachments. See both rules below:

Articles 11.2. and 22.2 Compound Division

For the Compound Division, the following equipment is described. All types of additional devices are permitted, unless they are electric, electronic, compromise safety or create unfair disturbance to other athletes.

Articles 11.2.1.4. and 22.2.1.4 A bowstring of any type which may include multiple serving/s to accommodate nocking points and include other attachments such as a lip mark (e.g. kissers button), a nose

mark, a peep-hole, a peep-hole 'hold-in-line' device, D loop bowstring, string silencers, bowstring weights, and any other attachments are permitted, provided none of the attachments are electric or electronic.

2) Interpretation request – Traditional bow division rule clarification

Submitted by – Technical Committee and Field and 3D Archery Committee

Discussion: At the 2021 World Archery Congress, Congress voted to approve Motion 15 creating a Traditional Division which will take effect on 15 January 2022. Since approval of this Motion, several common questions have been raised in response to the new Rule. Therefore, the Technical Committee and the Field and 3D Archery Committee would like to issue an interpretation to clarify the new Rule regarding the Traditional Division.

Joint response from the Technical Committee and the Field and 3D Archery Committee:

[Book 4, Chapter 22, Article 22.4.1] – “The riser is of laminated construction and includes wooden laminates or made of one piece of wood.”

If the riser includes wood laminates, the riser must contain at least two wood laminates within the original construction of the riser. The wood laminates must be present through the entire length of the riser to be legal. Any wood laminates must be visible and easily verified as wood by a judge. Painting, or coating the riser so that the wood laminates are not visible may lead to disqualification of the bow. There is no restriction on the length of the riser.

Book 4, Chapter 22, Article 22.4.1 – “Bows may have adjustable limbs for poundage and tiller adjustment.” The limb pockets at each end of the riser may allow for adjustment of poundage (draw weight), tiller and lateral alignment.

Book 4, Chapter 22, Article 22.4.7.1 – “When shooting, the index finger or middle finger must be within 3 mm of the nock or touch the nock (split finger or 3 fingers under). When shooting split finger, a finger separator between the fingers to prevent pinching may be used. A single anchor or face walking is permitted. String walking is not permitted.”

The athlete may choose to shoot with either three fingers under the nock or with one finger above the nock and the remaining finger(s) below the nock. The athlete may not change finger position on the string during the competition as this is string walking and is not permitted.

3) Interpretation request - Traditional bow riser

Submitted by – World Archery Norway

Discussion: The following is the majority decision of the Technical Committee:

If the riser is not made entirely from wood, then it must contain wood laminates that run the entire length of the riser. For the wood laminates to be considered as running through the entire length of the riser the wood laminates must begin and end where the limbs are mounted. The wood laminates may be broken by the shaping and cutting out of the grip. The wood laminates must be an integral part of the original construction of the riser and cannot be a cosmetic addition.

As a visual guideline for judging risers for the Traditional Division, the following photographs provide an excellent review of the types of risers that should be allowed or disallowed.

Photograph #1 shows four different risers. All of the risers shown have full length vertically laminated wood within the structure. All of these risers conform to the rules and are legal.



Photograph #2 shows a traditional riser with wood laminates, however the laminates do not run through the entire length of the riser with the exception of the grip. It is not possible to tell from the photograph what the black material is. If the black material is not wood then this riser does not conform to the rules and is not legal. If the black material is wood then this riser would be legal.



Photograph #3 shows three risers with wood laminates, however the laminates do not run through the entire length of the riser with the exception of the grip. It is not possible to tell from the photograph what the black material is. If the black material is not wood then these risers do not conform to the rules and are not legal. If the black material is wood then these risers would be legal.



Photograph #4 shows a single riser that has multiple vertical laminates that run through the entire length of the riser. This riser conforms to the rules and is legal.



Photograph #5 shows a single riser where the core of the riser is likely phenolic and laminated with wood the full length of the riser with the exception of the grip. This riser conforms to the rules and is legal.



The above interpretation only addresses wood laminates in the riser and does not address whether or not the riser complies with other requirements such as that contained in Article 22.4.1. and Article 22.4.1.1.

4) Interpretation request – Traditional bow division rule clarification, allowed risers

Submitted by – Technical Committee and Field and 3D Archery Committee

Discussion: The Technical Committee and Field and 3D Archery Committee are aware that the Traditional Bow division rules are causing confusion as to which risers conform to the rules and are legal.

Book 4, Chapter 22, Article 22.4.1 contains this statement, “The riser is of laminated construction and includes wooden laminates or made of one piece of wood.” This clearly means that if the riser is not made of wood, then it must contain some wood laminated into it during the manufacturing process.

Questions were raised as to what is the definition of wooden laminates. Therefore, the Technical and Field and 3D Committees issued a clarification approved by Constitution and Rules Committee which was released on 21 January 2022.

Article 22.4.1 mentions wooden laminates, plural meaning more than one.

In the clarification this statement was written, “If the riser includes wood laminates, the riser must contain at least two wood laminates within the original construction of the riser.” However, it is now realised that insisting on two wood laminates within the construction of the riser is not in the best interest of the Traditional Bow division. This statement could unintentionally limit the number of risers that would be legal. As an example, it would be possible to have two almost identical risers, one containing a piece of plywood and the other a single piece of wood and both laminated with other materials. Since plywood is a laminated wood, it would be legal, however the almost identical riser containing a single piece of wood would not be legal. This is not logical and a scenario that the committees wish to avoid.

The committee wishes to retract the statement referring to the requirement for two wood laminates to be in the riser.

For the avoidance of any doubt: If the riser is not made entirely from wood, then it must contain a minimum of one wood laminate that runs the entire length of the riser. For the wood laminate to be considered as running through the entire length of the riser, the wood laminate must begin and end where the limbs are mounted. The wood laminate may be broken by the shaping and cutting out of the grip. The wood laminate must be an integral part of the original construction of the riser and cannot be a cosmetic addition.

5) Interpretation Request (PENDING/Resubmitted) – Kinesiology Tape and Reinforced Compression Shirts/Clothing

Submitted by – Judges Committee

It is the majority decision of the Technical Committee that kinesiology tape and compression type clothing is legal in all divisions of World Archery. However, these types of elastic support and compression clothing may not contain “stiff” parts or rigid bracing that would support any joints of the shoulders, elbows, wrists, or any body joint. Kinesiology tape has already been allowed for use in all divisions of World Archery, subject to the 2005 interpretation (which is set forth below).

2005 interpretation on taping:

Book 2, Art. 7.3.3 A question has been raised concerning supports and taping of various joints, especially referring to wrist, elbow and shoulder areas. Response from the C&R Committee, after consultation with the Medical Committee and the Technical Committee: The taping of human joints, i.e. fingers, wrists, elbows, shoulders, knees etc. is legal within the rules of FITA. Although no rule supports this question, in the same regard no rule disallows it. Furthermore, the taping of joints has been a long time practice for many decades and therefore falls under a widely accepted and allowable framework of acceptable equipment. Within the last 50 plus years, no judge to our knowledge has proposed that taping is not legal. Therefore, we have to assume that under these circumstances, it is legal. However, it is to be stipulated that no such taping may contain a firm, "stiff" brace that would in any way help support the bow arm or drawing fingers in regard to any assistance in drawing and releasing the bowstring. C&R Committee, 28 August 2005.

Meetings

World Archery joint meeting of committees, October / November 2023, via online Teams meeting

1. 22 October 2022, World Archery kick off meeting
2. 11 November 2022, Technical Committee, Constitution and Rules Committee, and Judges Committee
 - Review of introduction of new Traditional Bow division rules at World Archery 3D Championships, 2022, Terni, Italy
 - Use of smart watches particularly on unmarked field archery courses
 - Review of historical interpretations
3. 25 November 2022, Technical Committee, Field and 3D Archery Committee
 - Review of introduction of new Traditional Bow division rules at World Archery 3D Championships, 2022, Terni, Italy
 - Review of introduction of new Barebow riser weights rule at rules at World Archery 3D Championships, 2022, Terni, Italy and World Archery Field Championships, 2022, Yankton, USA
 - Use of smart watches, especially with GPS capability, and other electronic devices on field archery courses

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank all the members of the Technical Committee, Park Sunghyun, Susanne Womersley, Kurt Nuenlist and Douglas Denton, for their hard work and dedication to the continued and future success of World Archery.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Shales
Chairman, World Archery Technical Committee