

INTERPRETATIONS

WORLD ARCHERY CONSTITUTION AND RULES

Book 4, Article 22.5.1

The Norwegian Archery Association (World Archery Norway) has requested an interpretation describing the traditional form (shape) of a longbow and of the “American Flat Bow”.

The Constitution and Rules Committee (“C&R”) finds the question presented to be within the terms of reference of the Technical Committee.

C&R has determined that the following interpretation is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

Response from the Technical Committee:

Photos provide the best description. The first photo is of a typical American Flat Bow or American Longbow, having the form of a traditional longbow but getting its common name from the flat laminated limbs as opposed to the Traditional Long Bow using the traditional “D” shaped limb section found in the following two photos. The photos depict what the current rule refers to, the traditional form (shape) of a longbow. For further clarification, one can simply type the words American Long Bow, or Traditional Long Bow in Google and pull up many photos of this type of bow and a good deal of information as well, including the following from Wikipedia.

Following is basically the same information from Wikipedia that is provided above.

A longbow is a type of bow that is tall—roughly equal to the height of the user; allowing the archer a fairly long draw, at least to the jaw. A longbow is not significantly recurved. Its limbs are relatively narrow so that they are circular or D-shaped in cross section. Flatbows can be just as long; the difference is that, in cross-section, a flatbow has limbs that are approximately rectangular.

While the interpretation request was to describe the traditional form (shape) of a longbow and of the “American Flat Bow”, to avoid confusion, please note that Book 4, Article 22.5.1 provides in part that the bow may be a two piece take-down, having two sections of similar length (take-down within the grip/arrow rest area), and may be made from any material or combination of materials. The shape of the grip (grip area only) is not restricted and centershot is allowed.

World Archery Technical Committee, 8 April 2015

Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee, 9 April 2015

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