



Northern Counties Archery Society.

Judges Information Update November 2015

Judge Changes

During November there were three assessments for County status, these being Sharon Tideswell of DNAA, Martin Middleton of YAA and Karen Hunt also from YAA.

All three received excellent reports off their assessor's and I am happy to report that they all passed. Their new status has been forwarded on to the judge registrar.

I have also received an email from Gareth Allen from YAA tendering his resignation, unfortunately due to his work and the fact he still likes to shoot he is unable to continue in his role as Candidate judge.

Regional Reassessment

Sean Gleason of Yorkshire has written to let me know that he has decided not to complete the recent Regional re-assessment exam, the main reason being that he feels discriminated against because he is not allowed to wear shorts while judging at a tournament.

Sean's full letter, as per his request is shown below.

To whom it may concern,

I have decided after considerable thought not to submit my, Grand National Archery Society (GNAS) t/a Archery Great Britain (AGB) which will be known as the Society, Regional Judge re-accreditation paper. I find myself in an untenable situation where I am being discriminated against, either real or perceived, because it has been decided that judges may not wear shorts for record status shoots. This in an age where the archer is apparently allowed to wear whatever clothing is desired and judges are given more restrictions on what to wear and where it can be purchased, even if all judges cannot be served by the offering that is available.

I have been told in no uncertain terms that I would not be allowed on the field if I turned up in shorts. The reason apparently is that shorts are not part of the uniform although until about the last 2 years it was perfectly acceptable to wear shorts to any tournament and a sleeveless fleece top was not part of the uniform until recently but, was regularly worn by many judges at record status shoots and to my knowledge none of them were pilloried and forced to leave the field.

I will of course be demoted to County Judge and under this title I will still help the smaller shoots and special shoots that require someone to administer the rules correctly without having to spend copious amounts of money on supposed specialist clothing that is not always fit for purpose.

Either the society's hierarchy has decided to be exceptionally strict on judges, or the new rules on re-accreditation and clothing regulations are meant to weed out those of us who may be regarded as not required for whatever reason and if that is the case then I must admit to being weeded out as I am tired of sleepless nights and mental aberrations thinking about what is going on, how and what I have to do to keep my position amidst adverse comments.

I am also taken aback although not really surprised at the attitude of the Society in its non-acceptance of any judging activities carried out in a different country as they do not apparently accept the training of other countries, even if the opposite is accepted.

I would like to thank Yorkshire Archery Association (YAA) and Northern Counties Archery Society (NCAS) for any assistance I have had over the years since I began judging in 1992.

Sean A. Gleason

I would like to point out that shorts are NOT and never have been part of the official judge uniform, though I am aware that judges have worn them in the past when we had the previous uniform. Sean is also wrong in his belief that he can wear what he likes at the smaller shoots too. If you are acting as a judge at an AGB tournament, regardless of status, you should be dressed in the official judge's uniform. For full

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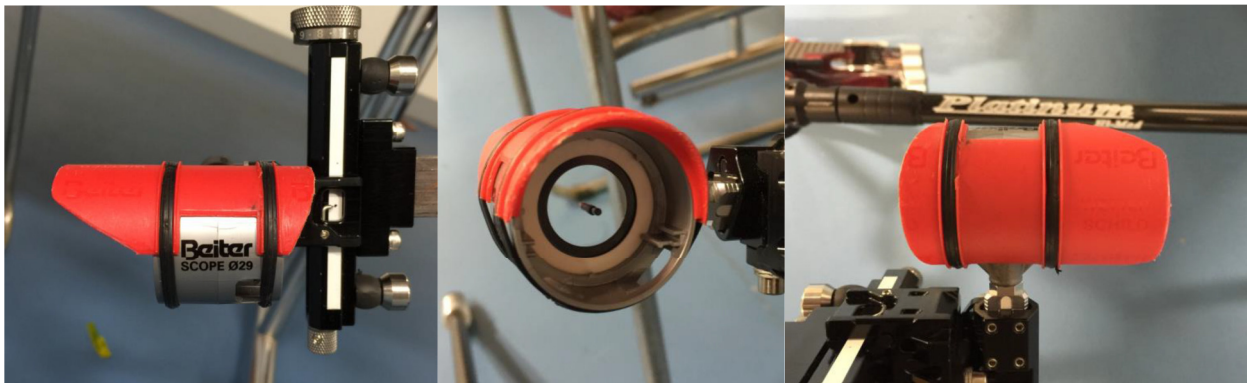
details of what constitutes the official uniform please refer to form J11 which can be found on the judges pages of the AGB website.

World Archery Interpretations

Book 3, Chapter 21, Article 21.4.4

Archery GB has requested an interpretation as to whether the sight shown below is allowed for use with a compound bow in the W1 division. The sight does not have any level, nor does it have a lens, only plain glass.

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



Response from the Technical Committee:

After consultation with an agreement by the Para-Archery Committee, it is the decision of the Technical Committee that the bow sight shown below is not legal in the W1 division. We believe the purpose of the W1 division equipment rules is to provide fairness within a very challenging division with multiple and different levels of physical ability. This division allows recurve and compound equipment, including release aids, but with certain limitations (45lb draw weight limit and no peep sight, scope, or level). The purpose of allowing this equipment is to address certain physical challenges of the athletes in this division. However, this division is not intended to address different visual abilities. The sight intended for this division is one allowed in the recurve division (see Article 21.4.4 which prohibits use of a peep sight, scope (magnification), and level).

Accordingly, the rules for bow sights in this division are those which govern in the recurve division. The scope hood shown in the photo exceeds the length limit under Article 11.1.5.2, being longer than the 2 cm length limit and is therefore not legal in the W1 division.

World Archery Technical Committee, 27 June 2015

Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee, 27 June 2015

National Appointments:

There was an increase in the number of judges applying to the National Shoots this year which is encouraging. Appointments to the shoots have predominantly gone to National and Regional judges. This should not discourage County Judges from applying as they will be used when there is a need, and it certainly gets your name noticed!

The full list of appointments for 2016 is attached to the email this newsletter came with.

Judges Information Update

Uniform

The National committee have been working with Kudos to resolve the issue with the trousers and are getting closer to a solution.

The National Committee met with Spencer from Kudos a few weeks ago and managed to iron out some issues that were affecting both sides.

Trousers

It was made clear that the trousers that had been supplied were not of the standard or quality required and that the amendments that had been put forward after the samples sent out had not been actioned. All those who have ordered trousers WILL BE REFUNDED from Kudos. This will either be put back on the card you paid by or you will be contacted to make arrangements for that refund.

The new trousers will be sent to the committee for approval by the end of November and will then be in production for the next set of orders.

Due to the small numbers ordered, the factory has had problems with the runs of these items. Therefore to ease this and to ensure orders go in with bigger numbers it has been decided that there will be THREE deliveries a year.

1. Prior to the commencement of the outdoor season
2. Mid-season
3. Prior to the indoor season

Order cut off dates will reflect the delivery date which should therefore be far more reliable. These dates will be published shortly on the Judge pages of the AGB website.

Trousers will be available for order, and those of you who receive a refund will need to re-order.

For those at the National Indoor tournament in December, Spencer will have a stand and he has been asked to bring his stock of judge uniform apparel with him so that judges can purchase direct on the day. This stock is limited so you may need to be quick!

Request for Judges

I have had a request from Tony Bakes for several judges to attend the NCAS Flight Championships which will be held on 14th August 2016 at Elvington Airfield, Halifax, North Yorkshire. If you are available and willing to judge at the event can you please contact Tony directly using the following email address.

anthony.bakes@rb.com

Personal Note (Another one)

Having thought long and hard on this matter, and considering I think of most of you as friends not just judging colleagues, I think you all deserve to be aware that I have had a series of medical tests over the past year or so, which were originally due to me suffering from a cough that took several months to clear. It started off with a chest x-Ray which indicated I had a slightly enlarged heart. To find out why it was enlarged I have had two echo cardiographs, an external one first, followed several months later by an internal one, which then lead to me having an MRI in May this year.

What they eventually found is that I have a hole in my heart between the top two chambers plus I also have a couple of veins draining into the wrong side of my heart, all of which is contributing to it being enlarged.

There is no immediate risk to my health as I have had this since birth I am told, however as I get older it will increase my risk of suffering cardiac failure, so I have been informed that it should be treated now to avoid this.

Unfortunately this means open heart surgery which most likely will happen sometime around the Christmas/New Year period, though exactly when I don't know as yet.

I have been told I will be off my feet for about a week and restricted to what I can do for about a month or so, though it will take up to 4 months for me to fully heal.

Obviously while recovering from the surgery I will not be able to carry out my usual JLO duties, and most likely I won't feel like or have the inclination to do anything for a few weeks after that as well.

Therefore Gareth Beeby has very kindly volunteered to act as my deputy during this period and will hopefully take over as JLO when I depart these shores to start my new life with my future wife Jumnean.