

A R I Z O N A



JUNIOR OLYMPIC ARCHERY DEVELOPMENT

***Why not become a NAA Judge?***

Local, Regional and National tournaments are always in need of judges. A common complaint of archers is the lack of tournaments and many tournaments do not take place because of a lack of willing judges.

Judging is a perfect outlet for JOAD parents. Judging allows the parent to be involved in tournaments and at the same time removes mom and dad from hovering as each shot arrow. Oddly enough some parents have found that they end up being closer to the shooting as they walk to and from the targets “with” the archers. Judges also have access to the inner workings of the tournament process. Judging is perfect for those that want to know more about the sport.

In the big picture, judges endeavor to be impartial, respecting and abiding by the rules in the true spirit of sportsmanship. Judges facilitate the tournament process in an effort to conduct an effective tournament. A successful tournament experience encourages healthily growth in our sport.

Here are some FAQ for those considering becoming a Judge.

***Who can become a judge?***

To be accepted as a Judge, you must be a member of the NAA for at least one year immediately preceding the application and be 18 years of age or older.

***How do I sign up?***

Contact Tom Green, chairman O&RC. Tom will send you the application form and put you in contact with your regional judge coordinator.

Here is Tom Green contact information:

9830 Tavernor Rd.

Wilton, CA 95693

Phone: 916-687-8541

Email: [tgarchery@frontiernet.net](mailto:tgarchery@frontiernet.net)

***What “type” of judges should I become?***

Beginner judges sign up as State or Candidate Judges. A Candidate is involved at both State and Regional level and is invited to work at National events. A State Judge works at State and club events. May I suggest that you sign up as a Candidate, which allows for maximum growth potential.

### ***When can I begin judging?***

Almost immediately! First, you will need to study the rules in the FITA C&R book and the Judge Guidelines plus learn how to apply them. The rules and judges guidelines are available on the FITA web site at [www.archery.org](http://www.archery.org). The “Rule book” link allows you to download and print the latest rules. The “Publications” link includes the Judges Guide Book (Note that some guidebook refers to some outdated rulings such as multiple Judges arrow calls). You can then begin judging as soon as you are willing (Which maybe sooner than you think). New judges are encouraged to shadow a veteran judge right away.

### ***Do I have to know everything to begin judging?***

NO! Usually you will be one of many judges, some of which have the knowledge and experience that you can go to with questions as they arise. Basically you will need to know how to call an arrow value, be observant of safety situations, correct arrow scores, equipment failures, mark arrow holes and stop a targets shooting if there is a bounce out, pass thru or hanging arrow. The rest can be handled upon consultation

### ***What Equipment do I need?(In addition to the FITA rule book and Judges Guidebook)***

Whistle on a lanyard to stop the shooting line should life threatening condition arise.

Red ink pen to correct and initial arrow value changes.

Small magnifying glass and small flash light to help determine an arrow’s value.

A count down stop watch for make up arrows timing.

NAA Judges Red shirt, available from the NAA Judges merchandise.

Khaki pants for NAA judging.

Comfortable shoes.

(Judges usually procure a bag, a hat, name tags, more shirts, a jacket, etc. they spend more time judging. Beginner judges can usually borrow everything from other on the judges crew.)

### ***What is required of me to maintain judge status?***

You are required to answer case study correspondences in a timely manner and meet any and all deadlines. The O&RC will always be at your disposal to offer assistance that you may require as you progress with your training. As you continue to serve, Regional and National Judging opportunities arise.

### ***How do I remain active in the judges corp?***

There a couple things to do.

- Contact those that host tournament in your area, state and region. The NAA calendar lists tournaments and contact information. Let them know that you are available when they are in need of judges in the future.
- The NAA sends out a packet to Candidate, Regional and National Judges each year. The packet lists a series of tournaments offering judging opportunities. Judges then let the NAA know what tournaments they are available for.

### ***Where can I find more information?***

Official Judges information is available in the NAA website, [www.usarchery.org](http://www.usarchery.org). Click on the “Coaches and Officials” link.

***Click here for a 5 minute beginner judges “Short course”.***

By Bob Pian

Judge Candidate, November, 2002

### ***Judges Short Course:***

The following outline is intended to list the basics for a beginner judge to effectively “Shadow” a veteran judge for the first time. This summary is not a substitution for the rule book but intended only to offer a simplistic overview of typical independent judge tournament duties.

- Dress code: Follow the instructions of the lead official as to the Dress code interpretation and enforcement.
- Equipment inspection: Observe as others inspect equipment. If you end up inspecting equipment. Ask for help if you don't know the answer.
- Correcting an arrow value on the score card: Judges need to correct arrow values on score card and initial the changes, all with a red ink pen. Totals can be change by the archers without judge's initials. Let the archers direct you as to what the corrections are to be. You are not there to do the scoring.
- Calling an arrow value: A judge's arrow call is final and deserves your utmost attention.
  - Insure that all the other arrows have been scored.
  - Ask which arrow is to be called.
  - Use a magnifying glass being careful not to touch anything.  
(Arrows, target face, buttruss etc.)
  - View the target face to observe any distortions.
  - View the arrow from the right with your ear almost touching the target face
  - View the arrow from the left with your ear almost touching the target face
  - View down the arrow shaft if need be.
  - Step back
  - Call “the arrow value is a \_\_\_\_”
  - Step away.
  - No other conversation should take place.
- Bounce out, pass through, hanging arrow: If you observe a bounce out or hanging arrow, approach the line, ask only the archers shooting on the effected bale to step off the line in such a way as to not startle the archers. Find out how many arrows each archer has to shoot and call the DOS to let them know that you a bouncer or whatever. When the line is clear the DOS will have you and the archer who's arrow is in question “score the arrow”. Score a hanging arrow shaft as it lies in the target. Score a bouncer or pass thru based on the lowest unmarked arrow hole that could possibly have been caused by the bouncer or pass thru. Record it on the scorecard. Put the arrow under the target and return to the line with the archer. The DOS may have you time the archers on the bale by a your stop watch (40 seconds per arrow) or make some other arrangement.
- Equipment Failure: An archer usually signals that they have an equipment failure by stepping back from the shooting line and raising their bow arm. Some will simply tell you. First find out what the situation is and how many arrows are left to be shot. Also attempt to find out how much time they need to fix the problem. Let the DOS know of the situation before they send the archers down to score. The DOS will determine the best course of action and direct you.
- At the target judging: Remind archers to mark the arrows after they have agreed to scores on the score card and before they are pulled. Stroll by the target faces from time to time and look for unmarked holes, particularly in the yellow and red. Mark them, double marking is always better than nothing. While at the targets remind the archers to not touch the arrows, target faces, target or stand until all the arrows are score and agreed too. Finally ask the archers to step back when they crowd the target in an unsafe way when they are pulling arrows.

- The rest of the judging should be able to be handled by asking the veteran judge for guidance such as;
  - Range inspection: Let the Chairman of Judges guide.
  - Three meter line, valid arrow judgment. A shot arrow is an arrow that is completely past the three meter line. Give the archer the benefit of the doubt if asked during shooting.
  - Time limit: The time limit is only there to keep the tournament going in a timely manor. Should an archer exceed the time limit the first course action is to warn them only (record the end the archer was warned on their score card) Let the DOS know of the situation and they will direct you as to the next course of action should it happen again.
  - Scopes on the line: Let the Chairman of Judges guide.
  - Note that the COJ usually briefs the judging crew with regards to team round, OR and match play duties. They also will brief you on one arrow shoot off procedures.

I am confident that with the listing above as a guide, a beginner judge can be a great help at a NAA tournament.

By Bob Pian  
Judge Candidate, November, 2002