

The Annual General Meeting of the Regional Shooting Committee was held in the Ellen Terry Suite at Stevenage Leisure Centre, Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 1LZ at 10am on Saturday 12th January 2019.

The Chairman, Graham Potts, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting and thanking them for attending and with the following statement

“Welcome all to our SCAS Regional Judge AGM and Discussion meeting - As ever, we have a full and varied programme today.

Before I continue, I would like us all to take some time just to remember those that we knew who have passed away this year. In particular many of us will remember Adam Abbott, who sadly left us earlier in the year. Adam was a reasonable shot and a coach, but also took to Judging and rose to Regional Status operating particularly in Target Archery. Adam was also a past President of GNAS. Very much a Gentleman, Adam was well known in his latter years for his hospitality - none more so than at the GNAM and SCAM where he shot on the end target. A sad loss to many of us, I would like you just to stand for a minute in memory of Adam and others whom we have known who have left us this year.”

19/01. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Paul Birch, Kieran Carr, Sean Fox, Richard Hillier, Tommy Hodder, Debbie Horn, Andrea Kehoe, Derrick Lovell MBE, Tori Mill, Trevor Strudwick, Simon Thomas, Andy Turner and Martin Whiting

19/02. Minutes of the meeting of 6th January 2018 (as circulated)

The minutes were agreed and signed.

19/03. Matters arising

16/2 Point 6 – It was discussed on what to do if there was an unseen bouncer, as the AGB Rules of Shooting do not allow this to be claimed even if it is then verified by a Judge at the Target. It was proposed by the Meeting that one solution was to change the Rule to remove the word “seen”.

Update – Graham Potts said that the Rules Committee had not progressed this any further. It was agreed that the SCAS Judge Committee would formally contact the Rules Committee to ask them to look at it

Update 2018 – the Rules Committee have been contacted and it is now with them to look at when they can so can now be closed.

Update 2019 – Graham Potts confirmed that the Rules Committee had been contacted but had not had a chance to look at it yet

19/04. Correspondence

All correspondence has been sent out during the year in the regular communications.

An email had been received the on 11th January from Bob Beaney. SCAS are running a Field Training Course on February 2nd at Guildford Archery Club to train people who want to be Field Tournament Organisers. Full details to be sent to all Judges after the Conference.

19/05. Chairman's Remarks

Welcome all to our SCAS Regional Judge AGM and Discussion meeting - As ever, we have a full and varied programme today.

Once again it is many thanks to Katy for the work she puts in on our behalf - ensuring we are all kept up to date with rule changes AGB or WA, reporting to SCAS Council and obtaining further additional budget for Judges, and for all the work on assessment arrangements etc.

Well done to everyone who progressed further with their Judging year, and many thanks to those who assist with the assessments, and also act as mentors to ensure Judges are prepared for the next step should they wish to take it.

The National Judges Working Group continues to work to improve training and progression from candidate to National grades with seminars that help standardise processes and are extremely useful. We have in place the ability to give grants for attendance at these events.

Our workload is large and thank you all for the time you give to Archery. I don't mind repeating again our CEO's mantra of "more archers, shooting more arrows, more often" as indicating that a Judges workload is unlikely to decrease!

In SCAS, I believe we provide good support, both through mentoring and financially, for Judges starting out, and please keep your eyes and ears open for new recruits - any hint of an idea that someone is interested should lead us to ensuring they are in contact with Katy as soon as possible.

Please also continue to take opportunities afforded to us all through Regional and National events - these are good opportunities for us all, make sure you put your name forward - no one will do it for you!

I would also like to take this opportunity to pass my congratulations to Hannah for her appointment as the COJ for the Olympic Games Test event this year, and to Katy for her appointment as Deputy Chair for the World Target and World Para Champs. These are excellent appointments and well deserved. I must also add the congratulations to Robert Potts for passing his IJC exams, and to Lee Miller who has passed his Continental Judge exam on his first step into International Judging.

As you will by now be aware, I have not put my name forward for re-election to be Chair of the SCAS Judges this year. I have served in this role now for something like 9 or 10 years, and feel the time is right now for me to stand aside and for someone else to take the reins. I have enjoyed my time in the role, one which is made easier by having both Katy and Hannah working alongside me - with Katy doing much of the work! Thank you both very much for your support. My successor can be assured of my full support.

My best wishes to all of you to have a great 2019, and for this to extend to your Judging.

Graham Potts
Chairman, SCAS Regional Judge Committee.

19/06. Secretary/Liaison Officers Report

Please see attached document SCAS JUDGES CONFERENCE 2019.pdf

Katy Lipscomb
SCAS Judge Liaison Officer

19/07. Elections

Graham Potts has decided not to stand again as Chairman after serving as Chairman since 2009. Geoff Barham gave a vote of thanks to Graham for all his hard work as Chairman since he took over following the passing of Alan Jones. Graham has worked hard to move judging forward in SCAS and his efforts are much appreciated.

- a. Nominations Received. We have received six nominations for Hannah Brown as Chairman and six nomination for Richard Pilkington as Vice Chairman

No nominations were offered from the floor so Hannah Brown was elected as Chairman for the period 2019 – 2021 and Richard Pilkington was elected as Vice Chairman for the period 2019 - 2021.

19/08. Appointment or promotion of Judges

- a. International Judge Candidate
 - i. Robert Potts
- b. Continental Judge
 - i. Lee Miller
- c. Regional Judge
 - i. Gary Bellamy
- d. County Judge
 - i. Martin Whiting
 - ii. Alex Purser
 - iii. Andrea Kehoe

19/09. Discussion Meeting/Training

1. Supporting Judges – Katy Lipscomb

I just want to remind you all that we Judges are a team and we should always try to behave as one team and support and help each other.

I want to tell you a couple of scenarios that have happened this year which highlight times when that support and help has not been apparent. This is not to get at any one Judge but to remind us all how easy it is to give the wrong impression unintentionally.

- ❖ A Judge was at an event as a spectator (it is worth noting that this event did not follow the normal rules and had some special peculiarities). The Judge saw something on a bow that under the normal rules would be illegal but at this event was not. The Judge posted a photo of this unusual item on Facebook with a comment that insinuated that the Judges working the event had missed it and implied that they had done a bad job. What the spectating Judge should have done was go and speak to the Chair of Judges or any of the Judges at the

- event, they would then have been informed that at this event it was perfectly legal. Instead by posting this on Facebook they made the Judges at the event look inept which is not good.
- ❖ A Judge was in a café, not in uniform and not where they live. They overheard part of a conversation at a nearby table between two archers (the Judge did not know the archers and the archers did not know the Judge). The Judge did not hear any names, but one archer said to another “I don’t want them to judge my event, I only want good judges”. As it is normally only other Judges who comment on the capabilities of another Judge you have to wonder where the archers got the idea that someone was not a good judge.

We need to be careful what we say about other Judges and their performance. If you have an issue with something a Judge is doing or behaving then speak to them, or if you don’t feel comfortable speaking to them speak to one of the SCAS Committee or any Judge you trust. No Judge does something wrong on purpose, if they are making a mistake it is because they don’t know what they are doing is wrong or that there is a better way of doing things. We need to support each other by being honest and by not doing each other down behind people’s backs.

2. Judges and Tournaments – Katy Lipscomb

In SCAS, apart from a few SCAS Tournaments which the JLO appoints the Judges for, all Judge Teams are chosen by the Organiser. I know it is sometimes hard you have been doing a shoot for several years and you are suddenly not invited back, it has happened to me. It can happen for a variety of reasons, for example there is a change in Organiser, the shoot gets smaller or there are new Judges in the area that need the experience/are cheaper in expenses.

When this happens we need to respect the Organiser’s decision. I have had a couple of Organisers contact me to say they have decided to change their Judging teams, only to have a member of the old team contact them and pressure them into re-inviting them. I know it is hard to be invited back and sometimes the Organisers could handle things better – for example it is sometimes that people just aren’t asked back, rather than actively being told they are not needed, but we need to respect their choices and not pressure them – it gives Judges a bad name.

There was a break of about 15 minutes for refreshments with the Meeting resuming at 11:20

3. Disabled Archery – Gary Bellamy

Gary, Disabled Liaison Officer for SCAS, gave a presentation on disabled archery.

See attached document “disability archery and judges presentation scas v1.pdf” and “disabled archer and judges scas v1.pdf”

There was a break of about 1 hour for lunch with the Meeting resuming at 1:30pm

4. AGB Field Changes – Hannah Brown

Northern Ireland have had a system in place in Field Archery for many years which encourages children from 6 upwards to shoot field. This system has produced many champions over the years. They introduced 3 new pegs – green, pink and yellow which can be shot at by any archer who wishes to. The idea is that you shoot at a peg until you feel confident and competent and then you move on to the next peg.

Archery GB have tweaked the idea a little and are introducing it in 2019. All the distances are detailed in the proposed changes.

The things that Judges need to bear in mind are that the new pegs must be discs and should be flat to the ground so they are not visible from the other pegs and cannot be used for judging distances.

These new pegs shoot last – again so they cannot be used to judge distances

The new pegs are not used at arrowhead events, they can only be used at UK Record Status and below events

There are no records/best scores recorded for the new pegs.

5. What would I do if.....? – Katy Lipscomb, Hannah Brown and Richard Pilkington
Judges submitted various questions online which were discussed at the meeting.

- ❖ You take over as DoS for the third session of an indoor event. When you look at the timing system you discover it has been set to an event time of 115 seconds, still with a 30 second amber light time. You discover that no one has changed the set up all day so it must have been running at 115 seconds for sessions 1 and 2. What do you do?
If you discovered that it had been set to 115 seconds, but with only 25 seconds amber light time, what would you do differently
 - There was a split, some thought it was most important to keep the time the same so that the three sessions all have parity, some thought as you know you knew there was a problem that the time be corrected so the 3rd session is run to the rules. There was also a split over whether to tell the archers or not. The final decision was that if the shoot was non record status then leave the time as is so all sessions are shot under the same conditions, but if it is UK Record Status or World Record Status the clock should be corrected for the 3rd session. Regardless the amber time must be 30 seconds

- ❖ 204. (a (ii)) Recurve Barebow. States that “Weights may be added to the lower part of the riser. All weights, regardless of shape, must mount directly to the riser without rods, extensions, angular mounting connections or shock absorbing devices”
It was mentioned by archer “A” that archer “B” has a plastic washer fitted between the weight and the riser.
On questioning archer “B” he stated yes but he had emailed senior judge “X” who said it was OK and within the rules.
What do I do now?
 - After some technical discussion on what are shock absorbing devices and that under WA Rules it is okay to have the wrist strap held between the bow and a weight it was decided that hard plastic and metal washers are okay to use, but soft plastic washers cannot be used. As a Judge you can always ask them to remove the washer so you can see if it is hard or soft. You could also try moving the weight to see if it does move at all, which would indicate if the washer is soft. This also led to a discussion on shock absorbing devices already built into the bow or hidden within the bow. Again you can ask an archer to remove any covers so you can check. Be aware that there are now available weights filled with liquid or sand which are not allowed. If as a Judge you do give an interpretation to an archer over something which might not be clear then let the JLO know so they can communicate the information to all Judges. If you give the advice in writing suggest to the archer that they print it out in case.

- ❖ At a WA 70 WRS metre round the Organiser has got a timing system, but when you go to test it you discover that the only connection lead it has for power is a mains connector, and there is no mains power available anywhere nearby. What do you do?
 - Ideally the Organiser will have the emergency flags and boards. However if not you can run the event on whistles and stopwatches. The 30 seconds need to be indicated, suggestions for this are using spare target flags, using high-vis jackets or a different whistle (if you are going to do this the whistle needs to be very different and let the archers hear the two so they know which indicates which).
Another suggestion was that you might be able to hook the timing system to a car battery but I would suggest you only do this if you are technically minded and you don't flatten your battery (you need to get home!).

- ❖ At a WA shoot and a boss full of arrows blows over. How do you score them (as WA says you can't reshoot)?
What do you say/do for the archers?
 - Every effort should be made to score the arrows. If it is not possible to score some or all of them then you can re-shoot. This is one of the 2 scenarios when an arrow can be deemed as not being shot.
As for who is liable for the cost of the arrows it is up to the Organiser and it is worth seeing what it says on the Entry Form. In some cases the Organisers have accepted to replace the arrows and have even gone as far as to give the archers a whole new set of arrows to ensure the new arrows are matched.
If this happens make sure you check all the other targets to make sure they are secure and re-peg or add pegs as needed to give assurance to the other archers and do what you can within reason to help the archers involved and to help them continue shooting.
All details should be recorded in the Record Status booklet.

- ❖ You are individually timing a head to head match, and your stopwatch fails halfway through a match, what do you do?
 - If you have another watch available use that, or if possible use your phone or your watch. At worst you can count in your head. Make sure you give the archers the benefit of the doubt when it comes to timing so no one is disadvantaged.

- ❖ An archer shoots an arrow and it falls into the area marked by the 3 metre line. During the end an animal comes and tries to move the arrow, and gets it outside the three metre area, what do you do?
An archer shoots an arrow which strikes and remains in a bird that is flying between the shooting line and the targets, the bird circles and comes to its final rest in the centre of the 3 metre line, what do you do?
 - Apart from shooting away the animal or trying to coax it back into the 3m line with food then the view of the meeting was to consider the arrow not to be shot and allow the archer to re-shoot the arrow.
As for the bird, in the past World Archery have said that the arrow will count as a Miss and that the arrow can be re-shoot as an Act of God had intervened. As a group the meeting decided that if this ever happened, regardless of where the bird and arrow ended up we would allow the archer to re-shoot the arrow. We would also

make sure the animal was dealt with humanely or the RSPB/RSPCA contacted to look after it.

- ❖ What should you do if you arrive at a tournament and go to put on your uniform and realised you left it at home?
 - There were some questions about how the Judge got there with no clothes on but we try not to think about that. There were several suggestions on what to do – see if you can borrow something from the other judges, even if it is just a coat; wear a J armband; wear waterproofs or get them to be DOS where they are not so visible. The other thing was to make sure it is explained to the archers, so they know what is happening

- ❖ What should you do if you disagree with the senior judge?
 - Some ideas were to take any conversation/disagreement off the field away from the archers; discuss your reasoning with the Judge and if possible show them where the difference is in the Rule Book; talk to the other Judges and if it is serious enough to affect the Record Status talk to the Tournament Organiser.
After the event think about talking to your mentor or JLO about the situation; maybe discuss it with the Judge you disagreed with to clear the air for the future; consider reporting it to the JLO and if it might have affected the Status report it to AGB; put a comment on the J5 in case this is part of a pattern.
If you are Chair of Judges try to be aware of any possible issues and deal with it.

- ❖ You are at an outdoor WA 1440 event and it is quite foggy, you can see the targets reasonably clearly but not the barrier fence at the end of the field, which you have checked at 152 yards from the shooting line. What actions do you take?
 - It was decided that ideally you would wait and see the fog disappears, even if that means delaying the start of the tournament.
The most important thing is that we are sure the range is safe
If the fog does not seem to be lifting you could send a couple of volunteers down the range to a point where they can see the overshoot area clearly. They should be wearing high-vis and have whistles and if possible radios so they can stop the shooting if the area becomes unsafe. Make sure you measure the overshoot area carefully so they don't accidentally stray into danger.
You could consider changing the shoot so it is shot backwards (start at 30m). Whilst the overshoot still needs to be monitored it might be better for the archers.
Make sure the archers are kept informed of what is happening.

- ❖ At a Mixed Team competition one member of the team is disabled and remains on the line and the other member is able bodied. How do you explain how they should do the 1m cross over?
 - The disabled archer should raise their arm when they have shot, at that point the other archer can cross the 1m line, and in reverse, once the able bodied archer has left the 1m area the disabled archer can then start shooting. Any infringement will lead to a yellow card.

- ❖ What do you do if the faces are the wrong size – too large and too small or are not licensed when they need to be?
 - See if other faces are available or can be got. If not then let the archers know that there is a problem and that records may not be honoured. Generally if the faces are

too small the records will be honoured but if they are too large they won't, but it is not guaranteed.

Keep the Organiser informed so they can put it on the report form and report it to the company they brought faces from.

Make sure that lots of faces are checked and the issues document along with the number of faces checked and make sure it is all on the report.

If it is the license that is missing check lots of faces to make sure they are in tolerance and if they are hopefully the records will be honoured, but there is no guarantee.

Maybe take a couple home for proof in case it is needed.

- ❖ What exactly is the process for make up arrows in WA when people have different numbers of arrow?
 - There are two choices – either stagger the start or stagger the end.
After some discussion it was decided that all archers should go to the line at the same time (so them coming onto the line does not disturb archers already on the line). The archers should then have a staggered start with each archer having already been told when they can start and then told again when the time comes. For example if one archer has 3 arrows and one has 1 arrow the clock should be set to 120 seconds and then when 80 seconds have passed (there are 40 seconds left) then the second archer is told to start. This way all the archers get the benefit of the amber light and the stop signal.
If needed get other Judges to help
Make sure the DOS is informed and knows what is happening. We have time to take a minute to make sure everything is clear.

- ❖ You are at an outdoor event and you notice a yellow helicopter start to circle the range at a low altitude, what could this mean to you, and what would you do?
 - Generally when a helicopter is circling it means they are going to land. Get ready to stop the archers and secure any equipment and targets in case they blow over.
If the land is designated for helicopters, for example Air Ambulance then the people from the hospital will let you know in advance as they will know a helicopter is due.
If there is a tournament on a venue like this it is worth mentioning it at Assembly so archers know it is a possibility.

- ❖ A member of the judging team falls unwell during the course of the shoot and have to leave the field of play with the expectation they will be unable to return, this results in there being no one of grade (national/regional as required) to officially continue the shoot in lines with the required grading as well as reducing the number of judges to below the suggested numbers.
The shoot is just moving to the second of three distances so does not yet meet the criteria for being shot as a shorter round without the second distance being completed.
A similar question was asked but in that scenario the Judge does not arrive at all
 - See if there is another Judge on the field, maybe as a spectator or member of the Work Party who can step in or see if there is another Judge who lives nearby who could be contacted.
The first consideration should be safety, are there enough capable Judges for the event to continue.
If the other Judges are experienced enough for the shoot to carry on safely the shoot can go ahead/carry on and retrospective dispensation applied for afterwards. Make

sure the archers are informed and the paperwork reflects what happened. When this has happened previously Archery GB have been okay with it and any records where honoured – but there is no guarantee this will happen

- ❖ Juniors [under 18] at target, flight, field, clout, popinjay, or any other shoot, who is responsible for them? Where does the responsible person have to be on the shooting field? Has the judge any responsibility to ensure there is someone responsible, or is it down to the organiser?
 - It was felt by all the room that the Junior is always the responsibility of their parent/guardian. At Field events the children are put in the same group as the parent or in a neighboring group depending on age and experience. It is the Organiser's responsibility if there are any questions or issues.
We as Judges cannot take responsibility for a child, particularly as we are not CRB checked.
However, we have a human responsibility, and if we see a child alone, in distress or in a vulnerable situation we should make sure they are safe.

The below questions were asked but had been covered earlier in the Conference

- ❖ Judging a flight shoot what scales can be used to measure a bow weights, and how should they be measured? A G.B only calibrate scales at 60 pounds
 - This question was discussed earlier with regards to W1 archers who are limited to 45lbs.
Whilst AGB are looking to get weights to check other weights this will not really be possible to do one everyone's scales, but they can hopefully provide specially calibrated scales for National Tournaments.
At the moment as long as all the bows are measured against the same scales then there is at least consistency.
- ❖ When exactly can we wear shorts?
 - The new guideline is that the decision is up to the Chair of Judges/Tournament Organiser.
As Chair of Judges check the focus a week or less before the shoot and if it looks like it is going to be hot, let the Judges know they can wear shorts. If however on the day it is colder, then there is no need for the Judges to change into trousers. Likewise if the temperature changes during the day the Judges don't have to get changed. The Chair of Judges decides yes or no and that sticks no matter what.
Any shorts worn must be smart and of a suitable length and be the same colour as the trousers.
Shorts can only be worn outdoors and are not permitted at major events which are televised or large streamed, such as National Series Finals or Selection shoots.
If you are not sure just ask the Organiser or Chair of Judges

19/10. Any Other Business

A question was asked about the proposed changes to the Judges uniform that was mentioned in the National Judges newsletter. Robert Potts (on the National Working Group) said that they are still looking into the changes, however at the moment they have no plans to change the trousers. There should be a full update at the National Conference at the beginning of March.

19/11. Date and Venue of next meeting

It was agreed that the room at Stevenage would be booked again for the 11th January 2020 in the Ellen Terry Room.

However, if anyone can recommend another venue in a suitable location then we could consider the meeting in 2020. The venue needs to be in a central location with good transport links and be able to hold approximately 65 people. The current venue costs £200 for the room and approximately £150 for the refreshments. **Any suggestions need to be sent to the Judge Liaison Officer by the 31st March 2019.**

Many thanks to Robert Potts for bringing the AGB weights so that our bow scales could be checked during the day and to the people that helped check the bow scales.

Many thanks to Gary Bellamy and Richard Pilkington for their presentation and help.

The Meeting closed at 3:10pm.

Activity in the Region 2018

Type of Event		Designation of Round		Numbers of Judges					Events by Grade			
				Judges	2016	2017	2018	Change	2016	2017	2018	Change
Target	754	Archery GB	475									
Field	89	World Archery	530	International	6	6	6	0	171	143	199	56
Clout	42			Continental	0	0	1	1	0	0	11	11
Flight	0			National	11	13	11	-2	301	352	278	-74
Other	120			Regional	11	12	13	1	259	259	240	-19
				County	20	19	18	-1	266	228	209	-19
Total	1005	Total	1005	Candidate	14	7	10	3	124	77	68	-9
Status of Event		Level of Event										
World Record Status	422	International	94	Totals	62	57	59	2	1121	1059	1005	-54
Record Status	271	National	162	Returns From	57	54	54					
Non-Record Status	312	Regional	91	Average Days Per Judge	19.67	19.61	18.61					
		County	218									
		Club	440									
Total	1005	Total	1005									