



CONSTITUTION AND RULES FORM

Interpretation Request

Interpretation for: Image Stabilised Binoculars

Submitted by: WA Technical Committee

Question: Is the use of Image Stabilised Binoculars permitted in all bow divisions for target, field and 3D (both marked and unmarked rounds)?

Decision:

It is the decision of the Technical Committee that Image Stabilised Binoculars are legal for all divisions and disciplines of archery.

References and Reasoning:

22.6. Accessories for all divisions

For athletes of all divisions, use of the equipment described below is restricted as follows:

22.6.1.

Any electronic or electrical device that can be attached to the athlete's equipment is not permitted.

Image Stabilised Binoculars are battery powered and electronic but not attached to the athlete's equipment.

22.6.2.

No electronic communication devices are permitted at the following events: World Ranking Events, Continental and World Championships. Dispensation may be given by the World Archery Medical Committee to permit the use for the monitoring of a medical condition. For other events, electronic communication devices are permitted on the course for the sole function of monitoring medical conditions or the promotion of the sport on social media.

Image Stabilised Binoculars are not an electronic communication device.

22.6.3.

It is not permitted to have any type of range finders or any other means of estimating distances or angles not covered by the current rules regarding athletes' equipment or any written memoranda or electronic storage device for storing memoranda. An athlete may carry a copy of the World Archery Rules, or any part thereof.

Image Stabilised Binoculars are not range finders. The stabilising system has no ability to determine the distance to the target.

22.7.Binoculars

Binoculars and other visual aids may be used subject, to the following:

Binoculars are permitted and Image Stabilised Binoculars are a specific type of binocular.

22.7.1. Binoculars, scopes and other visual aids may not have any visible scales or marks that can be used to range distances. Marks must be covered so that they cannot be seen or felt by the athlete; this includes those placed by manufacturers if they move when the focus dial is turned.

Image Stabilised Binoculars would be subject to the same examination by judges before shooting commences.

Susanne Womersley
Chair, World Archery Technical Committee
21 October 2025