

13 March 2026 Rulebook
Book 5, Appendix 2, Article 3: Stool

Archery Australia asked whether the cushion/seat shown in the photographs below is allowed for a para-athlete's stool.

The Constitution and Rules Committee (“C&R”) finds that the question presented falls within the Para Archery Classification Committee’s terms of reference.

C&R has determined that the following interpretation is consistent with the existing rules and with Congress's decisions.

Response from the Para Archery Classification Committee:

The use of a wrap-around cushion, such as the one shown in the photograph, provides not only additional comfort but also a degree of lateral support and containment that may confer an unfair advantage compared to other athletes.

The fact that such a device is not expressly prohibited by the rules does not automatically imply that it should be permitted without first verifying whether this interpretation is correct and consistent with the intent of the regulations. In particular, Book 5.1, Appendix 1, Section 6.4 states that adaptive equipment is not intended for performance enhancement and must match the level of impairment as reported on the Medical Diagnostic Form and confirmed through bench and field testing. Its use is intended solely to enable fair and equal participation in sport, and not to provide any athlete with an advantage over another.

Based on the images provided and referring to the current rules and indications regarding the use of stools, it is our opinion that the athlete’s impairment (amputee) does not justify the proposed seating modification.

The athlete appears to demonstrate independent sitting balance without external support, adequate trunk control during shooting activities, and the ability to maintain an upright posture throughout archery performance. Furthermore, there is no documented medical requirement for specialized seating or postural support.

From a technical perspective:

- The athlete’s impairment does not significantly compromise sitting balance or trunk stability.
- No clinical evidence indicates a requirement for external pelvic or trunk support during archery participation.

The modified cushion provides substantial stabilisation beyond the athlete’s demonstrated functional needs.

INTERPRETATIONS

WORLD ARCHERY CONSTITUTION AND RULES

World Archery Para Archery Classification Committee, 27 May 2026

Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee: 3 August 2026

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Photographs

