

The Annual General Meeting of the SCAS Judge Committee was held in the Ellen Terry Suite at Stevenage Leisure Centre, Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 1LZ at 10am on Saturday 3rd January 2026.

The Chairman, Hannah Brown, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting
“Good morning and welcome to this year’s conference, I hope you are all well refreshed from some time off over Christmas.

Before we begin, we must first remember those who have left us this past year, and it is a year when we have lost some huge members of our judging community.

We lost both Peter Turner and Derrick Lovell within just one week of November. The pair made field archery their life. The influence they both had on judges, archers and their clubs is just not measurable. The impact and contribution to the sport was more than anyone could count.

Please take a moment to remember them.”

We then went round the room and everyone introduced themselves

26/01. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence had been received from Maurice Berridge, Phil Collins, David Hall, Ben Hastings, Troy Hutchings, Woody Martin, Tori Mill, Richard Pilkington, Helen Piper, Graham Potts, Max Roantree, Adam Trott, Siobhan Tyson, Steve Vallis, Eva van Kleef-Bolton, Tracey Jackson and Daria Nikolova

26/02. Minutes of the meeting of 4th January 2025 (as circulated)

The minutes were agreed and signed.

26/03. Matters arising

25/06 – Assistance from County Associations.

Katy wrote to all the County Associations via the SCAS Secretary. Only two responded - Hertfordshire - £500 bursary and further help if needed, I asked for further details but they did not supply any

Buckinghamshire – they have said they will be reimbursing their judges AGB, SCAS and BAA fee providing they have been the judge in a minimum number of county events the previous year

At the meeting it was confirmed that Hampshire will offer support to Judges and Cambridgeshire offer some support to Candidates.

It was mentioned that Judges should also try asking their Clubs in case they can offer some support. Something is better than nothing

For the other Counties, please contact the County Secretaries to see what they can do to help you.

It was also mentioned that AGB have started using an event management system to manage volunteers at National events. At the National Indoors this was used by the Judges for the first time. On here you can log the number of hours you volunteer for at National events and this is translated into reward points which can be redeemed against items like a free hat. Katy will see

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what further information she can find out about the process and how it will work for Judges. Talk turned to AGB supporting Judges, for example with discount membership. Katy confirmed that this is something AGB were supposed to be looking into and they are doing other things, like the new J05 Booklet, but AGB funds are limited

25/09 – Indoor Face Heights

It was suggested that AGB could make their rules on Indoor Face Heights the same as WA to avoid confusion and give more flexibility. Katy wrote to AGB and was told they would be looking to change this rule, however it is unsure when the change would come into effect.

25/09 - AGB Passthroughs

It was suggested that AGB could change the rule on passthroughs so that arrows are pushed back through, rather than the arrow being removed and then pushed back through, and it should be done by the archer. Katy wrote to AGB and they are apparently looking at the rule, but again it is unsure when any change might come into effect.

26/04. **Correspondence**

All correspondence has been sent out during the year in the regular communications, these can also be found on the SCAS website.

26/05. **Chairman's Remarks**

"Well, what a year. I think archery in the UK is just about back to pre-pandemic levels. The shoots are full and the archers are out enjoying themselves, and that's where you all come in. The shoots need judges to function and so we need more."

We are the people who can influence the future of judging, we can identify the parents, partners, children sitting in the tents getting cold and damp, waiting in the cars getting bored, or the archers that are about to throw the bow over the fence – these are all potential judges. Sell what we do, recruit them, the more we have the better and stronger our community becomes.

This conference is about keeping up to date with changes, and whilst Katy will present the changes that have taken place and that are proposed, it is really key that you read the new WA rule book when it comes out so you know where everything is. There's nothing worse than trying to show the archer the rule and not being able to find it. It will take some time to learn your way around it, but hopefully it will be more straightforward and user friendly – even the archers and coaches might understand it.

The content of the training session, is based on requests from you, the judges, and from incidents and questions that have arisen during the year. Please contribute your thoughts, its good learning for everyone to hear how others think. Don't be afraid to speak up, even if you're not sure, give it a go, if its not quite right, we will make sure everyone know the right answer, that way everyone learns and we are consistent on the field of play. Most of all, enjoy it. If its not useful then we are wasting our time, and when I say "we", I mean Katy as she spends her Christmas preparing this, so please give us the feedback, take part and let us know what you want in your conference."

Hannah Brown

Chairman, SCAS Judge Committee.

26/06. Secretary/Liaison Officers Report

Please see attached document SCAS JUDGES CONFERENCE 2026.pdf

There was some discussion about the awards the SCAS Judges give out. Currently it is only the honorary title of SCAS Judge Emeritus which is awarded to Judges when they retire if they have gone above and beyond for judging and SCAS. For example, serving on a Judge Committee, mentoring, helping with assessments etc. However the title stops once someone passes away.

There was a proposal from Brian Dunlop along with Katy Lipscomb to create a list of SCAS Judge Emeritus who have passed away so there name is not lost and also a “Role of Honour” for Judges who have passed away who have done extraordinary work, this can be awarded to people who are Emeritus or still serving Judges at the time of their passing. There was also a suggestion of an award called “Honorary SCAS Judge Emeritus” for judges who retire who have done a lot of work for SCAS but who are not SCAS Judges.

Hannah Brown suggested creating a Working Group to look into the awards and suggest amendments at the AGM in 2027. Carla Piper volunteered to lead the Group along with Brian Dunlop and David Leach.

It was decided by the Meeting that the new award of “Honorary SCAS Judge Emeritus” should be created straight away and be awarded to Pam Tonkin of GWAS. Pam has helped train many SCAS Judges over the year as well as assisting with assessments and judging many tournaments within SCAS. The award is a small token of the high esteem in which she is held by SCAS. Katy undertook to send Pam the certificate and a letter of appreciation.

There was a conversation about equipment inspection at Non Record Status events. It was discussed that when we are acting as Judges at Non Record Status events we should still be checking the weight of compound bows to make sure they comply with the Rules of Shooting. This is because the weight limit is for the insurance as well as a Rule. As at all events we should always be casting our eyes over equipment to make sure it is legal.

Just because an event is Non Record Status does not mean that the Rules of Shooting can be ignored!

During the section about changes to the WA rules in 2026 there was some discussion on how to manage people not completing a round before a Head to Head to ensure that people with equipment failures/medical conditions are not accidentally removed from the H2H. At the moment we do not have the wording of the rule change. Once this is published than AGB will need to look at how to handle this so the same can be applied across the country, but until we have the wording we cannot do anything.

There was a break of about 10 minutes for refreshments with the Meeting resuming at 11:30 during the presentation

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Further updates -

SCAS Events and Judge Medals – the SCAS events for 2026 are still being finalised, you have until the 15 January to volunteer on the online form. A quick poll was taken as this is the first year that an online form has been used, the room confirmed they preferred the online form rather than the old paper form.

On a separate note if your club or County would be interested in hosting a SCAS event or finding out more about what would be involved in doing so please speak to Carla who will be happy to advise

The Judge badges for those Judges who officiated at SCAS events in 2025 were then presented by Hannah Brown.

Katy Lipscomb
SCAS Judge Liaison Officer

26/07. Elections

a. Nominations Received. We have received two nominations for Hannah Brown as Chairman

No nominations were offered from the floor so Hannah Brown was elected as Chairman for the period 2026 – 2029.

Next year it is the role of Secretary/Judge Liaison Officer, if anyone wants to know more about what the role entails please let Katy know

26/08. Appointment or promotion of Judges

- a. International Judge Candidate
 - i. Gareth Beeby
- b. Continental Judge
 - i. Alex Purser
 - ii. Tony Harris
- b. County Judge
 - i. Phyllis Griffiths

26/09. Discussion Meeting/Training

a. Multi face scoring – Hannah Brown

Hannah talked the meeting through various aspects of multi face scoring.

1) Find out what happened – write down the arrow positions on the back of the scoresheet or in your notebook. Then they are preserved in case they are needed and you can then talk the archers through what you are doing to avoid misunderstanding.

If it is multi spot then it helps to write them down the page, for example –

Top Face – 10, 10

Middle Face – 9

Bottom Face – 9

And if it is a single face then write them across the page, for example – 10, 10, 9, 9

2) Establish the values of the individual arrows – for multi spot faces there should only be one

arrow per face. If there are two then the highest scoring becomes a Miss. So in the above example one of the 10s becomes a Miss.

So the individual arrow values are

Top Face – 10, M

Middle Face – 9

Bottom Face – 9

3) Number of arrows – if more than the required number of arrows have been shot then the lowest 3 or 6 (or whatever) are the ones that are scored.

To do this write the individual arrow values down in order.

So in our multi face example this would be – 10, 9, 9, M – the lowest 3 are then 9, 9, M.

On the single face this would be - 10, 10, 9, 9 – the lowest 3 are 10, 9, 9

The single face example has only made one mistake – shooting more than 3 arrows. But the multi face example has made 2 mistakes – shooting more than 3 arrows and putting two arrows in one face

It is useful to bracket the arrows that are to be scored – for example 10 (9, 9, M)

4) Time penalties – apply any penalties for people shooting before or after their time. This is done by crossing out the highest score and replacing it with a M (Miss).

If in our multi face example an arrow had been shot out of time then the score would be **M 9, 9, M**.

It is done like this to preserve the score in case of an appeal.

There are specific rules for Compound Team and Mixed Team, please remind yourself of these rules before judging an event with Team rounds.

There is a page in the new J05 booklet which talks you through this process which will hopefully be a useful reminder at events.

There is also a handy guide on the SCAS website.

If you are not sure then write down all the details and ask another Judge, it is better to double check with someone else than get it wrong.

There was a break of about 45 minutes for lunch with the Meeting resuming at 1:30pm

b. Archers with Hearing Impairments – Deb Horn

Deb Horn kindly talked us through some hints and tips on dealing with archers with hearing impairments and those who are deaf. *[At the time of sending a copy of the presentation was not available, if it becomes available it will be sent out]*

Some important highlights were –

- Use natural gestures, such as holding your hand up for Stop. These natural signals are universal

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- If talking to someone who signs try to avoid moving your hands as they may think you are signing and be confused.
- Remember for people who use sign language English is not their first language, try to keep anything you say simple and too the point.
- Lip reading is hard work, so again make anything simple and too the point, don't shout or slow down your speech, but leave pauses to allow them to catch up
- If you are using a interpreter then speak to the person you are addressing with the interpreter stood next to you so the archer can look at you and watch the interpreter at the same time. Leave pauses and try to avoid pointing at things because the archer will naturally look where you pointed and not at the interpreter.
- You can always write things down if needed.
- At Assembly it is useful for people who lip read if the person who is speaking takes a step forward so they know who is speaking – otherwise they have to look along the line of the Judges to try and identify the speaker, by which time they will have missed a lot of things said. Also get any music turned off to help everyone hear what is being said
- It is useful to have a copy of the Assembly speech to give to people so they don't miss important information
- When giving line cutters point up or down depending on the outcome so the archer knows the result
- On larger fields it is worth sending a Judge down to the archer(s) to make sure they know the Assembly is happening and to check in on them

There is some information on Learning Curve as well as BSL booklets on the AGB and SCAS websites. One is a small handy guide and the other is more detailed, it was written for coaches but there is a lot of cross over.

c. New J05 Booklet – Katy Lipscomb

Katy Lipscomb did a presentation on the new J05 booklets which AGB have introduced. They are designed to promote more positive and constructive feedback and if a Judge is doing well then no specific comment needs to be made if it is not needed.

During the presentation the Judges broke up into small groups to discuss what you might put in the booklet and in what circumstances, notes on their faults are at the end of the attached presentation “New J05 Booklet.pdf”

d. Judging Standards/Conduct – Paul Clark

Paul Clark did a very useful presentation on Judging Standards which is the attached presentation “Judging Standards.pdf”. There are some very useful links to videos and pictures in the presentation.

Just as a reminder, if you need to speak to a Junior or vulnerable adult then make sure a parent or guardian is present. If this is not possible then make sure there are two people there, maybe yourself and a member of the club or someone who is the same gender as the archer.

For dangerous draws, you can always discreetly video the archer. You can then show them that video to highlight exactly what the issue is, particularly if you can play the video back in slow motion.

Unfortunately we ran out of time to do the other items on the agenda

26/10. Any Other Business

Carla Piper asked if anyone had any advice on what to do if two of the Judges do not get on. There was some discussion and various suggestions put forward. For example try to make sure the Judges are separated on the field so they are not near each other. If they cannot keep their feelings in check and behave professionally then the only option the COJ will have left is to ask one of them to leave the field.

In this circumstance it is worth talking to another of the Judging team if you feel you can to get their input. It is also worth speaking to the Tournament Organiser, not only to keep them in the loop but if they have invited the Judges they may have some ideas on how to handle the situation.

26/11. Date and Venue of next meeting

It was agreed that the room at Stevenage would be booked again for the 9rd January 2027 in the Ellen Terry Room. This is a week later than normal as the 1st Saturday is the 2nd January.

However, if anyone can recommend another venue in a suitable location then we could consider the meeting in 2026. The venue needs to be in a central location with good transport links and be able to hold approximately 50 people. The current venue costs £400 for the room and approximately £200 for the refreshments. **Any suggestions need to be sent to the Judge Liaison Officer by the 31st March 2026**

The Meeting closed at 16:35 pm.

Many thanks to everyone that kindly did a presentation – Hannah Brown, Paul Clark and Deb Horn. Their time and effort was much appreciated.

Also thank you to the team of Alex Purser, David Leach and Tony Harris and others who helped checked the bowscales during the day.

<u>Activity in the Region 2025</u>																
Type of Event		Designation of Round		Numbers of Judges					Events by Grade							
Target	616	Archery GB	277	Judges	2023	2024	2025	Change	2023	2024	2025	Change				
Target	616	Archery GB	277	Judges	2023	2024	2025	Change	2023	2024	2025	Change				
Field/3D	77	World Archery	446	International	5	5	5	0	152	138	131	-7				
Clout	28	Training	99	Continental	1	1	2	1	27	22	88	66				
Flight	2			National	14	14	10	-4	284	286	184	-102				
Other	99			Regional	11	11	10	-1	197	197	169	-28				
				County	12	14	13	-1	169	154	153	-1				
Total	822	Total	822	Candidate	16	9	13	4	33	58	97	39				
Status of Event		Level of Event														
World Record Status	381	International	76	Totals	59	54	53	-1	862	855	822	-33				
Record Status	224	National	170	Returns From	49	48	48									
Non-Record Status	118	Regional	77	Average Days Per Judge	17.59	17.81	17.13									
Training	99	County	148													
		Club	351													
Total	822	Total	822													