



Frequently Asked Questions on "Rules"

In this section you will find answers to some questions frequently received at the FITA Office on various topics in relation with the Rules, but that are not official interpretations from FITA as per its Constitution and Rules.

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FAQ – 3D Archery

Book 5, Article 11.10.3.1.1

Book 5, Article 11.10.3.2.1

Question:

Is the Helix Bow legal for FITA competitions?

Answer:

The Helix Bow is legal in 3D for the instinctive bow division, not, however for the barebow division, as the unbraced bow would not pass the test with the 12.2cm ring. In the instinctive bow division a simple arrow rest must be used.

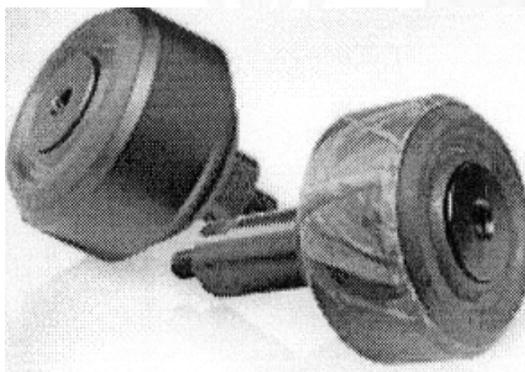
Book 5, Article 11.10.3.2.5

Question:

Can SVL products Modular and Enhancer 2000 be used in the instinctive bow division?

Answer:

These products are not legal, as they are clearly a shock absorbing device. They clearly violate the rule for the instinctive bow division as per article 11.10.3.2.5 "Only a short stabiliser less than 13cm is allowed, without rods, extensions, angular mounting connections or shock-absorbing devices."



Book 5, Article 11.10.3.2.2.2

Question:

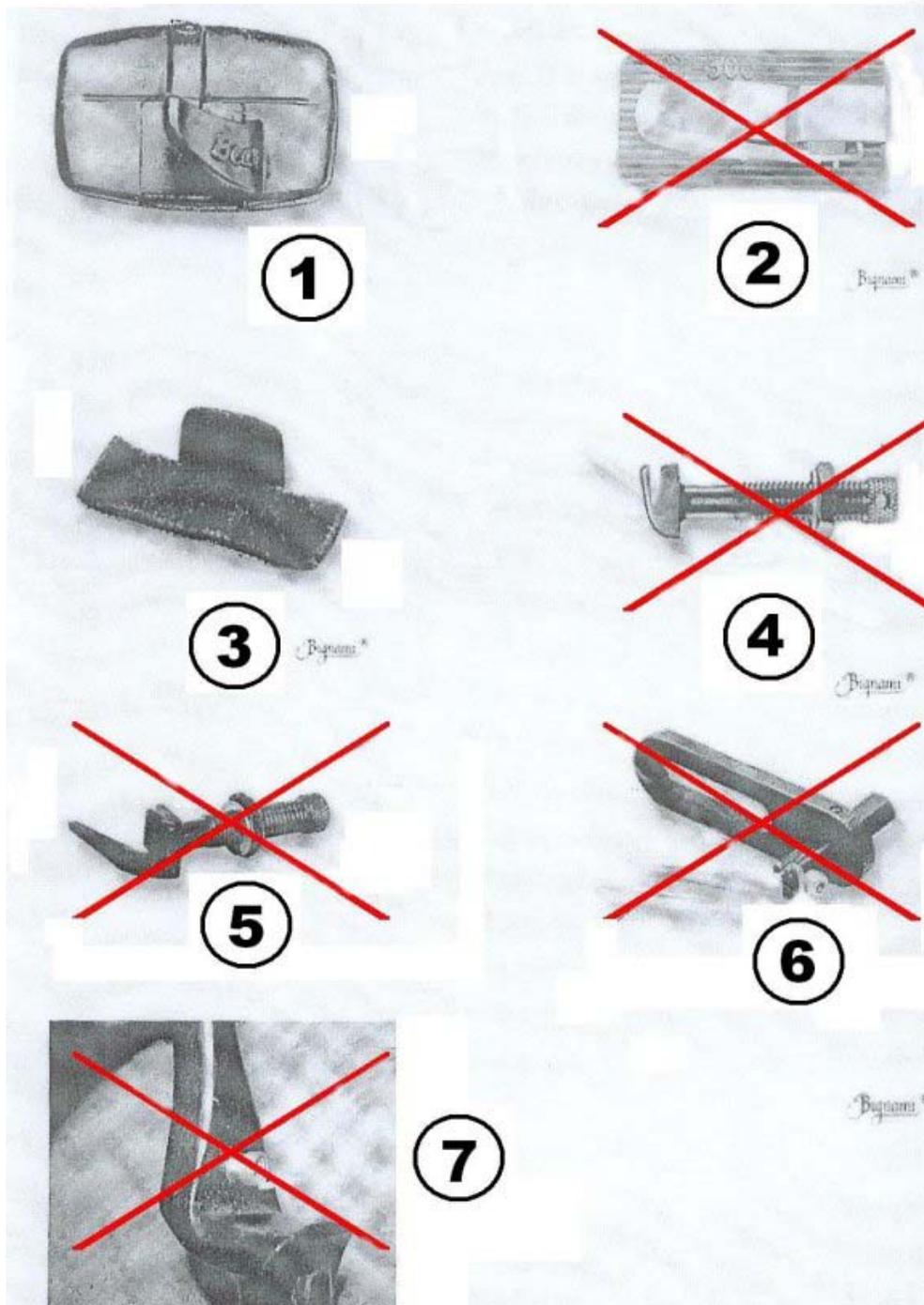
Question re various arrow rests for the instinctive bow division

Answer:

Clearly arrow rests in your attached document numbers 2, 4, 5 and 7 are not legal. Although #7 is of a very simple design, it has a built in "pressure button" (being the spring itself) and would have to be interpreted as not legal. #4 has a small cushion device and #5 has a plunger built into the body of the rest housing. For #2, again we have a non simple design with a built in pressure button. Rests #1 and #3 are exactly what is believed the rule designates as simple.



As for #6, this rest would also consider not to be legal as it is of a wrap around design, is adjustable in and out and is a flipper rest. Also, this rest is designed to be used in conjunction with a cushion plunger.





Book 5, Article 11.10.3.2.2.2

Question:

2 further arrow rests instinctive bow division

Answer:

For the instinctive bow division, the photo #1360 is definitely not allowed. However, the arrow rest in photo #1364 is allowed. The bow in #1364 has a small pressure pad, but not a pressure button and the rest is of a very simple design. We take it, that pressure button means cushion plunger, which is clearly the case in photo #1360 and therefore that arrow rest/pressure button combination is not legal for the instinctive bow class.

Article 11.10.3.2.2.2 reads: Either no arrow rest is used or only a simple arrow rest without pressure-button and without overdraw can be used.



1364: Is allowed



1360: not allowed

Book 5, Article 11.10.3.4.1

Question:

How is the length of a longbow measured?

Answer:

The unstrung bow will be measured from string notch to string notch from the back of the bow. A braced rasp strung longbow must correspond to the traditional form of a longbow, without any recurve at all.

Book 5, Article 11.10.3.4.6

Question:

Information about longbow

Answer:

"No weights, stabilisers or torque flight compensators are allowed."
This also means that a bow quiver cannot be attached to the longbow.



FAQ - Athlete's Equipment

Book 2, Article 7.3.1.5

Book 2, Article 7.3.3.5

Book 3, Article 8.3.1.5

Book 3, Article 8.3.2.5

Book 4, Article 9.3.5.1

Book 4, Article 9.3.5.3

Question:

Is this double ringed sight pin legal or illegal (see picture below)?



Answer:

This sight is legal in the recurve and compound bow divisions, indoor, outdoor and field archery, including the unmarked portion of the field archery rounds.

Book 2, Article 7.3.1.5

Book 3, Article 8.3.1.5

Book 4, Article 9.3.5.1

Question:

Can a flat clear plastic or glass inside the sight hood (or tunnel)—offering no magnification and/or light change (with or without an aiming mark on it)—be used in the recurve division?

Answer:

Such a clear disk is perfectly legal in the recurve division as long as it is simply a "support" to the aiming dot, ring, cross, optic fiber...



Warning!

The above item is neither a lens nor a prism; because a lens/prism has one or two curved surfaces and has the ability to alter light and/or view passing through it. A lens/prism is not allowed in the recurve division (see article 7.3.1.5.1.); it is only allowed in the compound division (see article 7.3.3.5.1.).

Book 2, Articles 7.3.1.7, 7.3.2.1.5 & 7.3.3.7

Book 3, Articles 8.3.1.7 & 8.3.2.7

Book 4, Article 9.3.7

Book 5, Articles 11.10.3.1.7, 11.10.3.2.6 & 11.10.3.3.7

Question:

Is the Starrflight FOB Engineered Airfoil legal for FITA competitions? This is an airfoil which is attached to the arrow shaft in place of fletchings. A description of the airfoil may be viewed at www.starrflight.com.

Response:

Legal in all divisions

Book 2, Article 7.3.3.2

Book 3, Article 8.3.2.2

Book 4, Article 9.3.2.4

Book 5, Article 11.10.3.3.2

Question:

Is the Timberline No-Peep Bow Attachment legal for FITA competitions? A description of the No-Peep may be viewed at www.timberline-archery.com/nopeep.

Response:

Legal in the compound division but not legal in any other division

Question:

Are string silencers legal for use in the recurve, compound and longbow divisions?

Response:

Legal only in the compound divisions and not in the recurve or longbow divisions

Book 2, Article 7.3.3.5.2

Book 3, Article 8.3.2.5.2

Book 4, Article 9.3.5.3.1, 3rd bullet

Question:

In field archery, can a compound archer have two scopes mounted on the sight? Example for a right handed archer: one scope to the left on the sight, and another one, mounted on the same rod, mounted to right.



Comments:

Usually the scope on the right side of the sight is more powerful and is used for evaluating the shooting distance on the unmarked course, which contravenes the following rules:

- 2nd bullet of #9.3.5.3.1
- #9.3.11.2
- #9.3.11.3

Nevertheless the answer below does not take this illegal use in consideration.

Answer:

In the compound division (as in the recurve division by the way) only one sight point is allowed.
See articles:

- #7.3.3.5.2. for outdoor target archery
- #8.3.2.5.2 for indoor archery
- 3rd bullet of # 9.3.5.3.1 for field archery

Hence two scopes are definitively not allowed on a compound bow in field archery.



FAQ - Bow

Book 4, Article 9.3.

Book 5, Article 11.4.2

Book 5, Article 11.10.2

Question:

Which type of bow is considered as a bowhunter bow under the FITA Rules in field and forest rounds?

Answer:

This is any type of bow (compound, recurve, longbow, etc.) which can have any type of sight (mostly you would find multi pin sights on such bows) and can be shot with a release or with fingers. The maximum bow weight is 80 lbs for men and 60 lbs for women and juniors. A peephole is permitted and there is no limitation on the placement or the type of the arrow rest. Stabilisers are permitted.

The only real limitation is on the type of arrows to be used which states that standard type of screw in field points should be used with a minimum weight of 125 US grains for men and 100 US grains for women and juniors.

FITA is aware that in some Member Associations there is a different definition of the bowhunter class which is more restrictive, but this is the only definition as applicable under the current FITA rule book.



FAQ - Bylaws

Book 1, Appendix 1, Article 6.6

Question:

Why have the bylaws approved since June 2005 not been integrated in the new rule book (2006 edition)?

Answer:

According to Appendix 1 of Book 1, Article 6.6.3, "Congress will confirm or reject new bylaws at its next session".

Therefore bylaws approved by Council cannot become part of the rule book before the following Congress decision.

See also the definition of a bylaw as published on the FITA website under the headings: Rules/Bylaws.

Rules status with regard to Laws and Bylaws

Question:

How to differentiate the status of a rule with regard to Laws and bylaws, in particular in the rule book appendices?

Answer:

As a general principle for the FITA Constitution & Rules Book, rules in normal prints are laws, rules in italic prints are bylaws. This applies to the core parts of Books 1, 2, 3 and 4. Below is shown the details for the Appendices and Book 5.

Book 1:

Appendix 1: rules in normal prints are laws, rules in italic prints are bylaws

Appendix 2: law

Appendix 3: law

Appendix 4: rules in normal prints are laws, rules in italic prints are bylaws

Appendix 5: bylaw (subject to changes in the World Anti-Doping Code) (*)

Appendix 6: bylaw

Appendix 7: bylaw (subject to changes in the Olympic Charter) (*)

Appendix 8: bylaw

Appendix 9: bylaw

Appendix 10: bylaw

Appendix 11: bylaw (*)

Appendix 12: bylaw (*)

Appendix 13: bylaw (*)

Appendix 14: bylaw (*)

Books 2, 3, 4:

All Appendixes are bylaws

Book 5:

Chapters 10 and 11: bylaws (*)



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(*) This should apply regardless of being printed in italics or in normal print. Normal print makes reading easier.





FAQ - Cadets

Book 1, Article 4.5.1.2 **Book 2, Article 7.2.2**

Question:

What is the size of the targets in the FITA Outdoor Target Archery Round for the cadet women class?

Answer:

A 122cm target is used for the 60m and 50m distances.
An 80cm target is used for the 40m and 30m distances.

Book 1, Article 6.3.4.2 **Book 1, Article 6.5.1**

Question:

Which Cadet Awards can be ordered without justification to the FITA Office?

Answer:

Member Associations can order FITA Cadet Target Awards as per Article 6.5.1, Book 1 of FITA C&R, up to the value of 600 (white, black and blue background).



FAQ - Classes

Book 1, Article 4.2.4

Question:

A competition takes place on 13 February 2006. In which class can an athlete compete when he completes his 18th birthday on?

- a. 31 January 2006
- b. 15 October 2006

Answer:

In both cases a) and b) the athlete can compete in both junior men (or women) and men (or women) classes.

Book 1, Article 5.3

Question:

How are world records recognised with regard to athlete's classes?

Answer:

A world record is always recognised in the class in which the athlete belongs by his/her age, no matter in which class he/she was registered at the tournament where he/she performed the record.

In addition:

A men/women's world record is recognised if performed by a master, junior or cadet men/women, no matter in which class he/she was registered at the tournament where he/she performed the record.

A junior men/women record is recognised if performed by a cadet men/women, no matter in which class he/she was registered at the tournament where he/she performed the record if the format of the competition is the same for both (e.g. a cadet when participating in a FITA Round for cadets cannot break at the same time the junior records since the distances or the order in which they were shot are not the same).

Of course in all case the tournaments where the records are performed have to be duly registered with FITA.



FAQ – Dress Regulations

Book 1, Article 3.22

Question:

What are the dress regulations for national teams competing at?

1. FITA Outdoor Archery World Championships?
2. FITA Indoor Archery World Championships?
3. FITA Field World Championships?
4. World Cup events?
5. Other international tournaments (European Championships, Grand Prix)?
6. Junior Championships?

Answer:

Preliminary remark:

The new dress regulations are part of the FITA effort to remain Olympic and to present as good an image of archery and of FITA as possible to the public. This goal has to be kept in mind particularly when archery events are on TV.

Article 3.22 of Book 1 describes explicitly the requirements for Archery World Championships for men and women. It is highly recommended that these rules be followed at international events in general.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| As to 1 | Highly recommended; mandatory for the match play part of the competition. |
| As to 2 | Highly recommended; mandatory for the match play part of the competition. This also applies to juniors when their competition is part of the championships for women and men. |
| As to 3 | These rules do not apply to field archery. |
| As to 4 & 5 | Recommended, but mandatory for match play in World Ranking events with guaranteed TV coverage (this includes all World Cup events). |
| As to 6 | Recommended; the onus is on the Member Association to send teams with uniform appearance and teach juniors and cadets the importance of proper, neat appearance for the image of their sport. |



FAQ - Laws

Rules status with regard to Laws and Bylaws

Question:

How to differentiate the status of a rule with regard to laws and bylaws, in particular in the rule book appendixes?

Answer:

As a general principle for the FITA Constitution & Rules Book, rules in normal prints are laws, rules in italic prints are bylaws. This applies to the core parts of Books 1, 2, 3 and 4. Below is shown the details for the Appendixes and Book 5.

Book 1:

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Appendix 5: bylaw (subject to changes in the World Anti-Doping Code) (*)

Appendix 6: bylaw

Appendix 7: bylaw (subject to changes in the Olympic Charter) (*)

Appendix 8: bylaw

Appendix 9: bylaw

Appendix 10: bylaw

Appendix 11: bylaw (*)

Appendix 12: bylaw (*)

Appendix 13: bylaw (*)

Appendix 14: bylaw (*)

Books 2, 3, 4:

All appendixes are bylaws

Book 5:

Chapters 10 and 11: bylaws (*)

(*) This should apply regardless of being printed in italics or in normal print. Normal print makes reading easier.



FAQ - National Teams

Book 1, Article 2.4

Question:

Do the eligibility to national teams rules apply for World Ranking or World Cup events?

Answer:

Yes, these are the rules for all events where the registrations have to be made by the Member Associations.

Book 1, Article 2.4

Question:

Does it matter if someone has competed for his country passport when he/she wants to compete for another Member Association?

Answer:

No, provided that he/she complies with Book 1, Article 2.4.2 of FITA Constitution and Rules, and the interpretation of the C&R Committee on 29 August 2005.

Book 1, Article 2.4

Question:

What is the situation of archers holding dual citizenship with regard to eligibility to national teams?

Answer:

Article 2.4, including article 2.4.4, applies to national teams and representing a country internationally only.

Dual citizenship gives the holder of passports of different countries special rights but in archery it does not entitle that person to gain an advantage over another person who holds only one passport.

- a. An athlete holding two valid passports for countries A and B may choose to represent either country in archery without a waiting period and without any restriction concerning residence. Such a choice is binding, however, and any subsequent changes are subject to articles 2.4.1, 2.4.2, and 2.4.3.
- b. If such an athlete belongs to FITA by being a member of one Member Association A and wants to represent the other country of which he is a national, he may do so without any restriction of time and residence. A written permission of the first country is not obligatory but a demand of politeness.
- c. For FITA purposes it does not matter whether the athlete has already represented either country in a different sport.

If the athlete obtains the second passport to which he is entitled by birth only later the athlete will only be allowed to represent that country after a waiting period of one year.



FAQ - Practice

Book 1, Article 3.19

Question:

Is it possible to allow archers to warm up at whichever distances on whichever butts they like during the breaks between distances (in particular when there is a long break e.g. for lunch between the first and second distance outdoors)?

Answer:

If there is no practice field available, during long breaks you can add the possibility (not mandatory, depending on the organiser) of placing warming-up targets on the sides next to the competition field or on the competition field but not on distances to be shot after the break (no sighter arrows). These targets can be removed before the competition continues.

The reason for this addition is that you make warming-up possible which is not against the rules and common practice under such circumstances. Many archers consider this to be an important service and nobody gains any advantage over other competitors. For safety reasons such warming-up must be under the control of the organiser or the judges.



FAQ - Scoring

Book 2, Article 7.6.1.4

Book 3, Article 8.6.1.3

Book 4, Article 9.6.1.2

Question:

Is the use of pencils allowed when scoring at FITA sanctioned events—National Championships, Award Tournaments and World Ranking events?

Answer:

No rules disallow the use of pencil for scoring arrows. The possibility of cheating is prevented by the cross-checking between the two scorers and by the judges controlling the conduct of scoring.

Book 2, Article 7.6.2.6.1

Book 2, Article 7.6.2.7

Book 3, Article 8.6.2.7.1

Book 3, Article 8.6.2.8

Questions:

1. What is the expected shooting procedure when a pass-through is identified from the shooting line and there is more than one archer shooting on the target?
2. Should the archers shooting on the affected target stop shooting?
3. Is the procedure the same for indoors and for outdoors?

Answers:

1. As stated in the Judge Guide Book the procedure will be the same as for bouncers, in order to avoid that more than one archer should have a pass-through at the same time.
2. The possible difference would be that in a pass-through case, all the archers on that target would walk to the target, as scores may have to be taken down and arrows pulled due to a possible change of the buttress.
3. The same procedure shall be applied for indoors and outdoors.



FAQ - Shooting

Book 1, Article 3.16.1.3

Question:

Can you mix categories in the target allocations for World Ranking or other major events?

Response:

Although rule 3.16.1.3 is in the chapter on championships, all provisions on the draw should also apply to the other major events such as the World Ranking events. It is also a question of being fair since with having a compound archer on a target with recurve archers there is much more risk for arrow breakage.

Book 1, Article 3.17.1.1

Question:

Can you have two archers of the same country on the same target at World Ranking events or other major tournaments if you shoot ABC?

Response:

Article 3.17.1.1 clearly states that it should be avoided to have two archers from the same country on the same target. Of course this can only apply to tournaments with national teams. If club teams participate at such tournaments, the national team should be on different targets as much as possible.

Book 2, Article 7.4.2.6

Book 3, Article 8.4.2.6

Book 4, Article 9.5.1.8

Question:

What happens if an archer has to stop shooting during competition in the qualification round and he does not finish? If there is no cut, can he still compete both in individual and team competition. Is there a difference with a no start?

Response:

An archer that has shot at least one arrow during the qualification round will be ranked based on the score he has obtained during the event both for individual and team competitions. Under current FITA rules there is no requirement to finish the round to be ranked and therefore this archer will participate in the elimination round if there is no cut. If an archer did not shoot one single arrow in the qualification round he and his team (if he is member of a team) will not be ranked and his opponent will have a bye.

Book 2, Article 7.5.1.3

Question:

In the case of ABC shooting the rule states that the archers can decide between themselves who shoots in which position. If a decision has been taken that the B archer shoots on the right



shooting position and there are only two archers on the target, at which target should he shoot at 30m with a multi face setup?

Response:

Article 7.5.1.3: If there is a mutual agreement between the archers, this agreement will be valid for the entire competition. Therefore, if the archers have decided to shoot in the A and C position even if in the draw they were A and B, they should shoot at the respective target at 30m based on their agreement. Only in the case there is no agreement they need to continue to shoot at their originally allocated position. Therefore, archer B in this case would be shooting at target C for the 30m.

Book 2, Articles 7.5.4.1 and 7.5.4.2

Question:

What is the time for a tiebreak arrow in a match with alternate shooting?

Answer:

When shooting alternately in a match, the tiebreak which will also be in alternate shooting is still 30 seconds. If the match is shot in non alternating format the tiebreak will also be without alternation and in 40 seconds.



FAQ - Targets

Book 1, Article 4.5.1.2

Book 2, Article 7.2.2

Question:

What is the size of the targets in the FITA Outdoor Target Archery Round for the cadet women class?

Answer:

A 122cm target is used for the 60m and 50m distances.
An 80cm target is used for the 40m and 30m distances.

Book 2, Articles 7.2.2.2 & 7.2.2.3

Question:

For 30m which are the possibilities for a target face setup in ABC shooting when using the 80cm centre target faces?

Response:

There are two possibilities:

- Triangular setup (article 7.2.2.2)
- Horizontal setup if the target matt allows for it, e.g. not possible for most round target matts (new article 7.2.2.3)



FAQ - Teams

Book 1, Article 4

Question:

What is the exact definition of a team in the various FITA rounds?

Answer:

Unless defined differently, in FITA rounds a team consists of 3 male or 3 female competitors.





FAQ – Tournaments Registration Fees

Book 1, Article 4.5.1.7

Book 2, Article 6.4.5

Question:

What is the tournament registration fee for a Double 70m Round?

Answer:

There is no such thing as a Double 70m Round. The only 70m Round consists of shooting 72 arrows at 70m. When registering a 70m Round simultaneously FITA recognises it as a 60m Round for cadets and therefore one single registration fee is paid. A Double 70m Round which would be two consecutive 70m Rounds is something not foreseen in the FITA rules and therefore would be two separate rounds under the FITA rules. This also would mean two registration fees.

For 2008, the FITA Council approved the following tournament registration fees:

- FITA Round, Arrowhead, 70m Round, 900 Round, 18m Indoor Round, 25m Indoor Round, Half FITA Round: **20 USD (15 EUR)**
- Double FITA Round, Double Arrowhead Round: **30 USD (23 EUR)**
- World Ranking Events: **150 USD (117 EUR)**



FAQ - World Records

Book 1, Article 5.3

Question:

How are world records recognised with regard to athlete's classes?

Answer:

A world record is always recognised in the class in which the athlete belongs by his/her age, no matter in which class he/she was registered at the tournament where he/she performed the record.

In addition:

A men/women world record is recognised if performed by a master, junior or cadet men/women, no matter in which class he/she was registered at the tournament where he/she performed the record.

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Of course in all case the tournaments where the records are performed have to be duly registered with FITA.