

## WCSA 7<sup>th</sup> World target Championships

### Chairman of Judges Report

The 7<sup>th</sup> WCSA World Target Championships were conducted in Fort Lauderdale from July 13<sup>th</sup> until July 19<sup>th</sup> 2015. The event was conducted at the Fort Lauderdale Archery Club which is situated on approx. 40 acres of land. The weather for the event was hot and humid daily with severe thunderstorms on occasion.

The event must be considered a success as all events were shot. Medals handed out and favourable comments by many of the competitors. My congratulations must go out to Bill Pimm and Raquel Perez who did their best to ensure the smooth running of the event. Also thanks to the Fort Lauderdale Archery Club members who assisted.

The judges for the event were:

Stephen Sommers (Aust) CoJ

Tony McLoughlin (Ire) Asst CoJ

Jerry Pylypchuk (USA) DoS

John Clark (Aust)

Iris Bingham (GBR)

John Bingham (GBR)

Parvej Joshi (Ind)

Rikard Zetterquist (Swe)

Jeff Copley (USA) who became an IJC following the judges seminar

Also attending were 2 representatives from Brazil – Vania Barra & Alexandre Teixeira who attended the Judges seminar as well as participated in judging some of the events.

#### **Saturday – July 11<sup>th</sup> 2015:**

The 2015 Judges Seminar was conducted at the La Quinta Hotel (where most of the judges stayed). Topics covered included safety, equipment inspection, line calls and attitude. This seminar lasted half a day but should have taken the complete day. Following the seminar the judges went to the target venue.

On arrival at the venue my expectations were immediately set with the target venue line marking happening. This was being completed by 1 USA team member and 2 Australian team members. There was no other field crew to be seen. This set the standard for the competition.

The target stands were 4 leg stands and the buttresses were white tail with white foam layer on top. Whilst the stands were there, the buttresses were not to be seen.

### **Sunday – July 12<sup>th</sup> 2015. Official Practice Day:**

On arrival to the venue the buttresses were still not on the course. The target faces were not yet seen and neither were the pegs to secure the faces to the buttresses. Bill Pimm & the judges organized the buttress to the venue and immediately began setting up. At approx. 10:15am we opened the venue for shooting – 75 minutes behind schedule.

The timing gear were 4 small clocks and were proven to be useless. They showed different times on each clock and while some counted down others did not. It was decided to dispense with the timing gear and go with whistles and a verbal 30 second warning. This was the standard set for the championships. Also there was no PA system but there was a bull horn.

The DoS stand was placed at 1 end of the ground. This may have contributed to the timing gear not working properly but there was no room to place the DoS stand in the center of the field so that option was not available.

Also there was no communication equipment available for communication between the judges and the DoS.

The shortest and middle distances were shot, lunch take and then the targets were moved back to the longest distance and shot.

Shooting ceased at approx. 15:00.

Also due to the number of competitors shooting had to be conducted in 2 details. Making the day a long one.

Equipment inspection was conducted along the line rather than bring everyone up to a central location. No issues found.

### **Monday – July 13<sup>th</sup> 2015. First day of the Target competition.**

Unlike the previous day, the shooting started on time.

Range 1 took approx. 210 minutes (3 ½ hours). As per normal the first few ends were very long but once everyone got their rhythm going the competition sped up.

The 1<sup>st</sup> 2 distances were shot, then lunch and then the final distance was shot. The day was completed at approx. 17:30. The longevity of the day was due to the 2 detail shooting.

### **Tuesday – July 14<sup>th</sup> 2015. Second day of the Target competition.**

Again the event started on time and started at the shortest distance. The first 2 distances were shot, then lunch and then started the last distance. We had completed the 1<sup>st</sup> end of the final distance when the storm warning siren began. This did mean that lightning was imminent. After discussion with Bill Pimm it was decided to stop the shooting immediately. I announced this to the competitors and within 5 minutes the storm hit us. Target stands were blown over, marquis (gazeboes, etc) were blown away – some hitting or going over cars.

In hindsight the decision to stop the event was the correct decision.

Some photos from the storm



### **Wednesday – July 15<sup>th</sup> 2015 – Match Play competition.**

Discussion with other judges and Bill Pimm it was decided that we could not finish off the last 9 ends of the target competition, complete the Match Play and attend the banquet in the evening. So I announced to the competitors that the target competition had now been completed where it currently was. We were to start the MP.

On arrival to the venue, the field had to be completely setup again. The storm had blown everything down. The event started approx. 60min behind schedule.

We commenced the MP with the Medieval Gold Match. This was for 2 reasons. 1 was to demonstrate how the Gold MP was to be conducted and the 2<sup>nd</sup> was that it freed up a judge.

Following the medieval event we began the elimination rounds. This was conducted much the same as the Target event – ie 2 details. Once we completed 2 rounds we were able to go to a single detail which sped everything up.

We then completed the bronze event and then the gold.

Medal ceremony for Target, Target Teams and MP were conducted at the front building of the club. Whilst waiting for results we were hit by another storm which meant moving dais, etc to under cover. It also vindicated the decision to not complete the Target event.

The banquet was held that night.

### **Thursday – July 16<sup>th</sup> 2015. Forest Day 1.**

The Forest round was conducted on a 12 target course that was to be shot twice (to make up 24 target). The course was a basic flat course that offered little challenges to the competitors and consequently very high scores were shot. This event was the first WC which used marked distances for the Forest round. It is my belief that this needs to be reviewed. The challenge has been removed from the event. This already has been discussed with Mark Goodyer and I will follow up with him later.

There was 1 withdrawal from the Forest but no other issues with the first day of the forest round.

### **Friday – July 17<sup>th</sup> 2015. Forest Day 2.**

The faces were all changed from those used on the first day as were the distances, but the same course was basically shot.

The shoot started late as we waited for the Indian team. After approx. 10 minutes and still no sign of the Indian team I decided to move the shooters out to the course. The event started 10 minutes late. The Indian team arrived approx. 30 minutes later. I allowed Parvej Joshi (Indian judge staying with team) on the course but the team was told they were not permitted on the course as shooting had started. So no Indians scored on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the Forest competition.

There were 2 equipment failures. Both on target 10 – but in different groups. 1 was a split limb which was replaced and missed targets were later shot. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was a string break. His spare string was left at

the hotel (why?). He sped off to get it, replaced the string and rejoined his group missing 2 targets, which were later shot.

There were no withdrawals (apart from the issues with the Indian team arriving late and not being permitted on the course).

That concluded the WCSA 7<sup>th</sup> World Target Championships

### **ICF Championships.**

As part of the ICF championships an Indoor, Bench shoot and 3D events. WCSA judges assisted with running these events.

### **Thursday – July 16<sup>th</sup> 2015. Indoor Day 1.**

The Indoor event is more correctly described as the Indoor/Outdoor event. The event is shot under roofing at both the shooter & target ends (but not between). I allowed most of the judges to rest and John Bingham was the DoS and Jeff Copley & Rikard Zetterquest was the judges.

This event went smoothly – no issues.

### **Friday – July 17<sup>th</sup> 2015. Indoor Day 2.**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the indoor was conducted much the same as the 1<sup>st</sup> day. Again John was the DoS but Parvej was the Judge.

Also the Bench shoot was commenced but was rained out after 3 ends.

As part of the ICF championships an Indoor, Bench shoot and 3D event

### **Saturday – July 18<sup>th</sup> 2015. 3D Day 1.**

The 3D event was conducted on a field further south than the Forest course. This seemed like a much more interesting course to shoot, but as only one bolt per target was shot, the shoot concluded prior to midday. There were only 9 competitors entered so only 2 judges attending the event.

A thunderstorm was experienced during the shoot, but the shooters opted to shoot on whilst the storm was happening. The rain and thunderstorm from 10:00 onwards.

Whilst the 3D event was being shot, the Bench shoot was also happening. 1 judge managed the event.

### **Sunday – July 19<sup>th</sup> 2015. 3D Day 2.**

The animals were altered and distances were changed for day 2 of the 3D round. Again no real issues from this round. Also Bench was conducted for those not shooting 3D.

Both events were concluded by 13:00

### **Comments:**

In my opinion there was little, if any assistance by the TNC for the running of this event. They relied solely on Bill, his wife Raquel, some of the Fort Lauderdale Archery Club and members of visiting countries for the setup of the target venue. The TNC, on the whole, was not to be seen. I had heard that

they felt they didn't need to assist as they paid to shoot in the event. That may be the case but competitors from visiting countries also paid to shoot but opted to assist.

Apart from the total lack of field crew there were several other items that need to be raised:

- 2 way communication – There was none. As several issues happened it was difficult to get word to the DoS, or CoJ, about what was going on.
- PA system – There was none, apart from the bullhorn that was inadequate. Any information that had to be relayed onto the competitors had to be shouted across the field
- Timing gear – was faulty so opted not to be used. Leaving the DoS to use whistle and bull horn.
- No distance markers on the target range.
- The shooting lanes were too narrow requiring the shooting to be conducted using 2 details.
- Toilet facilities were barely adequate and none on the 3D course.

These issues basically made the event a glorified tournament rather than a World Championships.

### **Conduct of the Judges:**

Several judges shot in some of the events and judged the ones they were not shooting in. This is quite common – using Iris as an example. This was more prevalent at these World Championships. This can make scheduling the judges a little difficult. But it was managed

Parvej, IJ from India, performance was sub-standard. He was continually late, had a questionable level of understanding of the rules and was found drinking beer during the target event. He was given an ultimatum. He was asked to attend either the next 3D WC or Target WC and had to prove to the respective CoJ that he had the right to remain a judge. Whilst I had the option to immediately dismiss him following the beer drinking incident I opted to give him a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance. He needs to grab this chance and vindicate my faith in him. If he opts not to go to either then he will no longer be a judge.

The DoS was Jerry Pylypchuk. Jerry was obviously nervous and made many mistakes. His role was complicated by the removal of the timing gear and the addition of the 2<sup>nd</sup> detail. This meant that Jerry needed to focus more on his duties which I feel he had difficulty doing. Many times the wrong signals were used which made the shoot at times, confusing.

The 2 IJCs from Brazil were very good once they were advised what you required from them. They will become good International Judges.

The remaining judges perform admirably in a difficult and tiring situation. Only one real concern for the judges as a whole was at end of day of the Forest event, the judges did not come off as a group. They came in when they thought their area was clear. This was not a large Forest event. All judges should have come off together.

### **Other Comments:**

- In my opinion the Indian team showed a total lack of respect to their fellow competitors. They (incl Parvej Joshi) arrived late to the Judges seminar and also arrived late to day 2 of the Forest event. Their late arrival to the Forest did mean that they were not permitted on the course (as shooting had commenced and this was a matter of safety).

- Many competitors have no idea how to score. There were many scorecards with the lower score first. Many with no hits, 10s & ring 10s counted (or even score). Some confusion about what a ring 10 was (ie many thought it was the compound ring). This goes back to their introduction into the sport. This does need to be reviewed.
- The Forest event needs to be reviewed. This has become a marked event and basically has made the event too easy. The marked ruling needs to be reviewed, or perhaps use longer distances.
- The food supplied by Fort Lauderdale & Raquel need to be complimented. Many times the food is an afterthought but not this time. The quality of the food was of the highest quality and the team need to be congratulated.
- There was no real issue with equipment inspection involving the Sports Standard & Freestyle bows. Whilst the inspection had little issues, the medals was a different situation. Many Standard bows became Freestyle bows which then complicated the medal inscription.
- July is a questionable time to run the event for South Florida. The heat and humidity were extreme – at least for this person
- The 3D scoring was confusing
- There was 1 protest in the Forest round. The pheasant face is designed so that a bolt can touch both lines at the same time. The protest was dismissed. This has been escalated to the Rules Committee.
- The inclusion of the ICF events made the week a long one. I am unsure of the success of this inclusion. I have asked Gustav Malmborg to write up a review of what he thought about having the extra events. Gustav was the only person to compete in all WCSA & ICF events and was awarded an “Ironman” certificate signifying this achievement.

Although several issues need to be followed up and it was a long hot & humid week I still maintain that the event was a success and that Bill, Raquel and the Fort Lauderdale Archery Club need to be congratulated.

Also my thanks and congratulations go out to the judges in attendance.

I attached an email (below) received from John Bingham, WCSA President, on July 19<sup>th</sup> 2015

Yours truly

Stephen Sommers

Chairman of Judges

7<sup>th</sup> WCSA World Target Championships

Good Evening Steve,

Now that we have completed the marathon of the World Champs, and I have had time to look back and consider the event, I have come to the conclusion that we owe a particular vote of thanks to our Judges.

Without the input of the Judges to take on part of the duties of the field party, this event would not have taken place. Their actions were exemplary.

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to all the Judges and Candidate Judges for their work.

John S Bingham  
President WCSA