



DOS Duties

Neil S E Foden

18 March 2014

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE DIRECTOR OF SHOOTING RESPONSIBILITIES AT IMPORTANT WA EVENTS

Prepared by Don Lovo with major input from WA Judge and internationally experienced Director of Shooting Mr. Skip Phillips

The quality of the Competition is directly proportional to how well the Director of Shooting discharges his/her responsibilities. The Tournament should develop its own rhythm and flow uneventfully to its conclusion (with only those interruptions caused by equipment failure or bouncers), The competition can be plagued with delays and interruptions if the DOS is not adequately prepared to assume the responsibilities necessary to provide a quality competition.

The DOS is not expected to leave the control platform during competition to make target or buttress repairs, Indeed that control belongs to the assigned Judges and they must work in close harmony with the assigned O/C field crew.

The DOS should attend the Judge Committee pre-tournament meetings (if available) to offer input and make sure that the control of the event is well detailed.

The DOS is the senior ranking official on the field once the Tournament begins but he/she must realize that team work with the Judges and the O/C is essential to insure a trouble free, smooth-running Tournament.

The Dos should make no distinction as to whether a Tournament is a local competition or a World Championships. All Tournaments should be conducted in the same manner and rhythm so that the competitors become accustomed to a standard pattern and routine.

The DOS should arrive on the field at least 20 minutes prior to the 15 minute countdown, so that a visual check of the venue and timing equipment is possible.

It is vital that all timing control equipment be checked and verified prior to the beginning of each session. Often the moving of the targets and buttresses can effect the electronic equipment and cause a line failure. This must be controlled before the competition begins to avoid unpleasant delays.

It is important that a countdown is given immediately before each morning or Afternoon session, The DOS will advise, "Shooting will commence in 15 minutes", and then subsequently 10, 5 and 1 minute. This routine will insure that all involved Archers, Judges, Media and others concerned are prepared.

Immediately prior to the close of the morning session (preferably just before the archers are sent forward to score their arrows) the DoS, in consultation with the Judges and the O/C, will announce the time when the afternoon session will begin. It is advisable to then announce

the official time to insure that all persons are working on the same clock. An additional announcement may be needed to allow the Photographers to go forward at this time to photograph the target.

They are not allowed to do so at any other time unless there has been a specific detailed request at which time the Chairman of Judges would assign a Judge to closely control the movements of the photographer.

On occasion the competition will have to be delayed due to: Equipment failure, bounce-outs, hanging arrows or just general problems with the field, buttresses or targets. An announcement must be made detailing the reason for the delay but must not be made until all competitors have left the shooting line. The Chairman of Judges must offer full assistance to the DOS and make sure he is advised of the problem and when possible, the probable length of time required to control and resolve the delay.

Adverse weather can cause serious problems - i.e. buttresses blown over, target faces torn off, etc. etc. The DOS has the responsibility to protect the archers from accidents during these periods. Should a buttress blow over, the Dos must immediately sound the multiple "five or more" audio stop shooting signals. At this point in time, the DOS can not wait for the line to clear or to insure that there are no archers at full draw. Our rules allow for adequate time to be given to any archer who is effected by this required interruption, It must be clear that any Judge on the line who sees a serious situation such as a buttress wobbling and about to blow over also has the right and responsibility to stop the competition immediately with five or more blasts on his whistle.

Should torrential rain affects the view of the target or lightning occur, the Dos has the responsibility to delay the competition until a later time, making sure that the announcement of a delay is given at a time when all competitors have shot the same number of arrows. The rules allow for the timing per end to be increased. To my knowledge this has never been done. If the conditions are so bad that the competitors can not shoot their arrows in the allowed time, they will not likely be able to shoot them in an extended time limit. The delay should always, if possible, allow for the competition to be completed within the programmed time.

The Dos should always take time to collect his thoughts before using the public address system. The only exception to this would be an emergency situation where an accident or serious security problem was imminent, all major announcements should have been prepared in advance and the script for these announcements must be used to insure that all matters are covered fully. Please bear in mind that many of the archers and coaches do not have English (French) as their first language, Make all announcements slowly, precisely and clearly.

Repeat the important ones if possible, i.e. Lunch break, when shooting will recommence, Team Captains' Meeting, competitors' names, etc.

When calling archers for match play events it is important to pronounce their names clearly and correctly. Please spend some time with the start list and secure capable assistance on names that are difficult for you.

The DOS and his assistant(s) require total concentration at all times. It is important for the DOS to clearly establish with the Organizing Committee, Team Captains, Judges and all tournament officials that they must not be disturbed in the Dos stand during the competition.

The DOS should at all times refrain from taking pictures or spotting individual arrows. Doing so would effect their concentration and give the competitors and officials an image of lack of important control.

It is also advised that if the line clears when only a few seconds remain on the clock, that the time be allowed to run out and the normal programmed sequence of the timing equipment remain without requiring a change. This will maintain a smooth flow and will in no way effect the overall length of the competition.

The Director of Shooting and his assistants must be adequately prepared to carry out the required duties. They should be neatly and if possible uniformly dressed. On some occasions, the DOS personnel dress in Judge clothing. This should be avoided. Their duties and responsibilities are very different from the Judges and there should be no confusion in the eyes of the competitors or spectators.

Summary

This is just a general overview; it is my intention to ask several experienced Directors of Shooting to review this text and make whatever additions they feel are required so that we can prepare a proper manual for DOS duty. This would be included in our Guidebook.



Archery GB is the trading name of the Grand National Archery Society,
a company limited by guarantee no. 1342150 Registered in England.



DOS Duties