

# **IBO RULES AND CLASS DEFINITIONS**

## **I. ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATIONS TO SHOOT**

A. IBO Tournament Year	2
B. Class Advancement by Age	2
C. Class Eligibility According to Sex .....	2
C. Pro and Semi-Pro Classes	2
D. Qualification to Participate In the World Championship	2
E. IBO Membership Required	3
F. Awards, Purses, And Entry Fees	3
G. Team Competition	3

## **II. TARGETS AND SCORING AREAS**

A. Targets	3-4
B. Scoring Areas	4

## **III. EQUIPMENT**

A. Grains per Pound and Arrow Speed	4-5
B. Maximum Draw Weight	5
C. Sights, Overdraws, Unusual Equipment, Etc.	5

## **IV. SHOOTING RULES AND ETIQUETTE**

A. Shooting Rules & Etiquette	5-6
B. Scoring	6-8
C. Binoculars and Rangefinders	8
D. Equipment Failures and Leaving the Course	8-9
E. Peer Groups	9
F. Tie Scores, Unsportsmanlike Conduct, And Misc.	10

## **V. SHOOTING CLASSES**

A. Level One—Non-Competitive Class	10-11
B. Level Two—Youth Competitive Classes	11
C. Level Three—Entry Level Adult Classes	12
D. Level Four—Advanced Amateur Classes	12-15
E. Traditional Classes.....	15-16
F. Level Five—Semi-Pro Class	17
G. Level Six—Professional Classes	17

## **VI. RULE VIOLATIONS AND PROTESTS**

A. Rule Violations	17
B. Protests, Appeals, and Requests for Reconsideration	18

## **VII. GAME VIOLATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS**

A. Causes for Suspension.....	19
B. Penalties.....	19

## **VIII. ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS**

A. IBO National Championship Triple Crown “Best of the Best”	20
B. IBO Shooter of the Year	20
C. Grand Slam Award.....	20
D. Lucky Seven Giveaway.....	20

# **I. ELIGIBILITY, QUALIFICATIONS TO SHOOT, AND AWARDS**

## **A. IBO Tournament Year**

The IBO TOURNAMENT YEAR begins upon the completion of one World Championship and runs to the completion of the next World Championship.

## **B. Class Advancement by Age**

If an archer's birthday falls after the conclusion date of the IBO World Championship, he or she will maintain class standing (FBH, CUB, Youth) until the conclusion of the subsequent IBO World Championship.

Adult archers may register at any event for any class the archer is eligible for based on his or her age on the day of registration. If an adult archer wants to qualify for the World Championship, he or she must be the appropriate age for the class for which the archer is attempting to qualify on the date of the qualifier. If an archer elects to advance to an age optional class, he or she must qualify for the World Championship in that class.

## **C. Class Eligibility According to Sex**

- 1. Female archers are required to compete in Female classes and Male archers are required to compete in Male classes; except, Female archers may compete in any Male class that does not have the same requirements as a Female only class. Examples would be, PHC, SPM, HF, etc. Male archers shall not compete in any Female only class.**
- 2. Male and Female refers to the archer's sex assigned at birth. Understanding there are competitive differences between Males and Females, we will use science and physiology, not psychology, to determine Male/Female qualification for any and all IBO events.**

## **D. Pro and Semi-Pro Classes**

1. An archer who registers for a Pro or Semi-Pro class during any one IBO shooting year must remain in that class for the entire duration of that IBO tournament year except that an archer may move up to Semi-Pro, or a Semi-Pro archer may move up to a Pro class. Archers who move from Semi-Pro to Pro during the IBO shooting year may not drop back down to compete as an amateur or Semi-Pro at an IBO-sanctioned event for the remainder of that IBO tournament year.
2. An archer who registers as a Pro or Semi-Pro in another 3-D shooting organization must register to compete at the same or higher level at IBO-sanctioned events.
3. A Pro or Semi-Pro archer must be an IBO member to participate in any IBO-sanctioned event.
4. A Pro or Semi-Pro archer may not register for an entry level class such as HC, FHC or BBO for a period of five years after participating as a Pro or Semi-Pro in any 3-D organization.

## **E. Qualification to Participate In the World Championship**

In order to compete in the IBO World Championship an archer must be an IBO member and place in the top twenty (20) scores for his or her class at an IBO-sanctioned qualifying tournament. The top thirty (30) scores will qualify for the World Championship at the National Triple Crown events only. FBH

archers need not qualify to participate in the IBO World Championship. International archers residing outside the United States, who wish to attend and compete at the IBO World Championship should contact the IBO office for further information on how to qualify in your area.

## **F. IBO Membership Required**

1. An archer must be an IBO member to compete in a state championship, IBO Indoor World, Winter National, Spring National, National Triple Crown, or World Championship, except as noted in E-2 below.
2. Guest passes can be obtained at registration for use at all National level events with the exception of the IBO World Championship. The guest pass may be used for the World Trophy Round. The guest pass is good for 1 event per tournament season. This limited membership will not include *Bowhunting World* magazine. This offer is not available to current or renewing members. It is our hope that members will utilize these guest passes to introduce their friends to the fun of 3-D shooting. At this time, guest pass fees shall be the same as normal entry fees for the class entered.

## **G. Awards, Purses, and Entry Fees**

1. All classes will receive an award for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place at all IBO National Level events. A class must have at least three (3) participants at the first leg of any multi-event competition such as the IBO National Championship Triple Crown to award a class Champion. To win, a participant must shoot all legs of the combined event.
2. Entry fees and amounts or percentages paid back from entry fees for IBO-sanctioned events are set by the host clubs.
3. At the IBO World Championship, purses will be divided among those who qualify for the final round.
4. Checks representing any amount won by a shooter at an IBO National or World event will be mailed to the winners. To allow for any questions, discrepancies, or corrections of any national or world event results, a five-business-day certification period will be used for future tournaments. At the end of this five-day period, results will be considered final and checks will be sent.

## **H. Team Competition**

1. All team members must be IBO members in good standing and must be registered as a team before any individual member begins competition.
2. Qualified teams may compete at the IBO National Championship Triple Crown events. In order for a class to have a team competition in the IBO National Championship Triple Crown, there must be three teams registered to shoot at the first leg of the Triple Crown. In order to win, a team must shoot all three legs of the Triple Crown.
3. Team members may not change throughout the duration of any IBO competition.
4. A team may be three or four members. Only the top three scores will count toward a team's total score.
5. Team awards will be given at the IBO Triple Crown award ceremony.

# **II. TARGETS AND SCORING AREAS**

## **A. Targets**

1. At all IBO-sanctioned shooting events, targets shall consist of 3-D type animal targets having

official IBO scoring areas.

2. Host clubs may mix the size of the animals so long as the targets have official IBO scoring areas.
3. Targets shall be set at unmarked distances. The approximate maximum distance for each stake shall be as follows:
  - a. Blue Stake: 50 yards (45.72 meters)
  - b. Green Stake: 45 yards (41.15 meters)
  - c. Red Stake: 40 yards (36.70 meters)
  - d. Yellow Stake: 35 yards (32 meters)
  - e. Orange Stake: 30 yards (27.43 meters)
  - f. White Stake: 25 yards (22.86 meters)
  - g. Neon Pink Stake: 20 yards (18.29 meters)
4. Targets should be set so they are distinguishable with their vital areas (8 ring) unobstructed.

Care shall be taken when setting targets not to over rotate or excessively lean the targets to ensure that the entire vital area can be safely shot.

## **B. Scoring Areas**

For all IBO-sanctioned shooting events, the targets shall have scoring areas as follows:

1. An “11” ring consisting of a circle centered within the 10 ring. The circle size should be approximately twenty five percent (25%) of the size of the 10 ring.
2. A 10 ring consisting of a circle inside the vital area.
3. A vital area (8 ring) that roughly approximates the heart, lung, and liver area of the appropriate animal.
4. The remainder of the animal shall be considered a “body” except as set out in Paragraph 5 below.
5. An arrow embedded in the horn of an animal, not touching body color, is considered a miss and is scored as a zero. Targets with legs or hooves of a different color than the main body will still be considered as body color for scoring.
6. Some targets have material surrounding the actual outline of a target animal. This additional material will NOT be counted for score.

## **III. EQUIPMENT**

### **A. Grains per Pound and Arrow Speed**

1. Arrows must weigh at least five (5) grains per pound of the bow’s maximum shooting weight unless the archer’s equipment qualifies for the exception set out in Paragraph 2 below. Shooting weight is defined as the bow’s maximum draw or thrust weight, as set up at the time of competition. A variance of two (2) pounds of draw weight shall be allowed for bow scale variation. Equipment qualifying in this paragraph (III.A.1) shall have no limit on arrow speed.
2. In the case where an archer’s equipment, when shot at five (5) grains per pound, does not generate 290 fps, that archer may shoot arrows weighing less than five (5) grains per pound. However, equipment qualifying under this paragraph (III.A.2) shall not exceed an arrow speed of 290 fps.

3. Draw weight shall not be adjusted after entering the shooting course. Adjustments can be made only after equipment is checked at the conclusion of a range. Doing so will be considered poor sportsmanship and subject to disqualification unless adjustment is necessary during the period allowed for equipment failure.
4. IBO recommends that archers do not exceed manufacturer's recommended limits on arrow weight and draw weight.
5. Regardless of speed or arrow weight configuration, all archers must comply with maximum draw weight restrictions for their class as outlined below. (Rule III.B)
6. A maximum arrow diameter of 27/64 (.422) will be allowed with an allowance of up to .425" for arrow point diameter.
7. Archers competing in the Youth Hunter (YH) Class shall be limited to a 260 fps arrow speed.
8. Archers competing in the Crossbow Class shall be limited to a 350 fps bolt speed.
9. Archers competing in the Pro and Semi-Pro classes shall be limited to a 300 fps arrow speed.
- 10. Archers competing with arrows weighing less than 5 grains per pound of bow weight shall be limited to 290 fps arrow speed.**
11. All maximum speed limits are allowed a 3% variance for chronograph accuracy.

## **B. Maximum Draw Weight**

1. The maximum draw weight for each class shall be as follows:
  - a. Cub: 40 pounds
  - b. All Female and Youth Classes: 60 pounds
  - c. All other classes: 80 pounds (excluding crossbows)

PARENTS of Cub and Youth shooters do not play the performance game with your child's equipment. Do not put their score at risk for point deduction or disqualification.

2. A two (2)-pound variance for bow scale variation will be allowed.

## **C. Sights, Overdraws, Unusual Equipment, Etc.**

1. Overdraws are permitted in all classes except BB, LB, ST, FBB and TRD
2. There is no limit to the number of pins on a sight but there cannot be a pin longer than 50 yards or one that is not uniform in alignment with the other pins. This rule is meant to prevent the use of a "belly pin" to bracket the animal.
3. A sight used in a fixed-pin class may not be adjusted once the archer enters the shooting course.
4. Sights that project a laser light or other aiming dot on the target are illegal in all classes.
5. An archer using new or unusual equipment not addressed by class definitions or elsewhere in these rules will be required to shoot in one of the open classes until the IBO Board of Directors makes a ruling on the proper class for the equipment.
6. A verifier or clarifier style peep sight will be allowed in all classes that permit the use of sights.
7. No type of draw check or clicker may be used in the traditional classes, except for BB class.

# **IV. SHOOTING RULES AND ETIQUETTE**

## A. Shooting Etiquette

1. Shooting groups shall not consist solely of friends and relatives. Such groups shall be “busted” by including at least one outsider who will keep score, whenever possible. A group of friends and or relatives must be aware that good sportsmanship requires an additional competitor/scorekeeper be added to their group. The archers in a group of teammates, friends, and or relatives are required to make range officials aware of this situation. Failing to do so is unsportsmanlike conduct.
2. An archer may only participate in one class at any one IBO-sanctioned event except for the Indoor World Championship where we allow an archer to participate in one class on each course (short course and long course). This does not prevent an archer from shooting a different style or class at a different event (except that Pro or Semi-Pros may not drop to an amateur class during the IBO shoot year.
3. All shooting groups shall establish a shooting rotation. Groups that contain archers shooting from different stakes will follow the shooting rotation while ensuring that no archer advances beyond their assigned stake before shooting. No archer (or spectator) shall approach a target prior to the entire group shooting.
4. When shooting, the archer must touch the appropriate stake with some part of his or her body. At times, stakes are set to challenge the archer with various shooting positions. Alterations to the ground around the shooting stake, using any tools or leveling aids, natural or otherwise, is not permitted.
5. **When drawing one’s bow, the archer must begin the draw in the direction of the target, at an angle that is not excessively above the flight path of the arrow. Sky drawing is prohibited due to the dangers associated with equipment malfunctions while the bow is pointed in an upward direction.**
6. Each archer shall be allowed a maximum of two (2) minutes to complete his or her shot. This rule shall operate as follows:
  - a. Time will begin for the first archer when the previous group clears the target. Time will begin for the next archer when the previous archer releases his or her arrow.
  - b. Archers should be sensitive to the time concerns of the groups behind them and make every attempt to shoot in a timely manner. An archer found to be over his or her allotted time by a range official may have five (5) points deducted from his or her score. If the actions of a whole group are contrary to this rule, each person in the group may have five (5) points deducted from his or her score. Repeated violation of an archer’s two (2)-minute time limit is considered to be unsportsmanlike conduct.
  - c. After shooting, the shooter should immediately clear the stake for the next shooter. Using binoculars from the shooting stake after the shot is prohibited. Repeated violations of this rule will result in a five (5)-point deduction of the shooter’s score for each violation.
  - d. In order to support the two minute time limitation, an archer at the shooting stake may not let down more than three times. Let down is defined as drawing to anchor, then letting down and not taking the shot. If an archer lets down more than three times, he or she shall receive a score of zero for that target. All shooting groups shall enforce this scoring, and failure to do so will be considered falsification of a score and subject the group to those penalties described in paragraph i. under Scorecards.
7. There shall be no discussion of yardage until all arrows have been scored. Discussion of yardage is permitted only among archers who have shot the subject target and must be done in a manner to ensure that other archers who have yet to shoot the target will not be assisted.

8. Sight tapes, which are being used during competition, must be covered to prevent yardage from being disclosed to other competitors.
9. No more than one umbrella may be used to assist a shooter at the stake. The maximum size for an umbrella used on a range shall be "golf sized."
10. All IBO competitive events are based on a "free-hand" style of shooting. No archer shall use any device such as shooting sticks, slings or other such accessories or shooting positions to create a "braced" shot.

## **B. Scoring**

### **1. Scorecards**

- a. At all IBO-sanctioned shooting events, two score cards must be completed for each archer. Scorecards must have the archer's name, address, and IBO membership number, and the IBO membership number of each scorekeeper.
- b. Scorecards must be split between two scorekeepers so that each scorekeeper has one card for each archer. Both scorekeepers must agree on a score, compare and record the score before the arrows are pulled from the target. Scorecards will be marked by a punched hole in the correct scoring box for each target prior to being turned in.
- c. Arrows pulled early will receive a zero. Repeated violations of this rule will result in the offending archer being disqualified.
- d. If the two scorekeepers for a group mistakenly record different scores, the inconsistent scores must be corrected as agreed upon by the majority of the group. The error must be circled and initialed by both scorekeepers and the correct score punched or otherwise clearly marked. If agreement by the majority of the group is not possible, the shooter will receive the higher of the two scores.
- e. Scorecards will be checked at the end of each course. Each group's scorecards must be turned in together by the entire group.
- f. Scorecards must be legible, complete, and signed by the archer to be accepted. No scorecard may be changed by a competitor or scorekeeper after submitting it to a range official.
- g. Archers shall be responsible for their own scorecards. It is up to each archer to ensure that his or her scorecard meets the above requirements.  
  
Duplicate cards will not be issued to replace lost or damaged cards, except in unusual circumstances approved by the host and or IBO tournament officials in their sole discretion.
- h. Host clubs shall keep scorecards for one year following an IBO-sanctioned shooting event.
- i. Any attempt by an archer to knowingly falsify a score, or knowingly allow another to falsify his or her score, shall result in a disqualification of that archer for that shooting event, and that archer shall be ineligible to participate in an IBO-sanctioned shooting event for a one (1)-year period. A suspended competitor may petition the IBO Board of Directors for reinstatement.
- j. The IBO reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to correct harmless errors including but not limited to, score tabulation, lack of initials or signature, posting, etc., which in the opinion of the IBO are clearly not a result of an attempted inflation of the archer's score.

### **2. Scoring Arrows**

- a. Scores will be tabulated as follows:

- i. 11 points: 11 ring or “X” ring centered inside the 10 ring
  - ii. 10 points: 10 ring or heart
  - iii. 8 points: Vital
  - iv. 5 points: Body
  - v. 0 points: Miss or arrow not touching body color.
- b. If more than one scoring area is visible on a target, the host organization of any IBO sanctioned event shall note which area shall be used at the shooting stake. In the event that such a target is not posted, either scoring area can be used.
  - c. An arrow shaft touching the line of a greater scoring area shall be given the higher score. Arrow parts that extend beyond the shaft such as feathers, vanes, or nock collars, cannot be used to score the arrow.
  - d. Arrows must stick in the target in order to receive a score other than a zero with the exception of a pass-through, robinhood, or bounce-back as set out in Paragraphs (e) (f), and (g) below.
  - e. An arrow that passes through a target may be scored if witnessed and agreed upon by the majority of archers in the group. A pass-through is an arrow passing completely through the target with material 360 degrees around the arrow, leaving a separate entrance and exit hole. If the pass-through was witnessed by a member of the group other than the shooter, and the group cannot agree, the archer may re-shoot the target before the group advances to score the target.
  - f. All whole arrows, or partial arrows that include the point, that are sticking in the target shall be scored where they penetrate the target. An arrow embedded into the nock end of an arrow embedded in the target shall be scored the same as the arrow embedded into the target. An arrow that hits another arrow—with the arrow being struck showing visible damage—that does not stick in the target shall be given the score of the arrow that was struck. The majority of the group must agree that 1) a particular arrow was struck, and 2) that striking the arrow prevented the arrow from sticking in the target, or the arrow shall be scored as a miss.
  - g. A bounce-back is an arrow that squarely strikes the target and bounces back toward the shooter. An arrow that glances off the target is not considered a bounce-back. A bounce-back may be scored if the score can be agreed upon by the majority of archers in the group. If a member of the group other than the archer witnesses the bounce-back and the group cannot agree, the archer may re-shoot the target before the group advances to score the target.
  - h. An arrow released or dropped accidentally will be scored a zero unless the archer is able to retrieve it while touching the stake and re-shoot it within that archer’s two minute period.
  - i. Any arrow intentionally shot into the ground or any object other than the target shall be considered an act of unsportsmanlike conduct and the arrow scored a zero.

### **C. Binoculars and Rangefinders**

- 1. An integral part of IBO 3-D competition is the archer’s ability to judge yardage without the assistance of range finding devices or assistance from others. Therefore, rangefinders and other devices that may be used to calculate yardage to the target are prohibited. An archer may not use parts of his or her body, the bow, or any other accessories or equipment to calculate yardage. Archers using adjustable sights may not adjust their sight elevation after drawing the bow and sighting the target. Any mark on otherwise legal binoculars that could be construed as a reference point for range finding is prohibited.
- 2. Hand-held binoculars are allowed without magnification limitations.



3. Binoculars shall not be used at the stake after the shot has been taken. An archer with an adjustable sight may not adjust his or her sight after using binoculars at the shooting stake. Archers may utilize binoculars additionally to view the target while waiting their turn at the shooting stake or from an on-deck area behind a group that is in the process of shooting a target.

#### **D. Equipment Failures and Leaving the Course**

1. Once an archer begins a shooting course, he or she must finish with his or her group unless given permission to leave by a range official, or in the event of equipment failure his or her shooting group. Any archer or group that leaves a range without the authorization of a range official will not be allowed to continue.
2. When possible, in the case of inclement weather, a siren or other warning system shall be implemented, indicating that a potential emergency exists and all shooting and practice ranges are immediately closed.

When this warning has been sounded, all shooting activity must cease, and everyone should seek appropriate shelter. Archers shall use the utmost caution to ensure the safety of all persons involved.

Archers may only resume shooting activity after being instructed by the IBO, the host organization, or other range officials on the proper manner to re-enter the competition ranges once the emergency has passed and the ranges have been re-opened. Due to the severe risk to one's self or other shooters and/or range Personnel in a potential emergency situation, any attempt to circumvent these safety warnings and continue shooting will be viewed as unsportsmanlike conduct and will be grounds for immediate disqualification.

3. Once an archer begins a shooting course, he or she may not exchange equipment unless there is an equipment failure as set out below.
4. EQUIPMENT FAILURES. Equipment failures must be visible and agreed upon by the majority of the group. The procedure for dealing with equipment failures shall be as follows:
  - a. The scorekeepers for the group shall write "equipment failure" on the scorecard of the archer with the equipment failure and initial the scorecard.
  - b. The scorekeepers will tabulate the archer's score to that point and initial the cards appropriately.
  - c. The archer with the equipment failure shall then cautiously proceed forward through the course and immediately notify a range official.
  - d. If three or more archers remain in the group, they may continue shooting. If two or fewer remain, they must join the following group (so long as it does not result in a group of six or more) or step aside and wait for range official before proceeding. If range officials are not readily available, then the group should proceed through the range to the check station.
  - e. The archer will be given a time by a range official within which the repair must be completed.
  - f. A range official will hold the archer's scorecards until the repair is completed and the archer is escorted back onto the course by a range official.
  - g. Any archer leaving the range without following the guidelines as set out in section (D) of this rule may be disqualified.

#### **E. Peer Groups**

1. A peer group may be made up of the top 10 scores from a previous competition in a particular

class. These scores will not include any tiebreakers. All shooters tied for a score will make up one score for this purpose.

2. The IBO or a host club (at the state, regional, or national level) may require an archer to shoot in a peer group at a particular event. If an archer is registered by the IBO or a host club in a peer group and that archer does not shoot in the group, his or her score will be ineligible for National awards of any kind.
3. If peer groups are assigned, the host organization will send a letter of invitation for an archer to participate in a peer group; however, it is still the shooter's responsibility to determine if he or she is required to shoot in a peer group. An archer may check the IBO website, call the IBO office, check with the host club, or check in at registration, to determine if he or she is required to attend a meeting for the purpose of being assigned to shoot in a peer group.
4. The top Pro peer groups assigned at the third leg of the National Championship Triple Crown will be the current leaders for the overall National Championship. In case of a partial round, head-to-head targets will be used to determine the top three finishes for the overall National Championship. The goal is to score as many head-to-head targets as possible to determine the top three National Championship rankings. National Championship rankings beyond the top three will be based on the scores used for the individual event.

#### **F. Tie Scores, Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Misc.**

1. 11s will be used to break ties for all places except for 1<sup>st</sup> place in amateur and Semi-Pro classes and 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> places in all Pro classes. Those who tie for 1<sup>st</sup> place in amateur and Semi-Pro and 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> place in all Pro classes, will shoot-off to determine the winners. For all other places, the archer with the most 11s will be the winner. However, if two or more archers still finish with identical scores, the host club will declare a shoot-off. A shoot-off will consist of a 3-D animal set at an unknown distance, within the limits of the relevant class, and an "X" shall be placed in the center of the highest-scoring area. The archer whose arrow is the closest to the "X" will be declared the winner. If only one archer is present at the shoot-off, he or she will be declared the winner. If neither archer is present, prize money will be added together and divided equally between those who are tied.
2. No alcoholic beverages may be carried or consumed on any shooting course, range, or practice area by anyone during shooting hours. If in the opinion of a range official, an archer who is under the influence of alcohol attempts to enter a course, range, or practice area, the archer will not be allowed to shoot and will be suspended from that competition. Repeated violations may result in a revocation of IBO membership and a ban from all IBO-sanctioned competitions.
3. Spectators shall not distract, interfere with, or assist archers while on the shooting course or range.
4. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Any action considered unsportsmanlike by the host club or the IBO will be grounds for disqualification and/or suspension from membership. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Projecting any illuminated aiming point onto a target.
  - b. Littering or improper disposal of trash.
  - c. Registering to compete as an amateur when the archer is a Pro or Semi-Pro in another 3-D shooting organization; or registering to compete as a Semi-Pro when the archer is a Pro in another 3-D shooting organization.

- d. Communicating to another archer the yardage of a particular target that the other archer has not yet shot.
- e. All forms of electronic communication are prohibited while on the shooting range unless communication is required for an emergency. Cell phone and other devices must be silenced before entering the range.
- f. Disobeying or disregarding the orders of a range official or shoot official.
- g. Using performance enhancing drugs. Recognizing the IBO/3-DI affiliation with FITA; the IBO is developing a substance abuse policy. We may be recognizing guidelines along the same structure as those utilized by FITA in their International competitions. Be advised, these guidelines may be implemented in the near future and may come into use with no further warning after this advisory.
- h. Any otherwise-listed rule violation.

## V. SHOOTING CLASSES

### A. Level One—Non-Competitive Class

#### **Future Bowhunters (FBH)**

FBH is a class for male or female archers 8 years of age and younger. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights or style of release. The maximum shooting distance is 15 yards (13.72 meters) FBH is a non-competitive class designed to encourage children to learn to shoot a bow and, consequently, awards should be random and based on participation only. It is suggested that host clubs announce a scheduled starting time, with all archers present to begin at one time. Set a 10-target range for this class only. The range may be in an open field with shooting stakes in a straight line and targets at unknown distances up to 15 yards.

### B. Level Two—Youth Competitive Classes

#### **1. Genesis (GEN)**

This class is for archers in NASP® eligible grades 4-12, **and will also include 3<sup>rd</sup> grade archers**, using the same rules as required for all NASP® events using the unmodified original Genesis bow and NASP® Easton arrows. GEN archers will shoot from the neon pink stake.

**GEN class will normally combine both Male and Female archers but may be divided into two or more divisions when the number of registered archers warrants these divisions.**

#### **2. Cub (CUB)**

CUB is the class for male archers 9-11 years old or female archers 9 to 12 years old. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. CUB archers will shoot from the white stake.

### **3. Youth Hunter (YH)**

Youth Hunter is an optional class for archers 12 to 17 years old. Archers in this class will use the same equipment as those shooting in the Hunter Class (HC). A maximum speed of 260 fps with 3% variance will be allowed in the Youth Hunter Class. YH archers will shoot from the orange stake. PLEASE REFER TO HC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT.-

### **4. Youth Release Ages 12-14 (YMR 12-14)**

YMR 12-14 is for archers 12 to 14 years old. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. YMR 12-14 archers will shoot from the yellow stake.

### **5. Youth Release Ages 15-17 (YMR 15-17)**

YMR 15-17 is for archers 15 to 17 years old. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. YMR 15-17 archers will shoot from the red stake.

### **6. Female Youth (FY)**

FY is for female archers 13 to 17 years old. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. FY archers will shoot from the orange stake.

## **C. Level Three—Entry Level Adult Classes**

### **1. Hunter Class (HC)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with or without sights. A sight shall have fixed pins, cross hair, or circle style pins without lens or magnification. If circle style pins are used, all circles must be the same size. A sight may have a rear aperture (i.e., peep sight or fixed rifle type sight). Sights may not be adjusted after entering the shooting course. Arrows must have screw-in points and at least three (3) feathers or vanes no less than two (2) inches long (measured minimum 1.75 inches). Stabilizers, Vbars, counter balances, or weighted attachments may be attached to the bow as long as these items do not extend more than 12 inches from each point of attachment. (For the purposes of this rule, any device adding length or weight to the stabilizer shall be considered part of the stabilizer and shall be subject to the 12-inch rule.) Un-weighted vibration dampeners are not considered to be stabilizers; however, un-weighted vibration dampeners attached to the stabilizer are measured as a part of the stabilizer and are subject to the 12-inch rule above. Equipment in this class may be shot with finger tab, shooting glove or release. HC archers shoot from the yellow stake. If an archer wins more than once in HC at any of the following events; Winter National, Spring National, or the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> leg of the National Triple Crown or the World Championship in addition to any archer ranking in the top three combined scores for the National Championship, or the top three scores for the World Championship including all ties must advance to another class at the conclusion of the current competition year. This will be a permanent move out of HC.

### **2. Female Hunter Class (FHC)**

Archers in this female only class must use the same equipment as the Hunter Class (HC). FHC archers will shoot from the orange stake. PLEASE REFER TO HC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT

If an archer wins more than once in FHC at any of the following events; Winter National, Spring National, or the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> leg of the National Triple Crown, or wins either the National Championship or World Championship during any one IBO shooting year, that archer must advance to another class for the entire duration of the following IBO shooting year.

### **3. Beginner Bowhunter Open (BBO)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. BBO archers will shoot from the red stake.

If an archer wins more than once in BBO at any of the following events; Winter National, Spring National, or the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> leg of the National Triple Crown or the World Championship in addition to any archer ranking in the top three combined scores for the National Championship, or the top three scores for the World Championship including all ties must advance to another class at the conclusion of the current competition year. This will be a permanent move out of BBO.

## **D. Level Four—Advanced Amateur Classes**

**HF, MHC, SFHC & SHC ALL REFER TO AHC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT**

### **1. Hunter Fingers (HF)**

Archers in this class will use the same equipment as those shooting in the Advanced Hunter Class (AHC) except that a release aid may not be used and the bow must be shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers. HF archers will shoot from the yellow stake. PLEASE REFER TO AHC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT

### **2. Master Hunter (MHC)**

This is an optional class for archers 60 years or older. Archers in this class will use the same equipment as those shooting in the Advanced Hunter Class (AHC). MHC archers will shoot from the yellow stake. PLEASE REFER TO AHC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT

### **3. Senior Female Hunter (SFHC)**

This is an optional class for female archers 50 years or older. Archers in this class will use the same equipment as those shooting in the Advanced Hunter Class (AHC). SFHC archers will shoot from the orange stake. PLEASE REFER TO AHC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT

### **4. Senior Hunter (SHC)**

This is an optional class for archers 50 years or older. Archers in this class will use the same equipment as those shooting in the Advanced Hunter Class (AHC). SHC archers will shoot from the yellow stake. PLEASE REFER TO AHC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT

## **5. Bowhunter Open (MBO)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. MBO archers will shoot from the green stake.

## **6. Female Bowhunter Open (FBO)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. FBO archers will shoot from the red stake.

## **7. Bowhunter Release (MBR)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on stabilizers or style of release. A sight shall have fixed-pin, cross-hair, or circle style pins. MBR shooters may use a lens with no restrictions on magnification. If circle style pins are used, all circles must be the same size. Sights may not be adjusted after entering the shooting course. MBR archers will shoot from the green stake.

## **8. Female Bowhunter Release (FBR)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on stabilizers or style of release. A sight shall have fixed pin, cross hair, or circle style pins. FBR shooters may use a lens with no restrictions on magnification. If circle style pins are used, all circles must be the same size. Sights may not be adjusted after entering the shooting course. FBR archers will shoot from the yellow stake.

## **9. Advanced Hunter Class (AHC)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with or without sights. A sight shall have fixed pins, cross-hair, or circle style pins. AHC archers may use a lens with no restrictions on magnification. If circle style pins are used, all circles must be the same size. A sight may have a rear aperture, (i.e., peep sight or fixed rifle type sight). Sights may not be adjusted after entering the shooting course. Arrows must at least three (3) feathers or vanes no less than 2 inches long (measured minimum 1.75 inches). Stabilizers, Vbars, counter balances, or weighted attachments may be attached to the bow as long as these items do not extend more than 12 inches from each point of attachment. (For the purposes of this rule, any device adding length or weight to the stabilizer shall be considered part of the stabilizer and shall be subject to the 12-inch rule. Unweighted vibration dampeners are not considered to be stabilizers; however, unweighted vibration dampeners attached to the stabilizer are measured as a part of the stabilizer and are subject to the 12-inch rule above. Equipment in this class may be shot with finger tab, shooting glove or release. AHC archers may use glue-in points. AHC archers shoot from the red stake.

## **10. Female Seniors (FSR)**

FSR is an optional class for female archers 50 years of age or older. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. FSR archers will shoot from the red stake.

### **11. Men's Senior Class (MSR)**

MSR is an optional class for archers 50 years of age or older. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restrictions on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. MSR archers will shoot from the green stake.

### **12. Masters Class (MCBH)**

MCBH is an optional class for archers 60 years of age or older. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. MCBH archers will shoot from the green stake.

### **13. Senior Master Class (SMC)**

SMC is an optional class for archers 70 years of age or older. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. SMC archers will shoot from the red stake.

### **14. Crossbow (X-BOW)**

Crossbows must be standard production crossbows, however, minor modifications such as butt plates, strings, added weight and the like shall be permitted as long as such modifications do not void the manufacturer's warranty or diminish designed safety standards. No Hooked Butts, Palm Rests, or extra equipment used for bracing will be allowed. (See section IV, A, 9) Trigger assemblies must be standard production by the original crossbow manufacturer and may not be altered in any way. Bolts must be no less than 20/64ths in diameter and measure no shorter than 14 inches. All bolts must be identical in type and size and point weight. Bolts must use at least three (3) vanes or feathers and screw in field points. Crossbows shooting up to and including 300 fps must shoot bolts weighing no less than 400 grains. Crossbows shooting 301 to 325 fps must shoot bolts weighing no less than 425 grains. Crossbows shooting more than 325 fps must shoot bolts weighing no less than 450 grains. A maximum speed of 350 fps with 3% variance will be allowed in the Crossbow Class. Any type of sight may be used. A sight with adjustable elevation may not be adjusted after raising the bow and sighting the target. Any archer using a variable power scope shall be responsible to tape or otherwise secure the adjustment setting to create a fixed magnification, prior to beginning competition. Crossbows must be in sound condition with a working safety.

In an effort to supplement the two minute rule and speed the crossbow loading process, crossbows should be cocked when the shooter is in the on deck position. The safety must remain on and crossbow must remain unloaded until the archer is at the stake and ready to shoot. The crossbow must be loaded while in a downward position and pointed in the direction of the target. No crossbow may be loaded while pointing up. X-BOW archers will shoot from the blue stake.

### **15. Veterans Class (VET)**

This is an optional class for any archer who is a current member of, or has previously served honorably in the armed forces. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. VET archers will shoot from the red stake

## TRADITIONAL CLASSES

Bow weight restrictions shall apply in all traditional classes as in any other class.

### 1. Bare Bow (BB)

A recurve or longbow shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers. No sighting device of any kind may be used. A rest and plunger are all that may reside within the sight window of the bow. A clicker is allowed but must not be mounted in the sight window of the riser. There shall be NO markings on the bow or bowstring (intentional or accidental) that could be construed as sighting marks. All arrows shall be of the same material and be of uniform length and weight. String walking and face walking are permitted in the BB class. Weights may be added to the lower part of the riser. Weights, regardless of shape, must mount directly to the riser without rods, extensions, angular mounting connections or shock absorbing devices. The unstrung bow must pass completely through a hole or ring 12.2cm inside diameter + or – 0.5mm. BB archers will shoot from the orange stake.

### 2. Longbow (LB)

A one (1) or two (2) piece longbow shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers, Archers may use up to two (2) nock locating devices, but they must use the same nocking point and anchor point for each shot and the index finger must contact the string in the same place for each shot. The index finger must touch the nock of the arrow. Face and/or string walking are not permitted. No sighting device of any kind may be used. There shall be no markings on the bow or bowstring (intentional or accidental) that could be construed as sighting marks. No type of draw check or clicker may be used. Arrows shall be made of wood and shall be uniform in length, weight, and color (allowances shall be made for normal wear). All nocks must be glue-on but a screw-on tip adapter may be used. Arrows shall be shot off the hand or shelf of the riser. LB archers will shoot from the white stake.

A longbow shot in LB shall conform to the following specifications:

1. The bowstring, when the bow is strung, may only contact the nocks of the bow.
2. No stabilizers, counterbalances, or weights of any kind may be attached or built into the bow; except a bow quiver clearly designed to hold arrows.

### 4. Senior Traditional (ST)

Senior Traditional is an optional class for archers 60 years or older. Equipment shall consist of a recurve shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab, or bare fingers. Archers may use up to two (2) nock locating devices, but they must use the same nocking point and anchor point for each shot and the index finger must contact the string in the same place for each shot. The index finger must touch the nock of the arrow. Face and/or string walking are not permitted. No sighting device of any kind may be used. There shall be no markings on the bow or bowstring (intentional or accidental) that could be construed as sighting marks. No type of draw check or clicker may be used. All arrows must be the same length and weight.

Aluminum or carbon arrows must have screw-in points; wood arrows may have glue-on points. All arrows must have at least 8 inches of fletching. No counterbalances, or weights of any kind may be



attached or built into the bow, except a single 12 inch stabilizer and a quiver clearly designed to hold arrows may be used. Arrows shall be shot off the hand or shelf of the riser only. An arrow side plate (if used) may only extend one (1) inch above the arrow. The shelf may be built up and the side plate may be built out with a hard material that has a minimal consistency of wood. The shelf and side plate may be covered with a softer material that is no thicker than 1/8 inch. ST archers will shoot from the white stake.

### **5. Female Bare Bow (*FBB*)**

Archers in this female-only class must use the same equipment as the Bare Bow Class (BB). FBB archers will shoot from the white stake.

### **6. Traditional (*TRD*)**

A recurve, longbow or ILF/DAS type riser being no longer than 21" (ILF/DAS type risers longer than 21" will compete in Bare Bow - BB) shot with fingers directly contacting the bowstring using a glove, finger tab or bare fingers. Archers may use two (2) nock locating devices but must use the same nocking point and anchor point. Index finger must contact the nock of the arrow. No string walking or face walking. Arrows must be shot off the shelf. Shelf can only be built up ¼ of an inch and built out ¼ of an inch. No stabilizers, counterbalances, or weights of any kind may be attached or built into the bow, except a quiver clearly designed to hold arrows may be used. No face or string walking. No markings on the bow or bow string (intentional or accidental) that could be considered sighting marks. Any type of arrow material can be used, but arrows must be uniform in color and length except normal wear and tear. Arrows must have at least 12 inches of FEATHER - no plastic or other material other than feather. Aluminum or carbon arrows must have screw-in points; wood arrows may have glue-on points. TRD archers must finish the range with the same arrows they started with. TRD archers will shoot from the white stake.

## **E. Level Five—Semi-Pro Class**

### **Semi-Pro (*SPM*)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. SPM archers will shoot from the blue stake.

## **F. Level Six—Professional Classes**

### **1. Pro Release (*PMR*)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. PMR archers will shoot from the blue stake.

### **2. Pro Female (*PRF*)**

A compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. PRF archers will shoot from the blue stake.

### **3. Pro Seniors (*PSR*)**

PSR is an optional class for archers fifty (50) years of age or older. Equipment shall consist of a compound, recurve, or longbow shot with no restriction on sights, stabilizers, or style of release. PSR archers will shoot from the blue stake.

### **4. Pro Hunter (*PHC*)**

Archers in this class must use the same equipment as the Advanced Hunter Class (AHC). PHC archers will shoot from the green stake. PLEASE REFER TO AHC STANDARDS FOR EQUIPMENT. -

## **VI. RULE VIOLATIONS AND PROTESTS**

### **A. Rule Violations**

1. Any person in violation of the above rules may be disqualified from the event in which they are participating and may be suspended from membership. No warnings are necessary prior to imposing a disqualification, suspension, other discipline, or penalty.
2. Any person suspended from membership shall not be allowed to compete in an IBO-sanctioned event for the duration of that shooting year, or as the Board of Directors direct.
3. Range and event officials are to be respected and have the authority to disqualify an archer from an event for unsafe behavior and/or violations of the above rules.

### **B. Protests, Appeals, and Requests for Reconsideration**

1A. At all National and World level events, an archer, upon the good faith belief of a rule violation, may file a protest with the Protest Committee. The Protest Committee will be made up of at least three members of the Board of Directors and any other persons that the IBO may designate. No protest will be heard by the Committee unless the protest is accompanied by \$50.00 and a written request for consideration that clearly outlines the basis for the protest. Protests must be turned in no later than one hour after the close of shooting ranges at the end of the tournament. The Protest Committee, in its sole discretion, may consider the protest solely on the written submission or may require testimony of available witnesses. Decisions of the Protest Committee will be made prior to the conclusion of the event, and awards may be issued at the conclusion of the event based on the committee's decision. This decision shall be final. The Protest Committee shall preserve all documents submitted. Written documentation for the basis of the decision, along with all documents shall be forwarded to the IBO office for board review.

1B. At all other IBO-sanctioned competitions: The host club shall resolve all protests by forming a Protest Committee to include any available IBO officials. The host club shall follow the procedures outlined above as much as possible. The person filing the protest or the person that is being protested may appeal the decision of the Protest Committee to the IBO Board of Directors

by filing a written appeal in the IBO business office within five (5) working days of the Committee's decision. If an appeal is made, the Protest Committee shall give the Board of Directors all material submitted to them and the written basis for their decision. The Board of Directors will hear the appeal at the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting. The Board of Directors will do their best to resolve the issue in a fair manner based on the information before them. However, archers must realize that some issues are very difficult to resolve after the conclusion of a shoot and an appeal may not be considered by the IBO Board of Directors if, in their opinion, sufficient accurate information cannot be gathered to make an informed decision.

1C. The intentional failure of an archer to cooperate with a Protest Committee in its investigation of a protest is unsportsmanlike conduct. The Committee may disqualify or declare the archer ineligible for awards at that event and the archer may be further sanctioned by the IBO for his or her failure to cooperate. If a decision by the Protest Committee or the IBO Board of Directors results in a change in the finishing order of a particular class, the IBO, in its sole discretion, may require the archers who are affected by the ruling to return their awards as needed to redistribute the awards based on the decision of the Committee or the Board.

2. Scoring Discrepancies—In the event of a scoring discrepancy, a protest may be filed by following the above procedures, OR if there is no allegation of intentional wrongdoing and the scoring discrepancy is the result of inadvertence, simple error, or mistake, a request for reconsideration may be filed with the IBO office no later than the first Friday following the conclusion of an event. If a protest concerning a scoring discrepancy or a request for reconsideration is filed with the IBO office, the IBO will review the appeal or request and a FINAL decision will be made and communicated to the archer within 10 working days following the date the protest or request is received. In the event a protest or request for reconsideration is received after the awards ceremony begins, IBO or host officials will not be held responsible for awards given based on the results posted prior to the awards ceremony at the conclusion of the event.

3. Review of Competition by the IBO - It is the intent and goal of the IBO to encourage participation in archery by providing a fair and equitable competition for every competitor at every IBO-sanctioned event. The IBO also recognizes that it is very difficult for the IBO and host clubs to set courses, monitor rule violations, tabulate scores, encourage safety, hand out awards, and do all the other things required for a successful competition in a very short time period. Consequently, the IBO reserves the right in its sole discretion to investigate, review, and/or correct any competitive result based on any violation of rules, unsportsmanlike conduct, shooter eligibility, inadvertence, mistake, harmless error, or any other relevant circumstance, whether or not a protest or request for reconsideration is filed.

## **VII. GAME VIOLATIONS AND SUSPENSIONS**

**Information provided is as stated in the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws of the International Bowhunting Organization.**

## **A. Causes for Suspension**

1. Game Violations (with suspension of hunting license).
2. Any conviction of a game law offense.
3. Unsportsmanlike conduct, whether such conduct is actionable at law or not. All members must adhere to the rules of fair chase and in the agreement with the ideals of the International Bowhunting Organization, Inc.

## **B. Penalties**

1. A violator or offender will be suspended or expelled from the IBO membership for a period up to five years upon finding of proper cause for suspension by the Board of Directors.
2. Any reoccurrence of violations shall be grounds for permanent expulsion.
3. Any penalties, suspensions, or expulsions for cause shall be voted on by the Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting. A member facing or receiving a penalty, suspension, or expulsion may request a hearing before the Board of Directors where the Board may consider or reconsider the penalty, suspension, or expulsion.
4. The Board of Directors may establish, publish and maintain participation “rules” for any sanctioned member event and contain therein separate penalty options for their enforcement.

# **VIII. ADDITIONAL COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS**

## **A. IBO National Championship Triple Crown “Best of the Best”**

The overall winners of each eligible class at the IBO National Championship Triple Crown will be eligible to compete in the Best of the Best competition at the IBO World Championship. The Archer must shoot the equipment used to win his or her respective class at the IBO National Championship Triple Crown.

## **B. IBO Shooter of the Year**

1. In order to qualify for Shooter of the Year, an archer must participate in at least five of the following events: Winter National, Spring National, National Championship Triple Crown, and World Championship. Points will be awarded to the top 10 finishes in each class. First place will receive 10 points, second place will receive 9 points and so on through 10<sup>th</sup> place where 1 point will be awarded. Points from the top five finishes from these six events, which must include the World Championship, will be used to determine the Shooter of the Year in each eligible class.
2. Archers in all classes are eligible for this award. A class must have at least 10 separate participants registered in Shooter of the Year events in order to give an award in that class.

## **C. Grand Slam Award**

Any archer winning all 3 legs of the National Championship Triple Crown and the World Championship in 1 competition year. All classes with at least 10 separate shooters during the course of the year are

eligible for this award.

#### **D. Lucky Seven Drawing**

Shooters competing in all seven IBO events will be placed in a drawing where seven winners will be drawn for premier prizes and giveaways. The drawing will be held at the World Championship to thank and honor those who are loyal IBO participants.