

INTERPRETATIONS

WORLD ARCHERY CONSTITUTION AND RULES

Book 4, Chapter 22, Article 22.4.1

The Field & 3D Archery Committee has requested an interpretation as to what constitutes an appropriate limb locking system for the second limb on bows used in the Instinctive Bow Division and whether a bow with international limb fittings (“ILF”) may be used in the Instinctive Bow Division. Article 22.4.1 provides, in part: “The bow may include a single adjustable limb for tiller adjustment only, but may not have adjustable limb pockets for bow weight adjustment.”

The Constitution and Rules Committee (“C&R”) finds the question presented to be within the terms of reference of the Technical Committee.

C&R has determined that the following interpretation is not contrary to the existing rules or Congress decisions.

Response from the Technical Committee:

The question of what constitutes an appropriate limb locking system for the second limb in the Instinctive Bow Division is subjective. Article 22.4.1 states that the bow may not have adjustable limb pockets. However, as long as one pocket is locked down and cannot be adjusted during competition, the Technical Committee believes that this is an adequate solution for the Instinctive Bow Division.

Adjustable limb pockets would not be allowable if we follow the absolute definition of the rule. However, and this is a critical point, there are almost no bows on the market that could truly follow this rule to the letter.

We understand there is not any one best solution for locking down a limb on an adjustable limb pocket. The judges, at their discretion, will determine if the “fix” of one limb is adequately secured and cannot be moved during competition. In this case, ILF limbs would be legal as long as one limb is satisfactorily locked down to a point that the judges are satisfied it cannot be altered during competition.

One alternative to locking down the limb is as follows: Although the two risers in the photos below are not bows permitted in the Instinctive Bow Division, the weight adjustment bolt is virtually the same. There are other types of limb bolts and limb locking methods, but the idea of locking one limb down so it cannot be adjusted further is the same. The concept is to place metal or hard plastic spacer/washers between the riser and the limb adjustment bolt flange (where the blue arrows point). The limb would then be tightened down on top of the spacer/washers until it can’t go any further, providing a hard, non-adjustable stop. If during competition a judge found space between the spacer/washers and riser or flange, then the judge would know that the bolt was tampered with. This solution gives the athlete the opportunity to set the bow weight he or she wants, find or make hard spacers that fill that section and lock the limb down securely. Or, the athlete could turn the one limb bolt to maximum with no spacer as long as it could

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not be adjusted further. If the judge requests, the athlete must demonstrate that the bolt cannot be tightened further on the spacer/washers. By using this application to lock down a limb, no bows are ruined and it works as a solid, non-adjustable limb.

Note: The spacers or washers must be made of a hard material that cannot be compressed when tightening down the weight adjustment bolt. The judges can test the spacers or washers with the tip of a pin to make sure they are not rubber tubing or other material that can be compressed.

The above alternative is only one possible method and other methods which are satisfactory to judges to lock down a limb on an adjustable limb pocket solution are also permitted.

World Archery Technical Committee, 22 August 2019

Approved by the World Archery C&R Committee, 26 August 2019

