



March 30th 2022

Dear Delegates, Dear Archers!

Within the Northern Hemisphere we are heading into the Outdoor Season. The best indicator to this is that the Regional Championships are on the books. We saw great participation in our sport despite the difficulties in preparation for the tournaments caused by the ongoing pandemic situation and the heart-breaking human catastrophe in the Ukraine.

Within this desperate atmosphere, Finland has done a great job in organising the European Indoor in a sensitive and responsible manner. I wish to express my appreciation to the organiser and all the volunteers who join forces to make it happen. You really send out a strong message about your capabilities and we are looking forward to having you hosting the WBHC next year!

The next upcoming highlights we are focusing on now are the WFAC in Estonia and the EBHC in France being impatiently awaiting. Both Hosts have been through the turbulences of mobilisation and demobilisation, hoping to run the tournament and then being forced, by circumstances outside their control, to stop all preparation and to mothball venues for better days to come.

While we are approaching these tournaments, I wish to address and clarify some rumours:

1. Suspension of Membership Requirement wrt Article V C4 of the Constitution.

This requirement relates to the hosting of at least one (1) national tournament under Article V sub article A to J of the IFAA By-Laws – in other words offering a tournament under IFAA Rules.

While it was decided by the Executives in 2021 to suspend this requirement due to global pandemic regulations and confirmed by the Virtual World Council in September 2021, the Executives are now reinstating this rule (Article V C4 of the Constitution) starting with effect from the 1st of April 2022.

2. Suspension of Article II E b & c of the IFAA By-Laws.

As a result of the suspension of the requirement to host national tournaments under IFAA rules, Article II E of the IFAA By-Laws "Eligibility to Participate" had also been suspended since there was no opportunity offered to obtain scores. With the reinstatement of Article V C4 of the Constitution, there should now be ample opportunities to obtain classification scores. Therefore, Article II E b & c of the IFAA By-Laws will be reinstated as from the 1st of April 2023.

Since the rule requests two (2) scores and some members are hosting only one (1) Championship under IFAA Rules for the specific Discipline per year, we are offering a grace period to all members applying with a set plan on how they will return to fulfilling their Membership obligation and offering their archers official tournaments under IFAA Rules.

At this point I would like to clarify to ALL members that, even though Membership requirements are requesting only one (1) National tournament per year, you must host official tournaments in ALL DISCIPLINES to provide your members with the opportunity to collect valid score records in the three Disciplines "FIELD", "BOWHUNTER" and "INDOOR" to enable your members to participate at Regional and World Championships.

For the sake of fairness and quality of the Championships, the requirement to have valid Score Records for the individual disciplines on the Score Card will be observed more restrictive in future.



3. Speculations on cancellation of upcoming IFAA Tournaments.

We are currently experiencing a time full of uncertainties and thus there are always room for speculations. It is my clear intent to provide guidelines on how to deal with such speculations:

- a) Official announcements will be made on Tournament Web Pages and the IFAA Homepage. We might also provide information via the IFAA Blog and on the IFAA Facebook account. However, for the sake of clarity, only if announced on the official tournament webpage and confirmed on the IFAA Homepage, will an announcement be official.
- b) Official announcements are concerning matters that are under the control of the Tournament Host and/or the IFAA. Any development on matters outside of our control we have no say on and therefore we have no choice but to react to the situation on hand. Our concern is to inform you of any developments as soon as possible, but this will not relieve you of the responsibility to inform yourself independently about these matters. This relates to Travel restrictions, Regulations on Immigration, Customs and/or other National Laws and to changing regulations regarding pandemic counter measurements.
- c) Solidarity with the People of Ukraine and all other people being affected by war and violence: The strongest message you and I can send out is to show that we care and display solidarity on an individual base. The IFAA, as Organisation, is to demonstrate to the people of the World that there are peaceful ways to interact with each other and by this exploring common grounds. Suspension of membership is our strongest message to make Archers in the concerned countries aware about the involvement of their country in aggressive actions against others and that the IFAA Family of Archers will not tolerate such involvement.

With this in mind, suggested Cancellations of IFAA Tournaments, as a Sign of Solidarity, would be counterproductive to our constitutional goal, demonstrating how people can interact peaceful by means of sport and it will not affect parties involved in acts of wars as their membership has been suspended already.

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