



04 June 2021

Dear Delegates!

I trust you are all healthy and well protected from the pandemic infection. Since my last letter to you, there are several developments, worth summarizing for your information / attention / action:

### **World Council & IFAA official Meetings kept as online Meetings**

As you might have experienced already on National Level - For Clubs and Associations alike in most Nations, electronic Meetings may only be kept if so, defined in their by-laws. Since the IFAA does not have such provisions in its constitution / by-laws, the upcoming Online World Council to my deepest disappointment will be of informative nature only without the opportunity to make binding decisions.

The resulting action is that we must work out a wording that we should agree next year at the World Council 2022. For this, I invite all full members to nominate legal experts to join the Legal Advisory Workgroup which will be tasked with the development of compliant provisions recommended to the World Council to be added to our by-laws and to review the status of IFAA 's constitution and by-laws.

### **World Championships & Regional Championships**

All World Events, scheduled for this Year had to be cancelled and/or postponed.

The WFAC 2020 has now been cancelled, however Estonia remains the host for the next upcoming WFAC in 2022. All Archers registered for 2020 are automatically transferred onto the registration list for 2022. Estonia will address all participants individually and allows for Changes / Modifications as deemed to be required. Details are to be clarified between the registered participant and the Host.

The WBHC 2021 in France had to be cancelled as well. Returning to the original format, France will be the Host for the EBHC 2022. All archers registered for the WBHC 2021 will be automatically transferred onto the registration list for 2022. Non-European participants will be considered as Guests. If participants would like to change their registration status, they are to contact the Host directly.

The WIAC 2021 in England had to be cancelled and will now host the WIAC 2023 as indicated on our webpage.

As far as regional Championships are concerned, we only have confirmation that the North American Field Archery Competition (NAFAC) will proceed this year.



## World Ranking

As we have no high-level World Event this year, we would like to organize World Rankings for both Field and Bowhunter. For this, we provided you with the proposed concept and we are now seeking your support to make this happening.

For details see: <https://www.ifaa-archery.org/blog/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/IFAA-World-Ranking-Concept-2021.pdf>

As it is a concept that is subject to development, we need your feedback by the 11<sup>th</sup> of June. The goal is to start on July 1<sup>st</sup> and keep the ranking open until December 31<sup>st</sup>.

This will be a trial to establish a format that fits between our indoor / flint mail-match concepts and the Championships. It should be more "supervised" by the National Associations to allow archers to claim Classification Scores, but it should be less restrictive as the provisions for the Championship formats. We are aware that some archers potentially will be concerned about a lack equal opportunities when not shooting the same range, but being an outdoor sport, field archery cannot offer similar conditions to all participants – even if they are shooting the same range.

So – if you have league shoots or other national series; if you have national sanctioned events be it your championships or other formats; if they are in line with the IFAA rules for the specified rounds and meeting the requirements stipulated in the Concept; you approve the scores and submit them. (As a rule of thumb: those events qualifying for Classification Score Card records, also qualify for the World Ranking).

## Training & Coaching System Development

We have tested several formats in respect of online seminars for Instructors and Coaches all leading to the same obvious result: We can modify the format how courses are conducted by shifting some parts to an online seminar, especially the theoretical part, however, there is no way around the practical sessions. This will be considered in the update of the courses.

It is more than 10 years since initial courses have been conducted to train Master Instructors for the IFAA. As you can imagine, time has taken its toll on the initial number of Master Instructors and so it has become necessary to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> step in the development of Training & Coaching resources by undertaking a major revision.

Based on the experiences gathered with the initial syllabuses, this major revision will include an update / fine tune of Instructing & Coaching course content and resources, the integration of online training and the qualification of new Master Instructors. This 2<sup>nd</sup> step will also see new course formats to train officers being responsible for the day-to-day business of the Association and to train archers to be Target Captain / Scorer.



I have requested the Director for Training and Coaching to develop a program and present it at the virtual World Council. Bear in mind, the conveying of knowledge to the next generation is an essential task for all Member Associations. Our Courses are intended as a kick-start to your own programs.

### Public Relations

You might have noticed already, we are working hard on better communication, but as you also noticed, we are short on volunteers to help and therefore the frequently provision of updates is pending on individuals only. We need to change this, since nothing is more toxic to a good relationship than unpredictability.

To overcome this situation, we invite you to work with us jointly on PR-Strategies and nominate your PR officer for the IFAA PR Workgroup. The goal of this work group is to agree on some core topics concerning the coordination and cooperation between the Member Associations, their Clubs / Event Organizers and the IFAA as umbrella organization; to find pragmatic approaches to support each other in communication with Archers, Volunteers, Media, and other Stakeholders and to establish some standards for content creators.

### Internet Appearance of IFAA

Nothing develops as quick as the internet – something we all experienced. Our internet appearance needs some updates, and you will notice that these updates will be implemented in a phased process:

- We are moving "News from the IFAA" into a Newsletter. Currently it is a downloadable document that you need to look for.
- The next step, which has already been done, is to reduce the Newsletter to headlines and to interlink the content with a BLOG. By this we can have a better interaction with the readers of the Newsletter and more flexibility how we present the content to you.
- Subsequently, the newsletter will be available on a subscription base. In other words, you do not have to look for it frequently, you will be notified once a new newsletter is available.
- Behind the scenes there will be some significant changes we hope you will only notice by the improvement of quality: There will be a migration from the current Webpage content management system Joomla to WordPress – a quite excessive work package for our Webmaster.
- This change opens the door to a clustering approach for content management, allowing multiple web content managers to work individually and independently of each other. The side-effect of this change is also an increase of Protection and stability by isolating certain content portions as plug-in applications. Such application may then be offered as publicly accessible or restricted accessible – pending on the sensibility of the content.



As you can tell, Steve Barratt and the volunteers helping us to cope with the developments, are very busy and on behalf of the Executives I can only express my deepest thankfulness for their dedication and their hard work!

You probably have noticed that we are also making our first steps in the world of the social medias – as this is the communication format our archers are using. Being aware of the very specific demands of the several platforms, we are seeking volunteers for content management for the individual medias such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Tik Tok etc.

This is where the loop closes to the PR workgroup. Whilst our IT experts provides the technical background, we need to coordinate the content amongst the different media. As you can sense, this is a challenge all our member associations are facing. We invite you to join this process of development actively – reference is made to the invite to participate in the workgroup.

Dear Delegates, as you see from this Information Letter, we want to use the time without events to improve the IFAA for the future. But this can only work with your help!

My request to you is to act as a multiplicator – spread the news amongst your fellow officers and your executive committees and help us to find volunteers who can help us with their knowledge.

**Do not forget - YOU ARE THE IFAA!**

Yours in Archery,

**Martin Koini**  
**President IFAA**