

Rules for visually impaired

- 1) All archers who have a current IBSA international sight classification may take part.
- 2) There will be one class for men and one for women.
- 3) All archers will wear blindfolds and will, therefore, shoot with a tactile sight.
- 4) Archers may shoot either recurve or compound bows within the same class, the latter being shot with either fingers or release aid.
- 5) The rounds to be shot outdoors will be either the VI International round (with all arrows being shot at 30 metres, 36 on a 60cm face, 36 on a 80 cm face, 36 on an 80 cm face and 36 on a 122 cm face) or the VI Ranking round (with all arrows being shot at 30 metres, 72 arrows on an 80 cm face). Head to heads will be shot on the 80 cm face. Indoors, the round will be 60 arrows at 18 metres on a 60 cm face with the head to heads being shot on a 60cm face.
- 6) As with other classes, records will be kept for scores shot at IPC approved or sanctioned events.
- 7) **Spotting**

A VI archer shall be permitted to have a person acting as a spotter. A spotter is a person designated to assist a vision impaired archer.

The spotter can assist the VI archer to set up the sighting aid by adjusting it in any way, before and up to the whistle/buzzer which denotes the start of scoring arrows.

The spotter will be responsible for checking and informing the VI archer of safety issues.

The spotter must stand on the spotter's line which is situated 1 metre behind the shooting line.

Once the scoring arrows have begun; the spotter may only relate the strike of each arrow on the boss. No other information, (except safety warnings) may be given. This must be done in a quiet manner so as not to disturb fellow archers on the shooting line.

When the archer has a hearing impairment, the spotter may step forward to a closer proximity to the archer so that they can relate the strike of the arrow.

The spotter must then immediately move back to the spotter's line, until the strike of the next arrow, and so on.

The spotter must not coach or give any advice on shooting, whilst the archer is on the shooting line, except during practise, and between scoring ends.

There will be no conversation between the archer and their spotter whilst they are between the waiting and shooting line. Breach of this rule could result in the archer being disqualified.

The archer must adjust their own sighting devices during scoring ends.

Spotters may only adjust the sighting devices between scoring ends. When the archer has completed their scoring end, the spotter, with or without the archer, must stand behind the waiting line.

If the archer wishes to remain on the shooting line, he/she must pass their bow to the spotter. This will demonstrate to the judge/official that the archer has completed his/her end of arrows.

To avoid congestion on the spotter's or shooting line, only the judges, allocated officials, VI archers and their dedicated spotters will be allowed in front of the waiting line at any time during the competition arrows. The archer and their spotter must be recognizable as partners. The archer's target number will be made available and be worn by both the archer and their spotter.