

## **National Judging Scheme**

### ***General Outline***

The GNAS National Judging Scheme recognises Candidate Judges, County Judges, Regional Judges and National Judges. Progression may be made under FITA auspices to Continental and International Judge. The National Judge Committee is responsible for administering the panel of National & Regional Judges, while the Regions are responsible to the National Judge Committee for administering the panels of County and Candidate Judges, coordinated by the Regional Judge Liaison Officer (JLO).

Persons wishing to become Judges must be prepared to comply with any/all requirements of the GNAS Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults Policy.

### ***Standards at Tournaments***

The minimum standard for the Judge in charge of tournaments at various levels is shown in the Rules of shooting appendix B. Note in particular that for a National Record Status shoot; the minimum standard is Regional Judge. Dispensation from the National Judge Committee can be requested when difficulty is experienced in obtaining the relevant qualified judges.

While Regional and County Judges are not expected to control a tournament above that which their status implies, they are encouraged to assist at tournaments of a higher status under an appropriately qualified judge.

### ***Appointments as Judges and Advancement in Grade***

#### **The following requirements must be completed prior to application.**

Members seeking appointment as Judges or advancement in grade should contact their Regional JLO. Whilst each Region will have its own detailed procedures, the normal procedure is:

- a) All members applying to become a Candidate judge must complete the application Form (GNAS Form J00) and forward it to their County Secretary (or Regional Secretary if no County Association exists).
- b) The County Association will consider all applications and forwards each one to the Regional Society with its recommendations.
- c) The Regional Society will consider the applications, and may ratify the status of Candidate Judge.
- d) For those members seeking advancement to County judge, the County JLO or the Candidate Judges Mentor shall forward the application form (GNAS Form J01) to the Regional JLO. The applicant will be assessed at the first opportunity, and a written report (GNAS Form J20) will be submitted to the regional JLO for ratification of the assessment.
- e) For those members seeking advancement to Regional or National Judge, the Regional JLO shall forward the application forms (GNAS Form J02 or J03) to the National Judge Committee by 1<sup>st</sup> October. These applicants will be assessed during the next calendar year following the procedures given in the guidebook for GNAS Judges.
- f) All judges that fail an assessment, at which ever grade, are required to wait a minimum of six (6) months before applying to be assessed again.
- g) All Candidate judges that fail to pass the assessment for County judge, within two (2) years of taking the original assessment, will be removed from the National Judge register.
- h) All County & Regional judges that fail to pass an assessment for a higher grade, within two (2) years of taking the original assessment, will be required to fulfil the qualifying criteria again, i.e. they must complete the minimum number of judging days and any time period required at each grade level, before being allowed to apply for assessment at the higher grade once again.
- i) All Candidate judges are required to attend a minimum of one (1) County, Regional or National Judging Seminar or Conference before applying for assessment to the grade of County. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the judge being restricted from applying for assessment until they have attended the required number Seminars.
- j) All County judges are required to attend a minimum of one (1) National Judge Conference in any three (3) year period, plus all County judges must have attended at least one (1) Regional Judge Conference or Seminar and one (1) National Judge Conference before applying for assessment to the grade of Regional.

Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the judge being restricted from applying for assessment until they have attended the required number of Seminars/Conferences.

- k) All Regional judges will be required to attend at least one (1) National Judge Conference in any four (4) year re-assessment period, and must have attended at least one (1) National Judge Conference before applying for assessment to the grade of National. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the judge being restricted from applying for assessment until they have attended the required number of Conferences.
- l) All National judges will be required to attend at least one (1) National Judge Conference in any four (4) year re-assessment period. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the judge being demoted to the grade below the one they currently hold.
- m) Exemptions on attending conferences may be allowed, provided the judge concerned can put forward a valid case, which must be submitted to the Regional JLO and the National Judge Committee in writing, together with any supporting documentation, prior to a submission for assessment or before the end of a re assessment period.

### ***Candidate Judge***

When seeking assessment for the above grade the candidate will need to have achieved the following;

- a) Knowledge of the customs and etiquette associated with shooting in this country.
- b) Should be an archer, but not necessarily so.
- c) Be prepared to assist Field Captains or higher qualified Judges at tournaments.

### ***County Judge***

When seeking assessment for the above grade the candidate will need to have achieved the following;

- a) Have a good knowledge of GNAS Rules of Shooting and a basic knowledge of the FITA Rules.
- b) Have had experience in assisting higher qualified Judges for a minimum period of one year and a minimum of 12 Judging days at tournaments.
- c) Shoots attended must include 1 Indoor tournament and 1 Clout tournament (Indoor & Clout for Target Judge Only).
- d) Have attended at least one (1) County, Regional or National Judging Seminar/Conference.
- e) Assessments for this grade to be carried out by a National Judge or a Regional Judge of at least two years standing.
- f) When appointed, must be prepared to officiate as the Judge in Charge at tournaments up to and including County Status.

### ***Regional Judge***

When seeking assessment for the above grade the candidate will need to have achieved the following;

- a) Have a sound knowledge of both GNAS and FITA Rules of Shooting.
- b) Have the ability to advise a Tournament Organiser on the standards and procedures required to ensure a safe and properly organised tournament.
- c) Have a minimum of 18 judging day's active experience as a County Judge.
- d) Shoots attended must include 3 World Record/FITA Award Status tournaments, 3 other Record Status Tournaments, 2 Indoor tournaments and 2 Clout tournaments (Indoor & Clout for Target Judge Only).
- e) Have attended at least one (1) County or Regional Judging Seminar and one (1) National Judges Conference.
- f) Assessments for this grade to be carried out by a National Judge of at least three years standing who has been appointed by National Judge Committee.
- g) The National Judge Committee may grant exception to the minimum requirements following a review of the candidate's additional experience.
- h) When appointed, must be prepared to officiate as Judge in Charge at any tournament up to and including Regional Status.

### ***National Judges***

When seeking assessment for the above grade the candidate will need to have achieved the following;

- a) Have a thorough knowledge of both GNAS and FITA Rules of Shooting, together with the standard procedures associated with them.
- b) Have the ability to train and instruct other Judges of lower grades.
- c) Have a minimum of 25 judging day's active experience as a Regional Judge.

- d) Shoots attended must include 10 World Record/ FITA Award Status or National Tournaments, of which it is expected that 2 will be with Head to Heads, also 4 Indoor tournaments and 3 Clout tournaments are required (Indoor & Clout for Target Judge Only).
- e) Have attended at least one (1) National Judges Conference in the last three years prior to applying for assessment.
- f) The National Judge Committee may grant exception to the minimum requirements following a review of the candidate's additional experience.
- g) When appointed, must be prepared to officiate as Judge in Charge at any tournament up to and including National Status.

### ***Scottish Judges***

Because of the geographical spread of suitable clout tournaments within Scotland the following dispensation will be granted to judges applying up to and including Regional level.

- a) When applying for County and Regional status, Clout tournaments can be of any status from club shoot up to record status tournament.
- b) If the qualifying rounds are club shoots, then at least one training session or seminar on clout shooting must be attended for each change in level.
- c) When applying for National status all qualifying clout rounds must be open tournaments

### ***Continental Judge (European)***

Having completed a minimum of two years as a National Judge, Candidates may apply for Continental Status. Applications must be processed through the National Judge Committee. National Judges so appointed will retain their National Judge appointments and responsibilities.

### ***International Judge***

Having completed a minimum of three years as a National Judge must be accredited as a Continental Judge and have a knowledge of English. The applicant must have served in at least one tournament valid for the World Ranking or in other major tournaments sanctioned by a Continental Association with a positive evaluation by the Chairperson or the Tournament Judge Commission. Applications must be processed through the National Judge Committee. National Judges so appointed will retain their National Judge appointments and responsibilities.

### ***Judge Emeritus***

Judges having attained the grade of County and been actively judging for at least ten (10) years will be awarded the honorary title of Judge Emeritus upon their retirement from judging. The Judge Registrar must be informed either in writing or via email of the judge's intentions to retire before the status can be granted.

### ***The Different Disciplines***

Judges may be accredited as Target and or Field. Target Judges are expected to officiate at Target, Flight and Clout Tournaments. Judges who are qualified in both Target and Field may hold different grades in the two disciplines.

### ***Reporting and Recording***

- a) Judges at Tournaments, which have an unusual occurrence, should submit a report to the National Judge Committee, in addition to any report submitted to the Tournament Organiser.
- b) Candidate, County and Regional Judges should keep a booklet of Tournament report forms (J5), to be completed at tournaments by the Judge in charge (or, in the absence of a more senior Judge, by the Tournament Organiser). These reports will be considered during the Judge's assessment when seeking a higher grade.

## ***Re-appointments***

The re-appointment system has been put in place to ensure that all Judges are active and perform to a good standard throughout the United Kingdom.

### **Failure to carry out these requirements will result in removal from the Judges list.**

- a) National Judges must submit a record of their Judging activities every 3 years to the National Judge Committee Registrar for reappointment.
- b) All National, Regional, County and Candidate Judges must submit a record of their Judging Activities every year to their Regional Judge Liaison Officer using form J15, who will then submit a summary of these activities using form J19 to the National Judge Committee.

Note, the information required for this process may include the following;

- Judging Days to include days prior to the tournament checking field layout and courses.
- Attending Seminars.
- Attending Conferences.
- Attending and running courses.

## ***Re-assessments***

A Judge who has been inactive for a period of two years or more who wishes to return to judging shall take a re-assessment for the same grade as before. (Judges may apply for a lower grade should they so desire). Apply using the appropriate application form.

Candidate judges who have been inactive for a period of two (2) years must re-apply to become a candidate judge, using form J00.

Open book Re-assessment examinations for all National and Regional judges will take place every four (4) years, the duration between the National and Regional exams will be two (2) years. Judges failing to achieve the pass grade will be given the opportunity to take another exam later in the year, if they fail to achieve the pass grade in this exam they will be immediately demoted to the grade below the one they currently hold.

## ***Recommended terms of reference for Regional Judge Liaison Officers***

Each Region appoints its own Judge Liaison Officer. Their duties are:

- a) To assist the National Judge Committee in disseminating information relevant to Judging, in both directions.
- b) Update their list of Judges on a regular basis, this information must be sent to the Judge's Registrar of the National Judge Committee. Any upgrades or changes of addresses, telephone numbers etc should be forwarded to the Registrar within one month.
- c) When requested, to appoint Judges to Tournaments within their Region.
- d) To encourage and support Judges and would-be Judges.
- e) To carry out the duties of a Regional Judge Committee if no such committee has been formed.
- f) The Judge Liaison Officers appointed by Regions are responsible primarily to the National Judge Committee and show commitment to their position.
- g) Judge Liaison Officers must have recognised judging experience.

## ***Regional Judge Committees***

Regional Societies are recommended to form their own Regional Judge Committees to carry out the following activities:

- a) To administer the Judges within their Region.
- b) To seek assistance from the National Judge Committee on appropriate matters.
- c) To arrange training of members to become Judges.
- d) To arrange assessments of members up to and including County grade.

## ***Recommended Terms of Reference for County Judge Liaison Officers***

Each County may appoint a suitably experienced judge from within its own ranks to act as Judge Liaison Officer. This appointment will preferably be after a ballot of member judges of the respective county.

The County Judge Liaison Officer's duties are:

- a) To assist the Regional Judge Liaison Officer and Judge Committee, and the National Judge Committee through the Regional JLO, in a two-way dissemination of information relevant to Judging.
- b) To gather and collate concise and relevant records of all judges within their county, including Discipline's, Grade's, advancement history, tournament activity and contact details.
- c) To report to the Regional JLO any relevant changes in b) for notification to the NJC.
- d) To be available as the first point of contact for Judges within their jurisdiction.
- e) To alert the Regional JLO and Judge Committee at the earliest opportunity of any Judging issues or potential disciplinary matters which can not be immediately resolved at county level.
- f) To maintain their own knowledge of the Rules of Shooting and updates, Judging procedures and etiquette, and to support the NJC in furthering Judging good practice and encouraging performance of the highest standard.
- g) To initiate on-going training for Judges of all Grades and Disciplines, and to facilitate appropriate meetings as and when necessary, with a minimum of one gathering each year.
- h) To collect the Judges Annual Report, Form J15, from all Judges and forward to the Regional JLO for their completion of Form J19.
- i) To actively recruit Candidate Judges as and when necessary.
- j) To inform the Regional JLO of Candidate Judge Applications using Form J00 and to arrange their first appointment at the earliest opportunity once approval has been received from the Regional JLO and Judge Committee.
- k) To consider an individual Judge's suitability for advancement to the next Judge Grade in accordance with The National Judging Scheme, Form J10, and to request Assessment through the Regional JLO using Forms J1, J02, J03 or J04.
- l) To assist the Regional JLO in facilitating and carrying out the assessment of Judges at County Grade.
- m) To appoint Judges, if requested, to tournaments within their county, with the exception of any Regional Championship tournaments hosted in that county. Appointments to these tournaments remain the responsibility of the Regional JLO and Judge Committee.
- n) To encourage Judges to attend tournaments in neighbouring counties, and regions where appropriate, in furtherance of their on-going development, and likewise to accept judges from neighbouring districts. Similarly, to encourage Judges at Regional and National Grades to apply for appointment to National Tournaments.