

TIFAM Sporting Regulations

For affiliated clubs, registered members, officials and TIFAM-sanctioned events

Traditional field archery requires judgement before release. Each archer accepts responsibility for equipment, direction, timing, conduct and the safety of every person within the shooting environment.

These Regulations establish the national sporting rules of TIFAM. They protect fair competition, consistent technical standards, safe course operation, reliable records and a clear route from club participation to international T.A.I. competition.

TIFAM forms part of a wider traditional-archery community. National autonomy therefore carries a duty of alignment. A TIFAM rule must support the corresponding T.A.I. rule, apply it correctly within Ireland or govern an Irish administrative issue left to national control.

The National Director of Coaching, Education and Development holds the central technical office within that work. The Director keeps the rules aligned, prepares amendments, explains difficult provisions, trains coaches and officials, advises event organisers, maintains technical records, and acts as TIFAM's principal point of contact for sporting-rule questions.

Formal governance remains with the TIFAM Board. International T.A.I. rules remain under the authority of T.A.I. TIFAM's National Director interprets and applies those rules nationally while respecting the powers assigned to the T.A.I. Sports Director, Tournament Director, referees, Competition Court, Association Committee and World Council.

1. Authority

These Regulations are adopted under clause 4.2 of the TIFAM Constitution.

They govern:

- sporting registration;
- club affiliation;
- national technical administration;
- TIFAM-sanctioned events;
- use of official competition formats;
- recognition of scores and records;
- coach, referee and official education;
- national representation;
- interpretation of sporting rules.

Irish law takes priority over every sporting rule.

T.A.I. technical rules govern each competition advertised as T.A.I.-sanctioned, T.A.I.-licensed or conducted as an official T.A.I. competition.

2. Purpose

These Regulations aim to:

- preserve alignment between TIFAM and T.A.I.;
- provide consistent national sporting administration;
- define the technical authority of the National Director;
- support safe, fair competition;
- establish event-sanctioning requirements;
- regulate eligibility, equipment, classes, scoring and records;
- provide clear sporting protest routes;
- support coaching, referee education and club development;
- distinguish competition rulings from disciplinary or safeguarding cases.

3. Scope

These Regulations apply to:

- TIFAM registered members;
- affiliated clubs;
- archers entering TIFAM-sanctioned events;
- coaches, instructors and tutors;
- referees, judges and equipment inspectors;
- Range Captains, Safety Officers and Tournament Directors;
- event organisers;
- volunteers carrying a sporting function;
- persons selected to represent TIFAM or Ireland;
- committees making technical decisions on behalf of TIFAM.

The Regulations apply at courses, ranges, competitions, training events, national squads, coaching courses, referee courses, demonstrations and related sporting activities.

4. Definitions

For these Regulations:

Affiliated club means a club holding current TIFAM affiliation.

Approved event means an event granted written sanction by TIFAM.

Board means the TIFAM Board of Directors.

Director means the National Director of Coaching, Education and Development.

Event instructions means approved information issued for a particular competition.

National supplement means a TIFAM provision governing Irish administration, safety, safeguarding or another issue permitted by, or left open under, T.A.I. rules.

Registered archer means a person holding current TIFAM sporting registration.

Sanction means written TIFAM approval for an event, course, round or sporting activity.

Sporting interpretation means a written explanation of how an existing rule applies.

T.A.I. means Traditional Archers International.

Technical rule means a provision governing bow style, arrows, shooting method, age class, scoring, course procedure, tournament operation, equipment inspection or competition eligibility.

5. Rule Hierarchy

The following order governs TIFAM sporting activity:

1. Irish law;
2. mandatory safeguarding or safety obligations;
3. current T.A.I. Sporting Regulations;
4. current T.A.I. Bow Styles;
5. current T.A.I. Age Classes;
6. current T.A.I. Referee Manual;
7. these TIFAM Sporting Regulations;
8. approved TIFAM national supplements;
9. approved event instructions;
10. affiliated-club rules for internal activities.

A lower rule may explain or administer a higher rule. Alteration of a higher technical requirement is prohibited.

Where two provisions appear inconsistent, the higher provision prevails.

T.A.I.'s current Sporting Regulations assign maintenance of its rules to the T.A.I. Sports Director, with amendments passing through the approval structure stated by T.A.I.

6. Adoption of T.A.I. Rules

TIFAM adopts by reference the current editions of:

- T.A.I. Sporting Regulations;
- T.A.I. Bow Styles;
- T.A.I. Age Classes;

- T.A.I. Referee Manual;
- official T.A.I. competition instructions applicable to the event concerned.

Detailed T.A.I. technical wording should be accessed through the official T.A.I. document centre. TIFAM guidance may explain those documents but shall avoid presenting a summary as a substitute for the governing text. ([Traditional Archers International](#))

For a T.A.I.-sanctioned competition, the current T.A.I. rule takes effect according to the date or arrangements stated by T.A.I.

The Director shall issue a TIFAM implementation notice after a material T.A.I. amendment.

7. National Alignment Principle

Every TIFAM sporting provision must correspond with the relevant T.A.I. provision.

Alignment requires:

- use of current T.A.I. terminology;
- recognition of current T.A.I. bow styles;
- recognition of current T.A.I. age classes;
- use of applicable T.A.I. scoring rules;
- observance of T.A.I. competition procedures;
- respect for referee powers stated by T.A.I.;
- use of correct T.A.I. protest arrangements at T.A.I. events;
- accurate distinction between national and international authority.

A TIFAM national supplement may govern:

- event applications;
- Irish registration;
- national rankings;
- national records;
- Irish insurance requirements;
- safeguarding arrangements;
- national education;
- national team selection;
- Irish safety requirements;
- event reporting;
- matters left open by T.A.I.

A national supplement may set a higher safety or safeguarding standard where the technical competition rule remains intact.

8. Prohibited National Variations

TIFAM, an affiliated club or an event organiser may not alter the following for a T.A.I.-sanctioned event:

- recognised bow styles;
- bow-style equipment requirements;
- official age classes;
- authorised class-transfer rules;
- official scoring values;
- prescribed competition rounds;
- target-group requirements;
- official shooting distances or limits;
- T.A.I. medal eligibility;
- international protest jurisdiction;
- equipment-inspection authority;
- referee penalties established by T.A.I.

A proposed variation requires written confirmation from the proper T.A.I. authority before publication or use.

9. Role of the National Director

The National Director of Coaching, Education and Development serves as TIFAM's principal technical officer.

The Director shall:

- maintain these Regulations;
- keep them aligned with current T.A.I. documents;
- prepare technical amendments;
- draft new national sporting provisions;
- interpret TIFAM technical rules;
- explain T.A.I. rules within Ireland;
- maintain the Regulation Alignment Register;
- advise the Board on sporting decisions;

- oversee coaching education;
- support referee education;
- review event-sanctioning applications;
- advise on bow inspection and classification;
- support national rankings and records;
- communicate technical changes to clubs;
- prepare proposals for submission to T.A.I.;
- represent TIFAM in authorised technical discussions.

The office carries technical authority rather than unrestricted executive power. Board approval remains necessary where the Constitution, these Regulations or another governing document requires it.

10. Technical Custodianship

The Director shall hold the official controlled copy of these Regulations.

Technical custodianship includes:

- document numbering;
- version control;
- amendment history;
- publication dates;
- commencement dates;
- identification of superseded material;
- storage of official interpretations;
- recording of T.A.I. source documents;
- notification to affiliated clubs.

Each published edition shall state the T.A.I. documents used during its preparation.

11. Regulation Alignment Register

The Director shall maintain a Regulation Alignment Register.

Each entry shall identify:

- the TIFAM section;
- the corresponding T.A.I. document;
- the relevant T.A.I. subject or provision;
- the version reviewed;

- the date of comparison;
- any national supplement;
- the reason for that supplement;
- any difference requiring correction;
- the date of Board approval;
- the officer responsible for implementation.

A full review shall occur:

- once each year;
- after every material T.A.I. amendment;
- before a major T.A.I.-sanctioned event hosted in Ireland;
- after a technical dispute exposing unclear wording;
- after a serious event-safety incident.

12. Creation of Sporting Regulations

A proposal for a new TIFAM sporting rule may originate from:

- the National Director;
- the Board;
- the Safety Officer;
- an affiliated club;
- a referee body;
- an event review panel;
- a TIFAM committee authorised by the Board.

Every proposal shall pass to the Director for technical examination.

The Director shall prepare:

- the proposed wording;
- the reason for the rule;
- the corresponding T.A.I. position;
- an alignment statement;
- any safety implications;
- any safeguarding implications;
- the effect on clubs, officials or competitors;

- the proposed commencement date;
- any education required.

A proposal lacking technical alignment shall return for correction.

13. Amendment Procedure

A formal amendment follows these stages:

1. submission of a proposal;
2. technical review by the Director;
3. comparison with current T.A.I. rules;
4. consultation where the change materially affects clubs or competitors;
5. preparation of final wording;
6. completion of an Alignment Certificate;
7. recommendation by the Director;
8. formal approval by the Board;
9. publication;
10. commencement on the stated date.

Where the Director holds a conflict of interest, the Board shall appoint a suitably qualified substitute for the technical review.

The Board may request revision before approval. Adoption of wording identified by the Director as conflicting with T.A.I. rules requires correction or prior written T.A.I. authority.

14. Amendments Arising from T.A.I.

Following publication of a T.A.I. amendment, the Director shall:

- obtain the official text;
- record its version and date;
- identify every affected TIFAM provision;
- notify the Board;
- prepare an implementation notice;
- revise training or event material;
- alert affiliated clubs and officials;
- place any required TIFAM amendment before the Board.

For T.A.I.-sanctioned activity, the current T.A.I. technical rule prevails from its stated effective date, even where an older TIFAM document awaits administrative revision.

15. Proposals to T.A.I.

The Director may prepare a proposal seeking amendment or clarification of a T.A.I. rule.

A submission should include:

- the issue identified;
- the rule concerned;
- examples from sporting practice;
- safety or fairness implications;
- proposed wording;
- consultation completed within TIFAM;
- the TIFAM Board's approval.

Submission shall follow the proper T.A.I. route.

TIFAM shall continue applying the existing T.A.I. rule while a proposal remains under consideration.

16. Interpretation of TIFAM Regulations

The Director acts as the primary technical interpreter of these Regulations.

Interpretation shall consider:

- the ordinary meaning of the wording;
- the purpose of the provision;
- the corresponding T.A.I. rule;
- safety;
- sporting fairness;
- established written interpretations;
- consistent treatment of competitors.

A sporting interpretation explains an existing provision. Creation of a new obligation requires the amendment process.

Material interpretations shall:

- appear in writing;
- carry a reference number;
- state the question considered;
- identify the rules examined;
- give reasons;

- state the effective date;
- enter the Interpretation Register.

A Director's published interpretation applies nationally unless revised by the Board, displaced by a higher rule or corrected by the appropriate T.A.I. authority.

17. Interpretation of T.A.I. Rules

The Director may explain the national application of a clear T.A.I. provision.

Where genuine uncertainty concerns the meaning of a T.A.I. rule, the Director shall seek clarification from the appropriate T.A.I. officer or body.

TIFAM shall follow an authoritative T.A.I. clarification concerning a T.A.I. competition.

The Director may issue temporary national guidance pending that response, provided the guidance:

- preserves safety;
- avoids changing the substance of the T.A.I. rule;
- states its temporary status;
- receives prompt Board review.

18. Event Decisions

During a competition, authority rests with the officials appointed under the applicable rules.

The Director does not automatically replace:

- the Tournament Director;
- the referee;
- the equipment inspector;
- the group captain;
- the Competition Court;
- the event protest body.

The Director may exercise an event function where formally appointed to that function.

Technical advice given during an event shall respect the jurisdiction of the appointed officials.

T.A.I. assigns course approval and event-control duties to its appointed Tournament Director, while competition protests and penalties fall within the T.A.I. Competition Court structure.

19. Emergency Technical Direction

A serious and immediate technical risk may require an emergency direction.

The Director, Chairperson, Safety Officer or Tournament Director may issue such a direction within their authority where delay creates danger or threatens the validity of an event.

An emergency technical direction may:

- suspend use of equipment;
- pause an event format;
- require a course correction;
- restrict a disputed procedure;
- require additional inspection;
- withdraw provisional technical approval.

The direction shall:

- state the reason;
- identify its scope;
- last only for the required period;
- receive written review after the immediate risk passes.

A temporary direction cannot permanently amend T.A.I. rules.

20. Individual Registration

An archer representing TIFAM or an affiliated club in an official TIFAM event shall hold:

- current TIFAM registration;
- a valid membership number;
- any qualification required for the activity;
- eligibility under the event instructions.

Registration with another sporting body remains permitted.

A person subject to suspension or an event restriction is ineligible for the activity covered by that restriction.

21. International Eligibility

Eligibility for an international T.A.I. event follows:

- current T.A.I. membership requirements;
- nationality rules;
- age-class rules;
- bow-style rules;
- entry deadlines;
- host-event conditions;
- any approved TIFAM selection policy.

A selected representative must remain eligible until completion of the event.

Loss of eligibility may result in withdrawal of entry or selection.

22. Affiliated Clubs

Each affiliated club retains responsibility for:

- its constitution;
- committee;
- members;
- local administration;
- land access;
- range operation;
- insurance compliance;
- safeguarding arrangements;
- local risk assessment;
- implementation of TIFAM rules.

For sanctioned activities, the club shall follow:

- the TIFAM Constitution;
- this document;
- the Code of Conduct;
- the Safety Policy;
- the Safeguarding Policy;
- the Disciplinary Procedure;
- current T.A.I. technical rules.

A club may operate an internal recreational format where safety, safeguarding, insurance and truthful advertising requirements are satisfied.

An internal format cannot be described as T.A.I.-sanctioned or used for official records unless written approval has been granted.

23. National Technical Support for Clubs

The Director shall provide reasonable technical support to affiliated clubs through:

- written rule guidance;
- coaching education;
- referee education;
- equipment-classification guidance;

- event-planning advice;
- rule-update notices;
- club visits where approved;
- support with sanctioned-event applications.

A club may submit a written technical question to the Director.

Material answers shall enter the Interpretation Register where they may affect other clubs or competitors.

24. Event Categories

TIFAM may recognise:

- club internal shoots;
- TIFAM recreational events;
- TIFAM-sanctioned competitions;
- TIFAM national championships;
- T.A.I.-sanctioned competitions;
- coaching or referee assessments;
- historical-archery events;
- selection events;
- international events hosted in Ireland.

The event announcement shall state the correct category.

Use of a T.A.I. title, format or sanction requires the relevant approval.

25. Event-Sanctioning Application

An organiser seeking sanction shall submit:

- organiser details;
- event date;
- venue;
- landowner permission;
- proposed round;
- expected capacity;
- course plan;
- risk assessment;

- emergency plan;
- insurance confirmation;
- responsible event officer;
- Tournament Director where required;
- Safety Officer or Range Captain;
- proposed referees;
- first-aid arrangements;
- safeguarding arrangements;
- registration process;
- equipment-inspection plan;
- scoring system;
- results procedure;
- accessibility information;
- any special event rule.

The application deadline shall be published by TIFAM.

26. Technical Review of Applications

The Director shall review the technical part of each application.

Review may examine:

- alignment with T.A.I. rules;
- suitability of the proposed round;
- bow styles;
- age classes;
- shooting pegs;
- course capacity;
- group size;
- scoring;
- equipment control;
- referee appointments;
- results administration;
- record eligibility.

The Director may recommend:

- approval;
- conditional approval;
- amendment;
- inspection;
- further information;
- refusal on technical grounds.

Final sanction rests with the Board or the body formally authorised by it.

27. Conditions of Sanction

Approval may require:

- course inspection;
- correction of safety risks;
- appointment of qualified officials;
- revised participant limits;
- proof of insurance;
- suitable safeguarding arrangements;
- use of approved scoring material;
- additional equipment control;
- submission of final event instructions;
- compliance reporting after the event.

Failure to satisfy a condition may lead to suspension or withdrawal of sanction.

28. Event Announcement

An approved event announcement shall state:

- event title;
- sanction status;
- date;
- venue;
- eligibility;
- applicable round;
- bow styles;

- age classes;
- registration method;
- entry deadline;
- fee;
- organiser contact;
- relevant special regulations;
- accessibility arrangements;
- safeguarding contact where appropriate.

T.A.I. requires its tournament announcements to identify eligibility, date, venue, registration arrangements, fee and any special regulations.

29. Competition Calendar

TIFAM shall maintain a national calendar of approved events.

Applications should allow time for:

- technical review;
- inspection;
- publication;
- official appointments;
- avoidance of unreasonable clashes;
- safeguarding preparation.

TIFAM may alter or withdraw a calendar listing where land access, safety, compliance or exceptional circumstances require action.

30. Course Approval

A sanctioned course shall comply with:

- current T.A.I. course requirements;
- TIFAM safety requirements;
- the approved risk assessment;
- landowner conditions;
- event capacity;
- suitable access and emergency arrangements.

Course approval shall consider:

- target stability;

- overshoot areas;
- paths behind targets;
- crossing routes;
- safe group movement;
- visibility;
- shooting positions;
- left-handed and right-handed access;
- public access;
- livestock;
- emergency evacuation.

The appointed official shall record course acceptance in writing.

T.A.I. places detailed course-safety, target-positioning, path-control and acceptance duties upon the appointed Tournament Director.

31. Event Officials

An event shall appoint the officials required by its classification.

Possible roles include:

- Tournament Director;
- event organiser;
- referee;
- equipment inspector;
- Competition Court;
- Safety Officer;
- Range Captain;
- scoring officer;
- safeguarding contact;
- first-aid officer.

One person may hold several compatible roles at a smaller event where competence, fairness and safety remain protected.

A conflict of interest shall be declared.

32. National Director at Major Events

For a TIFAM national championship, T.A.I.-sanctioned event hosted in Ireland, or international selection event, the Director shall:

- approve or recommend the technical plan;
- confirm the applicable rule versions;
- review event instructions;
- advise on official appointments;
- confirm equipment-control arrangements;
- support pre-event briefing;
- monitor technical reporting;
- review unresolved rule issues after the event.

The Director may delegate tasks to a suitably qualified person.

Delegation leaves the Director responsible for national technical oversight unless the Board states another arrangement.

33. Registration and Equipment Inspection

Registration shall confirm:

- identity;
- membership status;
- eligibility;
- declared bow style;
- declared age class;
- nation where relevant;
- event entry details.

Equipment inspection shall occur according to the applicable T.A.I. rules.

The declared class becomes binding according to the governing competition rules.

Equipment may receive further inspection during the event.

An item presenting a safety risk may be withdrawn from use regardless of sporting classification.

34. Bow Styles

T.A.I. Bow Styles govern every T.A.I.-sanctioned competition and each TIFAM event advertised as using T.A.I. classes.

TIFAM shall use the current T.A.I. names, abbreviations, equipment requirements, arrow requirements and permitted release methods.

A TIFAM official may explain a bow-style rule but cannot create an additional recognised T.A.I. bow style.

The current T.A.I. Bow Styles document identifies the recognised styles and sets general equipment rules applying across those classes. ([Traditional Archers International](#))

35. Age Classes

Current T.A.I. Age Classes govern T.A.I.-sanctioned competition.

Age shall be determined through the reference date stated in the current T.A.I. document.

Any permitted movement between age classes shall follow the current T.A.I. conditions and shall be completed before competition begins.

TIFAM shall avoid printing a conflicting national age table for T.A.I. competition.

At the date of this revision, the official T.A.I. document defines Kids, Juveniles, Juniors, Adults and Seniors, while setting the applicable age ranges and transfer conditions.

36. Class Transfers

Bow-style or age-class transfers may occur only where the current T.A.I. rules permit them.

Any transfer shall:

- remain voluntary where T.A.I. requires consent;
- satisfy the equipment rules of the destination class;
- occur during registration or equipment inspection;
- receive approval from the authorised official;
- be recorded before the official start.

A post-start class change is prohibited unless an applicable higher rule expressly permits it.

37. Group Composition

Group size, group roles and shooting order shall follow the current T.A.I. Sporting Regulations for T.A.I. events.

Each group shall have a clearly identified captain plus scorers where required.

The group captain shall:

- promote safe conduct;
- apply group procedure;
- control target release;
- assist with scoring disputes;
- manage arrow-search procedure;
- report unresolved issues to an official.

The group captain's role cannot replace the authority of referees or the Competition Court.

38. Shooting Procedure

The applicable T.A.I. round governs:

- shooting positions;
- peg use;
- number of arrows;
- arrow order;
- timing;
- target sequence;
- scoring zones;
- equipment-failure procedure;
- group passing;
- arrow searching.

TIFAM event instructions may explain local course movement while preserving the governing technical rule.

39. Safety During Shooting

At every TIFAM activity:

- knocking may occur only at an authorised shooting position;
- shooting authority must be present;
- the shooting area must be clear;
- a nocked arrow remains directed at the target area;
- entry into the target area follows cessation of shooting;
- emergency commands require immediate compliance;
- deliberate sky drawing is prohibited;
- uncontrolled releases are prohibited;
- shooting stops where a person, animal or unexpected hazard enters the controlled area.

An authorised official may remove unsafe equipment or a participant creating danger.

40. Alcohol, Drugs, Smoking and Vaping

Alcohol or intoxicating substances are prohibited before or during shooting.

A person whose judgement, coordination or alertness appears impaired may be removed from active participation.

Illegal-drug possession, supply or use at an event shall be referred under the Disciplinary Procedure and, where appropriate, to An Garda Síochána.

Smoking or vaping is prohibited on every TIFAM-sanctioned course and within every TIFAM-controlled shooting, practice, waiting, registration or briefing area.

The TIFAM prohibition operates as a national safety and health supplement. Event information shall state the rule clearly.

T.A.I. prohibits alcohol or drug use immediately before or during competition and prohibits smoking on the competition course, while permitting organisers to identify smoking areas under its international rule.

41. Children and Young Archers

Participation by children shall follow:

- current T.A.I. age-class rules;
- TIFAM safeguarding arrangements;
- parental or guardian consent requirements;
- supervision requirements;
- age-appropriate distances;
- event-specific safety controls.

A supervising adult shall hold the role required under the applicable competition rules.

Coaching, communication, travel, photography and welfare arrangements shall follow the TIFAM Safeguarding Policy.

42. Inclusion and Reasonable Adjustment

TIFAM shall consider reasonable adjustments compatible with safe archery and the integrity of the relevant competition.

An adjustment may concern:

- communication;
- registration;
- access;
- additional explanation;
- support away from the shooting line;
- event administration.

A technical adjustment affecting equipment, shooting method, distance, assistance on the line or competition classification requires review by the Director.

For a T.A.I.-sanctioned event, approval shall follow the applicable T.A.I. rule or an authorised T.A.I. decision.

43. Scoring

Scoring shall follow the current T.A.I. round rules.

Scorecards may be:

- official paper cards;
- approved digital records;
- another system authorised before the event.

Corrections shall remain transparent and receive the confirmation required by the applicable rule.

Each archer bears responsibility for checking the recorded score before submission.

44. Results

The organiser shall:

- verify scorecards;
- resolve administrative errors;
- publish provisional results;
- allow the stated protest period;
- publish final results;
- submit required records to TIFAM;
- preserve supporting material.

Final results should reach TIFAM within seven days unless event instructions specify another approved period.

A result affected by a pending protest shall be marked accordingly.

45. Rankings and Personal Bests

TIFAM may maintain:

- national rankings;
- personal bests;
- participation records;
- class standings;
- selection data.

The Director shall recommend the ranking method to the Board.

The published method shall state:

- eligible events;
- eligible rounds;
- registration requirements;
- class requirements;
- tie procedure;
- calculation period;
- correction process.

Any ranking based upon T.A.I. classes shall use current T.A.I. definitions.

46. Irish Records

An Irish record may be recognised where:

- the archer held valid registration;
- the event held valid approval;
- the course met the applicable rules;
- the correct bow style applied;
- the correct age class applied;
- the score received proper verification;
- equipment inspection occurred where required;
- the result remained free from a successful protest.

The Director shall examine each record claim or delegate that examination.

Recognition shall appear in writing.

47. Correction or Withdrawal of Results

TIFAM may correct or withdraw a result where a fair review establishes:

- arithmetic error;
- incorrect identity;
- ineligible entry;
- wrong class;
- invalid scorecard;
- equipment breach;
- duplicate entry;
- proven cheating;

- another material sporting error.

The archer shall receive notice plus an opportunity to comment before a final adverse decision, except where correction concerns an obvious clerical error.

Misconduct may also proceed under the Disciplinary Procedure.

48. Competition Protests

A protest concerning:

- scoring;
- equipment classification;
- referee action;
- target procedure;
- group procedure;
- competition eligibility;
- technical application of a rule;

shall first follow the event protest route.

At a T.A.I. competition, the current T.A.I. protest period, fee, Competition Court and decision powers apply. The current international rules place written protests before the Competition Court within the official period after publication of results.

49. Sporting Review

A TIFAM national event lacking a separate Competition Court shall publish a sporting-review process before shooting begins.

The review body shall:

- remain impartial;
- receive the protest promptly;
- identify the rule concerned;
- consider relevant evidence;
- issue a decision;
- record the outcome.

A sporting review concerns the competition result or technical ruling. Broader misconduct follows the Disciplinary Procedure.

50. Referees

Referees shall:

- know the applicable Sporting Regulations;

- understand current Bow Styles;
- apply rules fairly;
- remain impartial;
- support safe competition;
- record warnings or penalties;
- refer unresolved matters to the proper event body;
- attend refresher education required by TIFAM or T.A.I.

The T.A.I. Referee Manual presents referees as impartial sporting officers, identifies knowledge of bow styles, misconduct, warnings, penalties and practical event supervision as core training areas. ([Traditional Archers International](#))

51. Referee Education

The Director shall lead or coordinate national referee education.

Training should include:

- current T.A.I. rules;
- bow inspection;
- class allocation;
- event procedure;
- safety;
- misconduct;
- warnings;
- penalties;
- evidence recording;
- communication;
- conflicts of interest;
- practical course supervision.

Formal T.A.I. certification remains subject to T.A.I. requirements.

52. Coaching Education

The Director shall ensure that TIFAM coaching education reflects:

- current T.A.I. bow styles;
- current competition procedures;
- safe shooting technique;

- age-appropriate instruction;
- safeguarding;
- ethical conduct;
- equipment care;
- traditional-archery knowledge;
- coach boundaries;
- continuing education.

Course material shall identify its version and approval date.

53. Technical Qualifications

TIFAM may maintain qualifications for:

- instructors;
- coaches;
- coach tutors;
- referees;
- equipment inspectors;
- course inspectors;
- event officials.

The Director shall recommend:

- entry requirements;
- course content;
- assessment standards;
- renewal periods;
- refresher requirements;
- suspension or restoration procedures.

Award, restriction or withdrawal of a qualification shall follow fair procedure.

54. National Representation

A person selected or recognised as representing TIFAM or Ireland shall:

- satisfy eligibility requirements;
- hold current registration;
- comply with T.A.I. entry rules;

- use compliant equipment;
- follow team instructions;
- observe the Code of Conduct;
- maintain suitable behaviour during travel, accommodation and ceremonies.

Selection may be withdrawn where eligibility, conduct, safety or administration remains unsatisfied. Any disciplinary action shall follow the applicable TIFAM procedure.

55. Technical Communications

Official technical communications may include:

- amendment notices;
- interpretation notices;
- event instructions;
- education bulletins;
- equipment guidance;
- alignment reports;
- temporary safety directions.

Each communication shall state:

- issuing authority;
- reference number;
- publication date;
- effective date;
- affected events or persons;
- governing document.

Informal comments by an officer do not amend a regulation.

56. Publication and Accessibility

TIFAM shall make current sporting documents reasonably accessible to members and clubs.

Superseded versions shall carry a clear archived status.

Plain-language guides may assist members. The governing regulation prevails where a guide differs.

Technical material owned by T.A.I. shall be used in accordance with T.A.I.'s publication and copyright conditions. The current T.A.I. Bow Styles document states that reproduction requires permission from the relevant T.A.I. authorities. ([Traditional Archers International](#))

57. Compliance

A club, organiser, official or competitor shall cooperate with reasonable technical requirements under these Regulations.

Possible responses to non-compliance include:

- corrective guidance;
- additional inspection;
- refusal of record recognition;
- conditional event approval;
- suspension of sanction;
- withdrawal of sanction;
- referral under the Disciplinary Procedure.

Immediate safety action may remain valid where a later disciplinary complaint is unsubstantiated.

58. Separation from Disciplinary Proceedings

A sporting ruling determines competition administration, score, class, equipment compliance or event procedure.

A disciplinary proceeding determines alleged misconduct under the Code of Conduct or another TIFAM policy.

The same incident may produce:

- an immediate safety direction;
- a sporting penalty;
- a result correction;
- a disciplinary referral.

Each process shall remain within its proper authority.

59. Safeguarding Referrals

A safeguarding concern shall pass promptly to the Designated Liaison Person under the TIFAM Safeguarding Policy.

The Director, referee or event organiser shall avoid conducting a child-protection investigation.

A technical event review may continue only where it protects safety and avoids interference with the statutory safeguarding process.

60. Annual Technical Report

The Director shall present an annual technical report to the Board covering:

- T.A.I. amendments;

- TIFAM amendments;
- alignment status;
- written interpretations;
- event-sanctioning work;
- coaching education;
- referee education;
- records administration;
- club-support activity;
- technical risks;
- proposed priorities.

The report shall include the current Regulation Alignment Register.

61. Review of These Regulations

The Director shall lead the annual review.

Consultation may include:

- the Board;
- affiliated clubs;
- referees;
- coaches;
- Safety Officers;
- event organisers;
- safeguarding officers;
- competitors.

The Board shall approve formal amendments.

62. Transitional Provision

An event already sanctioned before an amendment may continue under its approved instructions where:

- T.A.I. permits that approach;
- safety remains protected;
- fairness remains protected;
- the Director confirms the transitional arrangement in writing.

A mandatory T.A.I., legal, safety or safeguarding change takes effect according to the higher requirement.

63. Interpretation Authority

The Director holds primary national authority for technical interpretation.

The Board retains authority concerning:

- governance;
- constitutional meaning;
- approval of permanent amendments;
- appointment or removal of officers;
- matters outside technical sporting rules.

T.A.I. retains final authority concerning its own regulations, sanctioned competitions and authorised international interpretations.

An event Competition Court retains authority over protests assigned to it during the competition.

64. Commencement

These Regulations take effect on the date approved by the Board.

They replace TIFAM Sporting Regulations Version 1.0.

Existing technical notices remain effective only where consistent with this edition and current T.A.I. rules.

Appendix A: Minimum Event-Sanctioning Information

An application shall contain:

- organiser and club details;
- date and venue;
- landowner permission;
- event category;
- proposed round;
- capacity;
- course plan;
- risk assessment;
- emergency plan;
- insurance confirmation;

- event lead;
- Tournament Director where required;
- Safety Officer or Range Captain;
- referees;
- first-aid provision;
- safeguarding arrangements;
- bow-inspection arrangements;
- scoring system;
- results procedure;
- accessibility information;
- proposed special rules.