

World Archery Nordic (WAN)

Guidelines for cooperation within the Nordic Archery associations.



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World Archery Nordic - WAN

This document contains the guidelines for cooperation of the Nordic Archery associations.

Member associations

The WAN members are the national World Archery Associations of Denmark, Finland, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

Purpose

The purpose of WAN is cooperation, with the general principle and goal of improving the WAN members international standing in the sport and increase Nordic representation and influence within international federations (WAE-WA). WAN shall work towards the development of archery in the Nordic area.

The cooperation includes all positive development towards that goal. For example: education, training camps, Nordic competitions, coordination before and during international meeting and international competitions.

Organization

WAN's work is coordinated by one of the WAN members, in one-year terms. The WAN member organizing the coming years annual meeting and their secretary general will be the WAN secretary general. The WAN secretary general is responsible for: The annual meeting, facilities for the meeting, making sure NUM is organized, making sure minutes are made of meetings, communications etc. (see "Attachment 1" for roles)

WAN meeting

An annual meeting shall be organized once per calendar year, during February or March. The WAN secretary general can convene additional meetings during the year if the need arises or requested by 50% of WAN members. Every WAN member can participate with the number of people they prefer at the meetings.

The invitation to WAN meetings is the responsibility of the WAN secretary general. A physical meeting can be substituted by an online meeting if needed, or requested by 50% of WAN members. Minutes (notes) of all meetings shall be made by the WAN secretary general.

When voting on a proposal during a meeting a 2/3 majority is needed by the attending WAN members for a proposal to be adopted. All WAN members have one vote.

Finances

The cost of the annual WAN meeting is allocated as follows:

Each WAN member: Own travel, accommodation and extras outside of the 24h meeting.

Meeting organizer: Other expenses such as invitation, meeting facilities and lunch.

Dinner, if it is organized, is not at the expense of the meeting organizer.

Competitions shall be financed by registration fees and such.

General rules

These guidelines are the general rules for WAN (the Nordic Cooperation). The World Archery (WA) rules are the foundation of the WAN competition rules, but there may be exceptions. Exceptions to the WA rules are specifically listed in these guidelines.

WAN events should be registered in WA event calendar by the WAN member of the LOC.

These guidelines have been written in English since 2015 and will be updated by the staff of Swedish Archery Federation. The guidelines will be published: www.bagskytte.se–Ungdom–WAN

Exceptions from WA-rules

Clothing rule

- All archers shall wear either club shirt or team shirt (NUM)
 - Athletes in the team event are not required to wear matching uniforms, but it is encouraged when possible (NUM)
 - Athlete names on shirts are optional but encouraged (NUM)
- Athletes shall wear trousers, shorts, dresses, skirts or divided skirts of their choice; however, this legwear may not be shorter than the athlete's fingertips when the arms and fingers are extended at the athlete's side. They shall wear long or short sleeved shirts, blouses or tops, however, the upper body clothing must be fixed over each shoulder covering the front and back of the body while still covering the midriff when the athlete is at full draw. (WA)
- Clothing may not be of camouflage, including headwear. Camouflage equipment is allowed. Denim and jeans are allowed. (NUM)
- Due to weather conditions, protective clothing such as sweaters, track suits, raingear, etc. may be worn (NUM)
- Headwear is optional. (WA)
- Sport shoes shall be worn by all athletes and officials except for disabled athletes when included on their classification card. Sport shoes may be different styles but shall cover the entire foot. (WA)

Coaches

According to WA-rules Book 3, 18.1.2. But in principle: One coach per four archers per club, at least one coach per club.

Team event at Nordic competitions

Team competitions are gender neutral (meaning all genders compete together in one event). All age classes/disciplines should have their own team event, if there are enough participants. Classes/disciplines that have low participation can be joined into a single team event by the LOC to make it possible for everyone to participate in the team event. By default, all archers are divided automatically into teams with the following method:

1. For each event all archers from the same nation are sorted by the qualification results into teams. Top three archers of the nation in the class/discipline make up the first team (for example Sweden 1). Each subsequent 3 archers make up the following teams.
2. Archers that cannot form a full national team are moved into the Nordic pool. This pool is also sorted by qualification results to form Nordic teams so everyone can participate.

3. Countries may register archers to individual clubs for the team event. These must be registered before a date set by the competition organizers. Club teams are considered similar to national teams, extra archers are moved to the Nordic pool.
4. If there are not enough archers in the Nordic pool to form full teams (not divisible by 3) the last 1 or 2 teams shall have 2 members.
 - In two member teams an archer may shoot at most two arrows in a row before rotating.
 - If by happenstance a Nordic team ends up consisting of 2 athletes from the same country the LOC are allowed to let them compete under the flag of their country rather than as a Nordic team should they prefer it.
5. Nations can switch one member of a team up to a time set by the competition organizers (published at the latest when the qualification round ends). Switching a team member will not affect the qualifying score of a team.
 - In such cases the LOC may remake the Nordic teams as per the point 4, if it is needed so that everyone can participate.

Age limit at Nordic competitions

Athletes competing in Nordic competitions must have reached the age of 13 as calculated by YEAR OF BIRTH, as per WA rules (date of birth is not used).

The reason for the 13-year age limit is that in some WAN nations athletes are not allowed to compete (for medals) before the age of 13 or the WAN members is not allowed to organize competitions (for medals) for an age group that includes athletes younger than age 13.

These rules are often rules from the nations National Olympic Committee, government or National Sports Federations and cannot be overruled by WAN. It has nothing to do with the knowledge or skill level of the individual archer. No exceptions are made to this rule to ensure that participation is equally fair for athletes from all Nordic nations and so that the organization of Nordic events is consistent from year to year.

Judges at Nordic competitions

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of a Nordic competition shall use their national judges for the event. At least one of the judges at the event should be an international judge (WAE or WA).

Judges from other WAN members are encouraged to participate in Nordic events and are encouraged to contact the LOC for such opportunities. But the LOC of the event is not responsible for the costs related to the participation of judges from other nations.

Location of Nordic Competitions

Nordic competitions should be organized in a suitable geographical place to strive to lower costs and maximize event participation.

Open Nordic Youth Championship (NUM)

The Open Nordic Youth Championship (NUM) will be held annually for youth athletes from the age of 13-20 years.

The schedule for NUM is revised every year at the Nordic meeting. NUM shall be organized in week 27. (*Attachment 1*). NUM dates can be change from week 27 if agreed upon by 2/3 of WAN members, for example because of a conflict with international events, pandemic or such factors.

NUM distances and rounds: rules as per WA50/70 m + matches/finals (set system in R, B, L, T and cumulative score in C), in all divisions and ages, distances as below:

Age class	Recurve (R)	Compound (C)	Barebow (B)	Longbow (L)	Traditional(T)
U16 (age 13-15)	40 m (WA)	40 m (WA)	30 m (WA)	30 m (WAN)	30 m (WAN)
U18 (age 16-17)	60 m (WA)	50 m (WA)	40 m (WAN)	30 m (WAN)	30 m (WAN)
U21 (age 18-20)	70 m (WA)	50 m (WA)	50 m (WA)	30 m (WAN)	30 m (WAN)
U21 Open (13-20)	50 m (WAN)				
Target face	Recurve (R)	Compound (C)	Barebow (B)	Longbow (L)	Traditional(T)
Size	122cm	80cm	122cm	122cm	122cm

The age of athletes is calculated by the **YEAR OF BIRTH**. The years of birth that can participate in each NUM can be found in (*Attachment 1*)

Athletes are allowed to compete in a higher age class if they prefer.

WA introduced new U15 guidelines for distances and target faces in congress 2023. The WAN rules were changed at the Nordic meeting in 2024 to match the WA rules better for all age classes in distances and target faces. But since there are no world/European records or international competitions for U15 within WA, and no planed additions of such in the future, the decision was made to continue with the U16 class at NUM for the foreseeable future.

The WAN guidelines for distances had been changed in 2023 to a more incremental increase in difficulty level between age categories, to protect the physical and mental health of athletes, as much as possible, and give those that need it a chance to develop at a more reasonable pace. Since NUM is an event for all youth, not only the elites, that must also be considered.

To keep such an option available for athletes and coaches, but still align with the WA rules in all other aspect, the decision was made to synchronize essentially all distances to WA distances and instead add the Recurve U21 OPEN at 50m to cover the gap in recurve. The RU21 Open class is open to all athletes 13-20 years of age, and its main purpose is to give athletes that are not prepared to compete at longer distances (mainly those in U18/U21) the option of participating without putting their health at risk. This will also help those that start in the sport in their late teens, those that may have injuries and those that may have handicaps to participate at a reasonable distance.

To give an example: It is very difficult for many recurve athletes when they move from 40m in U16 to 60m in U18, because there is a 50% increase in difficulty level at 16 years of age. Those

athletes see their scores and performance fall dramatically and many have very negative feelings because of that towards their performance, decreasing their self-confidence and mental health, making it more likely that they drop out of the sport at a critical age. According to NUM participation data for the last 10 years this dropout rate has affected girls more than boys in recurve in U18 and U21. Many athletes may also be moved to higher poundage bows, before they have the proper technique to wield them, to be able to compete at those longer distances, also putting some athlete's physical health at risk. So the RU21 Open was added at 50m to give athletes/coaches the option of moving to higher poundage and longer distances when they feel ready. This will also be crucial IF the age class is moved from U16 to U15 in the future.

This change in the rules should therefore be a positive development, physically and mentally, for the athletes, whatever their skill level is. The elites can compete at the WA distances and others can choose to compete at a shorter distance if they want.

(The explanation in green to clarify reasons and logic behind the changes in distances and classes, and was requested to be added at the Nordic meeting in 2024. This text will be shortened in the future when the format has become the "norm" and familiar to all)

Medals

Sweden is responsible for medal inventory, storage and orders for WAN events. Medal orders should be made by the LOC to sbf@bagskytte.se.

The LOC will provide medal ribbons with their country colour or flag for the medals.

It's always a competition of the medals, always one archer more than medals in a division except for a single archer who cannot be moved shall have a gold.

Event Records

From 2023 WAN shall award event records for the highest scoring individual and team in each age class, division and gender. (Like is done for Olympics (OR) and many other events)

These guidelines for World Archery Nordic are fixed by the meeting of **February 2024**

Attachment 1

Year	WAN meeting Responsible	NUM (Target) Responsible	NUM for archers born:	NM (Target) Responsible
2005	Denmark			
2006	Sweden	Sweden		
2007	Faroe Islands	Norway		
2008	Norway	Denmark		
2009	Denmark	Sweden		
2010	Sweden	Norway		
2011	Faroe Islands	Denmark		
2012	Norway	Sweden		
2013	Denmark	Finland		
2014	Sweden	Norway		
2015	Iceland	Sweden		
2016	Finland	Denmark		
2017	Denmark	Finland		
2018	Norway	Norway	1998-2005	
2019	Faroe Islands	Denmark	1999-2006	
2020	Sweden	C-19 cancelled	2000-2007	
2021	Iceland	Sweden	2001-2008	
2022	Finland	Finland	2002-2009	
2023	Denmark	Norway	2003-2010	
2024	Norway	Denmark	2004-2011	
2025	Faroe Islands	Sweden	2005-2012	
2026	Sweden	Finland	2006-2013	
2027	Iceland	Norway	2007-2014	
2028	Finland	Denmark	2008-2015	
2029	Denmark	Sweden	2009-2016	
2030	Norway	Finland	2010-2017	
2031	Faroe Islands	Norway	2011-2018	
2032	Sweden	Denmark	2012-2019	
2033	Iceland	Sweden	2013-2020	
2034	Finland	Finland	2014-2021	
2035	Denmark	Norway	2015-2022	
2036	Norway	Denmark	2016-2023	
2037	Faroe Islands	Sweden	2017-2024	
2038	Sweden	Finland	2018-2025	
2039	Iceland	Norway	2019-2026	