



**International Horseback Archery Alliance**

# **Statutes**

## **CHAPTER I - OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES**

### **Article 1**

The International Horseback Archery Alliance (IHAA) has the following objectives:

- To promote the sport of horseback archery internationally both through being the international federation for horseback archery and via the broader support of the horseback archery community;
- To promote the highest standards of horsemanship, horse welfare and safety within horseback archery;
- To bring together the organisations who are in charge in their countries of the organization of horseback archery (referred to in these Statutes as Member Associations, MAs) on an international level;
- To use all means to facilitate relations and understanding between the different Member Associations; to give them support, help and encouragement; to strengthen their authority and prestige;
- To produce a rulebook of standard competition tracks, and maintain an online database of a wider variety of tracks (especially those with cultural or regional importance)
- To organise, regulate, develop and promote international horseback archery meetings and competitions, and support the training and qualification of judges and Hunt track course designers;
- To organise and promote the IHAA Grading System;
- To organise and promote IHAA postal matches;
- To organise and promote the IHAA world ranking system;
- To promote equity within horseback archery and facilitate access of para-athletes to the sport;
- To draw national and international authorities' attention to any issue and regulation directly or indirectly concerning horseback archery;
- To take an interest, on an international level, in all horse- or archery related issues relative to horseback archery, as well as any question which could be directly or indirectly linked with one of the above mentioned subjects, or any other similar or related subject.

### **Article 2**

The IHAA and the Members will act in accordance with the following principles:

- The IHAA is based on the principle of equity and mutual respect from all the Members, without

prejudice in regards to race, colour, religion or interior politics.

- The IHAA and its Members undertake to respect and to apply the statutes, the general regulation and specific regulations.
- Conflicts on the interpretation or the application of the statutes or the IHAA's rules will be settled by the IHAA Committee, although the Committee have the authority to delegate this power to a sub-committee consisting of not less than 3 Committee Members.
- All sanctions pronounced by the IHAA have to be acknowledged and applied by all the members.
- No regulations contained in these Statutes authorise the IHAA to intervene in equestrian matters or other matters which concern the national jurisdiction of the Members. The Members are not obliged to submit those matters to the IHAA for conciliation. Member Associations are required to obey their national laws and where there is any conflict between these Statutes or any other IHAA rules and national laws, the national laws take precedence.

## **CHAPTER II - AFFILIATIONS**

### **Article 3**

- Any Member Associations (MAs) which agree with the IHAA's values and goals and accept the obligations contained in these Statutes, in the IHAA's Conditions for Affiliation, can apply to become affiliated to the IHAA.
- MAs must have a national scope, in geographical terms.
- They must have an independent organisation in terms of both administration and finance, including free election of officers from among their members.
- The IHAA will only affiliate one MA per country. This should be either the National Governing Body for horseback archery or the main Horseback Archery group promoting IHAA horseback archery in that country.  
Where there is no National Governing body (NGB) or large Horseback Archery Association in a country, or such organisations do not wish to affiliate to the IHAA or their membership would be contrary to the aims of the IHAA, the IHAA Committee may vote to allow another body from that country to affiliate as the MA.
- If more than one body claims to be the NGB for a single country then the IHAA Committee shall decide which, if any, to accept as a Member.
- The procedure for a membership challenge of an incumbent MA is detailed in the Conditions for Membership document.
- Should the IHAA MA change, the departing MA must not thereby be placed in a worse situation than if it had not affiliated. Specifically, the new MA must, if asked, buy any and all IHAA Grading Badges and other such supplies from the departing MA at cost.
- The IHAA promotes cooperation and integration, and encourages any fragmented groups in countries to work together.
- The IHAA is keen to assist MAs to best manage the situation in their country with regard to promoting harmony and to facilitate access to the IHAA and IHAA provisions.

Therefore it is permitted, on a case by case basis and in consultation with the IHAA Board, for a Member Association to appoint an IHAA National Partner Association (NPA). The member association should propose to the IHAA board how access to IHAA provisions and team selection will be managed and the fixed term of this arrangement (which may be repeated any number of times). The NPA would be eligible to have a rep in the IHAA committee but the MA rep would retain the national vote. The membership fee payable would be determined for each by their membership numbers (in the normal manner) and would be the full fee for the MA and an affiliate fee for the NPA. Under these arrangements there will be no further fees payable to the MA to access the IHAA provisions (by the NPA or its members)

#### Article 4

The membership application must be forwarded in writing (or email) to the Secretary of the IHAA and must be signed by the President (or equivalent) of the association / federation which is applying. The application should be made in English and the following information must be included:

- The full name of the applicant-MA, the address, the telephone number, email, and website of the registered office;
- The full name and email address of the President and the Secretary;
- A copy of its statutes and regulations, in English;
- Proof that the applicant acts as a leading horseback archery association in that country, including information about their organisation and infrastructure;
- An agreement to pay any and all fees required for membership, including annual subscriptions.

The membership application will then be submitted to the IHAA Membership Sub-committee who will examine the application alongside the membership conditions and verify whether it meets the requirements, then will forward their findings to the IHAA Board of Directors for a vote. The IHAA BoD may then grant the application, reject it or defer it for a set period. If membership is granted, the applicant becomes an IHAA Member Association (designated by "Member" in the IHAA statutes). If an application is deferred, details of what aspects of the application need to be fulfilled or improved should be provided.

#### Article 5

The Member Association should be familiar with the written *Expectations of Member Associations regarding promotion of the IHAA and access to IHAA provisions within the member nation*, attached as an appendix to these Statutes.

Failure to comply with these expectations may lead to a warning, issued by the IHAA Board of Directors, then suspension or withdrawal of an association's status as IHAA member association (as per article 6)

#### Article 6

The IHAA Board of Directors may suspend for a period of time a Member that violates the statutes or

the general or the specific regulations of the IHAA, or risks reputational damage to the IHAA by association.

#### Article 7

The IHAA Board of Directors may expel any Member which persistently violates the principles included in the present statutes.

### **CHAPTER III - THE IHAA COMMITTEE**

#### Article 8

The IHAA Committee consists of one delegate from each Member Association. MAs may decide how they appoint their delegate. By appointing a delegate, the Member Association gives that delegate power to discuss all questions and to act and vote on behalf of the Member Association. The Member Association is responsible for the actions of its delegate.

To be eligible to serve on the Committee, a person must:

- be a current member of a Member Association;
- be certified by the Members Association to have a good knowledge and understanding of the sport of horseback archery;
- be certified by the Member Association to have power to vote on behalf of the Member Association;
- be able to speak English well enough to participate in the business of the IHAA (or have a translator available to assist them during all Committee discussions)

A list of delegates to the IHAA Committee who have access to the IHAA private discussion group will be maintained; delegates must sign the IHAA committee code of conduct (see article 38) prior to admission .

If a delegate is not available for a discussion or vote then a temporary replacement delegate may be appointed. The Member should notify the IHAA Committee of this fact at least 48 hours before the meeting (but this may be waived by the Committee in exceptional circumstances). Other people may be admitted to the IHAA private discussion group, eg in an advisory capacity or for assistance in translation; these individuals do not have the right to vote. The period of time that any person is to remain in the private discussion group and their voting rights will be recorded at the time of admission, extensions may be awarded as necessary. Any such person must sign the IHAA committee code of conduct (see article 38) prior to admission to the private discussion group.

In addition to the Member Association Delegates, the IHAA President, Secretary and Treasurer are members of the IHAA Committee, but they do not have the right to vote, except that the President has the casting vote if there is a tie in the voting among the Members.

#### Article 9

The functions and powers of the IHAA Committee, which is the IHAA's highest authority, are as follows:

- to affiliate new Members;
- to exercise the disciplinary powers of the IHAA;
- to suspend or exclude a Member;
- to ratify or reject decisions of the Board of Directors and to decide any appeals against decisions of the Board of Directors;
- to be the final decision-making authority in all matters submitted to it;
- to elect the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and any further officers or member of the Board of Directors;
- to approve the affiliation fee, the annual fee and other dues for the following year;
- to appoint sub-committees as required. The decisions of the sub-committees are not binding until voted on by the full Committee.
- to receive, examine and approve the reports and proposals presented by the Board of Directors, the officers and sub-committees;
- to approve modifications and updates to be made to these Statutes;
- to approve the rules and regulations of the IHAA, including organisational and competition rules, and to authorise their publication;
- to approve the provisions of IHAA qualifications, and the details to be managed by a subcommittee
- to approve any changes to the Grading System, including the rules, the events to be included and the tables of required scores;
- to deliberate on and decide any questions brought up by Committee Members.

#### Article 10

- Each Member Association has only one vote through their delegate; if the president, secretary and treasurer are not MA delegates they may participate in committee discussions but may not vote
- A secret vote, by writing, is mandatory for contested elections, affiliations and disciplinary matters.
- The vote regarding all the other matters is cast by a show of hands (or equivalent if the meeting is being held over electronic means) unless 25% of the delegates ask for a secret vote by writing;
- If the meeting is being held purely in person then postal votes are not permitted (unless the Committee has determined otherwise in relation to a particular issue);
- If a meeting is being held wholly or partly remotely then sufficient time must be given for all Committee Members to see the question and vote on it;
- For most decisions, a simple majority of members voting on a given question is required for the decision to be made.
- Any amendment to these statutes requires a two-thirds majority of those voting to be passed.
- In case of a tied vote, the President will have the deciding vote.

#### Article 11

Additional non-voting members of the IHAA committee may be:

- a representative of a NPA (see article 3)
- a National Compliance Mentor

The IHAA Board of Directors reserve the right to appoint a National Compliance Mentor (NCM) when:

- an IHAA Representative has less than 3 years experience of competing and/or judging in IHAA disciplines, or
- the rep is not active in fulfilling the expectations of a MA

The NCM would have several years of familiarity with IHAA provisions through their activity as an athlete and/or judge in the IHAA-disciplines of horseback archery, and be an IHAA qualified judge.

The NCM is appointed as a representative of the IHAA and there is no fixed term for this appointment.

The purpose of this role is to monitor, and as required assist with, the compliance of the MA with the IHAA's stated "Expectations of Member Associations", ie. the promotion and accessibility of IHAA systems in the member association & their country.

If the National Compliance Mentor identifies any lapses then they should engage with either the IHAA rep or MA committee to try to rectify the shortcoming. Subsequent to this, in the first instance, the IHAA will seek to educate and assist where a lapse is identified via assistance from the relevant IHAA sub-committee. In the second instance a warning may be given. If failures continue (or are of sufficient severity) then penalties will be incurred; these may be specific to the area of the transgression

#### Article 12

An annual meeting should be held, which should be in person at least every other year. Other business or meetings may be carried out using telephone, internet or other means. When the Committee meet in person there must be provision for delegates who cannot attend the meeting to link to it via telephone, internet or other technology. Delegates linking in this way are considered to be attending the meeting and have the right to speak and vote. Time must be allowed for them to consider all questions and vote on them, including making allowance for different international time zones.

#### Article 13

Notification for a Committee meeting in person must be sent, by mail or email, by the Secretary to all the members at least 30 days prior to the date scheduled for that meeting.

#### Article 14

The President presides over the Committee. If the President is unable to attend, the Committee will elect one of their number to preside over the meeting. Such a person shall have their usual voting rights and shall also have the deciding vote in the event of split decisions.

#### Article 15

At the annual Committee meeting the following should be presented:

- the Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report including an independent audit of finance for the preceding year and the budget for the following year.
- A detailed proposal, by the board of directors, regarding plans for the next year, plus longer term goals

These reports shall be sent to all Members at least 14 days before the meeting.

The Agenda for the meeting in person shall be sent to all Members at least 14 days in advance. Matters to be included on the agenda must be sent to the Secretary at least 30 days before the meeting.

Only the matters listed on the agenda can be decided on during the meeting in person. Those that have been submitted late or those that are given verbally during a meeting can be discussed, but cannot be approved until the Members' delegates have had the chance of discussing the matter. These matters will be included in the agenda of the next meeting, which may be an online meeting.

#### Article 16

Minutes of Committee meetings in person must be prepared and signed by the President and the Secretary. Copies of the minutes must be forwarded to the Members as soon as possible after each meeting and at the latest two months after the meeting. The members must enforce the decisions reported in the reports.

### **CHAPTER IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### Article 17

The Committee shall establish a Board of Directors (referred to as the Board). The Board shall consist of the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and between 2 and 8 other members, who shall be elected by the Committee and who shall serve for a term of 2 years, beginning with their election and ending with the election of their successors.

Half of the board members shall be elected each year to ensure continuity from year to year.

Selection for the Board shall take place as follows:

- The elected officials, ie. President, Secretary and Treasurer, are automatically selected for the Board (see article 25 for their election);
- Nominations for the remaining positions must be made at least 14 days before the election. Nominees must be approved by their Member Association and must meet the same eligibility criteria as Committee members (Article 8);
- If there are 8 or fewer nominees then no election need be held: all nominees can be appointed unless any Committee member requests to the President that elections be held, in which

case there must be a secret ballot, in which each Committee Member votes for or against the selection of each nominee;

- If there are more than 8 nominees then a secret ballot shall be held to determine which nominees are selected.
- Existing members of the Board are eligible to be re-elected if they are nominated and there is no limit to the number of times that a Board member may be elected.

If a Board member resigns or otherwise leaves the Board then the Board may continue without filling the vacancy unless the total has fallen below 5 members, in which case elections may be held. The elected replacement need not be from the same Member Association as the previous Board Member. Any person elected to fill a vacancy serves only until the end of the existing term.

All roles within the Board of Directors are voluntary and cannot be remunerated (although expenses for attending meetings of the Board of Directors or other official meetings may be provided at the discretion of the Committee).

#### Article 18

The Board of Directors is the authority responsible for the IHAA's administration and management. In case of emergency situations, recognised as such by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, the Board of Directors has the power to take a decision in the name of the Committee, a decision that will have to be approved by the Committee as soon as possible. The Board of Directors examines and approves if necessary any sanction imposed by a Member within its jurisdiction and that can be of interest to other Members. The secretary will bring this sanction to the attention of all other Members.

The Board of Directors co-ordinates the calendar for the IHAA's international activities and submits it to the Committee for approval.

#### Article 19

Each Board member, including the President, Secretary and Treasurer, has only one vote during a Board of directors meeting. All votes are made by a show of hands (or equivalent if the meeting is being held remotely) unless a member demands a secret vote. The decisions are taken by a majority of the votes cast. In case of a split vote, the president has the deciding vote. In order for a vote to be valid, more than 50% of the Board must either cast a vote or declare that they abstain. This must include at least 2 of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### Article 20

Board of Directors' meetings are chaired by the President. If the President is unavailable then the Secretary chairs the meeting.

#### Article 21

If any member of the Board of Directors is attending a meeting remotely then, before any vote is



taken, it must be ensured that all members have the opportunity to consider and discuss the issue, including awareness of differing time zones. Before votes are finalised, all members must be given an opportunity to cast their vote.

#### Article 22

A report or minute of every Board of Directors' meeting must be made and sent to all members of the Board within 28 days after the meeting. Reports and minutes must be archived in a Google drive folder; only the secretary will have the ability to add to or edit the contents but all IHAA committee members can view the documents.

### **Chapter V – SUB-COMMITTEES AND INVESTIGATORY COMMISSIONS**

#### Article 23

There will be two permanent sub-committees: a Membership Subcommittee and Rules Subcommittee.

- Membership Sub-committee - examines an MA's application alongside the Membership Conditions to verify whether it meets the requirements, then will forward their findings and recommendations to the IHAA Committee for a vote.
- Rules Sub-committee - they will formulate detailed updates to existing rules based on date & experiences from their use in real life (competitions, grading etc) and from feedback & suggestions from the entire committee. Their suggested updates will be submitted to the entire committee for a vote (they may be passed or send back to the sub-committee for further revisions with comments). Those chosen for this subcommittee will be those with requisite experience in the horseback archery community, having extensively participated in and/or organised competitions, having competed on horses of all speeds and having extensive equestrian knowledge and experience. Across the sub-committee the members should have a breadth of experience through different disciplines and cultural backgrounds, to be open minded and willing to consider different opinions. There must be someone on the rules sub-committee who has experience of drafting written rules.
- The Board of Directors may appoint other sub-committees to examine and report on any matter that the Board chooses. The duration and remit of the sub-committee is set by the Board.

The members of sub-committees are selected by the Board of Directors; all must be MA delegates or elected officials (president, secretary, or treasurer). Any or all of its members may be members of the Board of Directors but need not be. If a sub-committee contains a Board member then the sub-committee must be chaired by a Board member.

#### Article 24

The Board of Directors may appoint a commission to investigate any complaints that are made about the attitude, acts or decisions of any judges, riders, coaches or any other person officially accredited at any IHAA event. Any such commission should consist of 3-5 members, at least one of whom should be a member of the Board of Directors unless the nature of the complaint is such that this would be inappropriate. The commission should be chaired by a Board member if it contains one. The duration

and remit of the commission is set by the Board.

#### Article 25

Sub-committees and Commissions report to the Board of Directors. The Board may either act on the report or refer it to the Committee.

### **CHAPTER VI – PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER**

#### Article 26

The Committee elects the President, Secretary and Treasurer in the same way, using a two-round first-past-the-post system. The candidate who has obtained a majority of votes in the first round of voting or relative majority in the second round is elected. His mandate covers 3 years and begins at his election. It finishes when his replacement is elected. In case of a vacancy in the Presidency, the Secretary shall temporarily exercise the functions of the President until the Committee elects a new President.

Nominees for these positions may be MA delegates, but it is possible for people to be nominated to these positions who are not already on the committee.

To ensure continuity, the President and Secretary will be elected one year and elections for Treasurer (and Vice President, if there is one) will be the following year.

#### Article 27

The IHAA President is the IHAA's principal authority. The President is the President of the IHAA and of the IHAA Committee. Should the President be on any sub-committees, they shall also be the President of that sub-committee, unless the Committee decides otherwise.

#### Article 28

The President represents the IHAA in all legal proceedings and in any other matters and proceedings. If the President cannot be present, the Committee shall appoint one of its members to fulfil this role.

#### Article 29

The Secretary is in charge of the IHAA's administration. He is in charge of having the statutes and rules observed and of bringing all infractions to the attention of the Board of Directors administrators.

- The Secretary is given the responsibility of preparing and presenting the agenda at Committee meetings; preparing and publishing the official bulletin, the newsletter and all other information; and dealing with all official correspondence.
- The Secretary prepares and submits his report on the IHAA's general administration to the annual Committee meeting in person.

#### Article 30

The Treasurer is in charge of membership, fees and all amounts due to the IHAA. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping the books and is responsible for all expenses. The Treasurer presents the accounts, his report concerning the financial situation and the budget at the annual Committee meeting in person. The Treasurer has to inform the Committee of all changes that he proposes concerning the initial affiliation fee, membership fees and all other charges.

#### Article 31

It is permitted for the Committee to elect a Vice-President, through the same procedure as outlined in article 26, as desired. The Vice-President will have an open remit to support the President and Secretary and, if required, may be tasked with a more specific agenda by the Board of Directors.

### **CHAPTER VII - DISCIPLINARY POWERS**

#### Article 32

Any disciplinary questions must be referred to the Board of Directors. The Board should discuss the matter and make a recommendation to the Committee. As part of its discussions, the Board should invite the person or Member Association in question to submit any explanation or arguments. Any such explanation or argument must be considered as part of the process. The Board may ask further questions and the answers to those questions must also be considered. The Board may also hear any other evidence or arguments that the Board considers relevant.

#### Article 33

The Committee has the power to impose one of the following penalties:

- a warning;
- temporary suspension from the IHAA;
- expulsion from the IHAA.

#### Article 34

A Member Association that has been suspended or expelled may not take part in Committee meetings, either in discussion or voting, during the period of the sanction. It shall also not be eligible to send competitors to the IHAA World Championships or any other competition at which membership of the IHAA is mandatory.

- If the Member Association of the President, Secretary or Treasurer is suspended from the IHAA then that officer shall continue to exercise their duties and may take part in discussions but they shall not have a vote in the Committee or the Board of Directors.
- If the President's Member Association is suspended then the President's deciding vote shall

pass to the Secretary for the duration of the suspension.

- If the Member Association of the President, Secretary or Treasurer is expelled from the IHAA then that officer shall no longer be eligible to carry out their role and their term shall end immediately. The Committee shall appoint a successor as soon as possible.

#### Article 35

A Member Association that is expelled from the IHAA may not be readmitted for a period of at least 2 years. In order to be readmitted, the Association must submit an application in the same way as any other non-member Association wishing to join the IHAA. A Member Association that is suspended from the IHAA does not need to apply to rejoin: its membership resumes automatically at the end of the suspension.

#### Article 36

The sanctions determined by the Committee should be communicated to the relevant Member Association by the Secretary or President within 7 days of the decision. The communication must set out any actions that the Member Association must take. All disciplinary decisions must be included in the Secretary's annual report.

### **CHAPTER VIII - VARIOUS INSTRUCTIONS**

#### Article 37

English is the working language of the IHAA. All business is carried out in English and all documents, reports, rules etc must be in English. Where any document has been translated into another language, the English version shall take precedence.

Committee or Board Members wishing to use a language other than English are responsible for providing interpreters to translate into English.

#### Article 38

The budget is determined by the Committee following the treasurer's proposal. The membership fees and all other charges are due on 1st October. Any Member that has not paid its membership fee or any other charges due by the 1st of November will receive a reminder and if necessary a second reminder by registered letter on the 1st of December. Any member that has not paid its fees shall be treated as having been suspended until fees are paid, and shall not be represented at Committee or Board meetings in the intervening time.

The Committee may, if asked by a Member Association, decide to waive or reduce the fees for that Member for that year. Alternatively, the Committee may grant additional time for payment. If extra time is granted then the Member shall not be treated as not having paid its fees until the expiry of that extension.

#### Article 39

The Book-keeping year runs from Jan 1st to Dec 31st.

An auditor (accountant) should be appointed by the board of directors. He/she should review the previous year's book-keeping and present his/her statement at the general meeting. The auditor should ideally be a professional accountant, or a person possessing the necessary knowledge is also permissible, there is no requirement that he/she is involved in horseback archery.

#### Article 40

Code of conduct for membership of the IHAA private discussion group

- All IHAA discussions are private. It is permitted for delegates to summarise and share information for the purpose of making a vote that properly represents the view of their member association. Any posts copied from the IHAA discussion group must be anonymised.
- The IHAA follows the "Chatham House Rule": even when informing their MA of IHAA discussions, delegates should not disclose who within the group has said what. The arguments may be discussed but not who said what.
- The sharing of posts or classified information for other purposes is prohibited and doing so could lead to disciplinary proceedings.
- It is the responsibility of each delegate to ensure that their MA is notified of any developments that affect them or their members; eg rule changes.
- All members of the discussion group must conduct themselves with decorum and be respectful of others, both inside and outside the IHAA. However they should be able to express their views freely without fear of judgement.
- If individuals feel that comments made by others are inappropriate in their tone or content then they may challenge those comments or opinions either directly within the private discussion group with the individual who made the comment, or may speak to one of the Board of Directors with their concerns.
- Only the secretary will add people to the IHAA discussion group. A database will be kept of individuals given access – MA delegates, elected Officials (president, secretary, treasurer) and any invited experts or translators. When their agreed term has expired they will automatically be removed and must reapply if needed.

*Statutes completion date – 28 Jan 2023*

#### *Appendix 1:*

#### **Expectations of Member Associations regarding promotion of the IHAA and access to IHAA provisions within the member nation**

The IHAA appreciates the value of all different facets of horseback archery and the importance of freedom of choice in which discipline any individual may wish to focus upon. Therefore we permit

IHAA member associations to be also affiliated with other international horseback archery federations such as WHAF and/or WFEA. However, we strictly require member associations to promote the IHAA equally, as detailed below, through use and promotion of IHAA tracks, IHAA rules and the IHAA's provisions.

- Failure to uphold the following conditions may lead to a warning, then loss of an association's status as IHAA member association.
- If MAs have difficulty in fulfilling these requirements please ask for assistance. We are a group of likeminded people and wish to help each MA succeed and see horseback archery flourish in all of our member countries.

**1. The IHAA, IHAA tracks, IHAA rules and the IHAA's provisions must be given at least **equal promotion** to those of other international horseback archery federations (eg. WHAF/WFEA) by the member association.**

While we recognise that some individual clubs and schools may align themselves with other horseback archery styles, the IHAA, IHAA tracks, IHAA rules and the IHAA's provisions must be promoted equally, and must be readily accessible, within every region that the member association operates within.

**2. The ability of clubs or individuals to access membership and association **benefits** of the MA (such as insurance, grants, competitive / development team selection etc) must be open to those who wish to practice IHAA-styles of hba exclusively. I.e. there must not be any requirement for clubs or individuals to join, or pursue qualifications run by, other international horseback archery federations (eg. WHAF/WFEA) to gain acceptance or access.**

Membership of the IHAA is a two-way relationship. Affiliation to the IHAA offers a MA prominence and recognition; it offers their clubs and horse archers access to a professional standard of rules and tracks which have been carefully designed and extensively tested to be safe and fair. Members of our sporting community recognise that IHAA qualified judges and course designers, and IHAA Record & Ranking competitions, must meet high standards.

In turn, the IHAA requires the support of its members, in all regions of the world, to ensure the continued prominence of our international federation, and widespread confidence in our provisions for setting the international standard for excellence in horseback archery.

**3. We prefer that our Member Associations should *actively promote*\* the **IHAA's provisions**, but require MAs, at the very least, to *facilitate access*\* to the following.**

- a. The IHAA Grading system,
- b. IHAA World Ranking,
- c. The IHAA judging program,
- d. Registration of competitions as IHAA accredited / Record & Ranking status
- e. Postal match participation

\*Active promotion may be at a national and/or club level; via exposure of that activity/provision on social media and/or websites, providing verbal and/or written information, practical organisational assistance.

Facilitation describes the provision of information, assistance and access if an individual requests it (subject to meeting the required standard eg for enrolling as a judge, or holding an IHAA R&R or accredited competition)

Access should include any/all individuals in the MA's country. It is permissible to charge a fee for access to IHAA grading and world ranking, and that fee may be higher for non-members than for members of the association. Fees should not be unreasonable so they might restrict access eg. the difference in cost for access to any one provision, ie to apply for one grade or join world ranking for that year, should not exceed 50% of the annual membership fee, eg. in x country the fee to apply for an IHAA grade is \$20 for members, the membership fee is \$50, the cost for a non-member to grade should not exceed \$45 (\$20+25).

**4. The selection procedure** for national representation in IHAA 3\* and 4\* championships (ie. WC, regional championships, regional grand prix) must be made clear by the MA, and the rules/procedure for selection must be accessible to all horseback archers in your country. Eg. being published in an open access area of your MA website.

It is permissible to require membership to gain access to team selection, however if this is the case then membership of your association must be open to all (unless individuals have broken a published code of conduct and so are barred from membership).

Each MA should determine the exact means of selection for their national representatives (team & individuals) for example, use of IHAA grading levels, position within IHAA World ranking or National ranking, or qualification through competition. However the IHAA require that these selection criteria must be linked to performance on standard IHAA tracks, and all team members should have demonstrated competence on the Hunt track or Arena tracks.

Adherence to these requirements is necessary to secure access to the IHAA 3\* and 4\* championships.

- Failure to meet these requirements may lead to loss of access to those competitions.

**5. The IHAA strongly encourages all Member Associations to organise an annual competition** of national remit focused on IHAA tracks and IHAA rules. In the future this will be a requirement unless a MA has been awarded an exemption by the IHAA BoD.

This may be The National Championships, a prominent competition of national remit (either a single or multistage event), or several Regional Championships where the country is too large to run a single event.

- it (they) should be registered as an IHAA Record and Ranking competition if numbers allow (and must observe all associated rules)
- ideally it (they) should be an HBAE competition (and may include additional tracks of local or cultural importance)