



USA Archery Complaints and Retractions Procedures

Circumstances under which USA Archery will retract an article

USA Archery is committed to playing its part in maintaining integrity in journalism, therefore on occasion, it is necessary to retract articles. Articles may be retracted if:

- There is major factual error that would invalidate the conclusions of the article, for example where there is clear evidence that findings are unreliable, either as a result of misconduct (e.g. data fabrication) or honest error (e.g. miscalculation or other error).
- Where the findings have previously been published elsewhere without proper cross-referencing, permission or justification (i.e. cases of redundant publication).
- Where there are ethical issues such as plagiarism (appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit including those obtained through confidential review of others' manuscripts) or inappropriate authorship.
- Where unethical research has been reported.

USA Archery's retraction process

To ensure that retractions are handled according to industry best practice, and in accordance with Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) guidelines, USA Archery adopts the following retraction process:

- An article requiring potential retraction is brought to the attention of the editor via complaint submitted to media@usarchery.org.
- The editor should follow the step-by-step guidelines according to the COPE flowcharts (including evaluating a response from the author of the article in question).
- If the article is found to meet any of the above circumstances, USA Archery will follow the below process for issuing a retraction statement.
- If the article is not found to meet any of the above circumstances but the complainant is not satisfied by the investigation, the complainants may choose to take their complaint to COPE.

Process for issuing a retraction statement

Where the decision is taken to retract, USA Archery will issue a retraction statement which should be published separately but should be linked to the article being retracted. A "retracted" header should also be added to the article; however the article as first published should be retained online in order to maintain record. Issuing a retraction statement will mean the following:

- The text of the retraction should explain why the article is being retracted; and
- The statement of retraction and the original article must be clearly linked in the electronic database so that the retraction will always be apparent to anyone who comes across the original article.

Circumstances under which an article may be deleted

USA Archery will consider deletion of questioned articles in the following limited circumstances:

- Where there has been a violation of the privacy of a subject;
- Where a clearly defamatory comment has been made about others.