



Fall Board Meeting Part II, New York, New York

USA Fencing (United States Fencing Association, Inc.)

2025-10-26 11:00 - 12:00 MDT

Table of Contents

I. Zoom Dial In Details

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2Wro1tCISSmiSBj9M8TOqw

II. Call to Order

- Roll Call

- General Announcements
- Opening Remarks - Chair
- Moment of Remembrance - Dick Pew OLY
- Conflict of Interest Declaration

III. Consent Agenda

- Approval of the Minutes of the October 24, 2025 Meeting of the USA Fencing Board of Directors.
- General Counsel & Outside Counsel: To appoint Jessica Saxon, Esq. to "General Counsel", and to in turn appoint Paul Greene, Esq. of Global Sports Advocates LLC, as USA Fencing's Outside Counsel, effective 11/1/2025.

A. FIE Rule Change.....3

MOTION A: (Mr. Lehfeldt at the request of Donald Alperstein as liaison to the Referees' Commission): To adopt for USA Fencing, and incorporate into The Rules of Competition, changes to the Technical ("t" section), Organizational ("o" section), and Publicity Code ("p" section) rules approved at the 2023 FIE Congress in the form attached hereto (Appendix *) with the following modification and exception:

t.96.3:

It is forbidden to score a touch with the guard. Any touches registered by hitting with the guard must be annulled, the fencer at fault being penalized as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offenses of the 1st group.

t.122: No change

Said changes shall take effect as of January 1, 2026.

Rationale: At the 2023 Congress, the FIE adopted certain changes to the international rule book. With the exception of the addition of t.56.11 (and matching update to the penalty chart in t.170), which USA Fencing adopted on June 29, 2025, USA Fencing has not yet followed the FIE lead. The current motion is to adopt equivalent changes to those made by the FIE in 2023 in the technical, organizational, and publicity code sections of the rulebook. While the FIE adopted changes in the material section in 2023 as well, those updates are not included in this motion and are deferred to a separate initiative to comprehensively update the material section including changes made at earlier FIE Congress meetings that have not yet been adopted for domestic use. At the 2024 Congress, the FIE further modified t.96 to correct an error introduced as part of the updates made at the 2023 Congress, and the current motion proposes to mirror the version of t.96 as updated at the 2024 FIE Congress and in the current FIE Rules. The FIE updated t.122 at both the 2023 and 2024 Congress, in each case with the update in

effect for a single season (2023-2024 and 2024-2025, respectively). As both temporary periods have since lapsed, the current motion proposes not to update t.122.

In order to remain abreast of the rules being used internationally, USA Fencing should approve the proposed modifications to the USA Fencing Rules.

2023 FIE Congress Rules Change Summaries.pdf.....3

IV. CEO, Operations & Finance Update

- Budget & Staffing Update

V. New Business

A. Motion-Chair of the DEIB Committee

MOTION C: on behalf of the Task Force on Committees and Resource Groups- To approve Dawn Wilson as Chair of the DEIB Committee for the 2025-2026 season.

Rationale: The DEIB Committee does not currently have a Chair. The Task Force on Committees and Resource Groups proposes Dawn Wilson as Chair due to her seniority on the committee, years of commitment and experience in the sport as a coach, fencer, and volunteer, and excellent leadership skills. Typically Chair terms would be two years like member terms however Dawn will be completing the term previously held by Nzingha Prescod. On a related informational note to the Board, Harrison Hue has been selected by the DEIB Committee to fill the role previously held by Nicholas Harvey (member selected by the committee itself not subject to Board approval).

B. Motion- Member of Honor

MOTION D: That the USA Fencing Board of Directors recognizes former USA Fencing President Donald K. Anthony, Jr. as a Member of Honor in appreciation of his exceptional leadership, service, and contributions to the sport of fencing in the United States and internationally.

Rationale: Donald K. Anthony, Jr. served as President and Chair of the USA Fencing Board of Directors from 2012 to 2020, a period during which he guided the organization through significant financial recovery and strategic growth.

Under his leadership:

- USA Fencing transitioned from a \$1.5 million deficit to financial stability, restoring confidence with the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee.
- He championed diversity and inclusion initiatives, expanding access to fencing for underrepresented communities.
- Anthony represented the U.S. on the global stage as a member of ComEx of the Fédération Internationale d’Escrime (FIE) and continues to serve on the US Fencing Foundation Board of Trustees.
- He founded SwordSport LLC, promoting fencing through media, events, and educational initiatives, and co-founded the Peter Westbrook Foundation, which uses fencing to empower underserved youth.
- As an athlete, Anthony represented Team USA at multiple Senior and Veteran World Championships, earning a silver medal at the 2010 Veteran World Championships.

His decades-long commitment as an athlete, coach, entrepreneur, and leader has profoundly shaped the trajectory of fencing in the U.S. and globally. Recognizing Don Anthony as a Member of Honor aligns with USA Fencing’s mission to honor individuals whose sustained contributions have elevated the sport and strengthened our community.

Note: the member of honor accolade requires a 2/3 majority Board vote and may only be offered twice per calendar year.

VI. Executive Session (if needed)

**2023 CONGRESS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)**

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Amendments to the FIE Organisation Rules

The texts below are applicable from January 1, 2024, unless otherwise indicated.

Article o.10

- 1 The Organising Committee is the group of persons responsible for organising the competition.
- 2 The Organising Committee must take note of the instructions in the Specifications ('Cahier des Charges') specific to each category of competition.
3. If possible, both genders should be represented in the Organising Committee.

Article o.15

FIE Directoire Technique and delegates for official events

- 5 The day before an individual or team competition, the DT must download the entry file, the day before the competition, from 12:00 noon local time from the FIE website.
 - In individual competitions, the DT must publish and send to the FIE the pools and the relevant schedules, as well as the list of exempt fencers for senior competitions, no later than 4:00 p.m. (local time). No addition may be made to pools already published unless they come from pools starting at the same time (cf o.67.1).
 - In team competitions, the DT must publish and send to the FIE the table and the relevant schedules no later than one hour after the end of the quarter finals of the individual event. No addition may be made to the published list.

Article o.16

The **Directoire Technique** is composed of people **who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

- 1 *World Championships and Olympic Games.*
 - a) **For the Olympic Games** the Directoire Technique is composed of **six** members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the country where the competition is held. **There must be at least one member from each gender.**
 - b) **For the World Championships**, the Directoire Technique is composed of **8** members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the organising country. **There must be at least two members from each gender.**

- 2 *World Cup and Grands Prix competitions.*

The Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons from the country where the competition is held or invited by them. **There must be at least one member from each gender.**

- ~~3 **Veterans World Championships**
The Directoire Technique is composed of four members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the country where the competition is held.~~

Article o.18

Designation of refereeing, SEMI, and medical delegates

Refereeing delegates must be members of the FIE Refereeing Commission.

SEMI delegates must be members of the FIE SEMI Commission.

Medical delegates must be a members of the FIE Medical Commission.

When all delegate designations are taken together (across all types of competitions and all weapons in one season) there must be a minimum of 20% representation of both genders, should the availability of the delegates and continental representation allow it.

Should the availability of the delegates and continental representation allow it, there must be at least one delegate of each gender from each of the Refereeing, SEMI and Medical Commissions designated at World Championships.

~~4 — Veterans World Championships~~

~~Two Refereeing delegates, one SEMI delegate and two Medical delegates are appointed by the FIE Executive Committee following the recommendations of the respective commissions.~~

Article o.25

- 3 In addition, the FIE Supervisor of junior World Cup competitions is required to report on gender diversity of the registered referees through the FIE Supervisor's report.

Article o.26

- ~~1. Refereeing at Veteran World Championships is carried out by referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, selected by the Refereeing Commission on indication of the Organizing Committee and Veterans Council.
Referees must attend the refereeing meeting that takes place the day before the World Championships.~~

Articles o.29

- 3 Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Junior competitions, individual or team, must be under 20 years old at midnight on 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place ~~(cf o.30).~~

To be eligible to compete in the current season's official events, including the current season's World Junior Championships, fencers must be under 20 years of age at midnight on 31 December of the current season.

Application: from season 2024-2025

~~6) The age groups in veteran competitions are:~~

- ~~a) Age group 50-59: Must be at least 50 years old and less than 60 years old in the year of the competition.~~
- ~~b) Age group 60-69: Must be at least 60 years old and less than 70 years old in the year of the competition.~~
- ~~c) Age group 70+: Must be at least 70 years old in the year of the competition.~~

~~Application: during the test at the 2025 World Championships (not applicable in 2023 and 2024).~~

~~6— The age groups in veteran competitions are:~~

- ~~a) Age group 40-49: Must be at least 40 years old and less than 50 years old in the year of the competition.~~
- ~~b) Age group 50-59: Must be at least 50 years old and less than 60 years old in the year of the competition.~~
- ~~c) Age group 60-69: Must be at least 60 years old and less than 70 years old in the year of the competition.~~
- ~~d) Age group 70+: Must be at least 70 years old in the year of the competition.~~

Article o.30

~~Only fencers who are of an age to qualify for the next Junior World Championships may fence in the official FIE Junior competitions, individual or team, of the current fencing season.~~

~~Application: from season 2024-2025~~

VETERAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Article o.39

- ~~1— The programme of the Veteran World Fencing Championships comprises twenty four events, eighteen individual — three categories for each weapon — and six team — male foil, female foil, male epee, female epee, male sabre and female sabre. The programme must be arranged in such a way as to allow any fencer to participate in all weapons. Team events must be held on the day following the last championship of the three categories of each weapon.~~
- ~~2— No changes of dates are allowed for any competition, after the release of the programme.~~

~~3— Each competition must be held in one single day, avoiding long periods of inactivity.~~

~~1— The programme of the Veteran World Fencing Championships comprises thirty six events, twenty four individual— four categories for each weapon— and twelve team— male foil, female foil, male epee, female epee, male sabre and female sabre (two categories for each weapon and gender).— The programme must be arranged in such a way as to allow any fencer to participate in all weapons. Team events must be held on the day following the last championship of the corresponding two individual categories of each weapon.~~

~~2— No changes of dates are allowed for any competition, after the release of the programme.~~

~~3— Each competition must be held in one single day, except for team events for which the round of pools may be achieved the day before direct elimination avoiding long periods of inactivity.~~

~~Application: during the test at the 2025 World Championships (not applicable in 2023 and 2024).~~

Article o.42

4 The formulae of the competitions are specified in the **administrative** rules (~~see art. 9.4.3~~) and in the following articles: o.100, o.101 and o.102 (o.102.1 first sentence and o.102.2).

Article o.50

Veterans

~~1— Any proposed candidature for organising the Veteran World Championships must be studied at the venue concerned by an ad hoc delegation designated by the Executive Committee, at the invitation of the candidate federation.~~

~~2— The organising committee, who will receive all the entry fees from the participating delegations, must, at their own expense, invite the following international officials (tourist class return air fare, accommodation and daily allowances):~~

~~a) — The President of the FIE or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.~~

~~b) — Four members of the Directoire Technique appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, one of whom must belong to the organising country.~~

~~c) — One member of the SEMI Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.~~

~~d) — One member of the Refereeing Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.~~

~~e) — Two members of the Medical Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.~~

~~f) — The referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.~~

~~The officials a) to e) should preferably be selected from the Zone in which the Championships are being held.~~

Article o.63

Entries to competitions

~~1—Entries must be sent to the organisers by the competitors' national federation. Entries must be sent not later than one month before the beginning of the championships.~~

~~2—However, up to two days before the competition at noon (local time), fencers may be added by their national federation after payment to the Organizing Committee of a penalty equal to 100 % of the registration fee.~~

~~3—Entries for team championships must be forwarded to the Directoire Technique not later than 4.00 pm (local time) of the day before the competition.~~

~~4—At the Veterans World Championships, entries for the individual events are limited to four fencers in each category per gender, per weapon and per nation. The names must be the same as those on the FIE licences.~~

Article o.68

Composition of pools

- The pools are composed taking account of [the initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the latest official FIE ranking and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking.](#) The pools are composed using the following method:

Article o.75

Composition of the pools for Veteran individual championships

The pools are composed taking into account the following orders of strength:

- ~~The fencers ranked from the addition of the results in the previous two years Championships, irrespective of age category changes. Scores are awarded according to the following table:~~

1st place 80 points	31th place 7 points	61th place 3,2 points
2nd place 65 points	32th place 6,5 points	62th place 3,1 points
3rd place ex aequo 50 points	33th place 6 points	63th place 3 points
5th place 38 points	34th place 5,9 points	64th place 2,9 points
6th place 36 points	35th place 5,8 points	65th place 2,8 points
7th place 34 points	36th place 5,7 points	66th place 2,7 points
8th place 32 points	37th place 5,6 points	67th place 2,6 points
9th place 30 points	38th place 5,5 points	68th place 2,5 points
10th place 28 points	39th place 5,4 points	69th place 2,4 points
11th place 26 points	40th place 5,3 points	70th place 2,3 points
12th place 24 points	41th place 5,2 points	71th place 2,2 points
13th place 22 points	42th place 5,1 points	72th place 2,1 points
14th place 20 points	43th place 5 points	73th place 2 points

15th place 18 points	44th place 4,9 points	74th place 1,9 points
16th place 16 points	45th place 4,8 points	75th place 1,8 points
17th place 14 points	46th place 4,7 points	76th place 1,7 points
18th place 13,5 points	47th place 4,6 points	77th place 1,6 points
19th place 13 points	48th place 4,5 points	78th place 1,5 points
20th place 12,5 points	49th place 4,4 points	79th place 1,4 points
21th place 12 points	50th place 4,3 points	80th place 1,3 points
22th place 11,5 points	51th place 4,2 points	81th place 1,2 points
23th place 11 points	52th place 4,1 points	82th place 1,1 points
24th place 10,5 points	53th place 4 points	83th place 1 points
25th place 10 points	54th place 3,9 points	84th place 0,9 points
26th place 9,5 points	55th place 3,8 points	85th place 0,8 points
27th place 9 points	56th place 3,7 points	86th place 0,7 points
28th place 8,5 points	57th place 3,6 points	87th place 0,6 points
29th place 8 points	58th place 3,5 points	88th place 0,5 points
30th place 7,5 points	59th place 3,4 points	89th place 0,4 points
	60th place 3,3 points	90th place 0,3 points
		91th place 0,2 points
		92th place 0,1 points
		93th place and after 0 points

- ~~2—All other fencers in order of age, starting from the youngest.~~
- ~~3—The allocation of fencers in the pools must be made in such a way as to place fencers of the same nationality, as far as possible, in different pools, by moving them down the ranking as necessary.~~
- ~~4—If in any category there are fewer than ten competitors, the competition is held as a poule unique followed by direct elimination.~~
- ~~5—If in any category there are fewer than 6 competitors, they will fence with the next lower age category. A separate ranking for that category will be extrapolated from the combined categories' final rankings at the end of the competition.~~
- ~~6—If in any category there is only one competitor, the event in that category is cancelled.~~
- ~~7—No fencer is eliminated after the pools, all are entered into the direct elimination.~~

Article o.85

- 1** The competition consists of **two phases**, a preliminary phase and a main phase, each of which are run on one day.
- ~~2—The day before the competition, the organizers must publish and send to the FIE the pools and relevant schedules, as well as the list of exempt fencers, at the latest by 4:00 pm (local time). To do so, they must download the entry file from the FIE web site the day before the competition at or after 12h00, local time. No addition may be made to pools already published unless they come from pools starting at the same time (cf o.67.1).~~

- 3 2** The **16 fencers entered who are ranked highest in the most recent official FIE classification** are exempt from the preliminary phase.
- 4 3** **Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, is inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault** except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.
- 5 4** **In the case of a tie** in the official FIE ranking between two or more fencers for the 16th exempt place, lots are drawn to decide which of these fencers will benefit from exemption from the preliminary phase.

Article o.99

- 10** A 10-minute rest must always be given between two matches of the same team.

Article o.100

TEAM EVENTS

A. SENIOR AND JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, ~~ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS~~

B. SENIOR AND JUNIOR TEAM WORLD CUPS ~~AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS~~

Apart from the following aspects, the competition is run in accordance with rules laid down for the team events in the Junior, ~~and~~ Senior World Championships ~~and Zonal Championships~~ respectively.

Article o.102

- 1** The **first four teams** are placed in the direct elimination table according to the current official team ranking of the FIE (cf. o.109); the remaining ranked teams will be placed in the table by drawing of lots in pairs.
- The **teams that are not classified** will occupy the last places in the table and will be separated by drawing of lots.
- 2.** At the Zonal Championships, teams without FIE ranking will occupy the last places in the table. They will be separated according to the final ranking obtained in the individual competition by the three best fencers in the team. The fencers of the teams who do not have a ranking in the individual competition will take the last place +1.

Note: The second part of article 9.4.3.b) will be removed from the FIE Administrative rules.

Article o.103

~~C. VETERANS~~

~~Team championships~~

~~1—Participation~~

~~Each country may enter one team per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of 6 competitions.~~

~~The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon, but c.f. e.103.2 b below.~~

~~2—The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:~~

- ~~a) For each weapon, the teams are composed of three fencers of the same nationality, one from category "A", one from "B" and one from "C", with or without a reserve for each category. A team cannot begin the match if it is not complete.~~
- ~~b) In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he is going to fence plus 1.~~
- ~~c) The teams are placed in the pools according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship, the team having the lowest total being ranked highest. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of the match.~~
- ~~d) Each team may request, before a given bout, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason duly recognized by the Medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay.~~

~~There can only be one substitution per team per match.~~

~~3—A fencer who has been replaced because of an injury may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserve, if any, are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team is deemed to have lost the match.~~

~~4—The relay system is always applied. The three fencers of a team fence against their opponent of the same category. Each fencer fences his/her opponent twice giving a total of 6 bouts. The bouts are for 5 hits (5-10-15-20-etc.). Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5,10,15-etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted; the maximum time for each bout is 3 minutes.~~

~~5—The team that first reaches the maximum score of 30 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time, is the winner.~~

~~6—The order of categories for each match is established by the referee with the captains on the piste prior to the start of the match: The referee will draw lots and the winning captain will choose the first category in the order. The losing captain will choose the second category.~~

~~7—The competition consists of a round of pools of 3 or 4 teams, in which all the teams participate, and a direct elimination phase for the highest placed 16 teams; the other teams will be classified according to their ranking after the round of pools.~~

~~a) The order of fights in a pool of 4 is as follows:~~

~~b) Match 1 : The team ranked 1 vs the team ranked 4~~

~~Match 2 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3 Match 3 : The winner of Match 1 vs the loser of Match 2~~

~~Match 4 : The winner of Match 2 vs the loser of Match 1~~

~~Match 5 and Match 6 : The two remaining matches.~~

- b) — The order of fights in a pool of 3 is as follows:
- Match 1 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3
 - Match 2 : The team ranked 1 vs the loser of Match 1
 - Match 3 : The team ranked 1 vs the winner of Match 1

The initial ranking on which the drawing of the pools is based is established from the results of the fencers in the individual events. (cf. o.103.2.c)

Using the results of the pools, an overall ranking is established, from which the top 16 (or 8 if there are fewer than 16 teams taking part) are promoted to a direct elimination tableau, in which the teams are placed according to this ranking. Should there be absolute equality in results between teams ranked 16 and 17 (or 8 and 9), the team ranked higher before the round of pools will be qualified.

However, teams which have already fenced each other in the pools should not meet again immediately in the direct elimination. To avoid this, the lower ranked of the two teams in question may be moved:

- in the case of a tableau of 16, the team ranked 9 may change places only with the team ranked 10, the team ranked 11 may change places only with the team ranked 12, the team ranked 13 may change places only with the team ranked 14 and the team ranked 15 may change places only with the team ranked 16.
- in the case of a tableau of 8, the team ranked 5 may change places only with the team ranked 6 and the team ranked 7 may change places only with the team ranked 8.

- 8 — If there are fewer than 6 teams, they all fence in a poule unique; a match for the 3rd and 4th places is then held, followed by a match for the first place between the teams who came 1st and 2nd in the pool.
- 9 — The places in the final ranking table from 5th onwards are not fought for and teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their ranking after the poules.

1 — Participation

Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions.

The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon, but c.f. o.103.2 b below.

2 — The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is 45 hits relay described in o.99 with application of passivity rule at any bout.

The competition begins with a round of pools of 3 and 4 teams established according to o.103.c) and followed by a direct elimination phase according to o.103.7.

Particular cases depending on the number of teams:

- only 1 team: the organisers must inform all nations that there will be no competition at that weapon.

- 2 teams: only one match between these two teams.
- 3 teams: one poule of three followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 4.
- 4 teams: one poule of four followed by D.E. from a tableau of 4.
- 5 teams: one poule of five followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 8.

The losers of the semi-finals have to fence for the Bronze medal.

a) — In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he is going to fence plus 1.

b) — The teams are placed in the pools according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship, the team having the lowest total being ranked highest. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of the match.

c) — Each team may request, before a given bout, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason, duly recognized by the medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay.

There can be up to two substitutions of reserves per match but must maintain compliance with the age category representation requirement.

3 — A fencer who has been replaced because of an injury or other medical reason may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserve, if any, are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team is deemed to have lost the match.

4 — The competition consists of a round of pools of 3 or 4 teams, in which all the teams participate, and a direct elimination phase for the highest placed 16 teams; the other teams will be classified according to their ranking after the round of pools.

a) — The order of fights in a pool of 4 is as follows:

Match 1 : The team ranked 1 vs the team ranked 4

Match 2 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3

Match 3 : The winner of Match 1 vs the loser of Match 2

Match 4 : The winner of Match 2 vs the loser of Match 1

Match 5 and Match 6 : The two remaining matches.

b) — The order of fights in a pool of 3 is as follows:

Match 1 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3

Match 2 : The team ranked 1 vs the loser of Match 1

Match 3 : The team ranked 1 vs the winner of Match 1

The initial ranking on which the drawing of the pools is based is established from the results of the fencers in the individual events. (cf. o.103.2.c)

Using the results of the pools, an overall ranking is established, from which the top 16 (or 8 if there are fewer than 16 teams taking part) are promoted to a direct elimination tableau, in which the teams are placed according to this ranking. Should there be absolute equality in results between teams ranked 16 and 17 (or 8 and 9), the team ranked higher before the round of pools will be qualified.

However, teams which have already fenced each other in the pools should not meet again immediately in the direct elimination. To avoid this, the lower ranked of the two teams in question may be moved:

- ~~—in the case of a tableau of 16, the team ranked 9 may change places only with the team ranked 10, the team ranked 11 may change places only with the team ranked 12, the team ranked 13 may change places only with the team ranked 14 and the team ranked 15 may change places only with the team ranked 16.~~
- ~~—in the case of a tableau of 8, the team ranked 5 may change places only with the team ranked 6 and the team ranked 7 may change places only with the team ranked 8.~~
- ~~5—If there are fewer than 6 teams, they all fence in a poule unique; a match for the 3rd and 4th places is then held, followed by a match for the first place between the teams who came 1st and 2nd in the pool.~~
- ~~6—The places in the final ranking table from 5th onwards are not fought for and teams are classified, within each round of the table, according to their ranking after the poules.~~

Article o.104

D.C. OLYMPIC GAMES

The organisation formulae for the Olympic Games are established by the Executive Committee, with the approval of the IOC. (See art. 9.1.1.1 of the Administrative rules).

Article: o.105

Video-refereeing

4. For individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, video-refereeing is compulsory as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on a maximum of 8 pistes, all equipped for video-refereeing and in any case, from the table of 32.

For team competitions ~~in the conventional weapons~~, video-refereeing is compulsory **from the table of 16**, including ranking matches table 5-8.

~~In epee, video-refereeing is compulsory from the table of 8, including ranking matches table 5-8.~~

- 5.

Senior zonal championships	T 64	T 16	4 or 8	T 1-8
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Article o.108

2 Scale of points

- a) The ranking **of Seniors and Juniors** is based on the following **points system**:

1st place	32 points
2nd place	26 points
3rd place <i>ex aequo</i>	20 points
5th–8th places	14 points
9th–16th places	8 points
17th–32nd places	4 points
33rd–64th places	2 points
65th–96th places	1 point
97th-128 th	0.5 point
129th-256 th	0.25 point

Article o.109.1

1 Official team ranking of the FIE

- b) The official team ranking of the FIE is **rolling and updated on a permanent basis**:

~~the first World Cup team event which is held during the current year cancels out the first World Cup team event held the year before, and so forth for the remainder of the World Cup team events.~~

~~The points obtained at an event replace the points obtained at the corresponding event held the year before. If an event does not take place in the current season, the points obtained at the same event in the previous season are deleted on the anniversary of the event.~~

Team World Cup events are numbered in order of their scheduled dates in the calendar.

The points awarded in Event 1 of the current season replace the points awarded in Event 1 of the previous season and so on.

If an event is cancelled during the current season, the points acquired in the corresponding event of the previous season will be deleted on the date allocated to that event in the current season's calendar.

Article o.109.2

2 Team points scale.

- a) The ranking will be based on the following scale of points:

1st place 64 points	10th place	24 points
2nd place 52 points	11th place	23 points
3rd place 40 points	12th place	22 points
4th place 36 points	13th place	21 points
5th place 32 points	14th place	20 points
6th place 30 points	15th place	19 points
7th place 28 points	16th place	18 points
8th place 26 points	17th–32nd	8 points
9th place 25 points	33rd to 64th	4 points

Application: from season 2024-2025.

PART E - VETERANS

BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANISATION AND CONTROL

Organising Committee Veterans

Article o.111

The Directoire Technique is composed of people who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.

The Directoire Technique is composed of four members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the country where the competition is held and, if possible, a representative of the country where the competition will be held the following year. There must be at least one member from each gender.

Article o.112

Appointment of refereeing, SEMI and medical delegates

Two Refereeing delegates, one SEMI delegate and two Medical delegates must be the members of the FIE Commissions and be appointed by the FIE Executive Committee following the recommendations of the respective commissions.

For the Veteran World Championships, of the 5 designated delegates there must be at least one of each gender, if the availability of the delegates and continental representation allow it.

Refereeing

Article o.113

Refereeing at Veteran World Championships is carried out by referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, selected by the Refereeing Commission on indication of the Organizing Committee and Veterans Council.

Referees must attend the refereeing meeting that takes place the day before the World Championships.

AGE OF PARTICIPANTS

Article o.114

The age groups in veteran competitions are:

- a) Age group 50-59: Must be at least 50 years old and less than 60 years old in the year of the competition.
- b) Age group 60-69: Must be at least 60 years old and less than 70 years old in the year of the competition.
- c) Age group 70+: Must be at least 70 years old in the year of the competition.

The age groups in veteran competitions are:

- a) Age group 40-49: Must be at least 40 years old and less than 50 years old in the year of the competition.
- b) Age group 50-59: Must be at least 50 years old and less than 60 years old in the year of the competition.
- c) Age group 60-69: Must be at least 60 years old and less than 70 years old in the year of the competition.
- d) Age group 70+: Must be at least 70 years old in the year of the competition.

Application: during the test at the 2025 World Championships (not applicable in 2023 and 2024).

Pre-competition procedures

PROGRAMMING

VETERANS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Article o.115

- 1 The programme of the Veteran World Fencing Championships comprises twenty-four events, eighteen individual – three categories for each weapon - and six team — male foil, female foil, male epee, female epee, male sabre and female sabre. The programme must be arranged in such a way as to allow any fencer to participate in all weapons. Team events must be held on the day following the last championship of the three categories of each weapon.
 - 2 No changes of dates are allowed for any competition, after the release of the programme.
 - 3 Each competition must be held in one single day, avoiding long periods of inactivity.
-

- 1 The programme of the Veteran World Fencing Championships comprises thirty-six events, twenty-four individual – four categories for each weapon - and twelve team — male foil, female foil, male epee, female epee, male sabre and female sabre (two categories for each weapon and gender). The programme must be arranged in such a way as to allow any fencer to participate in all weapons. Team events must be held on the day following the last championship of the corresponding two individual categories of each weapon.
- 2 No changes of dates are allowed for any competition, after the release of the programme.
- 3 Each competition must be held in one single day, except for team events for which the round of pools may be achieved the day before direct elimination avoiding long periods of inactivity.

Application: during the test at the 2025 World Championships (not applicable in 2023 and 2024).

INVITATIONS

Invitation to international officials

Veterans

Article o.116

- 1 Any proposed candidature for organising the Veteran World Championships must be studied at the venue concerned by an ad hoc delegation designated by the Executive Committee, at the invitation of the candidate federation.
- 2 The organising committee of the World Championships, who will receive all the entry fees from the participating delegations, must, at their own expense, invite the following international officials (tourist-class return air fare, accommodation and daily allowances):
 - a) The President of the FIE or his representative, who presides over the World Championships and, in particular, controls the smooth running of the Directoire Technique.
 - b) Four members of the Directoire Technique appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, one of whom must belong to the organising country (see also o.111).
 - c) One member of the SEMI Commission, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - d) Two members of the Refereeing Commission, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - e) Two members of the Medical Commission, appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
 - f) The referees appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

The officials a) to e) should preferably be selected from the Zone in which the Championships are being held.

ENTRIES

Veterans World Championships

Entries for competitions

Article o.117

- 1 **The entry of the names** of the fencers and all possible replacements, and the entry of teams, must be made via the FIE website 7 days before the competition at the latest (midnight Lausanne time). For team entries, the names of the fencers making up the teams may be changed, by informing the organizers, up to the day before the competition, not later than 4.00 pm (local time). However, a replacement can be made after this stage, and at the latest at the end of the individual event, in the case of injury or other medical reason duly certified by the competition medical doctor.
- 2 **Withdrawal of a fencer or team.**

After the closing deadline for entries, no named fencer or team may be withdrawn except for injury or other medical reason or force majeure: the national federation must inform the FIE and the organizers.
- 3 **Substitution of a fencer.**

Until the Wednesday preceding the competition (midnight, Lausanne time), a fencer may be replaced by another. To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE, by fax or e-mail, a written request to substitute the fencer.
- 4 **Addition of a fencer or a team after the deadline.**

From the Wednesday preceding the competition until 12 noon (local time) on the day preceding the competition, one or more fencers and/or a team may be added by national federations after payment to the FIE of a penalty according to the scale in force (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines).
- 5 Should a fencer or team who have been entered not present themselves to fence, a fine (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, will be imposed to the federation of the faulty fencer or team, except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.

- 6 The organisers of all official competitions must, at risk of a penalty of a fine payable to the FIE (cf o.31, table of financial penalties and fines), refuse any entry of either fencer or referee not in possession of an FIE license valid for the current season.

PROCEDURES DURING COMPETITIONS

Composition of the pools for the individual Veterans championships

Article o.118

The pools are composed taking into account the following orders of strength:

- 1 The fencers ranked from the addition of the results in the previous two ~~years~~ Veterans World Championships, irrespective of age category changes.

Scores are awarded according to the following table:

1st place 80 points	31th place 7 points	61th place 3,2 points
2nd place 65 points	32th place 6,5 points	62th place 3,1 points
3rd place <i>ex aequo</i> 50 points	33th place 6 points	63th place 3 points
5th place 38 points	34th place 5,9 points	64th place 2,9 points
6th place 36 points	35th place 5,8 points	65th place 2,8 points
7th place 34 points	36th place 5,7 points	66th place 2,7 points
8th place 32 points	37th place 5,6 points	67th place 2,6 points
9th place 30 points	38th place 5,5 points	68th place 2,5 points
10th place 28 points	39th place 5,4 points	69th place 2,4 points
11th place 26 points	40th place 5,3 points	70th place 2,3 points
12th place 24 points	41th place 5,2 points	71th place 2,2 points
13th place 22 points	42th place 5,1 points	72th place 2,1 points
14th place 20 points	43th place 5 points	73th place 2 points
15th place 18 points	44th place 4,9 points	74th place 1,9 points
16th place 16 points	45th place 4,8 points	75th place 1,8 points
17th place 14 points	46th place 4,7 points	76th place 1,7 points
18th place 13,5 points	47th place 4,6 points	77th place 1,6 points
19th place 13 points	48th place 4,5 points	78th place 1,5 points
20th place 12,5 points	49th place 4,4 points	79th place 1,4 points
21th place 12 points	50th place 4,3 points	80th place 1,3 points
22th place 11,5 points	51th place 4,2 points	81th place 1,2 points
23th place 11 points	52th place 4,1 points	82th place 1,1 points
24th place 10,5 points	53th place 4 points	83th place 1 points
25th place 10 points	54th place 3,9 points	84th place 0,9 points
26th place 9,5 points	55th place 3,8 points	85th place 0,8 points
27th place 9 points	56th place 3,7 points	86th place 0,7 points
28th place 8,5 points	57th place 3,6 points	87th place 0,6 points

29th place 8 points	58th place 3,5 points	88th place 0,5 points
30th place 7,5 points	59th place 3,4 points	89th place 0,4 points
	60th place 3,3 points	90th place 0,3 points
		91th place 0,2 points
		92th place 0,1 points
		93th place and after 0 points

- 2 All other fencers in order of age, starting from the youngest.
- 3 The allocation of fencers in the pools must be made in such a way as to place fencers of the same nationality in different pools, as far as possible (staggering).
- 4 If in any category there are fewer than ten competitors, the competition is held as a poule unique followed by direct elimination.
- 5 If in any category there are fewer than 6 competitors, they will fence with the next lower age category. A separate ranking for that category will be extrapolated from the combined categories' final rankings at the end of the competition.
- 6 If in any category there is only one competitor, the event in that category is cancelled.
- 7 No fencer is eliminated after the pools. All the fencers participate in the direct elimination phase.

o.119

VETERANS TEAM EVENTS

1 Participation

Each country may enter one team per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of 6 competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon, but c.f. o.103.2 b below.

- 2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:
 - a) For each weapon, the teams are composed of three fencers of the same nationality, one from category "A", one from "B" and one from "C", with or without a reserve for each category. A team cannot begin the match if it is not complete.
 - b) In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he is going to fence plus 1.
 - c) The teams are placed in the pools according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship. The team ranked 1 is the one having the lowest total. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of each match.
 - d) Each team may request, before a given relay, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason duly recognized by the Medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay.

There can only be one substitution per team per match.

- 3 A fencer who has been replaced because of an injury may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserve are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team is deemed to have lost the match.
 - 4 The relay system is always applied. The three fencers of a team fence against their opponent of the same category. Each fencer fences his/her opponent twice giving a total of 6 relays. The relays are for 5 hits (5-10-15-20- etc.). Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5,10,15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted; the maximum time for each relays is 3 minutes.
 - 5 The team that first reaches the maximum score of 30 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time, is the winner.
 - 6 The order of categories for each match is established by the referee with the captains on the piste prior to the start of the match: The referee will draw lots and the winning captain will choose the first category in the order. The losing captain will choose the second category.
 - 7 The competition consists of a round of pools of 3 or 4 teams, in which all the teams participate, and a direct elimination phase for the highest placed 16 teams; the other teams will be classified according to their ranking after the round of pools.
 - a) The order of matches in a pool of 4 is as follows:
Match 1 : The team ranked 1 vs the team ranked 4
Match 2 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3
Match 3 : The winner of Match 1 vs the loser of Match 2
Match 4 : The winner of Match 2 vs the loser of Match 1
Match 5 and Match 6 : The two remaining matches.
 - b) The order of matches in a pool of 3 is as follows:
Match 1 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3
Match 2 : The team ranked 1 vs the loser of Match 1
Match 3 : The team ranked 1 vs the winner of Match 1
- The initial ranking on which the drawing of the pools is based is established from the results of the fencers in the individual events. (cf. o.103.2.c)
- The composition of the direct elimination table of 16 teams (or 8 if there are less than 16 teams) is established according to the general ranking established by the results of all the teams in the pool round. In the event of an absolute tie between the teams ranked 16 and 17 (or 8 and 9), the highest ranked team in the initial pool ranking shall qualify.
- However, in no case, teams which have already fenced each other in the pools should meet again immediately in the direct elimination. To avoid this, the lower ranked of the two teams in question may be moved:
- in the case of a tableau of 16, the team ranked 9 may change places only with the team ranked 10, the team ranked 11 may change places only with the team ranked 12, the team ranked 13 may change places only with the team ranked 14 and the team ranked 15 may change places only with the team ranked 16.
 - in the case of a tableau of 8, the team ranked 5 may change places only with the team ranked 6 and the team ranked 7 may change places only with the team ranked 8.
- 8 If fewer than 6 teams participate in the competition, they all fence in a pool unique; a match for the 3rd and 4th places is then held, followed by a match for the first place between the teams who came 1st and 2nd in the pool.
 - 9 Ranking matches from 5th place onwards will not be fenced and teams will be ranked, in each round of the table, according to their ranking after the pools.

1. Participation

Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions.

The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon, but c.f. o.103.2 b below.

2. The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is 45 hits relay described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

The competition begins with a round of pools of 3 and 4 teams -established according to o.103 c) - and followed by a direct elimination phase according to o.103 7.

Particular cases depending on the number of teams:

- only 1 team: the organisers must inform all nations that there will be no competition at that weapon.
- 2 teams: only one match between these two teams.
- 3 teams: one poule of three followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 4.
- 4 teams: one poule of four followed by D.E. from a tableau of 4.
- 5 teams: one poule of five followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 8.

The losers of the semi-finals have to fence for the bronze medal.

- a) In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he is going to fence plus 1.
- b) The teams are placed in the pools according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship. The number 1 team is the one with the least points. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of each match.
- c) Each team may request, before a given relay, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason, duly recognized by the medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay.

There can be up to two substitutions of reserves per match but must maintain compliance with the age category representation requirement.

Application : during the test at the 2025 World Championships (not applicable in 2023 and 2024)

Table of contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part A - General rules for the Competitions

Chapter 1. Introduction

Application	o.1-2
Types of competitions	o.3
Criteria for World Cup competitions	o.4

Chapter 2. Glossary	o. 5-9
----------------------------	--------

Chapter 3. Bodies Responsible for Organization and Control

The Organising Committee	o.10
The Central Office of the FIE	o.11
Supervision by the FIE	o.12
Technical Delegate of the FIE	o.13
The Directoire Technique	o.14-17
Designation of refereeing, SEMI, and medical delegates	o.18
SEMI delegates	o.19
The Refereeing delegates	o.20
The Medical delegates	o.21
The Supervisor	o.22-23
Refereeing	o.24-26
Specialized personnel	o.27
Checking of Equipment	o.28

Chapter 4. Age of Participants	o.29-30
---------------------------------------	---------

Chapter 5. Financial penalties and Fines	o.31
---	------

Part B – Procedures before Competitions

Chapter 1. Programming

Programme of the competitions	o.32
Timetable	o.33-35
Senior world championships	o.36
Junior and cadet World Championships	o.37-38
Veterans World Championships	o.39
Grand Prix, Senior & Junior World Cups, Satellites	o.40-41
Zonal Championship	o.42
Olympic Games	o.43
Regional Games	o.44-45

Chapter 2. Invitations

Official Invitation	o.46-47
World Championships Seniors, Juniors, Veterans	o.48-50
Grand Prix, Senior & Junior World Cups	o.51
Zonal Championship	o.52
Olympic Games	o.53
Regional Games	o.54

Chapter 3. Entries

Senior, Junior, World Championships, Zonal championships	o.55-60
Grand Prix, Senior and Junior World Cups, and Satellite competitions	o.61-62
Veterans World Championships	o.63
Olympic Games	o.64
Regional Games	o.65

Part C – Procedures during Competitions

Chapter 1. Formulae

Individual Competitions	o.66
A. General rules for the round of pools	o.67-75
B. General rules for the direct elimination	o.76-82
C. Mixed formula A. World Championships, Senior World Cups and Grand Prix	o.83-88
D. Mixed formula B.	o.89-94
E. Formula C. Olympic Games, Regional Games	o.95-96

Team Competitions

A. Senior and Junior World Championships, Zonal Championships	o.97-99
B. Senior and Junior Team World Cups	o.100-102
C. Veterans	o.103
DC. Olympic Games	o.104

Chapter 2. Video Refereeing	o.105
------------------------------------	-------

Chapter 3. Antidoping	o.106-107
------------------------------	-----------

Part D – Procedures after the Competitions

Chapter 1. Ranking

Official FIE individual ranking	o.108
Official team ranking of the FIE	o.109

Chapter 2. Nations' Grand Prix Ranking	o.110
---	-------

PART E - VETERANS

Organising Committee Veterans	o.111
Appointment of Refereeing, SEMI and Medical Delegates Veterans	o.112
Refereeing	o.113

AGE OF PARTICIPANTS	o.114
---------------------	-------

PRE-COMPETITION PROCEDURES PROGRAMMING

VETERANS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	o.115
------------------------------	-------

INVITATIONS	o.116
-------------	-------

ENTRIES

Veterans World Championships	
Entries for competitions	o.117

Composition of the pools for the individual Veterans Championships	o.118
VETERANS TEAM EVENTS	o.119

Index Organisation Rules

Numbers refer to articles of the Rules.

Accident: o.71, o.99 (see TECHNICAL RULES)

Addition of fencers after the deadline: o.56.4, o.61.4/5, o.63.2, o.67.2

Age of participants: o.7, o.29, o.30, o.75, o.103

A Grade competitions: see «World Cup»

A Grade Referee: o.4, o.25

Announcement

-change of member of team: o.99

-number of fencers in the final: o.81

-number of fencers promoted from pools: o.72, o.86, o.90

Anti-doping: o.4, o.21.2, o.106, o.107

Apparatus: o.4, o.27.4, o.78.2; (see TECHNICAL RULES & MATERIAL RULES)

Appeals (against a decision): o.22; (see TECHNICAL RULES)

Assault: o.5

Attribution of Directoire Technique: see «Directoire Technique»

Attribution of referees: see «Referee (attribution)»

Auxiliary personnel: o.27

Barrage: o.74.3, o.86.2

B Grade Referee: o.4.3, o.25.1

Bureau of the FIE: o.12

Bout (meaning): o.5

Bout (score-sheet): o.27.1, o.99.4; (see TECHNICAL RULES)

Bout (duration): (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38, t.40, t.41 t.21.4, t.44.4, t.62.3, t.127, t.128)

Bout (end): (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38, t.40, t.41 t.21.4, t.44.4, t.62.3, t.127, t.128)

Bout (interruption): o.71

~~Bout (number): o.73; see also «Indices»~~

Bout (number of hits): o.73.2.d, o.103.5; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38, t.40, t.41.4)

Bout (order): o.69-71, o.70, o.71, o.80, o.99

Bout (for third place): o.82, o.88, o.94

Bout (rest between): see «Time (between bouts)»

Bout (timetable): o.33.1, o.77

~~Bout Committee: see «Directoire Technique»~~

Cadets: o.11, o.29.2, o.37, o.38, o.48, o.58, o.59, o.89, o.105, o.110

Calling (bouts): o.80

Calling (fencers — initial): (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.22, t.47, t.118, t.119, t.170)

Candidates (championships/competitions): o.48

Category A (competitions): see (World Cup)

Central Office of the FIE: o.11, o.12, o.22, o.107.8; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.143)

Championships: o.9

Change (in order of bouts): see «Bout (order)»

Circumstances outside control: o.16.1, o.19.3, o.20.1, o.21.1, o.56, o.87.3, o.99

Classification: see «Indices»

-after the pools: o.73, o.76, o.82.5, o.86

-FIE: o.68, o.85.3, o.87.1, o.108-110

-general: o.73, o.79, o.82, o.88, o.94

-Individual World Championships: o.108

-Team World Championships: o.109

-table: o.73, o.76

-teams: o.98, o.101

Clock: o.78

Coefficient (FIE ranking): o.108.2, o.109.2

Competition formula: o.41, o.42.4, o.66~~es~~, o.83-88, o.89-94, o.95, o.96, o.97-99, o.100-102, o.104

Competitions (general rules): o.1-3
~~A Grade: see «World Cup»~~
 -individual: o.66-96
 -team: o.97-103
 Composition: see «Team», «Pool»
 Confirmation of participation: o.56 ~~e.85~~
 Continental zone: o.42, o.52, o.89-94, o.97-99, o.100, o.105, o.108-109
 Control (doping): see «~~Testing (anti-doping)~~»
 Control by FIE: o.12, o.48, o.54, o.107.2
~~Coup double: see Technical Book, t.38~~
 Criteria for World Cup: see «World Cup»
 Deadlines (equipment checking/displaying first round): o.35
 Deadlines (sending out invitation/pre-programme): o.46-47, o.51-53
 Deadlines (entries): o.55-56
 Deadlines (referee entries): o.25
~~Deciding hit: see Technical Book, t.38, t.40, t.41~~
 Discipline: o.12.2, o.17.4, o.20.4, o.107.1
 Direct elimination: o.5, o.16, o.66, o.76-82, o.83-88, o.86s, o.89-94, o.98, o.102, o.103.7, o.108.2.f
 Direct elimination table: see «Table (direct elimination)»
 Directoire Technique: o.11, o.12, o.14, o.27, o.15-17, o.38, o.48, o.50.2, o.54.1, o.63.3, o.67.1, o.70.2, o.72, o.87.6, o.99.5/8
 Display (decisions of the Directoire Technique): o.15.4, o.27, o.38.2
 Display (pools, direct elimination, scores): ~~o.20, o.27, o.35, o.77, o.85~~
 -first round of pools: o.35 (see TECHNICAL RULES)
 -score: o.27
 DNF: o.74.3, o.79
 DNS: o.74.1
 Doctor: o.4.9, o.61.1, o.101; (see TECHNICAL RULES t.45, t.116, t.170)
 Doping: o.4, o.21.2, o.106, o.107
 Drawing lots (individuals when indices equal): o.68, o.73, o.85-86
 Drawing lots (non-classified teams): o.98, o.102
 Drawing lots (order for pool or match sheet): o.68, o.99, o.103
 Drawing lots (to decide winner if scores equal): o.73; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38, t.40, t.41)
 Drawing lots (in pairs): o.87, o.102
 Drugs: see «Anti-doping»
~~Display (decisions of the Directoire Technique): o.15, o.27~~
~~Display (pools, direct elimination, scores): o.20, o.27, o.35, o.77~~
~~Doctor: o.4, see TECHNICAL RULES~~
~~Doping: o.4, o.106s, o.107~~
 Drawing lots: individuals when indices equal: o.73, o.85ss
~~-non-classified teams: o.98, o.102~~
~~-order for pool sheet: o.68~~
~~-on the match score sheet: o.99~~
~~-in pairs: o.87, o.102~~
~~to decide winner if scores equal: see Technical Book, t.38, t.40, t.41~~
 Drugs: see «Anti-doping»
 End of bout: o.99, o.20.4; (see Technical Book, t.38, t.40, t.41, t.42, t.21.4, t.44.4, t.62.3, t.127, t.128)
 Entries: o.17, o.31, o.41.2.b, ~~o.46ss, o.51, o.55ss, o.56-57, o.58s, o.62, o.63, o.59-64, o.85.2, o.87.2~~
 Entry fee: o.24.2, o.26.2, o.48, o.50.2
 Entry form: o.55-56
 Equality (of indices): o.73, o.85.5, ~~o.85ss~~, o.103
 Equality (of points): o.108, 1.d, o.109.2.b, o.110
 Equality (of ranking): o.82, o.85.5, o.88, o.94, o.103
 Equality (score at end of time): (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38.2, t.40.3, t.41.5, t.62.3, t.124)
 Equipment (checking): o.19.2, o.28, o.34, o.54.2
 Equipment (organisation): o.4.4, o.10
 Excluded: o.74.3, o.79
 Exclusion (fencer): o.99.7.b
 Executive Committee: o.13, o.16, o.18, o.22.5, o.23-o.24, o.26, o.32, o.48, o.50, o.54, o.96, o.104, o.107.10
 Exemptions: o.85, o.86.2, o.87, o.108.1.f; see «Seeding»

Experts (electrical equipment): o.27
 Expiry of time: see «Equality (score at end of time)», «End of bout», «Time (of bout)»
 Extra minute: see «Equality (score at end of time)»
 Fencers (obligations of): see «Obligation(s)»
 FIE delegates: o.15-23
 FIE Junior Ranking: o.38, o.98.2, o.102, o.108, o.109
 FIE Ranking: o.4, o.38, o.68, o.85.5, o.98.2, o.102, o.108-110, o.109, o.110
 FIE Supervision: o.12, o.17, o.21, o.22, o.27.3
 FIE Supervisor: o.22-23
 Finals (of competitions): o.4, o.27.1, o.33.2, o.66, o.83, o.89, o.93 o.81; (see TECHNICAL RULES)
 Fine: o.25, o.31, o.51, o.52, o.56, o.61, o.87.3, o.85
 Forbidden substances: o.107; see «Anti-doping»
 Force majeure: o.56.3, o.61.2/5, o.85.4, o.87.3, o.99.6
 Functions of the Referee: see «Referee»
 Grand Prix (competitions): o.22.1, o.26, o.40, o.61, o.62, o.67.3, o.83-88, o.105.1, o.108
 Grand Prix (nations): o.110
 Hits (decisive): see Technical Book, t.38, t.40, t.41
 Hits (double): see Technical Book, t.38
 Hits (number): o.73.2.d, o.103.5; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38, t.40, t.41.4)
 Hits (received): o.73; see «Indices»
 Hits (scored): o.73, o.99.4; see «Indices»
 Illness: o.104
 Indices: o.73, o.86, o.87.4/5, o.93.1, ~~o.98~~,
 Individual: see «Competitions (individual)»
 Injury: o.21.2.c, o.61, o.99.6, o.101, o.103; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.21.4, t.45, t.170)
 International officials: o.48, ~~o.49~~, o.50.2
 Interruption of a bout: o.71
 Invitation: o.46-47, o.51-53, o.55
 Lap: see TECHNICAL RULES t.41
 Licence: o.2, o.29.1, o.31, o.61.6, o.63.4
 Match: o.6-7, o.19.4, o.27.1, o.33, o.41.2.c, o.82.2/3, o.88, o.94, o.97, o.99, o.101, o.103, o.105
 Medical delegate: o.18, o.21, o.48, o.99, o.103
 Medical reason: o.21.2.c, o.61, o.99.6, o.101, o.103
 Nationality of fencers: o.67.2, o.68.2, o.70.3, o.76
 Neutrality: o.27.1, o.44.4; see «Referee»
 Notice-board: o.15.4
 Number of participating countries (minimum): o.4
 Number of fencers: o.25.1, o.56, o.57, o.59, o.60, o.62, o.67.2, o.70, o.72, o.86; see «Entries», «Team», «Quotas (of fencers for World Cup competitions)»
 Number of hits: see «Hits»
 Obligation (to confirm participation): o.56s, o.85, o.87
 Obligations (of organizers): o.4, o.10, o.22.1, o.24.2, o.26.1, o.27~~ss~~, o.28, o.32, o.34, o.52, o.54, o.77, o.85.2, o.106
 Obligations (of Directoire Technique): ~~o.15ss~~ o.15-17, o.27, o.38, o.50.2.6, o.54.1, o.63.3, o.67.1, o.70.2, o.71.1, o.72, o.87.6, o.99.8
 Observer (FIE): see «Supervisor»
 Official competitions of FIE: o.1-3; see «World Cup», «World Championships», «Olympic Games»
 Official FIE rankings: o.4, o.38, o.68, o.85.5, o.98.2, o.102, o.108~~s~~, o.109, o.110
 Olympic Games: o.3, o.11, o.12, o.16.1, o.20.3, o.35, o.43, o.53, o.64, o.66.c, o.95, ~~o.97ss~~, o.104-105, o.108~~ss~~-109
 Open World Championships: see «World Championships»
 Order of bouts: o.69-71, o.80, o.99
 Organisation of competitions: ~~o.10ss~~, ~~o.17~~ o.10-27
 Organising Committee: o.10, o.13, o.24, o.46, o.48.2, o.50.2, o.54, o.56
 Participants: see «Entries», «Quotas (of fencers for World Cup competitions)»
 Penalties (financial): o.25.2, o.31, o.56.3/4, o.61, o.85.4, o.87.3
 Period (direct elimination bout): o.5, o.78.2; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.39)
 Phase: o.74.3, o.85-87, o.103, o.105
 Piste: o.4.6/7, o.17.3.d, o.87.1, o.80.2, o.93.2, o.105; (see TECHNICAL RULES & MATERIAL RULES)
 Points: o.41, o.75, o.101; see «Scale of points»

Pool (composition): ~~e-4~~, o.35, o.38, o.67-71, o.75, ~~e-82~~, o.86, o.90
 Position of fencers in pools: see «Order of bouts», «Pool».
 Posting: ~~o.35, o.77~~
 Preliminary phase (direct elimination): o.83, o.85-87
 President (of the FIE); o.12-13, o.48.2.c, 50.2.c
 President (Directoire Technique): o.16.1.c, o.17.4
 Prize winners: o.108.3
 Problem: ~~o.20~~
 Programme of events: o.32-33, o.36-37, o.39, o.43
 Protests: o.20.2.d; see «Appeals»
 Publish (of pools, direct elimination): o.30, o.77, o.85.2; see «Display (pools, direct elimination, scores) »
 Qualification of fencers: o.30, o.66, o.72-73, o.82-83, o.86-86, o.89, o.90, o.93
 Quarter (of direct elimination table): o.80, o.87, o.93.2
 Quarter finals: o.61.1, o.102.2
 Quotas (of fencers for World Cup competitions): o.62
 Rankings (individual): o.67-68, o.72-73, o.75, o.82.4, o.86.2, o.105, o.108
 Rankings (team): o.98, o.99.7, o.102-103, o.105, o.109-110
 Referee: o.4.3, o.24-27 ~~o.25, o.26~~, o.48.2.f, o.50.2.f, o.54.4, o.61.6, o.71s, o.99.5.a, o.103.6
 Referee (Junior World Cup & Satellite events): o.25
 Referee (attribution): o.17, o.24, o.54
 Refereeing (Committee/Commission): o.18, o.20, o.24, o.26, o.48.2, o.50.2, o.54
 Refereeing (delegates): o.18, o.20, o.22, o.54.3 ~~o.67, o.70~~
 Regional games: o.13, o.44, o.54, o.96
 Relay: o.5, o.41.2.c, o.99, o.103.2/4; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.41)
 Repairer (electrical equipment): o.27.4
 Replacing fencer: o.56.4, o.61, o.97, o.99.5/6, o.103
 Reserve: o.42.5, o.60, ~~o.61~~, o.97, o.99, o.103
 Rest: o.33.1, o.71.2, o.78.1, o.80.3; see «Time (between bouts)»; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.39, t.42)
 Result: see «Score»
 Round (direct elimination table): o.80, o.82.3, o.86-87, o.89, o.93, o.98.3, o.102-103, o.108.2.f
 Round (pools): o.4.6, o.35, o.39.3, o.66-67, o.82.4/5, o.83, o.86, o.87.5, o.89, o.92-93, o.103; see «Pool».
 Sabre: ~~o.36s~~
 Satellite: o.3, o.25, o.45, o.51, o.61, o.108
 Scale of points: o.108, o.109
 Score: see Technical Book, t.38, t.40, t.41
 Score (sheet): o.17.1, o.27.1, o.68.3, o.70, o.99.4; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38, t.40, t.41, t.45.1, t.50.7, t.124, t.163, t.168)
 Score-board (for finals): o.27
 Scorers: o.27; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.47)
 Seeding: o.38, o.73, o.85-89, o.108.1.f
 SEMI (Committee): o.4, o.18, o.22.3, o.28, o.48.2.c, o.50.2.c, o.54.2
 SEMI (Delegate): o.18-19
 Semifinals: o.82, o.88, o.94, o.103
 Senior World Championships: see «World Championships»
 Senior World Cup: o.18.3, o.26.2, o.41, o.51, o.61, o.83, o.100, o.105, o.109.2
 Signs (names of fencers): o.4.7
 Specialist (personnel) : o.27-28
 Specification ('Cahier de charges'): o.4, o.10
 Substitution of a team member: o.44.2b, o.56.2, o.61.3, o.99.5, o.103; see «Replacing fencer».
 Superintendent of the apparatus: o.27
 Supervisor: o.22, o.23
 Table (direct elimination): o.5, o.17, o.66, o.76ss, o.86ss, o.89ss, o.98ss, o.102, o.103.7, o.108.2.f
 Table (time of drawing): ~~o.102~~
 Team (composition): o.41, o.97ss, ~~o.109~~
 Team (captain): o.15, o.99, o.103
 Team (classification): o.98, ~~o.101~~ o.102-103
 Team (replacement of a fencer): o.99
 Technical delegate of the FIE: o.13
 Testing (anti-doping): o.4, o.21.2, o.106, o.107
 Third (place): o.82, o.88, o.94, ~~o.98~~

Tie (equal scores): o.73, o.108-110; (see TECHNICAL RULES, t.38.2, t.40.3, t.41.5, t.62.3, t.124)

Tie (seeding/indicators): o.73, o.85-87

Tie (third place): see «Third (place)»

Tie (world rankings): o.108-110

Time (between bouts): o.71, o.78, o.80.3; (see also TECHNICAL RULES, t.39, t.42)

Time (maximum participation for fencer): o.33

Time (of bout): see Technical Book, t.38, ~~t.40~~, t.41

Timekeeper: o.27

Timetable: o.15.4, o.20, o.3533ss, o.77, o.105

Tournament: o.8

Video refereeing: o.105

Website, FIE: o.25.1, o.56.2, o.61.1, o.85.2

Withdrawal: o.61.2, o.74, o.79, o.99.7

World Cup: o.3, o.4, o.16.2, o.18.2, o.22, o.25, o.26, o.41, o.51, o.61, o.62, o.67.2, o.83, o.89, o.100, o.105, o.108-109

- Individual World Cup: o.61, o.62, o.83, o.89, o.105, o.108
- Junior World Cup: o.25, o.41, o.51, o.61, o.89, o.100
- Team World Cup: o.26.2, o.41, o.61, o.100, o.105, o.109

World Championships: o.11-12, o.16.3, o.18.2, o.20.3, o.24, o.26, o.31, o.35-36, o.37-39, ~~o.39~~, o.47-48, o.50.1, o.55-59, o.63, ~~o.75~~, o.103, o.105, o.108, o.109, o.110

- Cadet World Championships: o.11, o.37-38, o.48.1, o.58-58, o.89-96, o.105.4
- Junior World Championships: o.11, o.30, o.35, o.37, o.48, o.59, o.97, o.89.3, o.105, o.108.2/3, o.109.3
- Senior World Championships: o.35-36, o.48, o.55, o.57, o.105, o.108-109
- Veteran World Championships: o.11, o.16.3, o.18.4, o.26, o.29, o.39, o.63, o.50, o.75, o.103

World Championships (formula):

- Senior individual events: o.83-88
- Junior and Cadet events: o.89-96
- Team events: o.97-99

Zonal Championships:

- Junior: o.60, o.89-96, o.100-102
- Senior: o.42, o.55, o.60, o.89-96, o.100-102, o.105, o.108.2.d

**2023 CONGRESS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)**

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Amendments to the FIE Technical Rules

The texts below are applicable from January 1, 2024, unless otherwise indicated.

Article t.1

Definition of the fencer's salute

In competition, the fencer's salute is a gesture of civility towards the opponent, the referee and the spectators. To perform the fencer's salute, the two fencers:

- face each other
- stand still on their on-guard line
- place the mask under the non-sword arm
- lift the guard to the chin
- then lower the blade to the ground

Application: Starting from 26 September 2023.

Article: t.18.2

The piste is 14 metres long, with a total tolerance on the whole length of 4 cm, so that each competitor, being placed at 2 metres from the centre line, has at his disposal for retreating a total distance of 5 metres without it being necessary for him to cross the rear limit of the piste with both feet.

Article t.23

- 6 The Referee may not allow a fencer to **leave the piste**, save in exceptional circumstances. If a competitor does so without permission, he is liable to incur the penalties enumerated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group.

Article t.25

- 2 **At all three weapons** it is forbidden for a fencer to **cause corps à corps intentionally** to avoid being hit, or to jostle his opponent. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.

Article t.26

- 1 The 'flèche ending systematically in a corps à corps' referred to in this article must not be confused with the 'flèche resulting in a shock which jostles the opponent', which is considered as an act of **intentional brutality** at all three weapons and is punished as such (cf. t.121.2, t.170), for the offences of the 2nd group.

Article t.27

- 2 It is forbidden to **turn one's back** on one's opponent during the bout. Should such an offence occur, the Referee will penalise the fencer at fault as specified in articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 1st group** and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.

Article t.29

- 1 The use of the **non-sword hand** and **arm** to carry out an offensive or defensive action is forbidden (cf t.158-162, ~~t.165~~, **t.166**, t.170). Should such an offence occur, the hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled and the latter will be penalized as specified for offences of the 2nd group (red card).
- 2 If a fencer **substitutes a non-valid part of his target for a valid part**, either by covering it or by any abnormal movement, the Referee must penalise him by applying the penalties specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 1st group** and any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.
- 3 During the fight, the fencer must not, under any circumstances, **take hold of any part of the electrical equipment** with his non-sword hand; **the referee imposes him/her the penalties for the offences of the first group** (cf. t.158-162, t.165, t.170); any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.

Article t.35

- 3 A competitor who crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with both feet — e.g. when making a flèche — **to avoid being hit** will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 1st group. Any hit made by the offending fencer is annulled.**

Article t.41

- 2 The first two opponents fence until one **or both of them** have scored five hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes.

The next two opponents fence until one **or both*** of their scores has reached ten hits, within the time limit of 3 minutes, and so on with successive bouts, cumulatively, of five hits.

**(Correction in English only).*

Article t.43

- 2 Any fencer who attempts improperly to **cause or to prolong interruptions** to the bout is penalised as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 1st group.**

Article t.45

- 3 Should a fencer **demand a break** which is deemed by the delegate of the Medical Commission or, in his absence, by the doctor on duty to be **unjustified**, the Referee will penalise that fencer as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.166, t.170 **for the offences of the 2nd group.**

Article t.55

- 2 A competitor who, **intentionally**, causes the apparatus to register a hit by placing his point on the ground or on any surface other than **that of his opponent** will be penalised as specified in Articles **t.158-162, ~~t.165~~, t.166, t.170**, for the offences of the 2nd group.

Article t.56

3. A competitor who makes any modification in or who changes his equipment without being asked by the Referee to do so, before the Referee has given his decision, loses all right to the annulment of the hit (~~cf. t.47.2.d~~).
11. A competitor who, intentionally drops his/her weapon during the fencing phrase will be penalised as specified in Articles t.166, t.170. However, a hit scored by the opponent is valid, provided that the action was started before the 'Halt!'.

Article t.61

- 1 **In the individual events**, the fencer has:
- in **pools**, one possible appeal during each bout; (Cf. o.105, zonal qualification events for Olympic Games).
 - in **direct elimination bouts**, two possible appeals.
Should **the referee agree with the fencer** who appealed for the video-refereeing, the latter is entitled to retain the right of appeal.

Article t.70

Non-standard equipment

In whatever circumstances a fencer on the piste is found to be in possession of equipment which is **non-regulation or defective** (~~cf. m.8, m.9, m.11, m.12, m.13, m.16, m.17, m.23~~ according to Material Rules), the referee confiscates the equipment and submits it to the experts on duty for examination. The equipment in question will only be returned to the owner after the measures necessitated by this examination have been completed and, if appropriate, after the payment of any expenses for repairs. The equipment must be rechecked before it is used again.

Article t.71

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only **one** regulation **weapon** (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only **one** regulation **bodywire**; or
- with only **one** regulation **mask wire**; or
- with **a weapon or a bodywire which does not work** or which **does not conform** with the Rules; or
- without his **protective under-plastron** (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a **conductive jacket** which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with **clothing** which does not conform with the Rules;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, [for the offences of the 1st group.](#)

Article t.73

- 3 If, when a fencer appears on the piste or during a bout, it is established that the equipment used by the fencer:
- a) **does not bear the marks** applied at the preliminary check, the Referee will:
- annul the last hit, if any, scored by the fencer at fault.
 - penalise him as specified in Articles [t.158-162](#), [t.166](#), [t.170](#), [for the offences of the 2nd group.](#)
- b) does not conform to the rules in a way **not covered by the preliminary check**, the Referee will:
- penalise him as specified in Articles [t.158-162](#), [t.166](#), [t.170](#), [for the offences of the 2nd group.](#)

Article t.76

- 2 **Pushing or letting drag** the point of the electric weapon on the electric piste is forbidden during the actual bout (between 'Play!' and 'Halt!'). Placing the weapon on the piste at any time to **straighten** it is also forbidden. Any breaking of these rules will be punished according to Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, [for the offences of the 1st group.](#)

Article t.77

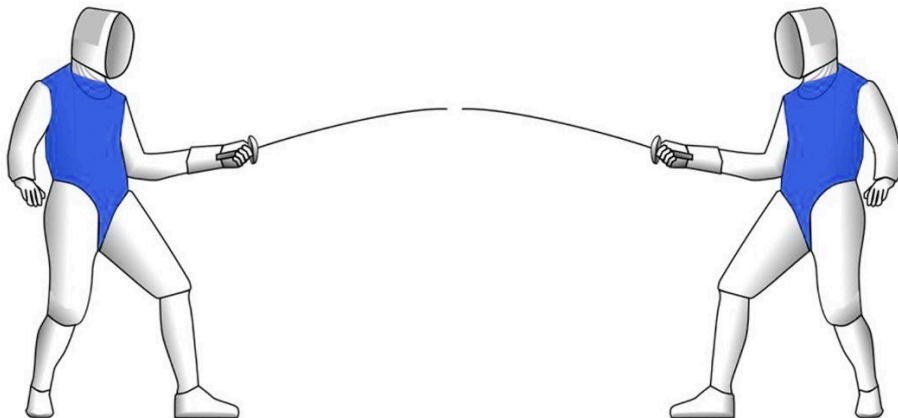


Figure 4 Valid target at foil

Article t.90

- 2 Pushing** or letting the point of the electric weapon **drag** on the electric piste is forbidden during the actual bout (between 'Play!' and 'Halt!'). Placing the weapon on the piste at any time to **straighten** it is also forbidden. Any breaking of this rule will be penalised according to Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 1st group**.

Article t.91

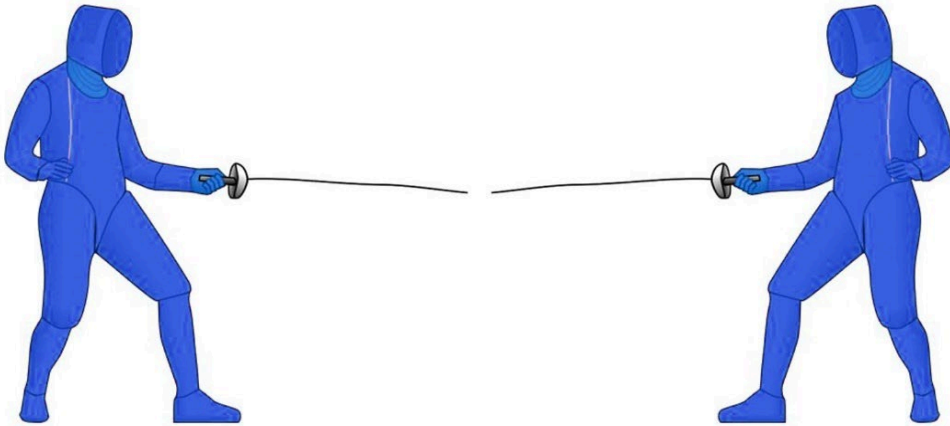


Figure 5 Valid target at épée

Article t.96

- 3** It is forbidden to **hit with the guard**. Any hits registered by hitting with the guard must be annulled, the fencer so hitting being penalised as specified in Articles t.158-163, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 2nd group**.
- 6 5** **Placing the weapon on the piste at any time to straighten it** is forbidden. Any breaking of this rule will be punished according to Articles t. 158-163, t.165, t.170, **for the offences of the 1st group**.

Article t.97

- 1** Only hits which arrive on the target are counted as valid.

The target comprises any part of the body above a horizontal line drawn between the top of the hip bones and then horizontally round the fencer's trunk (see Figure 6).

- 2 At sabre, it is forbidden to **protect** the target area or to **substitute** another part of the body for the target area, by covering it (cf. t.158-162, t.165, t.170); any hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled.
- a) If, during the fencing phrase, there is protection or substitution of a valid surface, the fencer at fault will be penalised as specified for offences of the 1st group (cf. also t.29).
- ~~b) If, during the fencing phrase, as a result of protection or substitution of a valid surface, a hit correctly given is registered as not valid, the fencer at fault will be penalized as specified for offences of the 1st group (cf. t.158-162, t.165, t.170) and the hit will be awarded.~~

Article t.98

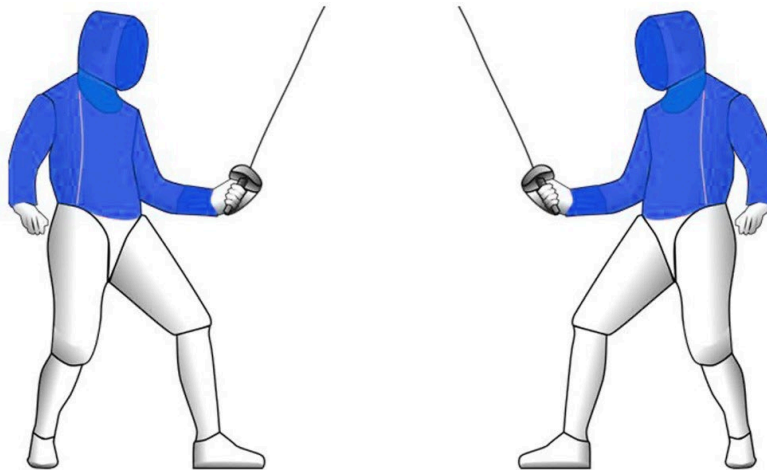


Figure 6 Valid target at sabre

Article t.109

Everybody taking part in or present at a fencing competition **must respect the FIE statutes and rules, including but not limited to the FIE Ethical Code and Safeguarding Policy. They must remain orderly and must not disturb the smooth running of the competition.** During bouts no one is allowed to **go near the pistes**, to **give advice to the fencers**, to **criticise the Referee** or the judges, to insult them or to attempt to influence them in any way. Even the **team captain** must remain in the space assigned to him and he may only intervene in the

situations and in the manner provided for in Article t.130 of the Rules. The Referee must stop immediately any activity which disturbs the smooth running of the bout which he is refereeing (cf. t.137.1–3). Any person who, for any reason, threatens or insults an official commits an offence of the 4th group and is penalised according to article t.169.

Any person present who witnesses a breach of the FIE Ethical Code or the Safeguarding Policy must report this to the Safeguarding Officer if present, or to the Supervisor or to the Directoire Technique.

Article t.110

Smoking in competition halls is forbidden. Smoking will be considered as a disturbance of the smooth running of the competition (cf. t.111).

Any breach of these rules will be punished as laid down in Articles **t.158-162, t.167, t.168, t.170**, for the offences of the 3rd group.

Article t.111

The Referee and/or the Directoire Technique, on their own authority or at the request of an official delegate of the FIE or of the Organising Committee, can decide to expel from the competition venue, with or without a warning, any person who by his/her gestures, attitude, or language or by breaching the FIE Safeguarding Policy disturbs the good order or smooth running of the event.

Article t.116

Under no circumstances should the fencers **dress or undress in public** except in the case of an accident duly recognised by the doctor on duty or by the representative of the Medical Commission (cf. t.126, t.158-162, t.165, t.170). Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 1st group.

Article t.120

Should a fencer **abandon a bout** by leaving the piste (cf. t.23.6), he will be penalised as specified in Articles **t.158-162, t.165, t.170**, for the offences of the 1st group.

Article t.122

Before the beginning and at the end of a bout, the two fencers must perform the **fencer's salute** to their opponent, to the referee and to the spectators, as defined in article t.1.

When the final hit of the bout has been scored, the two fencers stand still on their on-guard line while the referee is making his/her decision.

The two fencers then perform the **fencer's salute** (cf. t.1) to their opponent, to the referee and to the spectators.

The bout has then ended.

~~Before the beginning of each bout, the two fencers must perform a fencer's salute to their opponent, to the Referee and to the spectators. Equally, when the final hit has been scored, the bout has not ended until the two fencers have saluted each other, the Referee and the spectators: to this end, they must remain still while the referee is making his decision; when he has given his decision, they must return to their on-guard line, perform a fencer's salute and shake hands with their opponent.~~

If either or both of the two fencers refuse to comply with these rules, the Referee will penalise him/her/them as specified for offences of the 4th group (cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170).

Application: Applicable until the end of the 2023-2024 season

Article t.123

During or after a bout, even if the fencer has already left the piste, any act against the spirit of sportsmanship such as violently or dangerously throwing one's mask or any other piece of equipment will be penalised as specified in article **t.169 (c.f. t.108.1, 2 and t.109)**, for the offences of the 4th group.

Article t.124

Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)

There is unwillingness to fight when there is one minute of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of **unwillingness to fight**, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

0-5	Unwillingness to fight: the sanctions imposed are shown by specific P-cards which are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.	t.124	1 st time P-Yellow	2 nd time P-Red	3 rd time Penalisation
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1 Individual events – Direct elimination

- c) When, for the third time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, a P-black card is awarded as follows:
 - i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking **and by drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking**, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

Article t.125

The fencer, whether on or off the piste, must **keep his mask on** until the Referee calls 'Halt!' He may under no circumstances address the Referee until the Referee has made his decision (cf. **t.158- 162, t.165, t.170**), **Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 1st group.**

Article t.128

Competitors must **fence to their utmost ability** in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits or seeking to be favoured by being given hits by anyone (cf. **t.158-162, t.169, t.170**). Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 4th group.

Article t.133

Spectators are obliged not to **interfere with the good order** of a competition, to do nothing which may tend to influence the fencers or the Referee, and to respect the decisions of the latter even when they do not agree with them. They must obey any instructions which the Referee may deem it necessary to give them (cf. **t.109-110, t.167-168, t.170, penalties for the offences of the 3rd group**).

Article t.147

Although a competitor may in fact have hit his opponent on the target, **this hit may be disallowed**, either because it did not arrive during the period of time during which fencing is allowed, or because the competitor had crossed the boundaries of the piste, or because of defects in the electrical equipment, or because violence was involved in the making of the hit, or because of other reasons as laid down in the Rules (cf. **t.25.2, t.27.2, t.28.2, t.29, t.33.2/4, t.35.3, t.44.2, t.56.1, t.73, t.79, t.80, t.89.2, t.93.1, t.94, t.95, t.96.3, t.97.2, t.99.1-2, t.101.6, t.106, t.121.2, t.137.2, t.161, t.170**) according to the Technical Rules).

Article t.148

A competitor may have a hit awarded against him which he has not in fact received, either because he has crossed the rear limit of the piste (cf. t.34), or because he has committed an offence which has prevented his opponent fencing (a flèche attack which jostles the opponent, the use of the unarmed hand while fencing, etc. (cf. **t.137.2, t.162.1/2, t.165, t.166, t.167.1, t.170**), according to the Technical Rules.

Article t.170

	OFFENCE	ARTICLES	PENALTIES		
0.5	Unwillingness to fight: the sanctions imposed are shown by specific P-cards which are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.	t.124.1, t.124.2	1 st time P-Yellow	2 nd time P-Red	3 rd time Penalisation P-Black
	1st group		1st offence	2nd offence	3rd offence and subseq.
1.4	Covering/substitution of valid target *	t.29.2, t.30.1, t.79, t.97			
1.16	Irregular movements on the piste *; hits made with violence or during or after falling * ; intentional fall to avoid the hit *	t.121.2	YELLOW	RED	RED
	2nd group		1st offence	2nd offence	3rd offence and subseq.
2.4	Intentionally dropping a weapon during the fencing phrase	t.56.11			

2.5	Deliberate hit not on opponent *	t.55.2.2	RED	RED	RED
2.6	Dangerous, violent or vindictive action, blow with guard or pommel *	t.26.1, t.121.2, t.147, t.149.1	RED	RED	RED

OFFENCE		ARTICLES	PENALTIES (Cards)	
3rd group			1st time	2nd time
3.1	Fencer disturbing order when on piste. In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately (t.168)	t.108.2, t.109, t.110, t.137.2	RED	BLACK
3.4	Any person not on piste disturbing good order ; smoking in the competition halls (including with electronic cigarettes). In the most serious cases, the Referee may award a black card immediately (t.168).	t.109, t.110, t.111, t.132.2, t.133, t.137.3/4, t.168	YELLOW	BLACK
3.6	Anti-sporting behaviour *	t.121.2	RED	BLACK

4th group		PENALTIES (Cards)	
4.1	Fencer equipped with electronic communication equipment permitting him to receive communications during bout	t.64.6, t.68, t.73.1.g	BLACK
4.8	Deliberate brutality Violent or vindictive actions	t.149.1	BLACK

Article t.172

- 2 If a fencer infringes this principle, **casting doubt** on the decision of the Referee on a point of fact during the bout, he will be penalised according to the rules (cf. **t.158-162, t.165, t.170**), for the offences of the 1st group. But if the Referee is ignorant of or misunderstands a definite rule or applies it in a manner contrary to the Rules, an appeal on this matter may be entertained. A point of fact includes, but is not limited to, any ruling by the referee analysing what happened on the piste, such as the validity or priority of a hit, whether a fencer left the side or end of the piste or if a person's behaviour is a Group 3 or Group 4 offence.

Article: Index to articles

INDEX TO ARTICLES (TECHNICAL RULES)

Abandon: see «Withdrawal»: t.120
 Abnormal movement: t.29.2
 Abnormal: t.56.8, t.79.1.c
 Absence of check marks on material: t.73.1.a, t.170
 Absence of name on back: t.74, t.170
 Accident: t.20.3, t.116
 Accidental cause: t.36, t.57, t.73.1.e
 Accompany: t.137.3
 Action: t.8ss, t.21, t.23.3, t.27.1, t.28.2, t.29.1, t.33, t.55.1, t.61.3, t.62, t.76, t.83, t.86, t.93, t.121.2, t.130
 Action (simultaneous): t.89, t.106
 Action (vindictive, violent): t.149.1
 Active season: t.47, 50.3, t.159, t.162.3, t.167.2, t.169, t.170
 Advance (shoulder of non-sword arm): t.80.2
 Additional minute: t.22.8
 Advice (giving): t.45.4, t.109
 A Grade competitions: see «World Cup»

Analysis of the fencing phrase: t.58, t.59.1, t.61.3
 Announcement (penalties): t.139.4, t.157
 Annulment of hit: see «Hits (annulment)»
 Anti-sporting behavior: see «Sportsmanship»: t.121.2, t.170
 Apparatus (electrical): t.39.3, t.44, t.47.2, t.48.1, t.53, t.55.2, t.58, t.68-3, t.73.1.f, t.80, t.84, t.92, t.94, t.95.2, t.99, t.170
 Apparatus (audible): see «Audible signal»
 Appeals (against a decision): t.136, t.138, t.139, t.141, t.143, t.170, t.172-t.175
 Appeals (against composition of first round)
 Appeals (unjustified): t.45.3, t.174,
 Appeals (Video Refereeing): t.60-t.62
 Arm (extending, straight): t.9.1, t.15, t.83.2, t.101, t.103
 Arm (non-sword): t.21.4, t.27.1, t.29, t.30, t.48.1, t.115, t.148, t.170
 Arm (withdraw): t.13, t.89.5.f, t.106.4.f
 Assembly area: t.65.2
 Assault: t.2
 Attachment (on handle): t.21
 Attack: t.9, t.10, t.12-14, t.13, t.25.3, t.26, t.28.3, t.32, t.35.1, t.83-89, t.90.1, t.101-106, t.121.2, t.146, t.148
 Audible signal: t.44.1
 Avoid a hit: t.13.2, t.25.2, t.35.3, t.83.1, t.101.1, t.106.3.b, t.121.2, t.170
 Awarding of hit not recorded: t.41.1, t.54, t.79, t.124, t.137.2, t.144, t.148, t.170
 Back: t.21.2, t.29.3, t.30.3, t.35.1, t.74.1, t.75.1, t.77.1, t.95.1,
 Back foot: t.22.8,
 Back of blade: t.96, t.105.2
 Bend: t.83.2.b, t.106.4.d
 Bend of blade: see «Curve in blade»
 Bib: t.77.2
 Black Card: t.20.2, t.124, t.159, t.160, t.162, t.163, t.167-169, t.170
 Blade: t.11, t.21.3, t.68.1, t.72, t.95-2, t.94.1, t.96, t.103, t.105, t.170
 Blade (areas of insulation): t.68.1, t.95-2,
 Blade (broken): t.56.6, 7
 Blade ('foible' and 'forte'): t.85, t.104
 Blade (contact): t.13.1, t.84-87, t.89, t.94.3, t.104, t.106.3.e
 Blade (mere contact of): t.84, t.89.5, t.102, t.106.4.3.e
 Blocking the scoring apparatus: t.39
 Bodywire: t.66, t.71-73, t.95.1, t.117, t.126, t.170
 Bout: t.3/4
 Bout (beginning, stopping, restarting): t.21, t.22.1, t.22.4, t.25, t.28, t.58, t.80, t.90, t.99, t.23, t.32-33
 Bout (score-sheet): t.38.2, t.40.4, t.45.1, t.50.7, t.124.3.e, t.163, t.168
 Bout (duration): see «End of bout»
 Bout (end): see «End of bout», «Number of hits»
 Bout (number of hits): see «End of bout», «Number of hits»
 Broken blade: t.56.6, t.56.7
 Brutality: t.25.3, t.26, t.170
 Bureau of the FIE (Central Office of the FIE): t.135, t.139.4, t.143.4, t.157, t.176
 Cadets: t.74.2, t.61.4
 Calling (fencers — initial, onto piste): t.22, t.47, t.118, t.119, t.170
 Card (Yellow, Red, Black): see «Penalties», «Yellow Card», «Red Card», «Black Card» Category A
 Competitions: see «World Cup»
 Casting doubt: t.170, t.172
 Censure: t.139.4, t.144.2, t.154, t.178,
 Central Office of the FIE: see Bureau: t.139.4, t.143, t.157, t.175.2
 Championship: t.1, t.6, t.66, t.73.2, t.74.2, t.159, t.167, t.169, t.170
 Change (of ends – referee - judges): t.30.3, t.48.4, t.50.4
 Change (of hand, weapon, equipment): t.21.4, t.56-2, t.66.1, t.68.1, t.80, t.81.1, t.99.1, t.126
 Checking (equipment): t.47.2, t.56.89, t.64, t.65, t.66-70, t.73, t.114, t.137
 Checking zone: t.66.1; see also assembly area
 Chin: t.77
 Classification: t.128, t.149
 Clock: t.44,

Close quarters: t.24
 Clothing: t.20.2, t.64, t.68.1, t.71, t.74, [t.74.2](#), t.91, t.115, ~~t.126~~, t.170
 Collision: t.121
 Collusion: t.128, t.149, t.170
~~Coming on guard: t.22, t.31~~
 Commands (Referee): t.22.11, t.63, [t.80](#), ~~t.81.1~~, see «Referee (signals and commands)»
~~Communication equipment (electronic): t.64.6, t.68.1, t.73.1.g, t.170~~
~~Competitions: t.1-6~~
~~Competitions (A Grade): see «World Cup»~~
 Compound (actions): t.10, t.11.3, t.13, [t.83.2.b](#), t.87-89, t.101.3/4, t.103, t.106
 Conductive piste: [t.18.3](#), t.47.2.k, [t.94.1](#), t.95.32, t.170
 Confiscating defective equipment: t.70, t.73.1
 Confused fencing: t.23.5, t.58,
~~Contact, electrical: t.170~~
 Contact (blade): t.13.1, t.22.4, [t.84.21](#), t.89.5, t.102.1, t.105.2, t.106.4
 Contact (body): t.25, t.26
[Counter-time: t.13.4](#)
 Control by Referee: t.37
 Control (fencers' equipment): t.20.3, ~~t.170~~, see also «Checking (equipment)»
 Conventions (foil): t.76, t.82-89
 Conventions (épée): t.90-95
 Conventions (sabre): t.96-106
[Correct attack: t.83, t.85, t.101, t.102, 104](#)
 Corps à corps: t.25, t.26, t.32, t.170
 Counter-attack: t.12,
 Counter-riposte: t.9
 Counter-time: t.13.4
 Coup double: t.92, t.106.2
 Coupé: see «Cutover»
 Court of arbitration for sport: t.135
 Courtesy: t.108,t.121.2, t.173
 Covering the valid target: t.29.2, t.30.1, [t.71](#), t.170; see also «Surface»
 Criticizing referees/judges: t.109
 Crossing legs (sabre): t.101.5, t.170
 Crossing limits of piste: t.18, t.22.9, t.26.2, t.33-36, ~~t.146-8~~, [t.147-8](#), t.170
 Curve in blade: t.72, t.170
 Cutting edge (hit with the): t.96, t.101.2, t.103.1, t.105
 Cutover: t.11.2, t.83, t.102
 Cuts: t.96.2, t.105.2
 Dangerous fencing: t.23.5, [t.75.2](#), [t.123](#), t.170
 Decision (referee, DT): t.50.4, t.56.23, t.59.2, t.61.3, t.62, t.73.3, [t.111](#), t.122, t.138, t.140-141, t.143
 Decision (regarding point of fact): t.112, [t.124](#), t.136, t.137.2, [t.170](#)
 Decision (attempt to influence): t.125, t.130, t.133, t.172-75, ~~t.177~~
 Defective equipment: t.70. t.72
 Defence (right of): t.176
~~Defend personal chance: see «Utmost ability (fence to)»~~
 Defensive actions: t.9.2, t.12, t.14, [t.21](#), t.29; see also «Parry»
 Defensive/offensive actions: [t.12](#), t.83.2
 Delayed (riposte): t.11, t.13, t.106.3.c
 Delegates — SEMI: see «SEMI (Committee)»: t.66.1, t.73, [t.56](#), ~~t.95~~
 Delegates — FIE Medical Committee: t.45
 Delegates — FIE Refereeing Committee: t.50,t.51, t.52, t.111, t.130, t.135, t.138-141, t.143.2, t.174-175
[Deliberate: t.55.2, t.170](#)
 Dérobement: t.84.32, t.89.5.b, t.102.2, t.106.4.b
 Device (safety): see «Safety device»
 Direct ~~(attack — riposte)~~: t.10, t.78, t.83.2, ~~t.84.1~~, t.89.4.c, t.102.3, t.106.3
[Direct parry: t.14](#),
[Direct riposte: t.11, t.86, t.105.1](#),
 Direct elimination: [t.22.8](#), t.39, t.42, t.48.4, t.50, t.61.1, t.64, t.65.2, t.66.1, ~~t.74.2~~, t.114, t.118, t.124.1, t.131.1, t.170

Direction of the bout: t.47, t.137
 Directoire Technique: t.20.2, t.30.1, t.45.5, t.46, t.50.3, t.111, t.127, t.129, t.135, t.137, t.139-141, t.143, t.157, t.164, t.168, t.169.2, t.175, t.177
 Disarming: t.23.5
 Disciplinary authorities: t.108.2, t.134, t.135
 Disciplinary procedure: t.171ss
 Disciplinary Code of the FIE: t.135, t.134, t.143, t.145.2, t.169.2, t.178.2
 Disciplinary Commission: t.135, t.140, t.143
 Discipline: t.108, t.129, t.135, t.134, t.139, t.144.2, t.170, t.178
 Disciplinary Rules: t.135
 Disciplinary Commission: 142, t.143
 Disengagement: t.11.2, t.83, t.102.3
 Dishonest: t.121.1, t.170
 Disorderly fencing: t.121, t.170
 Displacing target: t.13.2, t.27; see also «Extension (of the valid surface)»
 Cramp: t.45, t.170
 Disqualification: t.137.4, t.144, t.153, t.178
 Disturbing good order: t.109, t.111, t.133, t.144.2, t.162.4, t.168, t.170, t.178
 Distance (on-guard): t.22, t.31, t.124
 Doctor: t.45, t.116, t.170
 Doping: t.170,
 Double hit: t.33.4, t.38, t.89.3/6, t.92, t.94.5, t.106
 Doubtful (hit): t.56.5, t.57, t.94.5
 Dragging point on conductive piste: t.76.2, t.90.2, t.170
 Drawing lots: t.38, t.40, t.41, t.50, t.56
 Dressing (forbidden on the piste): t.116, t.170
 Ducking: t.27.1
 Duration of bout: t.37-42; see also «End of bout»
 Electronic communication equipment: t.64.6, t.68-1, t.73.1.g, t.170
 Elimination: t.48.4, t.39, t.42, t.50, t.61.1, t.64, t.65.2, t.66.1, t.74.2, t.114, t.118, t.124.1, t.131.1, t.170
 Enclosure: see «Piste enclosure»
 End of bout: t.21.4, t.44.4, t.62.3, t.127, t.128
 End of time (period- - minute): t.38.2, t.39.3, t.40.3, t.41.5, t.44.4, t.45.1, t.124.3.f
 Epée: t.21.3, t.68.3, t.90, t.91, t.95.2, t.170
 Equal scores: t.38.2, t.40.3, t.41.5, t.62.3, t.124
 Equipment (of fencers): t.20, t.29.3, t.47.2, t.56, t.64, t.66.1, t.69, t.80, t.81, t.91, t.94, t.99.1, t.114, t.123
 Equipment (failure): see «Failure»
 Equipment (non-regulation): t.70, t.72, t.73.1.g, t.147, t.170
 Etiquette (fencing): t.121
 Exclusion (fencer): t.137.4, t.144, t.149, t.150, t.153.3, t.159, t.162.3, t.167.2, t.169, t.170, t.178.2
 Executive Committee: t.135, t.142, t.143
 Experts (electrical equipment): t.47.2.j, t.56.7/8/9, t.66.1, t.70, t.73
 Expiry of time: t.39, t.41, t.42, t.44; see also «End of bout»
 Expulsion: t.137.3, t.144.2, t.152, t.162.4, t.170
 Extension (of the valid surface): t.79
 Extension (of the penalty): t.139.4
 Failure (of clock): t.44.3
 Failure (of electrical material): t.56-5, t.94.5
 Failure (to appear on time): t.150.1
 Faithfully: t.108, t.121.1, t.170
 Falling, hit made while: t.121.2, t.170
 Favours an opponent: t.128, t.170
 Feint: t.83, t.87, t.89, t.101, t.103
 Fencers (obligations of): t.20, t.107, t.108, t.112
 Fencing: t. 21ss
 Fencing (beginning, stopping, restarting): t.23
 Fencing (close quarters): t.24
 Fencing (confused): t.23.5, t.58
 Fencing (dangerous/violent): t.23.5, t.75.2, t.121.2, t.123, t.149.1, t.170
 Fencing etiquette: t.109, t.112, t.121

Fencing (incorrect/unsporting): t.121.2, t.170
 Fencing (respect of phrase): t.59.1, t.79, t.83, ~~t.84~~, t.89, t.98, ~~t.100, t.101~~, t.106, t.170
 Fencing (time): t.8, t.12.3, t.22.8, t.38.2, t.40-44, t.88, t.89.4/5f, t.103, ~~32~~, t.106-4
 FIE Supervisor: t.20, [t.45.1](#), t.135, t.138-141, t.143.2, t.169.2, t.174
 FIE Central Office: [142](#), [t.143](#)
 Field of play: t.16-19; see also «Piste»
 Finals (referees, judges): t.48.2, t.50.5/6, [t.52](#)
 Finals (time-keeper): t.37.2, t.44, ~~42~~,
 Finals (presentation of fencers for equipment checking): t.64, t.65.2, t.66.1,
 Fine: t.144
 Flèche: t.9, t.25, t.26, t.28.3, t.32, t.35.3, t.83.2, t.121.2, t.148, t.170
 Flexibility (blade): [t.21.3](#), [t.105.2.b](#)
 Foil: t.21.3, ~~t.22.2~~, t.22.12, t.24, [t.33.4](#), t.64.2, t.68.1, t.76, t.77, [t.79.1](#), t.82, t.89, t.170
 Follow the phrase: t.13, ~~t.23~~, [t.24](#), t.47.2.f, t.106.4.f
 Forbidden: t.76.2, t.96
 Forbidden (changing hand during the bout): t.21.4
 Forbidden (flèche and forward movement crossing legs at sabre): t.101.5, t.170
 Forbidden (give advice): t.109
 Forbidden (hindering tests to detect a fault in the equipment): t.47.2.d
 Forbidden (blow with guard): t.96.3, t.170
 Forbidden (irregular actions): t.121.2, t.170
 Forbidden (leave the piste without permission): t.23.6, t.170
~~Forbidden (place non-insulated part of weapon on conductive jacket at foil): t.170~~
 Forbidden (protection or substitution of valid target at foil and sabre): t.30, t.79, [t.97.2](#), t.170
 Forbidden (pushing or letting drag the point): t.76.2, t.90.2, t.170
 Forbidden (cause corps à corps) : t.25.2
 Forbidden (smoking in competition halls): t.110, t.170
 Forbidden (straightening weapon on piste): t.76.2, t.90.2, t.96.5, t.170
 Forbidden (turning back on opponent): t.27.2, t.170
 Forbidden (undressing on the piste): t.116, t.170
 Forbidden (use of non-sword hand and arm): t.29, [t.30](#), [t.48](#), t.170
 Fortuitous circumstances: t.94.3,
 Functions of the Referee: see «Referee»
 Glossary: [t.2ss](#)
 Glove: [t.20.2](#), [t.115.1](#)
 Ground gained/lost: t.31, t.35, t.144.1, ~~t.146~~
 Ground judges: see «Judges»
 Guard (hitting with): t.96.3, t.121.2, t.170
 Hair: t.115, t.170
 Halt: t.23, t.26, t.28, t.31, t.33, t.37, t.44.2, t.55, t.76.2, t.90.2, t.124, t.125, t.170
 Hand (injured/holding weapon/unarmed): t.21, t.22, t.27, t.29, t.48, t.115, t.148, t.170
 Hand (judges): see «Judges»
 Hand (non-sword): t.29, t.30, [t.48](#), t.170; see «Use of non-sword hand/arm»
 Handle: t.21, t.99.2
 Hindering tests to detect faults: t.47.2.d
 Hits (annulment): [t.23](#), [t.25.2](#), [t.27.2](#), [t.29](#), t.33.2, [t.43.3](#), [t.56](#), [t.57](#), [t.73](#), [t.79](#), ~~t.55ss~~, [t.80](#), t.81.1, t.89.2, t.93, [t.94](#), t.95, [t.96.3](#), [t.97.2](#), t.99, [t.101.5](#), t.106.1, t.121.2, t.147, t.161, t.170
 Hits (before 'Play!'): t.55.1
 Hits (brutal): [t.26.1](#), t.121.2, t.170
 Hits (after crossing the boundaries of the piste): t.22.9, [t.26.2](#), t.28.3, t.33, t.34, [t.35](#), t.94.5, [t.147](#)
 Hits (after 'Halt!'): t.23.3, t.55.1
 Hits (at the end of a bout): t.38-42
 Hits (double): [t.33.4](#), [t.38.1](#), t.89, t.92, t.94, t.106
 Hits (doubtful): t.56, ~~7~~, [t.57](#), t.72, t.81, [t.94.4](#), t.95, t.99
 Hits (judging): t.28, t.33, t.46, t.48.1, t.53, [t.54.2](#), t.59.2, t.81, ~~2~~, [t.84](#), t.89, ~~t.90, t.92~~, [t.93](#), t.94, t.96, t.98, t.99, [t.102](#), t.106, t.137.1/2,
 Hits (method of making): t.9-13, t.28.2, t.76, t.90, t.96, t.97, t.98, ~~4~~, t.106, ~~4.f~~,
 Hits (not valid): t.44.4, t.78, [t.79.1.b](#), [t.94.5](#), [t.97.2.b](#), t.98
 Hits (other than on opponent): t.48.1, t.55, t.78, t.93, t.94, t.170
 Hits (penalty): [t.41](#), [t.79](#), [t.124](#), t.162, t.163, [t.165](#), [t.167](#), [t.170](#); see also «Refusal (to award a hit)»

Hits (passing the opponent): t.28.2
 Hits (seeking, giving away, offering): t.128, t.170
 Hits (simultaneous): t.89, t.106
 Hits (stop hits): see «Stop hit»
 Hits (through the blade): t.96.4
 Hits (thrusting with the point): t.76.1, t.84.1, t.89.4, t.90.1, t.96.1
 Hits (with the back of the blade): t.96.2, t.105.2
 Hits (with the cutting edge): t.96-2, t.105.2
 Hits (with the guard): t.96.3, t.121.2, t.170
 Immediate (hit): t.11, t.13, t.33.2, t.28.2, t.85.2, t.86, t.89.5.f, t.104.2, t.105.1, t.106.4.c/f
 Impartiality (referees and judges): t.46.1
 Indirect (attack, riposte): t.10, t.11.2, t.13, t.83.2.a, t.86, t.105
 Individual competition: t.48.2, t.50, t.60, t.61, t.113, t.118, t.119, t.124.1/3, t.131, t.170, t.173
 In line: see «Point in line»
 Incorrect (fencing): t.121, t.170
 Influence decisions, referees and judges (attempt to): t.109, t.133
 Injury: t.21.4, t.45, t.170
 Insult (referee, judge): t.109 ~~t.144~~
 Integrity: t.108, t.121
 Intentional: t.25.2, t.26.1, t.55.2, t.121.2, t.170
 International Olympic Committee: see also «IOC»
 Interruption of a bout: t.22, t.43, t.115.2, t.170
 Intervention of Directoire Technique: t.139, t.164
 Investigation: t.176
 IOC: t.135, t.142, t.157
 Irregular movements: t.121.2, t.170; see also «Violent fencing»
 Irregularities in equipment (deliberate): t.70, t.72, t.73, t.170
 Jacket (conductive): t.64.1/4, t.71, t.72-5, t.73.1.g, t.75.1, t.170
 Jacket (fencing): t.64, t.74, t.75, t.115, t.170
 Jamming the apparatus:
 Jostling: t.25, t.26, t.36, t.121.2, t.148, t.170
 Judges: t.30, t.46.1, t.47.2.e, t.48, t.54.1, t.79.2, t.109, t.112
 Judging (hits): t.53-t.59, t.83-2, t.84, t.89, t.93-t.95, t.99, t.102, t.105.2, t.106
 Junior: t.50.3, t.61.4, t.159, t.167.2, t.169, t.170
 Juridical Authorities: t.158
 Jurisdiction (principle of): t.136, t.137.3, t.139
 Label of safety/guarantee: t.64.1, t.68.1
 Lamps: t.44.4, t.47.2.f, t.54.2, t.80
 Leaving piste: t.23.6, t.26.2, t.33-3/4, t.35.1, t.36, t.78, t.94.5, t.98, t.120, t.123, t.146, t.147, t.170, t.172; see also «Crossing limits of piste»
 Left-hander: t.22-4
 Length of piste: t.18; see also «Piste»
 Licence, international: t.49, t.143.4
 Licence, refereeing: t.47, t.49.1
 Limits of piste: t.18, t.19.3, t.28.3, t.33, t.34, t.35, t.148 ;see «Piste», «Crossing limits of piste», «Lines on piste»
 Line: see «Point in line»
 Lines on piste: t.19
 Location (for instructors, trainers, technicians): t.131
 Location (of fencers, judges): t.30, t.48, t.66
 Loss of ground: t.35, t.144.1, t.146; see «Ground gained/lost»
 Lunge: t.9, t.83, t.101
 Localisation of a fault in equipment: t.56, t.80, t.95, t.99
 Manifest cheating with equipment: t.70, t.73, t.170
 Mask: t.20.2, t.64, t.66.1, t.68.1, t.71, t.72, t.73.1.g, t.115, t.123, t.125, t.170
 Match: t.3, t.4, t.38, t.41.4/5, t.44.3, t.45.1/4, t.48.4, t.49, t.51, t.62.3, t.64, t.74.2, t.114, t.118, t.124, t.132, t.160, t.163, t.170
 Material; see «Bodywire», «Checking (equipment)», «Mask»
 Materiality of hits: t.54, t.59, t.82, t.92, t.99
 Medical Commission: «Medical delegate»

Medical delegate: t.45, t.116
 Medical reason: t.45
 Method (of fencing): t.76, t.90, t.96
 Method (of holding weapon): t.21
 Method (of decision): t.177
 Modification to Rules: t.4
 Modification of order of bouts: t.45.5
 Momentary pause: t.89.4.c, t.89.5.d, t.106.3.c, t.106.4.d
 Name (on back): t.74.1, t.75.1, t.170
 Nationality (on back): t.74.1, t.75.1, t.170
 National logo: t.74.2, t.75.2, t.170
 Neutrality: t.30.1; see «Referee», «Judges»
 Non-combativity: t.124
 Non-presentation: t.118, t.119, t.170
 Non-regulation equipment: t.70, t.72, t.73, t.170
 Non-sword arm: t.29, t.30, t.48.1, t.133, t.170
 Number of hits: t.38, t.40, t.41.4; see also «Hits»
 Obedience: t.108, t.109, t.112, t.170
 Obligatory application of Rules: t.4
 Offences: t.144, t.161, t.164-170, t.178; see also «Forbidden»
 Offensive actions: t.9.1, t.10, t.12, t.13, t.76, t.83, t.101
 Official delegate: t.46.2, t.111,
 Official competitions of FIE: t.4, t.37.2, t.47, t.113, t.139
 Olympic Games: t.4, t.66.1, t.73.2, t.135, t.142, t.157
 On guard: t.19, t.22, t.31, t.32, t.64, t.72, t.89.6, t.106.5
 One-two: t.11.2
 Order, disturbing good: t.108, t.109, t.111, t.112, t.133, t.137.1, t.139, t.144.2, t.162.4, t.168, t.170, t.178
 Organising Committee: t.68.3, t.111, t.129, t.142, t.157
 Orthopaedic (handle): t.21
 P-cards (Yellow, Red, Black): t.124, t.170
 Parry: t.9.2, t.11, t.14, t.78, t.84, t.86, t.89.4, t.102.3, t.105, t.106.3/4
 Passing opponent: t.28
 Penalties: t.137, t.139, t.144, t.145, t.157, t.159-t.164, t.170, t.171
 Penalties (fencing): t.144.1, t.146
 Penalties (disciplinary): t.144.2, t.150-156
 Penalties (table of): t.170
 Penalties (types): t.144, t.158, t.162
 Period (direct elimination bout): t.22.7, t.39, t.40, t.42, t.48.4, t.124.1
 Permanent suspension: t.139, t.144.2, t.145, t.153, t.156
 Permission to leave piste: t.23.6, t.170
 Piste: t.17-19, t.22, t.33-36, t.94, t.95.3, t.170; see also below, and «Crossing limits of piste», Ground gained/lost»
 Piste Enclosure: t.131.3, t.132, t.170
 Piste (place nearby for instructors, trainers, technicians): t.131, t.132
 Piste (straightening weapon on): t.76.2, t.90.2, t.96.5, t.170
 Placing on guard: t.19, t.22
 Plastron (conductive): see also «Jacket (conductive)»
 Plastron (protective): t.20.2, t.64.5, t.66.1, t.71, t.73.1; see also «Underplastron»
 Pledge of honour (referees and judges): t.46
 Pledge of honour (fencers): t.112
 Plug (bodywire): t.47.2.d, t.95.1, t.115; see also «Bodywire»
 Plugging in of bodywire: t.66.2, t.115
 Point in line: t.15, t.22.4, t.22.12, t.84.1/2, t.89.4/5, t.102, t.106.3/4
 Pointe d'arrêt (button): t.68.3, t.72
 Points: t.149
 Presentation on time: t.114, t.118, t.119, t.170
 President of jury: see «Referee»
 Priority of hit: t.59, t.81.2, t.82, t.84, t.85, t.100, t.104.1, t.172.2
 Procedure for checking the equipment by the Referee: t.64-68
 Protection (of the valid target): t.29, t.30, t.79.1, t.170

Protective plastron: t.64.5, t.66.1, t.71, t.73.1.g
 Protest (procedure): t.130, t.172, t.175
 Protests: see «Appeals»
 Punctuality: t.114, t.118, t.119, t.170
 Pushing point on the piste: t.76, t.90, t.170
 Red Card: t.29, ~~t.74.2~~, t.119, t.132.2, t.162, t.163, t.165, t.166, 167, t.170
 Redoublement: t.13.2, t.89.4/65, t.106.3-c/5
 Referee: t.22, ~~t.23~~ 33, t.37-40, t.44, ~~t.46~~-59, t.64-67, t.71-73, t.109-112, t.122-124, t.137, t.164, t.172
 Referee (designation): t.46, t.50
 Referee (candidate): t.47
 Referee (checking): t.47, t.64-73, t.114, t.137
 Referee (judging of hits): t.53-59, t.81-89, t.92-95, t.99-106, t.137
 Referee (signals and commands): t.63 (Figure 3)
 Refereeing delegate: t.50, t.51, 52, t.111, t.130, t.135, t.138, ~~t.140~~, ~~t.141~~, t.143, t.174
 Refusal (to award a hit): t.23, t.25, t.27-29, t.33, t.56-57, t.73, t.79-81.1, t.89.2, t.93-94, t.96.3, t.97, t.99, t.101.5, t.106.1, t.121.2, t.144.1, t.147, t.161, t.170
 Refusal (to fight an opponent): t.113, t.170
 Refusal (to obey): t.108, t.170
 Registration of hits: t.28.3, t.38, t.44, t.47.2.k, t.48.1, t.54, t.55, t.56, t.58, t.69.3, t.72, t.79.1.b, t.80, t.81-5, t.92, t.96.3, t.98, t.99
 Remise: t.13.1, t.89.4.c, t.89.5.f, t.106.3.c, t.106.3.f
 Repetition of offence: t.178; see also «Penalties»
 Replacing fencer: t.45
 Replacing referee, judge: t.50.4
~~Replacing on guard: t.22.3/9, t.28, t.32, t.35, t.89.6, t.106.5~~
 Reprise of attack: t.13.3, t.89.4.c, t.89/5/f, t.106.3.c, t.106.3.f
 Reserve equipment: t.69
 Residual travel: t.68.3
 Respect of the fencing phrase: see «Fencing (respect of phrase)»
 Responsibility of fencers: t.20, t.121-123, t.125-133
 Rest (one minute): t.39, t.42
 Restarting bout: t.56, t.99
 Result: see «Score»
 Retirement: see «Withdrawal»
 Retreat: t.13, t.18: see «Ground gained/lost»
 Right of defence: t.176
 Right-handed: t.22
 Riposte: t.9, t.11, t.13.1, t.26.2, t.85.2, t.86, t.87, t.89.5.c/f, t.103.21, t.104.2, t.105.1, 106.3.c/f
 Sabre: t.21.3, t.22.12, t.24, t.33.4, t.39, t.42, t.64.4, t.96 - t.106, t.170
 Safety: t.20
 Safety device: t.95.1
 Salute: t.122, t.145.2, t.170
 Score (sheet): t.38, t.40.4, t.45.1, t.50.7, t.124.3.e, ~~t.127~~, t.163, t.168
 Scorers: t.47.2.e
 Season, active: t.47, 50.3, t.159, t.162.3, t.167.2, t.169, t.170
~~Seeking corps à corps: t.25, t.26, t.170~~
 Shake hands: t.122
 SEMI (Committee): t.56.7, t.66.1, t.73.2
 Semi-final: t.18.3, t.50.5
 Simultaneous action: t.89, t.106
 Signals (audible): t.44.1
 Signals (Referee): see «Referee (signals and commands)»
 Signals (visual): see «Lamps»
 Simple actions: t.8, t.10, t.11, t.13, t.14, t.33.2, t.83.2, t.84.3, t.86, t.89.4.a/5.f, t.101.3/4, t.105.1, t.106.3.a/4.f
 Special device (handle): t.21
 Spectators: t.23.5, t.37, t.61.4, t.107.1, t.122, t.133, t.137.3, t.152, t.170
 Spool: t.28.3
 Sports Arbitration Tribunal (TAS): t.135, t.143.3
 Sportsmanship: t.121.2, t.123v, t.128, t.129, t.144.2, t.170, t.178
 Starting bout: t.22, t.23, t.64, t.66, t.115, t.118, t.122, t.170

[Statutes \(FIE\): t.108.1, t.113.2, t.134, t.176](#)
[Step forward: t.83.2.c, t.84.3, t.101.4, t.170](#)
[Step back: t.35.1, t.146,](#)
[Stop hit: t.12, t.13.3, t.88, t.89.4.a.d, t.89.5.d, t.103.32, t.106.3.a.d, t.106.4.d](#)
 Stopping bout: see «Interruption of a bout»
 Straightening blade on the piste: t.76.2, t.90.2, t.96.5, t.170
 Strip: see «Piste»
 Substitution of target: [t.29](#), t.30, t.48, t.79.1, [t.97.2](#), t.170: see «Valid target»
 Substitution and use of non-sword arm: t.29, [t.30](#), [t.48.1](#), [t.170](#)
 Surface (non-valid): t.29, [t.30.2](#), [t.55.2](#), t.89. [t.94.5](#)
 Surface (valid): see «Valid target»
 Suspension (decision/penalty): t.136-137, t.139, t.143.4, t.144.2, t.145, [t.153.1](#), t.155, t.156, t.159, t.162.3, t.167.2, t.169, t.170
[Suspension: t.156, t.170, t.176](#)
 Supervisor: t.20, [t.45.1](#), t.135, t.138-141, t.143.2, [t.169.2](#), t.174
 Take hold of electrical equipment with non-sword arm: t.29.3, t.170
 Taking off mask before 'Halt!': t.125, t.170
 Target: see «Valid target»
 TAS (Sports Arbitration Tribunal): t.135, t.143.3
 Team (captain): t.46.2, t.47.2.d, t.67, t.109, t.118.3, t.130, t.132, t.173
[Team competition: t.41, t.50.4, t.51, t.119, t.124.3, t.132, t.170](#)
 Team (replacement of a fencer): t.45
 Team enclosure: t.132.1
 Tearing out of spool: t.28.3
 Technician: t.56.7, t.131.1, t.152
 Temporary suspension: t.144.2, t.145.2, t.155, ~~t.170~~
 Tests (equipment): t.47.2.d, t.56.5/6, t.57, [t.80](#), ~~t.81~~, t.99
 Third place (deciding, in case of disqualification): t.149
 Threaten valid target: t.9, t.15, t.83.2, t.101.2, t.103.1
 Throwing (mask): t.123
 Throwing (weapon): t.21.2
 Thrusting (weapons of): t.76, t.90, t.96
 Time (fencing): t.8, [t.12.3](#), t.22.7, t.37, t.38, t.40-44, t.88, t.89.3, [t.103.2](#), t.106.2
 Time (remaining/expiry): t.43
 Time-keeper: t.37.2, t.44.2, t.47.2. ~~qe~~
 Tournament: ~~t.54~~ [t.46.2](#), [t.144.2](#), [t.151](#), [t.152](#), [t.159](#), [t.160](#), [t.162.3](#), [t.167.2](#), [t.169.1](#), [t.170](#), [t.178.2](#): see «World Cup», «Competitions»
 Trainer: [t.46.2](#), t.107, t.118.3, t.131, t.137.3, t.152
 Travel (of the point): t.68.3, t.72
 Tribunal: t.135, t.143, [t.169.2](#)
 Turn back on opponent: t.27.2, t.170
 Unarmed hand: t.27.1, t.48.1, t.115, t.148
 Under-plastron: t.20.2, t.64.5, [t.66.1](#), t.71, t.73.1
 Undressing (forbidden on the piste): t.116, [t.170](#)
 Unplugging of bodywire: t.47.2, t.95,
 Unwillingness to fight (passivity): t.124
 Use of non-sword hand/arm: t.29, t.30, [t.48](#), t.170
 Utmost ability (fence to): t.128, t.149.1, t.170
 Valid target (covering and substitution): [t.29](#), t.30, t.48, t.79.1, [t.97.1](#), t.170
 Valid target (definition): t.77, t.91, t.97,
 Valid target (threaten): t.9, t.15, t.83, t.101.2, t.103.1
 Validity of hit: t.59, t.82, t.100
[Venue: t.111, t.134, t.137.3, t.145.2, t.151, t.152, t.162.4](#)
 Vest: see «Jacket (conductive)», «Jacket (fencing)»
[Veterans: t.42](#)
 Video consultant: t.49, t.50, t.61.3, t.62.4
 Video refereeing: t.49, t.60-62
 Violence: t.25.3, t.121.2, t.123, t.147, t.149, t.170
 Violent fencing: t.121.2, [t.149](#), [t.170](#)
 Visual signals: see «Lamps»

Warming up (clothing): t.20.2, t.170
Warning (penalty): t.72, t.132.2, t.162.1, t.165, t.168, t.170
Weapon (throwing): t.21.2
Weapon (working order/spare): t.70, t.114, t.115, t.117, t.170
Weapon control: t.64, t.66, t.170
Width of piste: see «Piste»
Withdrawal: t.45
World Championships: ~~t.1, t.44.1~~, t.66.1, t.73.2, ~~t.74.2~~, t.159, t.167, t.169, t.170
World Cup: ~~t.1, t.44.1, t.51~~, t.52, t.66.1, t.74.2, ~~t.170~~
~~World Cup: t.52~~
Yellow Card: t.20.2, t.119, t.162.1, t.163, t.165, t.168.1, t.170
~~Zonal Championships: t.44.1, t.74.2, t.170~~

**2023 CONGRESS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)**

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Amendments to the FIE Material Rules

The texts below are applicable from January 1, 2024, unless otherwise indicated.

Article m.25.3.h

A World Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in red **for the following season**.

An Olympic Champion has the right to have his/her name and the abbreviation of his/her national federation printed in gold **until the end of the next Olympic Games**.

Article m.30.1

RULES SPECIFIC TO EPEE

Mask

1. The mask must not be covered, in whole or in part, by **conductive material or** material which can **cause the point to glance off** (cf. m.25).

2. The mask must be so shaped that the **bib** reaches below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).

Article: Annex A 4 Label of quality, Material Rules

2 Chip and label installation requirements **are suspended**.

~~From 01.03.2021, the obligatory chipping of new fencing equipment (jacket, trousers, plastron mask) has been introduced. The appearance and geometrical dimensions of the chip are shown in Fig.1~~

~~The chip contains information about the type of product and the name of the manufacturer. Reading of the information can be done both by equipment manufacturers and by consumers using smartphones with NFC modules.~~

~~A special label is sewn on top of the chip. The label design and dimensions are shown in Fig.2.~~

~~In the LOGO zone, the brand of the equipment manufacturer is indicated in a label with the dimensions allowed from the Publicity code art. p.10.~~

~~The S 800 label is sewn onto the jacket, trousers and plastron. The M1600 label is sewn onto the mask. Places of installation of chips and labels on equipment are shown in Fig.3~~

~~Both variants of the FIE seal of quality are acceptable up to and including the 2025/2026 season.~~

~~For the 2026/2027 season, masks, jackets, breeches and plastrons must have the new quality seal with a chip securely located underneath.~~

~~The SEMI Commission will oversee the approval of the chip placement during the equipment homologation process.~~

Figures 1, 2 and 3 are removed.

Annex A, 4.4

4.4. Test of strength at the fracture toughness point, K1C

The ~~K1C~~ K1C value of the steel must be measured by traction on a CT sample which has the dimensions indicated at the end of this annexe (Table VIII), made from materials subjected to the same thermal treatment as required for the blades, notched mechanically initiating a fatigue crack at the apex of the notch. The test must be conducted according to the methods indicated by the standard ASTM E 399. The value must conform to that laid down in Table I.

~~In cases where it is not possible to obtain a CT sample, the factor of increasing levels of dynamic loading (KId) may be determined instead of the K1C value.~~

**2023 CONGRESS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)**

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

Amendments to the FIE Publicity Code

Article: p.12.2

Fencing clothing and equipment

a) If a federation and/or a fencer have signed a **sponsorship contract** with a commercial or other company, the logo of that sponsorship partner may be fixed **at a rate of maximum of 3 logos, with a maximum area of 85 cm² each;**

In foil and epee: at the top of the sleeve of the non-sword arm of the fencing jacket; **in sabre:** at the top of the thigh of the non-sword side of the fencing breeches and clearly separated from the national logo.

Application: From the 2023 Junior and Cadet World Championships.