

# American Fencing

## United States vs. Canada

By Leo Sobel, Manager, U. S. Team

The United States fencing team captained by Dr. Daniel Bukantz, won three events and Canada one in the international competition held at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto on August 26 and 27. The meet was staged on the soft-ball field of the exhibition grounds before an audience that filled the grandstands and overflowed on to the surrounding field.

The foil and epee team events were run-off on Friday evening, August 26, despite an intermittent rain. The United States had little difficulty in winning the foil, 12-4, as Albert Axelrod, 1955 national champion, swept his four bouts. Two other members of the 1952 U. S. Olympic team, Dr. Daniel Bukantz and Nathaniel Lubell, each won three bouts, and Frank Bavuso, a last-minute substitution, won two. For Canada, Elmar Sadeler, former Ontario champion, had two wins, while Carl Schwende, former Canadian titleholder in the three weapons, won once, as did Denis Pearce, former British foil champion and member of the British Olympic team.

An over-confident United States epee team lost its first five bouts, and the epee match went to Canada, 11-5. The U. S. 1954 national champion, Sewall Shurtz, won three, and Allan Hoffman of Princeton won two; but Frank Bavuso and Larry Lazovick were shut out. Canada's epeeists showed excellent balance: Jack Dalton, Carl Schwende and John Andru won three each; the other two Canadian victories went to Tom Pearce, 1955 Canadian epee champion.

(It will be recalled that last year's match, United States against British Empire, produced the same foil result, but the United States won the epee 10-6.)

The fencing on Saturday evening presented no weather or other problems. The women's foil team match saw each of the United States fencers win three bouts and lose one, to take the event 12-4. Judy Goodrich, Sue Thompson, Anne Drungis and Louise Knab fenced competently throughout. For Canada, Clara Baky was the star with three victories; the fourth went to Jeanne Gilbert — the only Canadian competitor who was a member of last year's British Empire team which beat the United States 10-6. The Canadians fenced without their best foilswoman, Eva Kun, who last year was undefeated.



DR. DANIEL BUKANTZ  
Captain, U.S. Team

Sabre, as usual, proved the most exciting; the Canadians fielded the same team that in 1954 had carried a U. S. team composed of Al Kwartler, Sol Gorlin, Dick Dyer and Abe Cohen to 9-7. This year's U. S. sabre team of Bob Blum, Steve Sobel, and Sewall Shurtz, with two foilsmen (Bukantz and Axelrod) sharing the fourth sabre spot, did not appear dangerous. The Canadians were over-confident in this weapon, lost the first four bouts and wound up with the same result as in 1954. Bob Blum starred for the United States with three victories, and his performance provided the winning margin. Coming up to the last bout, the Canadians were behind 8-7, but were ahead on touches, so that a victory by any score would win the match for them. Blum, however, came through with flying colors. Steve Sobel and Sewall Shurtz each won two out of four; and Axelrod and Bukantz each won one out of two. Szabolcsy-Szmolar won two; and Leslie Krasa and John Erdely each took one.

The entire competition was run off in the spirit of amicability that has long characterized U.S.-Canada fencing relations. The setting was good, with loud speakers provided to keep the spectators apprised of

what was happening. The audience of course was predominantly Canadian, but rooters for the United States included Allan Hoffman's parents, the Goodrich and Sobel families, Joe Waffa and Stanley Sieja. The pleasant key of the whole tournament was set off by Sewall Shurtz, who directed the foil team event—first on the program—and kept the audience amused despite the occasional rain. During one of those rainy spells, Sewall expressed the fear of possible electrocution because of the portable microphone arrangement; but he was assured by our Canadian hosts that they would arrange a grand funeral if such an eventuality should materialize. Shurtz did his usual competent job as director and was warmly praised by all. At the conclusion of the fencing, a buffet party was held at the Boulevard Club, where all the bouts were re-fenced between drinks and eats. Thank you, Canada!

### SCORES

**Foil Team:** U.S.A. 12, Canada 4.

Axelrod (4-0) defeated Pearce 5-0, Vida 5-2, Schwende 5-3, Sadeler 5-2; Lubell (3-1) defeated Pearce 5-1, Vida 5-1, Schwende 5-3; Bukantz (3-1) defeated Pearce 5-2, Vida 5-3, Schwende 5-2; Bavuso (2-2) defeated Sadeler 5-4, Vida 5-4.

Sadeler (2-2) defeated Bukantz 5-3, Lubell 5-4; Schwende (1-3) defeated Bavuso 5-2; Pearce (1-3) defeated Bavuso 5-2.

**Epee Team:** Canada 11, U.S.A. 5.

Andru (3-1) defeated Lazovick 3-1, Bavuso 3-2, Hoffman 3-2; Dalton (3-1) defeated Lazovick 3-2, Bavuso 3-1, Hoffman 3-2; Schwende (3-1) defeated Lazovick 3-2, Bavuso 3-1, Shurtz 3-1; Pearce (2-2) defeated Lazovick 3-1, Bavuso 3-0.

Shurtz (3-1) defeated Andru 3-0, Pearce 3-0, Dalton 3-2; Hoffman (2-2) defeated Schwende 3-2, Pearce 3-2.

**Women's Team:** U.S.A. 12, Canada 4.

Goodrich (3-1) defeated Jack 4-3, Bert 4-1, Baky 4-1; Thompson (3-1) defeated Jack 4-3, Bert 4-1, Gilbert 4-1; Drungis (3-1) defeated Jack 4-2, Roman 4-2, Gilbert 4-2; Knab (3-1) defeated Jack 4-0, Roman 4-2, Gilbert 4-1.

Baky (3-1) defeated Knab 4-3, Drungis 4-3, Thompson 4-2; Gilbert (1-3) defeated Goodrich 4-3.

**Sabre Team:** U.S.A. 9, Canada 7.

Blum (3-1) defeated Szabolcsy-Szmolar 5-3, Krasa 5-4, Erdely 5-1; Sobel (2-2) defeated Szabolcsy-Szmolar 5-4, Erdely 5-2; Shurtz (2-2) defeated Krasa 5-4, Erdely 5-4; Axelrod (1) defeated Vida 5-3; Bukantz (1-1) defeated Krasa 5-1.

Vida (3-1) defeated Shurtz 5-2, Blum 5-2, Sobel 5-2; Szabolcsy-Szmolar (2-2) defeated Bukantz 5-4, Shurtz 5-2; Krasa (1-3) defeated Sobel 5-1; Erdely (1-3) defeated Axelrod 5-3.

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1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, W. L. Osborn, Grand Central Terminal Bldg., N. Y. 17, N. Y. Editor, Miguel de Capriles, Brook Manor Lane, Pleasantville, N. Y. Managing Editor, Miguel de Capriles, Brook Manor Lane, Pleasantville, N. Y. Business Manager, W. L. Osborn, Room 2709, Grand Central Terminal Bldg., N. Y. 17, N. Y.

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4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.) Bi-monthly. (Signed) Jose R. de Capriles

(Signature of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner.)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of September 1955. Tanaya Katok, Notary Public. My commission expires 3/30/56.

#### NOTICE

Under the basic agreement governing the management of **American Fencing** as the official organ of the Amateur Fencers League of America, policy decisions are made by a board consisting of the elected national officers of the A.F.L.A. and the Editor and Publisher, and no individual derives any personal income or profit from the publication of the magazine. The policy board two years ago decided to grant Jose de Capriles a leave of absence from his position as Editor during his term of office as President of the League, and to assign his editorial duties to a Board of Editors. This arrangement, of course, remains in force during the 1955-56 season.

## AMERICAN FENCING

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W. L. Osborn, Publisher 2709 Grand Central Terminal New York 17, N. Y.	5 Brook Manor Pleasantville, N. Y.	R. Goldstein T. Jaekel M. de Capriles, Chairman	G. Acel L. Shaff

#### Contributing Staff

J. de Capriles, C. Ettinger, Z. J. Kaktins, M. Morse, N. Muray, S. Sieja. Cartoon by Ida Balint.

\* \* \* \* \*

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

A.F.L.A. members and other subscribers are reminded that under our second-class mailing permit, copies of American Fencing cannot be forwarded if incorrectly addressed. If you are not receiving your magazine, please report the fact, together with your correct address, to Mrs. W. J. Latzko, Recording Secretary, 9—62nd Street, West New York, New Jersey.

### GULF COAST CAPTURES CONN. TROPHY OUTRIGHT

The Gulf Coast Division, which tied with Southern California for the Connecticut Trophy last year, won it outright this year by a margin of four points. This coveted trophy is awarded annually to the division which does outstanding work during the year, as measured by five separate criteria. The results:

**Total Active and Collegiate Membership:** (1) Southern California; (2) Gulf Coast; (3) Northern California; (4) Michigan; (5) Maryland.

**Percentage Increase in Membership:** (1) Iowa; (2) North Texas; (3) Oregon; (4) Delaware; (5) Northern Ohio.

**Number of Competitions:** (1) Gulf Coast; (2) Western New York; (3) Southern California; (4) Northern California; (5) Oregon.

**Number of Competitors:** (1) Southern California; (2) Gulf Coast; (3) Western New York; (4) Northern California; (5) Oregon.

**Standing at Headquarters** (Best record for regular and efficient reports): (1) Oregon; (2) Gulf Coast; (3) Western New York; (4) Massachusetts; (5) Minnesota.

**Final Standing:** (1) Gulf Coast, 17 points; (2) Southern California, 13 points; (3) Oregon and Western New York, 10; (5) Northern California, 7; (6) North Texas and Iowa, 5.

### MONTREAL RESULTS

The popular Labor Day fencing tournament in Montreal attracted a record field in all events both from Canada and from the United States. The results:

**Foil:** (1) Sewall Shurtz; (2) Paul Makler; (3) Richard Dyer.

**Epee:** (1) Ed Brooke; (2) Carl Schwende; (3) Sewall Shurtz.

**Sabre:** (1) Richard Dyer; (2) John Erdelyi; (3) Paul Makler.

**Women:** (1) Louise Knab; (2) Judy Goodrich; (3) Anne Drungis.

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**RICHARD VERDERBER**

From Vienna comes the sad news of the death of Col. Richard Verderber at the age of 72. A great amateur before World War I, medalist in both foil and sabre at the 1911 World Championship in Ostende, third-place winner in the 1912 Olympic foil championship and member of the second-place Austrian sabre team, he became a professional after the fall of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy and coached the successful Austrian Olympic teams at Paris, Amsterdam and Berlin. He came to the United States as a visitor after World War II and worked painstakingly with our 1948 Olympic squad in preparation for the Games in London. It seems only yesterday that this quiet and lovable man, lean, bespectacled, modest, erect and agile despite his advanced years, stood hour after hour on the strip, struggling with his rather imperfect English to give every candidate for the team the benefit of his rich experience. And his gentle words for the neophyte: "First die hand, denn der foot," soon became the alternate name for this great swordsman, who took all friendly teasing with an endearing smile as proof of sincere affection. It was his fondest dream that he might return to stay with us permanently—a dream that unfortunately could not be realized in time.

Upon Verderber, after World War I, fell the mantle of the unforgettable Barbasetti, who had done for Austrian fencing what Italo Santelli achieved in Hungary. Charged with the development of the physical education program of the Austrian Army, Verderber became commander of the military school for gymnastics and fencing in Wiener Neustadt. His influence was decisive in obtaining acceptance of fencing as a sport in Austrian high schools and universities at a time when every other sport was not well regarded. Numerous coaches trained at Verderber's school spread fencing throughout Austria until that little country ranked among the best in Europe.

The coming of Hitler was an even greater catastrophe for Verderber than the fall of the monarchy. A man of outstanding morality and liberal thought, he refused to bow to the new order. Married to a charming lady who did not quite fulfill the new requirements of first-class citizenship, he suffered humiliations and tribulations by his wife's side until she was taken away to forced labor under the most trying conditions. For him the Nazi defeat was true liberation, and after the war he again sought consolation and new hope in his beloved fencing. But only after his sojourn in the United States did he find again a measure of contentment in his mission at home. He worked too hard against doctors' orders. He died with his boots on. Austria has lost a great citizen; the fencing world mourns one of its outstanding figures.

—Curtis Ettinger



JOSE DE CAPRILES

**PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL MESSAGE**

In a brief summary of our plans for the coming year, the training of our Olympic candidates is given the top spot. Our success in Mexico and Canada this past season upheld our prestige abroad, and the emergence of young talent at the National Championships is one of the most encouraging factors in our international position. Every Olympic year is also a year of major fund-raising problems. This time the problem is more acute than ever because Australia is a long way off, and the cost of sending our fencers to the Games will be the highest in history. There are two principal ways in which all the fencing centers in the United States can help: Each center should stage at least one "Olympic party" for this good cause; and every division should adopt the suggestion that has previously been made, that all entry fees carry a small tax to be turned over to the United States Olympic Fencing Committee at the end of the season.

On the home front our major project is to continue the encouraging growth of our membership. The past year we reached a new high, thanks largely to the increase in the metropolitan New York group; but we are still far from the level that the A.F.L.A. should have. A little more conscious effort by all of us is indicated. The 1955 national championship tournament reflected the sound and growing development of fencing throughout the country. We believe that the championships should be, as they have been this past year, a great "convention" of the fencers of the United States which will cement friendships and increase general interest in our sport. While present plans are for the 1956 tournament to be held in New York, we hope that in 1957 the championships will be held in Wisconsin, and that eventually we shall see a frequent rotation of this event to various parts of the country.

It is a pleasure to report a substantial improvement in the finances of the A.F.L.A. However, during the next two or three months we shall have to print a new edition of the Rules Book, and this will require practically all the funds at our disposal. It is our plan to broaden the utility of the Rules Book by incorporating expanded sections dealing with the purpose, scope, and organization of the League; instructions for requesting divisional charters; an outline of the duties of divisional officers and national committees; a general statement of policy covering the amateur code, exhibitions, etc.; a more detailed manual for judges and directors; and the Constitution and By-laws of the A.F.L.A. Any suggestions regarding this plan will be appreciated.

The operations of the A.F.L.A. require united effort by many individuals who are willing to sacrifice their time for the good of fencing. Our growth has been possible only because such persons have not been lacking in the past. I want to take this opportunity to thank the national officers, divisional officers, committee members and the many officials whose contributions to the sport are so seldom appreciated—and to close this annual message with a sincere wish that all of you will have a pleasant and successful fencing season.

—Jose de Capriles

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**WE NEED FUNDS**

The Olympic Team must raise more money than ever before for the Australian Games. Contributions are deductible from income tax. Make checks or money orders payable to the U. S. Olympic Fencing Committee and send to J. R. de Capriles, Ridgewood Terrace, Chappaqua, N. Y.

## Official AFSA Notes

By RALPH GOLDSTEIN, Secretary

### AFLA COMMITTEES 1955-56

**Executive Committee:** The President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Foreign Secretary, the last two Past-Presidents.

**Auditing:** Norman Lewis, Chairman; Sol Gorlin, James Strauch.

**Certificate of Merit:** Nickolas Muray, Chairman; Tracy Jaeckel, Leo Nunes.

**Constitutional:** Paul Makler, Chairman; Robert Blum, Peter Conomikes, Edmund Zeisig.

**Electrical Equipment:** Albert Axelrod, Chairman; Thomas Bickley, James Castello, Bela de Tuscan, George Santelli...

**(AFLA) Manual Committee:** Jose de Capriles, Chairman; James Flynn, Allan Kwartler, William Latzko, David Thorn-dike, Salvatore Vitale, George Worth.

**Metropolitan Executive Committee:** Daniel Bukantz, Chairman; Mrs. Betty Santelli, Secretary; Leo Sobel, Treasurer; Leo Nunes and Basil Whittingham.

**National Championship Arrangements:** Leo Sobel, Chairman; Ralph Goldstein, Edward Lucia, Martha Rothman.

**Publicity and Promotion:** Grace Acel, Chairman; James Flynn, Peter Tishman.

**Reinstatement:** George Worth, Chairman; Dorothy Friedman, Basil Whittingham.

**Rules:** Miguel de Capriles, Chairman; Ralph Goldstein, Alvar Hermanson, Tracy Jaeckel, Leo Nunes, Charles Schmitter, Stanley Sieja, Donald S. Thompson.

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### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Board of Governors has approved the comprehensive financial report submitted by Assistant Treasurer Leo Sobel. The following condensed statement sets out the highlights of the report:

#### Operating Statement, 1954-55

<b>Income:</b>		
National Dues .....	\$2,477.51	
Metropolitan Operations:		
Met. Dues .....	\$ 836.00	
Entry fees .....	1,515.80	
Misc. ....	154.74	
Income .....	2,506.54	
Expense .....	937.42	1,518.17
American Fencing Operations:		
Subscriptions ...	2,104.91	
Advertising ....	1,185.00	
Income .....	3,289.91	
Expense .....	3,156.50	133.31
Miscellaneous Income .....		554.38
Total Income .....		4,683.37
<b>Expense:</b>		
Nat. Office Expense:		
Nat. Championships (net)....	1,012.68	
Stationery, Printing, Postage .....	760.40	
Salaries, Rec. Secretary .....	600.00	
Insurance .....	76.25	1,436.65
F.I.E. Dues .....	250.00	
Olympic Dues .....	50.00	
Total Expense .....	2,749.33	
Net Income, 1954-55 .....	\$1,934.04	

#### Balance Sheet, August 31, 1955

<b>Assets:</b>		
Cash in Banks ....	\$8,340.83	
Accts. Receivable..	809.29	
Deferred Charges..	115.00	
Total Assets .....		9,265.12
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Nat. Championship Rotating Fund ....	\$2,057.88	
Inter. Fund .....	2,886.19	
Deferred Income ..	111.35	
Accts. Payable ....	753.50	
Total Liabilities .....		5,808.92
<b>General Reserve:</b>		
Bal. Sept. 1, '54..	\$1,797.53	
Exp. Applicable to 1953-54 ....	275.37	
Adjusted Bal. ...	1,522.16	
Net Income for 1954-55 .....	1,934.04	
Total General Reserve ...		3,456.20

### DIVISIONS

**Hudson-Berkshire Division:** The Board has approved a request for the chartering of a new division with jurisdiction over the area encompassed within a 55-mile radius of Albany, New York. The new Hudson-Berkshire Division extends westward from Albany to the outskirts of Schenectady, northward to Canada, southward to Kingston; the exact eastward boundary, which would reach into western Massachusetts and a small corner of northwest Connecticut, will be determined by the Board after consultation with the New England and Connecticut Divisions.

**Long Island Division:** The Board has approved the reactivation of the Long Island Division, with jurisdiction over Nassau and Suffolk counties, New York.

**New England Division:** A request received by the Board to change the name of the New England Division to "Massachusetts Division" was denied because the division's membership includes residents of other New England states who oppose the change of name.

**Washington, D. C. and Maryland Divisions:** A committee has been appointed to clarify and define the territorial jurisdiction of the Washington Division under its charter provisions which include the areas "adjacent and suburban to" Washington, D. C., insofar as the territory of the Maryland Division is concerned. The committee consists of Bernard Udel, Chairman, Scott Breckinridge, Peter Conomikes, Ruth Pergrande, Abbie Rose and Calvert Schlick.

**Metropolitan New York Division:** In view of the introduction of the Constitutional Amendments designed to establish a metropolitan New York Division if approved at the 1956 annual meeting, the Metropolitan Committee of the Board of Governors will function experimentally as if it were an independent division during 1955-1956. This will facilitate transition if the proposed amendments are adopted.

### 1956 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Board approved the dates of June 7 through June 15 for the 1956 National Championship Tournament, to be held in New York. An effort will be made to schedule the entire tournament at one place, preferably a hotel, with a minimum of four strips available at all times and six for individual preliminary rounds.

Entry fees for the nationals will be increased to \$5 for individual events and \$10 for team events, in order to defray the cost of medals and operating expenses other than locale.

**Notes:** (1) The subscriptions to American Fencing include \$1.00 per member charged against national dues; (2) International Fund includes \$750 received from Ford Foundation for Omnibus TV show, and payment of \$1750 to U. S. Olympic Committee toward Pan-American team expenses; (3) Expenses applicable to 1953-54 are chiefly F.I.E. dues for 1953-54 omitted from statement published in October 1954.

**ELECTRICAL FOIL**

The Foreign Secretary reported that a large majority of the world-ranking foils-men in France and Italy are severely critical of the electrical foil, and have publicly stated that it materially changes the foil game.

Miguel de Capriles observed that the fundamental weakness of the European foil machine is its immobility. When the fencers move from the center toward the ends of the strip, it is impossible for the director to tell on which action the touch, good or foul, was made. The improved accuracy in determining the materiality of hits is counterbalanced by more mistakes on the part of the director on the question of validity. A possible solution would be to place the machine on rollers or wheels, and requiring the apparatus manager to move the machine so that it is always directly across the strip from the director. The de Tuscan devices for registering hits on an attachment to the mask are superior in this respect. The demands of the top European fencers for better weapons can easily be met by the use of American tubular blades.

**RULE CHANGES**

In order to conform the A.F.L.A. rules to those of the F.I.E., the Board of Governors has approved the following changes:

**Epee:** All national and metropolitan competitions are to be held for **five touches**.

**Time Limits:** Rule 513 is amended so that the time-limit for five-touch epee bouts is **10 minutes** (same as for three touches).

**Scoring, all weapons:** The American practice of scoring touches "for" the successful contestant is eliminated. Hereafter touches will be scored "against" the fencer who is hit. (This is the rule in every other country). Rule 508 is amended accordingly. The example on page 93 (1951 edition of rules book) will be modified, as will the language of other rules concerning scoring method. There is no change in the method of resolving ties by touch count.

**Off-side Penalties: Sabre and Epee.** The ground rules are amended to increase the off-side penalty in sabre and epee from one meter to two meters (Rule 427). The one meter penalty for going off the side of the strip in foil remains unchanged.

**NATIONAL RANKINGS**

The Board of Governors has approved the following national rankings for the 1955-1956 fencing season:

**Women**

1. Maxine Mitchell Hollywood A.C.
2. Louise Knab Dyer Salle Santelli
3. Eve G. Siegel Salle Santelli
4. Ida Balint Salties Club
5. Judy Goodrich Lapeer H. S.
6. Mildred Boyce Fencers Club
7. Tommy Angell Halberstadt S.F.
8. Anne Drungis Salle Santelli
9. Shirley Canter Funke F.A.
10. (Betty Santelli Salle Santelli  
(Dorothy Stack Fencers Club  
(Alice Gerakin Faulkner S.F.

**Foil**

1. Albert Axelrod Salle Santelli
2. Daniel Bukantz Fencers Club
3. Harold Goldsmith Fencers Club
4. Silvio Giolito New York A.C.
5. Nathaniel Lubell Fencers Club
6. Herman Velasco Central Illinois
7. Leonard Turk Salle Santelli
8. Allan Kwartler Salle Santelli
9. Ralph Goldstein Salle Santelli
10. (Daniel Lyons D.C. Fencers Club  
(Charles Steinhardt U.S. Air Force  
(Paul T. Makler Salle Csiszar

**Epee**

1. Abram Cohen Fencers Club
2. Frank Bavuso Fencers Club
3. Sewall Shurtz U.S. Navy
4. Richard Berry U.S. Navy
5. Herman Wallner Fencers Club
6. Paul DeMoge New England
7. Allan Hoffman Princeton
8. Ralph Goldstein Salle Santelli
9. Thomas Bickley Salle Santelli
10. (William J. Andre U.S. Navy  
(Werner Kirchner Cavaliers  
(Alfred Skrobisch Fencers Club

**Sabre**

1. R. Richard Dyer Salle Csiszar
2. Sol Gorlin Salle Santelli
3. Jose de Capriles Fencers Club
4. Barry Pariser Columbia
5. Tibor Nyilas Salle Santelli
6. George V. Worth Salle Santelli
7. Allan Kwartler Salle Santelli
8. Alex Treves Salle Santelli
9. Michel Mamlouk New York A.C.
10. (Nickolas Muray New York A.C.  
(Arthur Spingarn Fencers Club

**MEMBERSHIP - 1954-55 SEASON**

	Student	Collegiate	Associate	Active	Total
Metropolitan	59	102	32	140	333
Kansas City	—	1	—	2	3
Non-divisional	59	103	32	142	336
Arizona	22	15	—	4	41
Border	8	16	—	4	41
Central Illinois	41	9	3	6	59
Columbus (Ohio)	1	19	2	1	23
Connecticut	11	15	—	20	46
Delaware	—	—	2	7	9
Florida	—	—	—	10	10
Georgia	—	1	—	8	9
Gulf Coast	14	62	1	12	89
Harrisburg (Pa.)	9	1	—	11	21
Illinois	35	29	4	30	98
Iowa	17	8	—	4	29
Kentucky	8	8	—	15	31
Maryland	42	29	5	31	107
Miami Valley (Ohio)	2	—	1	9	12
Michigan	10	22	2	48	82
Mid-New York	—	1	—	5	6
Minnesota	4	15	—	19	38
Nebraska	1	10	—	5	16
New England	13	32	5	22	72
New Jersey	31	36	7	17	91
Northern California	11	31	3	39	84
Northern Ohio	1	17	1	25	44
North Texas	12	42	—	15	69
Oregon	38	24	3	15	80
Philadelphia (Pa.)	12	34	2	19	67
Seattle (Wash.)	—	7	1	19	27
Southern California	15	23	17	118	173
Spokane (Wash.)	—	4	—	5	9
St. Louis (Mo.)	1	3	—	12	16
Tennessee	4	9	—	12	25
Washington (D.C.)	—	2	—	16	18
Westchester	2	2	2	28	34
Western New York	38	30	2	29	99
Wisconsin	13	16	1	24	54
Totals	475	675	96	816	2062
Life Members	—	—	—	—	18
Grand Total	—	—	—	—	2080

No Report: New Orleans, South Florida.

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# 1955 - 56 Metropolitan

**Entries:** Mrs. Betty Santelli, Secretary, Metropolitan Committee, 125 Christopher St., New York 14, N. Y., 10 days in advance.

## October

- 8—Sat.  
1 p.m. FOIL. Olympic Qualifying Tryout. New York A. C. \$1.75.
- 15—Sat.  
1 p.m. EPEE. Olympic Qualifying Tryout. New York A.C. \$2.75.
- 16—Sun.  
1 p.m. **SABRE TEAM.** Novice. J. M. Castello trophy and prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$3.00.
- 22—Sat.  
1 p.m. SABRE. Olympic Qualifying Tryout. New York A. C. \$1.75.
- 23—Sun.  
noon **EPEE TEAM.** Novice. Jose de Capriles trophy and prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$6.00.
- 29—Sat.  
noon **FOIL TEAM.** Novice. Dernel Every trophy and prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$3.00.
- 30—Sun.  
1 p.m. **SABRE.** Seniors and Intermediates only. Direct elimination final. Nickolas Murray medals. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.

## November

- 5—Sat.  
1 p.m. **FOIL.** High School Individual. Edward Lucia prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** 50¢
- 6—Sun.  
1 p.m. **EPEE.** Seniors and Intermediates only. Direct elimination final. Tracy Jaekel prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$2.75.
- 8—Tues.  
7:30 p.m. **WOMEN'S TEAM.** Novice. George Santelli trophy and prizes. **Salle Santelli.** \$3.00.
- 11—Fri.  
7:30 p.m. Finals of Nov. 8 competition if necessary, same place.
- 12—Sat.  
1 p.m. **FOIL.** Seniors and Intermediates only. Direct elimination final with **electrical weapons.** Warren A. Dow prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.75.
- 17—Thurs.  
7 p.m. **WOMEN.** Olympic Qualifying Tryout. Rohdes Academy. \$1.75.
- 19—Sat.  
1 p.m. **WOMEN.** Seniors and Intermediates only. Direct elimination final with **electrical weapons.** Helena M. Dow prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.75.
- 20—Sun.  
noon **EPEE TEAM.** Intermediate. Alfred Skrobisch prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$8.25.
- 29—Tues.  
7 p.m. **FOIL.** Prep. Leo G. Nunes prizes. **Rohdes Academy.** \$1.00.

## December

- 1—Thurs.  
7 p.m. **WOMEN.** Prep. Evelyn Van Buskirk prizes. **Rohdes Academy.** \$1.00.
- 4—Sun.  
noon FOIL. Olympic Tryout. Limited. New York A. C. \$1.75.
- 8—Thurs.  
7 p.m. **SABRE TEAM.** Intermediate. George Worth prizes. **New York University.** \$5.25.
- 10—Sat.  
noon **FOIL TEAM.** Intermediate. Curtis Ettinger prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$5.25
- 11—Sun.  
noon EPEE. Olympic Tryout. Limited. New York A. C. \$2.75.
- 17—Sat.  
Women's Intercollegiate Invitation. Hunter College.
- 18—Sun.  
noon SABRE. Olympic Tryout. Limited. New York A. C. \$1.75.
- 28—Wed.  
1 p.m. **FOIL.** Intercollegiate Individual. Limit of four per college. James Murray trophy and Albert Axelrod prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$1.25.

## January

- 5—Thurs.  
7 p.m. **WOMEN'S TEAM.** Intermediate. Dolly Funke prizes. **New York University.** \$5.25.
- 8—Sun.  
noon **EPEE.** Novice. Robert Driscoll prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$2.00.
- 14—Sat.  
noon **FOIL.** Novice. John R. Huffman prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.00.
- 21—Sat.  
1 p.m. **SABRE.** Novice. Norman C. Armitage prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.00.
- 22—Sun.  
1 p.m. **WOMEN.** Olympic Tryout. Limited. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- 26—Thurs.  
7 p.m. **WOMEN.** Novice. Madeline Dalton prizes. **New York University.** \$1.00.
- 29—Fri.  
7 p.m. **THREE WEAPON** Individual. Direct elimination. President's medals. **Salle Santelli.** \$2.75.

## February

- 4—Sat.  
10:30 a.m. **FOIL TEAM.** Junior. Joseph Levis prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$4.50.
- 5—Sun.  
1 p.m. FOIL. Olympic Tryout. Limited. New York A. C. \$1.75.
- 11—Sat.  
10:30 a.m. **EPEE TEAM.** Junior. Ralph Goldstein prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$7.50.
- 12—Sun.  
noon EPEE. Olympic Tryout. Limited. New York A. C. \$2.75.
- 18—Sat.  
1 p.m. **SABRE TEAM.** Junior. James Montague trophy and Daniel Bukantz prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$4.50.
- 19—Sun.  
noon SABRE. Olympic Tryout. Limited. New York A. C. \$1.75.
- 22—Wed.  
10 a.m. **EPEE TEAM.** Open. Special rules. Washington Square Cup and A.F.L.A. medals. **Fencers Club.** \$8.25.
- 24—Fri.  
7 p.m. **WOMEN'S TEAM.** Junior. Eve C. Siegel prizes. **Salle Santelli.** \$4.50.
- 28—Tues.  
7:30 p.m. Finals of Feb. 24 event, if necessary. Same place.

## March

- 2—Fri.  
7 p.m. **EPEE-SABRE TEAM.** Open. A. S. Lyon trophy and A.F.L.A. medals. **Salle Santelli.** \$5.50.
- 3—Sat.  
noon **FOIL TEAM.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A. C.** \$5.25.
- 9-10—Fri.-Sat.  
Eastern Intercollegiate Championships. New York.
- 11—Sun.  
1 p.m. **WOMEN.** Int'mediate. Nathaniel Lubell prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- 15—Thurs.  
7 p.m. **THREE WEAPON TEAM.** Special rules. Honeycutt trophy and Henry Breckinridge prizes. **New York University.** \$6.25.
- 17—Sat.  
noon **EPEE TEAM.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A. C.** \$8.25.
- 23-24—Fri.-Sat.  
N.C.A.A. Championships. Annapolis, Md.
- 24—Sat.  
1 p.m. **WOMEN.** Open. Maria C. Tishman prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.75.
- 31—Sat.  
noon **WOMEN'S TEAM.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A. C.** \$5.25.

# Schedule

## April

- 7—Sat.  
10 a.m. **SABRE TEAM.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A. C.** \$5.25.
- 8—Sun.  
10:30 a.m. **FOIL.** Intermediate. Austin Prokop prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- 14—Sat.  
15—Sun.  
10:30 a.m. **WOMEN'S Intercollegiate Championships.**
- 21—Sat.  
noon **EPEE.** Intermediate. James Strauch prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$2.75.
- 22—Sun.  
10:30 a.m. **SABRE.** Intermediate. Allan Kwartler prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.75.
- 28—Sat.  
10 a.m. **WOMEN.** Metropolitan Championships and qualifying round for Nationals. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- 29—Sun.  
noon **FOIL.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- WOMEN.** Junior. Marion Lloyd Vince prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$1.50.

## May

- 5—Sat.  
10 a.m. **EPEE.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A.C.** \$2.75.
- 12—Sat.  
10 a.m. **SABRE.** Metropolitan Championship and qualifying round for Nationals. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- 13—Sun.  
10:30 a.m. **EPEE.** Junior. Norman Lewis prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$2.50.
- 19—Sat.  
noon **FOIL.** Junior. Silvio Giolito prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.50.
- 20—Sun.  
1 p.m. **SABRE.** Masters. Limited to sabre Olympians, winners of national sabre championship, medalists in more than one national sabre championship, and Associate members of the AFLA who teach fencing. George Santelli trophy and Salle Santelli prizes. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- 26—Sat.  
noon **SABRE.** Junior. Tibor Nyilas prizes. **Saltus-McBurney YMCA.** \$1.50.
- 27—Sun.  
1 p.m. **FOIL.** Masters. Limited to foil Olympians, winners of national foil championship, medalists in more than one national foil championship, and Associate members of the AFLA who teach fencing. Rene Pinchart trophy and Fencers Club medals. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.

## June

- 2—Sat.  
1 p.m. **EPEE.** Masters. Limited to epee Olympians, winners of national epee championship, medalists in more than one national epee championship, and Associate members of the AFLA who teach fencing. Sanford Saltus trophy and Miguel de Capriles medals. **Fencers Club.** \$2.75.
- 7-15  
Thurs. to Fri. **National Championship Tournament.** New York City.
- 17—Sun. **EPEE.** Outdoor Championship. Place to be announced.
- 24—Sun. **SABRE.** Outdoor Championship. Place to be announced.

## COMPETITIONS HELD AT

- Fencers Club,** 320 E. 53d St. (Cork-linoleum strips)
- New York A. C.,** 180 Central Park So. (Cork-linoleum and rubber strips)
- New York University** (East Building), 239 Greene St. (Rubber strips)
- Rohdes Academy,** 169 E. 86th St. (above theater lobby). (Rubber strips)
- Saltus-McBurney YMCA,** 215 W. 23d St. (Rubber strips)

## 1955-56 OLYMPIC TRYOUTS

(Entries must be sent to Jose de Capriles, Chairman, Olympic Fencing Committee, Ridgewood Terrace, Chappaqua, New York.)

### East Coast

- October 8  
Sat., 1 p.m. **FOIL, Qualifying Round.** Olympic foil squad excused. D. Bukantz in charge. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- October 15  
Sat., 1 p.m. **EPEE, Qualifying Round.** Olympic epee squad excused. R. Goldstein in charge. **New York A. C.** \$2.75.
- October 22  
Sat., 1 p.m. **SABRE, Qualifying Round.** Olympic sabre squad excused. G. Worth in charge. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- November 17  
Thurs., 7 p.m. **WOMEN, Qualifying Round.** Olympic squad excused. Grace Acel in charge. **Rohdes Academy.** \$1.75.
- December 4  
Sun., noon **FOIL.** Limited to foil squad and qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- December 11  
Sun., noon **EPEE.** Limited to epee squad and qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **New York A. C.** \$2.75.
- December 18  
Sun., noon **SABRE.** Limited to sabre squad and qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- January 22  
Sun., noon **WOMEN.** Limited to squad and qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- February 5  
Sun., 1 p.m. **FOIL.** Limited to foil squad qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- February 12  
Sun., noon **EPEE.** Limited to epee squad and qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **New York A. C.** \$2.75.
- February 19  
Sun., noon **SABRE.** Limited to sabre squad and qualifiers. J. de Capriles in charge. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- April 22  
Sun., 10:30 a.m. **WOMEN.** Metropolitan Championship. Open. **Fencers Club.** \$1.75.
- April 28  
Sat., 10 a.m. **FOIL.** Metropolitan Championship. Open. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- May 5  
Sat., 10 a.m. **EPEE.** Metropolitan Championship. Open. **New York A. C.** \$2.75.
- May 12  
Sat., 10 a.m. **SABRE.** Metropolitan Championship. Open. **New York A. C.** \$1.75.
- June 7-15 **National Championships,** New York. (All Weapons)

## RULES FOR METROPOLITAN COMPETITIONS

**Entries,** team and individual, must be filed with the Metropolitan Secretary, **Mrs. Betty Santelli, 125 Christopher St., New York 14, N. Y.,** not less than 10 days before the date scheduled for the event. Clubs may file as many team entries as they wish in team events. Team entries may be charged by the Fencers Club, Saltus-McBurney, New York A.C., and N.Y.U. Individual entries may be charged by New York A.C. and N.Y.U. All other entries must be accompanied by the proper entry fee. Checks or money orders should be made payable to the Amateur Fencers League of America.

**Competitors** must report to the Bout Committee at least 15 minutes prior to starting time and must be ready to fence when called. Teams having only two members at scheduled starting time will be compelled to fence the first match with only those two members. **Upon entering a competition each fencers obligates himself to remain to the end of the contest, to assist in judging and directing, unless excused by the Bout Committee.**

**Equipment** must conform strictly to the rules. Uniform, mask, and glove must be clean and in good condition. Anyone wearing defective or unsafe equipment will be denied the right to compete. **All contestants must have not less than two acceptable weapons at the start of the competition.** All epee events are held with the electrical weapon.

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## DIVISIONAL . . .

### OLYMPIC EXHIBITION IN BUFFALO

To help raise funds for the 1956 U. S. Olympic Fencing Team, the Western New York Division is sponsoring a fencing exhibition and competition at the Jewish Center, Buffalo, on the evening of October 22, 1955. Coach George Santelli, some members of the Olympic squad and other students of Salle Santelli will participate, along with the men and women fencers of Western New York. Mr. Santelli will demonstrate the various weapons by means of exhibition lessons, and a picked team from Western New York will attempt to upset the Olympians in an exhibition match. Visiting fencers and all other interested persons are cordially invited. The objective is to raise a substantial sum of money to be presented to the Olympic Committee. Donations may be sent to Miss Fran Breton, Secretary, Western New York AFLA, 2665 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York.

### NEW ENGLAND DIVISION SCHEDULE

November 6—2 p.m.—FOIL. Prep. Norfolk House Center, 14 John Eliot Sq., Roxbury.  
November 12—1:30 p.m.—WOMEN. Prep. YWCA, Cambridge.  
November 13 — 2 p.m. — SABRE. Prep. M.I.T., Cambridge.  
November 20—2 p.m.—EPEE. Prep. M.I.T., Cambridge.  
December 3—1:30 p.m.—WOMEN. Novice. Norfolk House Center.  
December 10—1:30 p.m.—WOMEN. Handicap. Place to be announced.  
December 11 — 2 p.m. — FOIL. Novice. M.I.T., Cambridge.  
January 15 — 2 p.m. — SABRE. Novice. M.I.T., Cambridge.

—Z. J. Kaktins

### WISCONSIN DIVISION SCHEDULE

November 27—Chicago v. Wisconsin, Chicago.  
December 10—U. of Wisconsin v. Shorewood, Shorewood H.S., 12 noon.  
January 7—U. of Wisconsin v. Shorewood, Madison; 22—Women's Novice, Downtown YMCA, 1 p.m.; 29 — Women's Closed, Downtown YMCA, 1 p.m.  
February 12 — Santelli Tri-Division Trophy (Chicago, Minnesota, Wisconsin), Shorewood H.S., 1 p.m.; 26—Three-Weapon, Shorewood H.S., 1:30 p.m.  
March 10—Foil Novice, Wauwatosa H.S., 10 a.m.; 17—Epee Novice (noon) and Sabre Novice (2 p.m.), Wauwatosa H.S.; 25—Foil Closed, Downtown YMCA, 11 a.m.  
April 15 — Women's Open, Downtown YMCA, 1 p.m.; 28—Epee Open, Shorewood H.S., 11 a.m.; 28—Sabre Open, Shorewood H.S., 2 p.m.; 29—Foil Open, Shorewood H.S., noon.  
May 17 — Divisional Business Meeting, Downtown YMCA, 7:30 p.m.; 20—Women's Prep (1 p.m.) and Foil Prep (2 p.m.) Downtown YMCA; 26—Annual Awards Party.

### Gulf Coast

By Mabel Morse

The opening event of the season, the W. A. Franks Memorial Invitational Meet, was held on Sunday, September 25, at Galveston. The results were:

**Open Sabre** (14 entries): (1) W. T. Brown, Buc., 5-0; (2) Jack Baird, Buc., 3-2, 16 t.r.; (3) Fred Sklor, Rice, 3-2, 19 t.r.

**Women's Open:** (5 entries): (1) Ruth Rickard, HFC, 4-0; (2) Nancy Derrick, SdE, 3-1; (3) Mable Morse, SdE, 2-2.

The following invitational meets are planned for the season: October 1, Foil and Women's Open, Root Park, 1416 Clay, Houston; October 29, Foil and Women's Open, at Corpus Christi "Y"; November 19, Three Weapon Individual, Texas AGM; March 17, Women's Open, One-touch Electrical Epee, Sabre Open, Root Square Park.

### Texas

Fencing was the dominating theme of fall fashions offered by Frost Brothers of San Antonio. Through the courtesy of Nickolas Muray, the famous photographer and fencer, about two dozen action pictures taken at the Pan American Games were displayed on the store windows and at the fashion shows. An intensive advertising campaign in the local press featured photographs and line drawings setting off fencing in excellent taste, and keeping to the letter and spirit of the amateur code.



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### DYER-KNAB NUPTIALS

On Saturday, September 17, at noon, R. Richard Dyer, of Philadelphia, national sabre champion, and Louise J. Knab, of New York, runner-up for the women's title, became man and wife. The wedding ceremony took place at The Little Church Around the Corner, and a reception followed at the New Weston Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Dyer plan to reside in Philadelphia and to win places on the 1956 Olympic fencing team.



FENCING RULES:

**THE RIGHT OF WAY  
(The Attack and Extended Arm)**

By Miguel de Capriles, Chairman,  
A.F.L.A. Rules Committee

On September 1, I was asked by the National Fencing Coaches Association of America to clarify the rules governing the right of way on the attack, with particular reference to the question of the extended arm. The reason for this invitation was two-fold: (1) I had stated at one of the sessions of the directors' school that there is nothing in the rules today to require a fully extended arm on the attack; and (2) certain practices which seemed to be developing in directing matches so that any forward movement of the weapon was considered an attack and entitled to the right of way, contrary to traditional understanding of the rules.

First, let me explain that the rules, both international and American, have undergone changes of language, and some changes of theory, in the course of years. The trend has been in line with the view expressed in the Preface to the 1951 Rules Book—that the rules are not designed to teach fencing technique or to embody the theories of any one school of fencing. Some of the past history of the rules may be interesting in this connection.

When the F.I.E. was formed in 1913, it appointed a distinguished group of fencers to draft the first world-wide international rules. These were adopted in 1914. At that time, foil fencing was done on a narrow and short strip and at close quarters. The rules provided: "In the event of a double touch . . . the attacker alone is touched if he does not effectively deviate his opponent's point by an action against the blade which threatens valid target and is held in line by the opponent with a fully extended arm. In effect the extended arm is similar to a feint, and the opponent before moving forward must successfully deviate the threatening point." This rule is still with us today in principle. In 1931 it was amended to read: "If the attack begins while the opponent is **in line** (i.e. with arm extended and the point threatening valid target), the attacker must first deviate . . ." Note that the reference to the "full" extension of the arm in line has been eliminated.

On the correctness of the attack, the 1914 F.I.E. Rules provided: "In the event of a double touch . . . the defender alone is touched if, without protecting himself, he makes an extension against a simple attack which is correctly executed, that is, with a full extension of the arm before the front foot moves forward."

This rule was eliminated in 1931, and has not been in effect for nearly 25 years. There is **no definition whatever** in the F.I.E. rules as to how the attack must be made from the point of view of fencing form. In 1931, the rules were redrafted so that the correctness of the attack depended on whether the opponent was "in line" or was offering an "invitation" (not defined). In 1950, the reference to the opponent's invitation was eliminated. The rules today define the correctness of the attack only

in terms of whether or not the opponent is "in line."

The history of the United States rules is even more enlightening. Although the A.F.L.A. had voted to adopt the 1914 F.I.E. rules at its annual meeting in 1915, the rules were not received for some years due to World War I. Thus we find in the 1917 rules book the following: "A touch made with a bent arm on the original attack shall not count." But by 1924 the rule had been eliminated, so that a touch made on a bent-arm attack was good unless the attacker was also hit. The rule then was that a full extension of the arm is a "necessary preliminary to a valid attack" (for purposes of the right of way). In 1928, the A.F.L.A. for the first time adopted a rules book which truly translated the F.I.E. rules of 1914, and included the indirect reference to the extended arm prior to the forward foot movement previously mentioned. In 1933, the A.F.L.A. rules followed the 1931 F.I.E. rules, and eliminated all mention of the extended arm as a prerequisite to a valid attack for purposes of the right of way. Since 1940, the A.F.L.A. rules have carefully adopted F.I.E. changes, so that the 1951 rules book followed the F.I.E. in eliminating all reference to the defender's "invitation."

Another change, both in the F.I.E. and the A.F.L.A. rules, is of interest in this connection. In 1914, the international rules provided: "If the two opponents are on guard with extended arms, the double touch is counted against the one who does not parry—by analogy to the result when the opponents are on guard with bent arms." This rule continued until 1931, when it was eliminated. The reason is clear: It is inconsistent with the letter and the spirit of the principal requirement of any attack against an opponent who is in line. The A.F.L.A. rules book of 1928 retains the 1914 draft on this point; the rules book of 1933 follows the 1931 ruling of the F.I.E. And our rules today make it clear that the requirement of a beat against the point in line applies even if the attacker is also "in line" at the start of the attack.

It may seem that rules changes have rough going in being fully understood and observed in the United States; but the situation is not any different in Europe. At the Olympic Games in Helsinki, a number of the top-ranked F.I.E. directors were still 20 years behind the times in their interpretation of the decision to be rendered when both the attacker and the defender are "in line" at the start of the attack.

Now, what does that mean in practice about the extension of the arm on the attack? It means that the right of way does not depend on the fencer's form, but on something else. The F.I.E. has never defined the theory; the A.F.L.A. has attempted to do so in light of the best practice at the Olympic Games. Our 1951 rules book defines the attack as a "forward movement of the weapon . . . which constitutes an **imminent offensive** threat to the opponent's valid target."

If we read the **whole** definition, you will note that it is not "any" forward movement that constitutes an attack. There must be an **imminent offensive** threat. In practice, therefore, the custom of fencing teachers of requiring the student to extend the

arm on the attack is still correct. That is the most clear-cut method of threatening the opponent's target, and it has the great advantage of making it easy for the director to get a sense of the initiative taken by the attacker.

About the only difference from the older rules is this: The present rules would place upon the defender the duty of parrying even if the attacker's arm is not fully extended, so long as the point of the foil is moving on a horizontal plane toward the defender's target in a manner that constitutes an imminent threat. If there is no imminent threat, there is no attack. Notice also the rule which requires a continued threat in the attacks in two or more tempos.

It is a mistake, therefore, to assume that the rule changes have made obsolete the teachings of the masters of the French and Italian schools concerning the attack. All that the present rules recognize is that the threatening point may move toward the target either through an extension of the arm, or by a movement forward of the body and legs, or a combination of both. And the fencer who follows the orthodox method will have fewer "bad breaks" than the sea-lawyer looking for loopholes in the rules.

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Inactive Divisions: Alaska, Birmingham, Cincinnati, Colorado, Hawaii, Pittsburgh, Rhode Island, San Diego, Sacramento, Utah and West Point.

#### Notice to Divisional Secretaries

Beginning with the next issue, American Fencing will publish the customary "National Calendar" for the next following two or three months. Please be sure to send in your Divisional Schedule, and report any changes in time for inclusion in the calendar.



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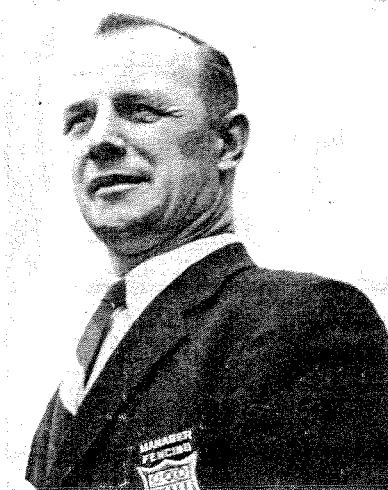
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# Advice to Olympic Candidates

By Stanley S. Sieja  
Manager, 1952 Olympic Fencing Team

Although the 1956 Olympic Games are a year away, it is time for all serious candidates for the U. S. Olympic Fencing Team to start training. Of course, fencing is a sport that we do for the sheer joy it gives us, but when we try for a place on an Olympic team, we also have an obligation to fulfill to ourselves, our teammates, our coaches, our country. It is not enough to make the team; after we make it, we have a responsibility to represent those who have faith in us to the best of our athletic ability. This means that we must be physically, mentally, and technically prepared to meet our opponents on the fencing strip.

The technical preparation is a joint effort of the competitor and his coach; but the mental and physical preparation is almost entirely the responsibility of the competitor. It is wrong to say, "When I make the Olympic team, I will start my training." Physical preparation and conditioning is not a matter that can be done in a few days or even a few weeks. It is a process of diligent effort for months. You cannot defy nature. It takes at least ninety days to remove the unnecessary fat successfully without injuring one's athletic stamina, without weakening one's physical efficiency. It takes a minimum of thirty days to change the entire blood system in one's body. Nature sets the time limit; you can stimulate or decrease the speed of the process, but you cannot radically upset the time table. You can fool yourself that you are in condition; you can convince your coach or trainer; but you will never convince your opponent. To him, you must prove it.



Most athletes do not understand what athletic fatigue really is. Let me explain it this way: When you run up and down the stairs for several hours, you pass through several stages of fatigue. The first time you run up and down, you will perform the exercise with agility, good coordination, speed and efficiency. After several trips, you think you are not tired; you know that you can make more trips; but you start to lose efficiency, and at this point you are no longer at your best. Eventually you

do feel tired; nature complains in the form of ache and pains. This is complete exhaustion; in this condition you are good only for rest and sleep. You have gone far beyond the period of tiredness from the athletic viewpoint. No athlete should reach this point of exhaustion under normal conditions of competition. He must train to maintain his physical efficiency, so as to be able to perform effectively for the equivalent of many trips up and down the stairs. That is why we must condition our bodies for all competitive sports.

If you are interested in proper training procedures, please write to me at Princeton University, and I will send you a pamphlet on Training and Physical Conditioning for the Olympics.

## MEDITERRANEAN GAMES

The 11 Mediterranean Games, held at Barcelona July 18-23, were an outstanding success. The participating countries were: Egypt, France, Italy, Monaco, Spain and Turkey. The results:

**Foil Team:** (1) France; (2) Italy; (3) Egypt; (4) Monaco.

**Foil Individual:** (1) D'Oriola, France; (2) Mangiarotti, Italy; (3) Lucarelli, Italy.

**Epee Team:** (1) France; (2) Italy; (3) Egypt; (4) Spain.

**Epee Individual:** (1) Pavesi, Italy; (2) Delfino, Italy; (3) Anglesio, Italy.

**Sabre Team:** (1) Italy; (2) France; (3) Egypt; (4) Spain.

**Sabre Individual:** (1) Lefevre, France; (2) Ferrari, Italy; (3) Dare, Italy.

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