

photo by Gradkowski

Albert Axelrod, center, receives the Helms Hall of Fame Award from Mike DeCicco, President of the National Fencing Coaches Association of America and Stephen B. Sobel, President of the Amateur Fencers League of America, at the Gala held Saturday November 10 at the Fencers Club of New York.

(SEE PAGE 4)

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EDITORIAL

Why do you fence? For exercise? For competition? For your school, your club, your country? For social contacts? For the thrill of combat? For fun?

Yes, these and other reasons as well. However, all too often the aspect of "Sportsmanship" is overlooked. Particularly in competition.

Every competitor is required to do his best to win. No quarter is expected from an opponent, but only one will emerge victorious and the victor should win graciously as his opponent should lose gracefully.

Sportsmanship must also be extended to the officials, even if they make mistakes. And you may be sure they make fewer than the fencers! And if the competitors fence in a sportsmanlike way, with respect and good manners towards all, the fencing as well as the officiating will be better. Fencing will be more enjoyable, it will be fun, and after all, that's what it's all about!

NEW RULES BOOK

The new official AFLA Rules Book will be imminently available. Fencers and fencing Officials are reminded that there are many new rules changes which should be studied to keep themselves up to date. An order form for the new Rules Book will be found on page 31 of this issue.

CORRECTION

In our last issue in the story about the World University Games the name of team coach Alfred R. Peredo was incorrectly spelled. We regret the error.

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A VIEW FROM THE TOP (141 Years of Fencing)

by Alex Solomon

Whenever you have a chance to talk with Giorgio Santelli and Leo Nunes whom a high percentage of fencers regard as the greatest coach and the greatest fencer we have known in this country, and to comb their 141 years of fencing experience for observations and reminiscences, you are more than likely to uncover some memorable facts and opinions. Such a fortunate occasion became the rare pleasure of Ralph Goldstein and myself as we all sat down to lunch in the midst of the Martini Rossi sabre.

The first type of conversation naturally was sabre; modern sabre, which was regarded by Giorgio as inferior to that of the past, and at best as less interesting by Leo. The great masters like Pessina, Merignac, Parise, and Kirchoffer are all dead and none are left who teach defense properly and thoroughly. Today they whip too much with the wrist, a limited and inaccurate technique. Actually, it is slower than the elbow and does not control the blade as well, with a resultant minimal use of the point. In the not too distant future they expect the elbow game will again take over. As evidence of this trend toward defensive play the Russians in foil are already going back to basic style and the essentially defensive game.

We then placed question after question. Who were the greatest fencers of all time? Endre Kabos in sabre, Roger Ducret in epee, and Nedo Nadi (Giorgio) and Aldo Nadi (Leo) in foil with Helene Meyer and Ilona Elek outstanding in women's foil. And all would definitely shellac the best in the world today.

One of Leo's most interesting anecdotes dealt with the great coach Beppe Nadi, father of Aldo and Nedo. It was around 1910 that Bepe refused to let Nedo, later to be Olympic Foil Champion in 1912 and 1920 and Sabre Champion in 1920, touch an epee. "Epee" said Beppe, "is the prostitution of fencing", and he would not permit him to fence with Leo who later won six epee championships of the United



Giorgio Santelli (left) and Leo G. Nunes. Article by Mr. Nunes appears on page 10 of this issue.

States. However in 1920 when Aldo helped the Italian foil and sabre to win Olympic Championships he was enough to let them also help the epee finish first.

Beppe gave his best fencers minute lessons three times a week. His pupils all started with foil and were permitted to counter for the first few months, or to fence a bout for two weeks.

When Giorgio's father Italo was a fencer in Hungary in the late 90's fencing was popular and widespread as baseball now. But under his teaching, direct stimulation, Hungary, a small country, produced many people, any money, or equipment, was to become one of the important centers of swordsmanship in the world. In winning the Olympic foil and sabre championships from 1908 to 1920 except for 1920 when Nedo Nadi won the foil and Hungary set a record for domination in an Olympic event probably surpassed by the U.S. in the pole vault. Oh yes, he was also the Hungarian sabre teacher.

won the Olympic Championship from 1908 to 1964 with only two losses to Italy and the Nadis. But when Giorgio was asked the reason for this domination he replied "The Hungarians are a very martial people with martial traditions. After all, they had been fighting the Turks for centuries". But Olympic history does not reveal any Turkish sabre champions. Italo was killed in a bombing raid in 1944 and every year now the Italo Santelli Sabre Championships are held alternately in Italy and Hungary when wreaths are laid on his grave.

More direct questions brought more direct answers. Both thought the French style too academic and too heavy in its emphasis on style and grace. "Fencing is a dynamic sport" said Giorgio. "You must explode into your movements, Ballinger is the most promising of American fencers today; Csiszar is the best all around three weapon coach; coaches make poor judges."

The both believe fencing should start quite early, at 6 or 7 like the Nadis. Leo detailed what he had recently seen in Italy, an under 15 competition in electrical foil with 1600 entrants. Broken into 3 age groups; under 10, under 12, and under 15, seventy six strips had been run simultaneously in the Sports Palace in Rome well manned with top flight officials. As to America's future in World competition both were Spartanly specific. Even with such an essential mass base American fencers will not reach the top in World Fencing without putting in a minimum of 25 to 30 hours a week for 9 to 10 months a year as do the fencers of all the countries who have this mass base and who have been taking all the World Championships and Olympic gold medals for the last dozen years.

Truly a most delightful luncheon.

WARNING

The Surgeon General has determined that cigarette smoking is dangerous to health.

AXELROD RECEIVES HALL OF FAME AWARD

The Nationally known Helms Hall of Fame Award of the Helms foundation was presented to Albert Axelrod by NFCAA President Michael A. DeCicco and AFLA President Stephen B. Sobel at the Fencers Club of N.Y. Gala held on November 10, at the Hotel Lancaster in N.Y. The award was made in recognition of his achievements in fencing and services to the sport.

Mr. Axelrod is one of the foremost fencers ever produced in the United States. He was a member of five Olympic Teams (1952, '56, '60, '64, and '68) and four Pan-American Teams (1955, '59, '63, '67). On four occasions he was U.S. National Foil Champion (1955, '58, '60, '70) and was second eight times. In addition, he was third in the individual foil event at the 1960 Olympic Games, fifth in the 1958 World Championships, and was second four times in a row in the Pan-American Games.

He began fencing in the thirties in high school PSAL competition.

Still an active and formidable competitor, Axelrod is a graduate of CCNY and is a mechanical engineer. He resides in Scarsdale, N.Y.

STRIP LENGTH

The regulation fencing strip is considered 14 meters long for Foil, 18 meters long for Epee, and 24 meters long for Saber.

CORNELL FALL OPEN

One hundred and ninety eight competitors fenced in the annual Cornell Fall Open on November 3 and 4. Fourteen states and Canada were represented. The Canadian pre Olympic team "Mission 76" was present in its entirety, led by their new coach Jean-Pierre Lecoz. The Women's Foil was won by Mme. Chantel Gilbert of Canada, the Foil by Greg Benko of Australia (and Wayne State), the Sabre by Mike Duika of Wayne State, and the Epee by Ken Torino of Cornell.

FENCERS CLUB CELEBRATION CITES BLANC, DRISCOLL, AND AXELROD

The annual Autumn party at the Fencers Club honored three famous members at the annual gathering November 10. Portrait-hangings were completed of Club President Eugene Blanc and former Club President Robert Driscoll, who have both been very generous with their time over the years in connection with the Fencers Club and AFLA activities. The photos were work of Edward Vebel, noted illustrator and club member. Albert Axelrod, four time national champion and five time Olympian, received his Membership Certificate in the Helms Hall of Fame in Los Angeles.

Mr. Blanc has been President of the Fencers Club for over fifteen years, during which time the club moved to its present location from the "fifty-third street" address it had held for forty years. He has also been chairman of the AFLA Certificate of Merit Committee.

Mr. Driscoll is the former Treasurer of the AFLA and is a past president of the Fencers Club. He was also the 1943 National Epee Champion. His generous contributions to the AFLA over the past five years have permitted the league to conduct the Junior Olympic Development Clinics every week at the Fencers Club Salle d'Armes.

An excellent buffet supper was available afterwards — the work of Joel Wolfe, part-time AFLA official and full-time chef at a new Brooklyn restaurant that's sure to be a knockout.



photo by

Dr. Irma Schalk, Chairwoman of the Health and Physical Education at Brooklyn College presents the Revere silver award finalists (from l. to r.) Debbie Cinotti, G. Ston, Regina Reynolds, Janna Schwartz Leigh, and Stephanie Romanchik.

METROPOLITAN XMAS INVITATIONAL

Debbie Cinotti of Barnard College undefeated in a final of six to take place in the 1973 Metropolitan Christmas Invitational competition held December 15.

Sponsored by Denise O'Connor of Brooklyn College, the meet drew 47 entrants from eleven colleges in the New York area. Brand new fencing facilities of Brooklyn College were pressed into service. N.I.W.F.A. sanctioned competition.

Attractive awards of Revere silver and plates were presented to all by Dr. Irma Schalk, Chairwoman, Department of Health and Physical Education for Women at Brooklyn College.

Gail Johnston of Pratt Institute second with Regina Reynolds of NYU. Following in fourth place was Schwartz of Pratt, in fifth place Leigh of Lehman College, and Stephanie Romanchik of Pratt sixth. Coach Guy of Pratt Institute excelled in placing his fencers in the final of the competition.

RADOPPIO

In the Italian school a "radoppio" consists of a lunge, followed immediately by forward recovery and another lunge.

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From The President

by Steve Sobel



At a time when women's equality has been the subject of public inspection and appeal in the areas of job opportunity, education and salary distinction, the question has also been raised in several letters to the editor of American Fencing. In order to avoid misunderstanding and confusion, I thought it was important for me to discuss the subject now.

Let's first clarify our definitions. If a men's competition was better organized than a similar women's event in terms of available officials, facilities and administration, an injustice has occurred concerning women's equality. However, this can be the result of two separate and distinct causes requiring opposite solutions. First, it can be the result of inadequate preparation, and this means the facts must be studied to determine methods to improve the event. Second, it can be the result of discrimination, defined as "a difference in treatment or favor on a basis other than individual merits". This requires factual inequality plus improper intent. The solution to the second problem is different than the first, since now the individual integrity of an official is questioned, and if the accusation is substantiated, the attitude of the individual must be changed, or the individual must be replaced. **Discrimination in any form cannot be tolerated in our society or in our sport. There can be no compromise on this principle at anytime.**

It now becomes crucial to distinguish between mere inequality (correctable by better preparation) and discrimination. An official, to be effective, must have the respect of those he represents. When his integrity is questioned it must be re-established immediately. Therefore, an unjust accusation is very harmful, first since

others might believe the conclusion without an independent factual analysis thereby destroying the effectiveness of the official, and second because the official must devote time and effort to correct the inaccuracy, which would be better spent working to improve the underlying factual inequality.

Furthermore, any question must be specifically directed to particular people in order to be useful. "The AFLA" can be interpreted as a national officer, a Division chairman, or a meet manager, and "They" can mean any group of people excluding the speaker. Thus, statements such as "The AFLA has discriminated against women" or "They never have enough officials at women's competitions" are virtually meaningless in terms of description, but dangerous in terms of effect.

I suggest the entire problem be re-examined by taking a new look at only the facts, ignoring the labels, conclusions and other interpretations of the past. Let us make objective evaluations of each fact situation and specific suggestions applicable to each separate problem.

When Billy Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in tennis, an entertaining spectacle was presented on national television, a lot of money was made by the participants, but in terms of solving any problems concerning women's equality, nothing was proven except that Mrs. King was a better player than Mr. Riggs.

The choice is now ours. Do we want to create a spectacle for all to observe, or improve Fencing for us to enjoy?

SPECIAL NOTICE

The AFLA has indicated an intention to enter a United States Team in the World Championships to be held in Grenoble, France from July 16 to July 28, 1974. At the present time it appears that members of this team will not receive any financial support from the League. Further, the International Selection Committee will not hold a specific tryout competition to determine selection.

Competitors who feel they are qualified to be considered for selection by reason of past performance, experience, and ability, are invited to send their application to AFLA International Selection Committee, Peter Tishman, 37 Griswold Place, Glen Rock, N. J. 07452. Applicants who are ranked among the top 24 in the 1973 Nationals, or who were members of the 1972 Olympic Team, will receive first consideration in the order of their standing in each weapon.

Applications must be mailed to be received not later than March 15, 1974. All timely applications will be acknowledged and considered. Persons desiring to accompany the team as officials (Captain, coach, manager, armorer, trainer) should also submit applications as indicated above.

RESOLVING TIES

If two fencers are tied in Victory Indicators, (the ratio of victories to bouts fenced) the tie may be resolved by calculating the Touch Indicators (the ratio of touches scored to touches received). If they are still tied and they have both done well enough to be promoted they can be classified "ex aequo" and equally promoted. However, if they must still resolve the tie for promotion to one spot, or a placing in a final, or in a placing in a qualifying competition, the tie is then resolved by a barrage bout.

In no case can the bout committee refer to any previous record in the previous rounds, for information to break a tie.

TENTATIVE 1974 NATIONALS SCHEDULE

Sat. June 22	Foil (to QF) Director's Clinic
Sun. June 23	Sabre (to QF) Foil (SF & Final)
Mon. June 24	Foil Team Sabre (SF & Final)
Tues. June 25	Women's Foil (to Sabre Team Annual General M.
Wed. June 26	Epee (to QF) Women's Foil (SF
Thur. June 27	Women's Team U-19 Foil Epee (SF & Final)
Fri. June 28	Epee Team U-19 Sabre Board of Directors
Sat. June 29	U-19 Women's Foil U-19 Epee

Fencing Camp

This year, right after the World Fencing Championships in Grenoble, the best fencers from France, Italy, Russia, Poland, and Romania their Fencing Masters will come to the month of August 1974 at the Fencing Camp to be held in Slavonia.

In addition to the fencing and I there will be held two Interr competitions, in all three weapons in Women's Foil.

All practice for foil and epee fully electrical with metallic strips.

There will be a direct Charter from New York to Yugoslavia.

For further information write:
EUROPEAN FENCING CAMP
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182 West Hill Road
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CLUBS AND THE AFLA

by William Goering

The current organizational structure of the AFLA does not provide representation for a very important sector of the fencing family; that is, the private or university fencing club. This policy appears to be in error for two major reasons, (1) it fails to recognize that clubs are the primary contact point with the sport for almost all fencers and potential fencers, and (2) it overlooks a real opportunity to strengthen both the clubs and the AFLA. Therefore it has been proposed that some type of club membership be established within the AFLA, and it is the purpose of this article to propose some ideas and solicit others to this end.

For example, the club membership could be established within the Divisions. A club could pay a membership fee to the Division in which it was located, and become the final step in the organizational chain of National Office, Section, Division, Club. Or, clubs could join the National AFLA and become members of both AFLA, Inc. and the Division much as a member does at present. Possibly clubs could even become Associate Members under the present rules. However, a special club classification (and fee) would be established. Whatever the mechanism, the clubs would be brought into the AFLA family. The obvious advantages (to the AFLA) are that more dues would be collected, and more fencers would be exposed to the AFLA.

The implications of this arrangement are deeper than they appear at first, since the AFLA must offer something in return for the club membership fee. The AFLA has something tangible to offer, and that is the franchise to conduct fencing tournaments. Thus, the proposal is that member clubs be permitted to conduct tournaments and retain the entry fees and any other profits for their own use. This is contrary to the present practice in the United States where most tournaments are organized by the Divisions, and entry fees go to the Division treasury. If the proposed plan were effective, the clubs would assume the oper-

ating function for fencing, while the Divisions would continue to perform the administrative functions. Clubs would do what they are equipped to do, provide sites and equipment for fencing events, while the Divisions would coordinate and publish schedules, approve tournament arrangements and entry fees, provide officials, administer the rules, and handle protests. For each event the Division might receive a franchise fee to cover its costs.

This idea is not new, as it has been used in Europe, Canada, and also in the United States. However, it has not been adopted as an AFLA policy, and perhaps the time to try it is now. It has several advantages in addition to those suggested above. First, it provides incentive to hold large well-organized events since only those are profitable. It stimulates competition among clubs, and provides income for their growth. This arrangement might be very attractive to university clubs or Alumni groups who have sites available.

It is recognized that immediate implementation of this plan would not be feasible throughout the United States. Many Divisions do not have clubs capable of holding large events, and others may not wish to adopt the club tournament idea.

Only the broad outlines of this idea can be presented in this article. Details need to be worked out, and the invitation is hereby extended to all interested parties to make their views, experiences, and other ideas known by writing to me at the address below. I am particularly interested in hearing from coaches and Division officers. A full report will be prepared for the Board of Directors with specific recommendations for action. Send replies to: William Goering, 31065 Pheasant Run, Farmington, MI. 48024

(Ed. Note: A club membership might be offered if the AFLA rules were amended to require a club membership in order to enter a team competition. To our knowledge there is nothing to prevent any fencing club from organizing a fencing tournament now, provided, of course, that AFLA rules are not violated.)

LEHMAN COLLEGE

Fencing has been on the upswing at schools and colleges not only as a competitive sport but as a club and physical education activity. In the past, course credit has been granted for class participation in fencing at New York University, Brooklyn College, and Fairleigh Dickinson University, among others.

Perhaps no school, though, can match the participatory record of the students at Lehman College, the Bronx division of the City University of New York. Besides a varsity women's team that is an active NIWFA member, over 100 girls attend the five sessions of fencing that is a part of the physical education program there.

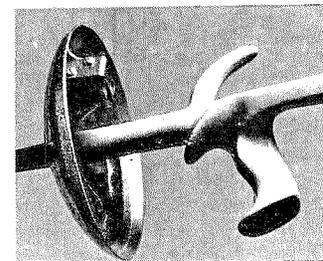
Instruction is provided by Alice Saberski, Jo Mancinelli Shaff, and Jacqueline Taylor. The classes serve as an excellent "farm system" for the woman's varsity — which is coached by Mrs. Saberski, a former Hunter College fencer who has coached previously at both Hunter and Barnard. Mrs. Shaff and Mrs. Taylor are both former New York University fencers with extensive competitive and teaching backgrounds in the metropolitan area.

Their work and the continued development of the fencing program at Lehman have resulted in a surge of interest by the Lehman girls in AFLA fencing — as well as a steady improvement in their NIWFA standing. In the five years Lehman has competed in the National Intercollegiate, they have risen from the bottom half of eighteen teams in 1969 to the top half of the thirty-one schools that started this year.



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FENCING CLASS FORMATIONS

by Richard J. Gradkowski

The classical arrangement for the teaching of fencing is the individual pupil-fencing master unit. This method is undoubtedly the best for the intensive development of the individual fencer. The close rapport necessary for the communication of complex ideas, and the adaptation of theory to the particular demands of a pupil are best accomplished by the use of this highly individualistic "tutorial" system. However, the fencing master often finds himself in situations where this method is not practical. If he has a sizable class, his individual lessons must be short to be equally distributed, and during the time taken up by these lessons the motivation of the other students may lag. They may feel that the instructor has lost interest in them. Few things are more discouraging than seeing a group of bored or uninvolved pupils sitting around while the fencing master is occupied by giving an individual lesson.

To overcome this problem, and to keep the entire class involved and active, the following suggested series of group formations can be used. The use of these formations is indicated in large class situations, training camps, team practice, and in clinics and demonstrations whenever one instructor has to handle a large group. The rationale for using a particular formation is varied. Certain formations are uniquely suited for certain functions and unsuited for other functions. Such factors as available floor space, size of group, open lines of vision, exercise space requirements, and types of actions executed, must all be considered. Sometimes, merely changing a formation will add psychological stimulus to the dull routine of hard training.

MASS FORMATION (fig. 1) is the most efficient in terms of utilization of limited space with large groups. It is well suited for the giving of calisthenics and general conditioning work such as running in place, etc. Problems of supervision may arise in that the instructor cannot reach all of the participants and, in this case, an assistant

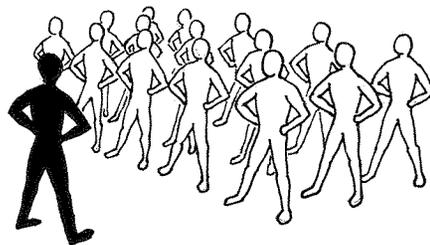


FIG. 1

circulating among the formation may help. The imperfect line of vision of the rear ranks can be avoided by staggering the ranks or by having the instructor on an elevated platform. As in all classwork, the instructor should be sure that he can be clearly heard and seen by the pupils.

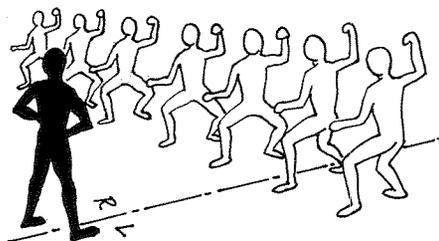


FIG. 2

LINE FORMATION (fig. 2) is uniquely suited for footwork exercises since complex footwork patterns can be executed without fear of collision and because each student can observe the instructor directly with a visual check on either side. The fencing master should place all left-handed students on the right end of the line and place himself on the spot bisecting the left-handed and right-handed segments of the line. In this manner all pupils can easily observe the instructor without uncomfortable craning of their necks.

CIRCLE FORMATION (fig. 3) is best suited for intermediate size groups not exceeding 10-12 pupils. It can be used for the introductory phase of learning a new skill and for the brief period associated with implanting a new concept. As an example: The fencing master teaches the group the disengage riposte from a parry four. He then has each individual pupil do the action against him, while he remains in the center of the circle rotating from pupil to pupil. This procedure gives each pupil a chance to do the action once or twice and to receive correction. The others, being in close proximity and knowing that their turn will soon come, observe intently and can even pick up pointers from each other's mistakes.



FIG. 3

HALF-CIRCLE FORMATION (fig. 4) is suited for conferences, demonstrations, and discussions, as all pupils can get a close look, while still leaving room for the fencing master and an assistant to maneuver. Pupils may sit down on the floor in this formation without getting lost in the back of a group.

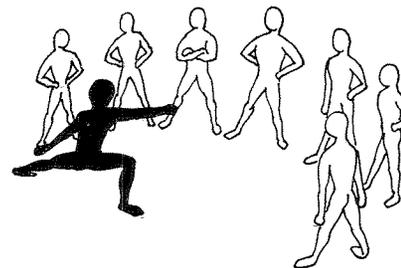


FIG. 4



FIG. 5

RAILROAD TRAIN FORMATION (fig. 5) consists of a constantly moving line of acting in sequence with the fencing and, upon completion of their action turning to the end of the line. This formation is well suited to repetitious drill action without the tiring intensity which would be invoked by the static master-pupil lesson. Because of its rotating nature, everyone is kept in motion preparing, executing their action or coming back into line. As they go the pupils have a chance to review and correct their errors. This formation is especially well suited for sabre and tacks done with the fleche.



FIG. 6

DOUBLE-LINE FORMATION (fig. 6) is useful for the practicing of prearranged tactical exercises. Specific attacks and defenses can be executed by the pairs of fencers in two lines. The coach can circulate giving correction and advice. One well known coach uses the designation "Muses" and "Cavaliers" for distinguishing the

(Continued Next Page)

Some very elaborate actions, going as far as second intention, can be practiced in this way. The pupils can take turns acting as the attackers and defenders, thus getting a well rounded comprehension of an action. An important pedagogical point in this method is that the pupils are somewhat on their own, working with each other instead of the coach, and thus make many adjustments to each others' individual tempo and other idiosyncracies.

In conclusion it should be emphasized that while generally a particular formation is best suited for a particular need, many of these formations can be used interchangeably (especially with moderate sized groups). The effectiveness of many of these formations can be increased by the use of assistant coaches out on the floor. Those instructors who are inexperienced or unfamiliar with the use of such class formations should not hesitate to try them out. In teaching fencing to large groups they will find that the sense of activity and participation engendered in their students will be well worth the little extra trouble.



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NO COACHES?

by Jose M. deOlivares

What's wrong with American fencing is a popular subject these days. No money, no support, no time to train . . . they're all legitimate concerns. As far as I'm concerned, however, they're secondary issues. The real problem with American fencing is we don't have any Coaches. We have many of the finest instructors in the world but, no Coaches. If you'll bear with me, I think I can explain how I came to this conclusion any why it's not as outlandish a remark as you might think.

It all started coming together for me a short time ago when I was approached by a fellow competitor who said, "Damn, I'm fencing better than I've ever fenced in my life, but I'm not winning any more bouts!" Having just beaten the man and feeling quite generous, I answered something like, "Yeah, I know how it is. You're a much better fencer than the score indicates," and ran off to see if the victory was enough to get me into the next round.

What the man said stuck in my head. The more I thought about it the more I realized he was "The American Fencer". I'm not talking about the recreational fencer now. I'm talking about the serious competitor . . . the man or woman who stays in shape all year, who puts a couple of nights a week in at the Club, who takes lessons regularly from a reputable Master, who knows the rules and takes good care of his or her equipment . . . the fencer who's fencing better than ever before but still locked into the same competitive niche.

Maybe we're not all having trouble with the preliminaries at the divisional level, but most of us are locked in somewhere. We do fine at Divisional Opens but never seem to get a medal at the Sectionals, or we take home Sectional honors year after year but can't get past the 1/4 finals at the Nationals or, we win every American championship in sight but can't bring home an international medal. Just look at the results of competitions around the country in a few back issues of American Fencing. You'll see the same names over and over again

and at the same levels. How many of you can honestly say you've seen your competitive record improve in proportion to the improvement you've made in your fencing technique?

I'd like to digress for a moment and talk about track and field. You may not see what track and field has to do with fencing and maybe there is no real relationship, but, I competed in track and field for a time and I had a Coach. My Coach put me through my workouts each week, much the way my fencing Master does now, but my track Coach did something else, something no fencing Master has ever done. He came with me to every competition. He'd scout the opposition and the track conditions and we'd go over strategy before each race. Then we'd analyze my performance after each race. And when the pressure was on, I could count on him to be at track side shouting instructions . . . "Move to the outside now!" or, "Settle down, you've got plenty of room."

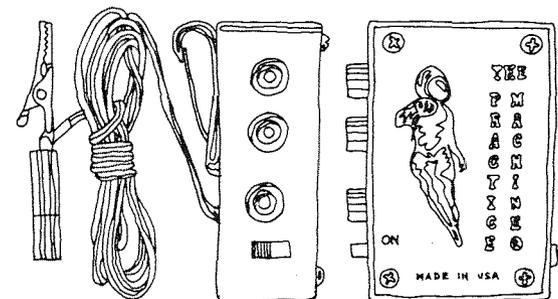
I had no special talent as a rule I had a Coach. He took what talent and taught me to win races with it. In short years he made me a champion. He's done it with countless others since. He was more than a trainer-structor, he was a real Coach.

I certainly don't have all the answers to do think, however, I've addressed a problem. I know that some very fine fencing is available to our college fencers. The teams that represent us internationally are also well coached. But, the fencers of beyond college years short of international caliber. Things are now, they don't have any coaching and their competitive fencing quality of American fencing is generally suffering as a result.



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COHEN COACH

Herbert Cohen, a member of two U.S. Olympic fencing teams and twice the National Collegiate Athletic Association's foil champion, has been named assistant fencing coach at New York University.

"It's not the first time that I've taught fencing," said Cohen, who gave lessons to high school coaches several years ago for New York City's Board of Education. "But now I'm very excited about getting the chance to come back to NYU."

Cohen, a computer systems analyst and instructor of Tai-Chi, a Chinese martial art, attended school and fenced at NYU from 1959 to 1962. While at NYU he lost only one bout in three varsity years and won both the NCAA and Intercollegiate Fencing Association Championships in foil in 1961 and 1962.

After graduating from NYU, he went on to win the Amateur Fencers League of America's national foil crown in 1964 and made the U.S. Olympic team that year and in 1968.

Since 1970 Cohen has been out of fencing competition, with the exception of working out with the 1972 U.S. Olympic fencing team that went to Munich.

NYU's head fencing coach, Hugo Castello, who's team won the NCAA and IFA championships last season, selected Cohen for the assistant coaching position. The spot was vacated earlier this season when Cas-



HERBERT COHEN

tello's brother, James, took a leave of absence from coaching.

"I was looking for a former NYU fencer to be the assistant coach and I considered Herb to be one of the best fencers around," said Castello. "He'll be working with the team in foil, epee and sabre this year. I'm very happy to get his services."

SONNENREICH APPOINTED

Colonel Joseph I. Sonnenreich, US Air Force Reserve, has been appointed Commander of the 9212 Air Reserve Squadron with Flights in New York City and Water-vliet, N.Y. In World War II he was a pilot serving with the Eighth Air Force and was credited with 56 missions in B-24's.

Col. Sonnenreich is a member of the Fencers Club of N.Y. and competed in AFLA competitions for many years.

13th ANNUAL N.J. INTERSCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP by Irwin Bernstein

One hundred and ninety eight young fencers competed in this year's tournament at Essex Catholic High School in Newark, N.J. Megaro-Cundari Welfare Association trophies were awarded to the top finalists and Junior Olympic patches were presented to all semi-finalists and finalists.

FOIL (73 competitors): Robert Wolfson became the second Morris Hills foil champion in as many years as he compiled an 8-0 mark in a strong final field. Alex Mustilli of Essex Catholic was runnerup for the second consecutive time, with 6-2. Third went to Jack Tichacek of Ramapo.

EPEE (62 competitors): Lee Shelly captured the first title ever for Pingry School when he completely dominated a field including 6 of the prior year's finalists. Lee's final round of 8-0 gave him a perfect 20-0 mark for the day. Teammate Robert White finished second with 6-2 while Tom Manobianco of Ramapo placed third with 5-3.

SABRE (63 competitors): Don Krautle of Essex Catholic High School defeated Walter Fraley of North Hunterdon 5-2 in a fenceloff after both had compiled 7-1 final round records. Farley had earlier given Krautle his only loss in the finals by 5-1. Third was taken by George Latore of Essex Catholic.

The New Jersey Division is proud of the fencing achievements of many of the "alumni" of this tournament as well as the fact that many of them return each year to assist in the officiating chores.



photo by William Christopher Plummer as "Cyrano" pr defend his nose's honor.

"CYRANO" ON BROADWAY by Jeffrey R. Tishman

The theatre's most famous swarrior Cyrano de Bergerac, made his last appearance recently on the stage of New York's Palace Theatre, in a musical production of Edmond Rostand's classic. The scene, at a Parisian theatre, included an excellently staged duel between Cyrano and his rival, played by Christopher Plummer as a musketeer who dared to malign the hero's proboscis.

Alas, the critics were less than complimentary. "CYRANO" than any fencer could the show closed after only forty-nine performances. But for those who miss the opportunity, the picture above may give some kind of excitement of the hero who can skewer an opponent with ease while singing a ballad.

GREEN GATOR

The University of Florida Fencing Club will be hosting the annual Green Gator Fencing Tournament on the weekend of April 13. All events will be held in the main gym of the University of Florida campus in Gainesville. Epee and Women's Foil will be fenced on Saturday April 13 while Sabre and Foil will be held on Sunday April 14. Inquiries may be addressed to Gerald M. Garner, 1400-5 SW 10 Terrace, Gainesville, Florida, 32601.

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OFFICIATING AND THE RULES

by Roger F. Jones

The 1973 World Junior Championships in Buenos Aires was my first foray to a major event outside the U.S. in a number of years and I made a point of studying foreign directors to compare current U.S. with the latest international practice. The first thing I noticed was the generally high overall standard of officiating, better in both accuracy and impartiality than I recall from past events.

ATTACK VS. STOP:

There have been many comments in the pages of AMERICAN FENCING about how the European directors give absolute preference to the attack over the stop. I watched in vain to see this but did not find any instance where the director "invariably" gave such preference. If the stop was immediate, and the attack delayed or confused to the extent that the final movement commenced after the stop, the stop was consistently recognized as correct. I strongly suspect that the problem in the U.S. is more a problem of confusing who really is the attacker.

THE POINT-IN-LINE:

Articles in AMERICAN FENCING have suggested that the "point-in-line" loses right of way if the fencer retreats in the face of an attack. I am obliged to report that no director in the tournament took such a position, and there were quite a few instances of its use. Discussions with the FIE Directeur Technique confirmed that the "point-in-line" retains the right of way while retreating from an attack and that such interpretations as have been mentioned earlier do not conform with international practice.

SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS:

This was my first exposure to the "new" saber style and I found it appalling. The bouts are incredibly dull and protracted. The double attack from the on guard position takes perhaps 3 seconds to execute, but it takes 15 seconds or more to make the analysis, put the fencers back on guard and re-commence the bout. Not only does the bout become a test of the fencers' stamina but also the officials' as well. I observed

one bout in which there were 32 simultaneous actions between the 3rd and 4th touches alone — the bout took nearly 20 minutes to complete. This "new" style also increases the punishment a fencer absorbs, too.

EPEE EQUIPMENT RULES:

The new Article 21 concerning warnings and penalty touches awarded against fencers who produce non-functioning epees at the strip, requires modification. It does not seem fair to penalize a fencer thus. One of our epeeists received his weapons from the control, went directly to his strip and — admittedly, an error in judgement — warmed up briefly with one of them. He brought that weapon to the strip for his first bout and it failed the travel test — one warning. In the course of the bout, the weapon stopped functioning (would not register). He brought out his second epee — which had not been touched since the control — and, inexplicably, it would not register either; penalty touch against. Since the warning is for the entire pool, it was necessary for the team armorer to test our fencer's weapon every time he appeared on the strip with it to avoid another possible penalty touch. A German and a Russian were similarly victimized.

FIE DIRECTORS' EXAMINATION:

Anyone planning to take the FIE exam should note that it demands a good command of spoken French, not just fencing terms. The practical section consists of directing several exhibition bouts, with fencers who will try "dirty tricks"! The theoretical section sometimes consists of a rapid series of random questions on the rules and their interpretation — in French. I can't recommend strongly enough or over-stress the importance of developing the ability to converse in French if you aspire to any attainments in international fencing over a period of time.

QUICKIE QUIZ

What is the maximum allowable bend in the electrical foil blade? (See Paragraph 207, page 37 of the 1970 Rules Book).

CONOMIKES COACH

Peter Conomikes is the new head coach of the fencing team of the College of William and Mary. "Pete" retired this past summer from federal government service and resides in Williamsburg, Va. and had done some volunteer coaching at the college during the past two years. With this appointment, William and Mary returns to the rank of having a full-time fencing coach again, for the first time since World War II. Under the initiative and guidance of sabre-devotee, Dr. John Willis who is on the faculty of the college, fencing was returned to varsity team status three years ago.

Conomikes, who held national rankings as an epeeist during the 1950's, is also the coach of the womens' fencing team at W & M. He was active in the Washington D.C. AFLA Division for about fifteen years until 1964 when he moved to the Williamsburg area. He had been Chairman of the Washington Division and now is continuing to be active in the Virginia Division and its competitions.

CORRECT PARRIES

Generally the parry is deemed sufficient foil and saber if it clears the valid even if only for a brief moment. simple "finding" of the blade (i.e. parry) is sufficient against a feint or a composite attack. On the other hand a parry against a simple attack or the first of a composite attack must be sufficient authoritative to block or deviate the attacking thrust (or, in sabre, to bring force of the cut). This means that a successful parry ordinarily must be made in the guard or with the stronger parry (two thirds near the guard) of the blade beat parry (tac au tac), properly it never deviates the opposing blade though the movement may be fast as the eye can follow. However an attacking parry with the foible (the forward part of the blade nearest the tip) ordinarily has no authority against the final movement of an attack and is usually insufficient.

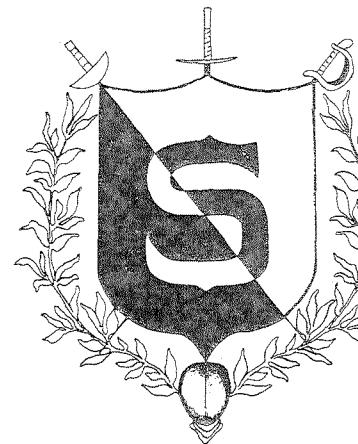
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Technical Talks

by Joe Byrnes



In my last article I promised more on the epee, but I'm afraid that will have to wait. In the meantime, cries of anguish from local divisional executives have reached my ears, with suggestions that I say something, before the season's over, about how the scoring equipment is NOT supposed to be handled. You would think that that would be pretty obvious, but judging by the condition of the stuff that gets turned in for repair, and by what I have seen at competitions, there is still a need for the message, and not only for raw beginners.

Unlike our divisional chairmen, however, I really don't believe that my saying so here will make you all go and behave perfectly at your next competition, much less next season. (Prosecutor: Do you mean to tell us that you don't believe that the pen is mightier than the sword? Witness: I respectfully decline to answer on the grounds . . .) However, in the hope that even a little of this free good advice may rub off on somebody, here goes.

First and foremost, because it's a too common fault: don't stand at the middle of the strip and let a reel wire just go free and snap back to the reel case. Don't even do it from six feet out. Walk the wire back. Don't let a wire go yourself, and don't let others do it. When that sort of thing happens accidentally, it's bad enough; but—if you want my opinion—when it's the result of laziness, carelessness, fecklessness, stupidity, crass bad manners, ill temper, or all combined, it should be punished as a form of unsportsmanlike conduct. The damage that that sort of treatment does to reels is serious.

Part of the trouble, I suppose, is that reels, like the rest of the scoring equipment, will belong to a club, or institution, or division, and thus, in a manner of speaking,

will belong to everybody. It's an old saw, but what belongs to everybody belongs to nobody, and naturally it's left to nobody to take care of it. Nobody except the repairman, who gets it after everybody and his family has had a crack at ruining it. I don't know how to create a kind of ethic in a vacuum, but how about meet managers laying down the law? How about divisional executive committees enacting some rules with teeth, and seeing to it that they're enforced?

As an individual competitor, you can do a good deed by treating the reels right, yes; but there's more. How often have you seen, during the intermission in a competition, every scoring machine lit up like Times Square before the energy crunch? Even the touch-count lamps are probably showing the last 5-4 score. That's a waste of a little electricity, and therefore of some fuel; many a mickle makes a muckle, etc. Moreover, the machine can get overheated: transistorized machines, when overheated, may misbehave; even the older relay models have been known to get edgy in heat and humidity.

If your assignment is to transport the equipment, don't throw it around because you resent being stuck with the job, or it's late and you're in a hurry. Incidentally, in very cold weather, try to protect at least the scoring machines from rapid shifts between extreme cold and indoor temperatures: keep them inside the car, not in the trunk.

If you find something loose on a machine or reel, fix it, if it's simple, and you're sure you know how. Otherwise, report it, so it can be taken care of. Preventive maintenance—even just tightening a loosened nut—is easier than a big repair needed later; easier even than trying to replace the nut.

A little cooperation from all, and a little consideration, would do wonders to keep our competitions going smoothly and the equipment from falling apart before its time. If you've looked at the prices of new scoring machines and reels recently, you know why these words of advice were never more in order.

ADDITIONS TO 1973-74 AFLA DIRECTORY

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- 17 Harrisburg: Jack Hespenheide, 1330 Hillcraft Ln., York, PA. 17403
- 20 Cen. Illinois: Paul Morf, 2306 Broadmor Dr., Champaign, ILL. 61820
- 33 New Mexico:
- 34 So. Jersey: Kim Drugas 61 Robbins Rd., Bricktown, N.J. 08723
- 38 Philadelphia: Dave Micahnik, 2931 Fernor St., Allentown, PA. 18103 (add. director)
- 42 Tennessee: M. Szathmary, 225 Druid Dr., Knoxville, TN. 37920
- 58 Alabama: Thomas I. Dickson, 812 Tullahoma Dr., Auburn, AL. 36830
- 61 Nevada: H. B. Clark, PO Box 765, Sparks, NV. 89431

SECRETARIES

- 11 Florida:
- 17 Harrisburg: Barbara Crumling, 285 Baker St., Hallam, PA. 17406
- 12 Cen. Florida: Alex Littlefield 1802 Tamiami, Tallahassee, FL. 32310
- 34 So. Jersey: Ursula Redgrave, 13 Second St., Pemberton, NJ 08068
- 39 Philadelphia: Ronald G. McMahon, 608 B Vernon Rd., Philadelphia, PA. 19119
- 46 Westchester:
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Letters to the Editor

The Editor
American Fencing
Dear Ralph,

After two years of fencing in Belgium, which always fields a fairly good Olympic fencing team, I must say that there is a gap in fencing in Europe that does not exist in the U.S. and Canada, what I call middle level competition. As you well know, certain things about our sport can only be learned in formal competition, things like sizing up an opponent, gauging weaknesses and strengths, controlling the rate and tempo of a bout.

I find that our European counterparts have neglected that part of a fencer's development until he is so practiced that he would be the equivalent of one of our class B fencers. Thus when I engaged in competition in Belgium and France, including two Belgian National Championships, that there were no other fencers like me, men with moderate training and good competition experience. I was a semi finalist in two Belgian University tournaments because, though my opponents were all more schooled than I was in form (they had fenced with Masters for at least seven years, while I had one year with a Master and four years with a class C fencer), none except the really excellent boys had any experience in competition. I think we're doing something right, and I think I know one answer to our problems with developing Olympic fencers: of course, fence five or six days a week, but obtain a fencing master who has an excellent record in competition but does not have a job that depends on his team's performance, because that can be counter productive.

Sincerely yours
Gene Packer
Westchester, N.Y.

The Editor
American Fencing
Dear Ralph:

I have been away from Women's Intercollegiate fencing for some time and now that I have returned to the scene, I am struck by my reaction to the fleche attack done with the electrical foil. In the days of dry foil competition, I considered the fleche an attack of beauty and grace and very effective when executed properly, and with no ill effects to the opponent except to be touched and surprised. Today I have seen women so painfully jabbed in the neck area by a fleche attack performed with a locked elbow and stiff blade, that it takes several minutes to recover from the penetrating attack. It looks dangerous! I don't think the fleche should be outlawed, but I do think fencers should be instructed to allow for some flexibility at the elbow upon making the touch; otherwise the fleche as a legal attack will have to be reconsidered.

Sincerely,
Jo Shaff
John Jay College
New York, N. Y.

(Ed. Note: The problem of safety in fencing is one which requires constant attention. It is the responsibility of all concerned; fencers, officials, meet managers, and coaches, to adhere strictly to the rules governing protective clothing, and to teach and enforce good fencing technique.)

1974 MARTINI and ROSSI

The 1974 Martini and Rossi International Fencing competition will be held March 22, 23, 24 at the New York Athletic Club. Foil will be contested on Friday March 22, Epee on Saturday March 23, and Saber on Sunday March 23. The Women's Foil event will start on the afternoon of Saturday March 23 and the semi finals and finals will be run off on Sunday the 24th. Fencers and coaches are urged to attend and view this exciting event.

NIWFA WINTER MEET

The National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association will sponsor its' 1974 individual event on Saturday February 23, at the Hunter College of New York.

AFLA PATCHES AND PINS AVAILABLE COLORFUL EMBLEMS ON SALE

Shown here are some of the colorful patches and emblems available to AFLA members from the League Secretary. From left to right are: The AFLA shield patch (in red, white and blue); the AFLA classification patch (in blue and gold), with gold, silver, and bronze classification star pins; the AFLA Nationals patch (in red, white, and blue); and the AFLA Decal (in red, white, and blue). The AFLA shield patch is 3½ inches high by 3 inches wide. Orders for the following cataloged items should be sent **PREPAID** to:

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LOOSE PLAY AND PRACTICE BOUTS PRACTICE BOUTS

by Leo G. Nunes

About two thirds of the time spent by a fencer in the Salle should be used and in fact is actually used in loose play and practice bouts preferably with better fencers but also with opponents not quite as good yet within a reasonable range of his standing.

A strong fencer should seldom if ever engage a very poor one, a useless contest which might damage his game besides mortifying and discouraging the loser.

I remember well that Maestro Beppe Nadi, father and teacher of Nedo, would never allow him to engage in a bout except with three or four topmost fencers in his Salle, of a caliber such as Nedo might find in his adversaries in an International competition.

Maestro Nadi, as other masters of his day, usually suggested to his various pupils whom they should pick among the fencers resting on the sidelines; however if there happened to be a bout going on worth watching, for instance one of the great contests between Nedo and Puliti, everybody stopped fencing preferring to watch and hopefully to learn something.

To fence with one not quite his equal is not only necessary but desirable from the angle of courtesy and good fellowship; but one should give more time to bouts against stronger opponents than with weaker ones; for instance two five touch and one ten touch bouts might be the desirable length of a match in the first instance whereas one or two five touch bouts might be quite enough against a weaker fencer.

About fifty years ago when I started to fence in America, to count touches outside of competition was unheard of, and when I approached the subject with the idea that the practice should consist of specific bouts the thought was at first discarded as unsportsmanlike and discourteous; good manners at that time demanded that both fencers should leave the strip with the illusion of being equal, at least, to the opponents, and that therefore one should never overwhelm the opponent.

A very enthusiastic and rather poor tennis player, I could not see why fencing should

be practiced differently from tennis when after a few minutes of rallying the players always play for sets.

My persistence in this belief, in time, made many converts, however it seems that nowadays few fencers take the measure of their opponents in practice bouts.

Usually the opponents start in the middle of the strip and, particularly in sabre, when one moves the other backs out, often occasionally with an attempt to stop or to parry; then the positions are inverted and the charge and retreat are repeated, apparently without much thought to preparation; the running contest usually lasts thirty minutes or more; it is evident that the fencers should also be prepared to stand their ground and even to close in or step aside to avoid being touched incidentally stops by closing in are often most effective especially against a rushing attack which finds itself beyond the target.

The 30 minutes or so would be much better employed by fencing with several opponents which would necessitate varying the game, always counting the score in each bout thereby adding to the interest of the play with the following benefits:

A. Fencing for touches gives a fencer the actual measure of his efficiency against a given opponent.

B. Makes a fencer adapt his game to the score, an important habit to acquire, very valuable when carried to actual competition: don't waste your energy when you lead, be extra careful and yet hold when trailing.

C. Gives a fencer an incentive to do better against a given opponent and allows him to measure his progress or regress in relation to that opponent.

I remember when in my best days I could win many bouts in the Salle but whenever I lost, I kept constantly thinking of what I had done wrong, planning and hoping to redeem myself next time I met that opponent.

Good friends and clubmates such as Alessandrini, Every, Hoffman, Santos always gave me a lot of trouble, consequently against them I always tried my best to carry a bout, successfully or otherwise, within the same concentration which I tried to attain in a National.

D. To meet the same fencer in the Salle and in a tournament with very different results soon discloses the ability of a fencer to raise above his level in a tough competition and this fact, once established, should be a great help in the selection of the teams: many fencers of my acquaintance, excellent in the Salle, never succeeded in winning a National title.

So please consider to practice only through bouts.

Fencing out of distance and out of engagement, closing in and stepping out was at one time characteristic of the Italian school whereas the French school masters taught to hold the ground: aggressiveness is now the rule in every country but do not let the opponent drive you back without reason: the reduced distance to the rear may become a distracting fear.

To retreat should be a matter of desperation rather than of choice and constant retreats are at the expense of the well executed parries.

Give ground when necessary and retreats with parries standing you thereby disconcerting the attacker.

In conclusion meet as many opponents possible in an afternoon, fence and always to the score, analyze and your opponent's game during and afterwards.

I realize that fencing has greatly and keeps on changing very fast: the readers may find my suggested, however they are modest as observations, derived from sixty fencing thoroughly enjoyed.

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RULES & OFFICIATING

by
Chaba
Pallaghy



Many questions were asked, when the new rules for sabre fencing were adopted by the F.I.E. Most of the questions centered around the subject: "what if anything is new in the rules." The answer is very simple: really there is nothing new in the "new" sabre rules. Anyone, who was familiar with the rules of sabre fencing and learned the game properly will realize, that all that the international committee did, was to put in writing what everybody knew. Classical sabre fencing was always based upon the correct execution of fencing actions. An attack was considered an attack only if it was properly executed, i.e. the blade commenced threatening the opponent's valid target area and maintained this threat throughout the execution of the action until a hit had been properly scored on the opponent. The mere advancement of a fencer without the establishment of a threat could not be considered an attack, but rather an invitation for the opponent to attack, generally considered second intention, to lure the opponent into a counter action. Unfortunately, high level sabre fencing was restricted, until very recently, to the Italians and Hungarians, therefore, there were very few directors, most from the above two nations, who understood sabre fencing. With the development of fencing and shifting in quality of sabre fencing to other nations, the need for many more directors, familiar with sabre fencing arose. Due to the limited number of knowledgeable directors and the increasing need for a large number of neutral directors, many persons not familiar with sabre fencing were asked to direct. These persons could naturally not judge sabre actions properly. Accordingly, sabreurs, possessing a high level of fencing capability, adjust their game to fence in a style more suitable to the directors. Naturally

there were not too many fencers, who were capable of doing this, therefore the average fencer's style gradually deteriorated into what has recently been known as "modern" sabre fencing. The F.I.E. very correctly realized, that such deterioration of a once popular and often spectacular weapon, was detrimental to fencing and unfavorably affected the sport. A committee was appointed to deal with the matter and to come up with a solution. After lengthy discussions and consideration of many alternatives, the committee came to the conclusion that all that was needed was to put in writing the known rules of sabre fencing, for all fencers and officials to study and remember. This is why I state, that there is nothing new in the "new" sabre rules. I have always called the touches in accordance with these rules. I believe the clear spelling out of these, sometimes-forgotten rules, will result in better directing, better fencing and the return to popularity of sabre fencing once again. There will be a few other matters, which will have to be re-clarified from time to time. Such a matter was the question of the taking of the blade on the inside or the outside in the case of a closed line. This was clarified in Goteborg in accordance with the long known rules. (Outside constitutes a parry, inside a prise de fer or beat). In general, however I believe sabre fencing is on its way back to new, increased popularity, to new heights, to the immense pleasure of us sabre devotees.



NEW RULES BOOKS

The new updated AFLA Rules Book will soon be available. This rules book will contain all the latest rules changes and all fencing officials, regardless of their knowledge or experience should obtain a copy and study it carefully. An order form for the book is on page 31 of this issue.

FENCING OFFICIALS COURSE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

This past fall semester Hunter College of the City of New York offered the course "The Theory and Practice of Presiding as a Fencing Official" (95.442) on Tuesday evenings for one college credit.

Presided over by Prof. Julia Jones, the course featured many guest lecturers including Chaba Pallaghy, Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Fencing Rules and Officials, Dr. Daniel Bukantz, Jack Keane, and many others. Eighteen people registered for the course, including some who were college coaches. The fifteen sessions of the course covered a broad range of officiating topics in all three weapons, and included both theory and guided practical experience.

At the end of the course, a written and Practical examination for Class IA Director was administered by Richard Gradkowski, representing the U.S. Rules Commission. Seven Class IA rankings were earned.

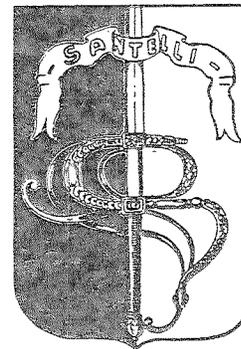
The course will be offered again next fall.

ANNUAL DIVISION FINANCIAL REPORTS D

If you have not yet filed the annual report for your division or please do so immediately. Forms filing are now available from AFL uer Peter Tishman, 37 Griswal Glen Rock, New Jersey 07452.

Banks are now required to obtain identification number from depositor. We have received some from divisions as to the number and the name to be used for accounts needed for the division. The correct form

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1974 F.I.E. INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

Jan. 19	Marseille, France	Licciardi Foil
Feb. 2	Paris, France	Martini Foil
Feb. 9	London, G.B.	Corble Sabre
Feb. 9	Milan, Italy	Spreafico Epee
Feb. 16	Paris, France	Monal Epee
Feb. 23	Brussels, Belgium	Martini Sabre
March 2	London, G.B.	Martini Epee
March 2	Paris, France	Duval Foil
March 9	Paris, France	Rommel Foil
March 9	Hamburg, BRD	Hamburg Sabre
March 10	Huy, Belgium	Vierset Epee
March 15	Torino, Italy	Martini Women's
March 22	New York, USA	N.Y. Martini
March 31	Budapest, Hungary	Foil, Sabre
March 30	Berne, Switzerland	Grand Prix Epee
April 5, 6	Warszawa, Poland	Wlody Sabre
April 6	Chalons, France	Gaudini Sabre
April 12	Istanbul, Turkey	World Junior Championships
April 18	Minsk, USSR	Women's Foil
April 19	Heidenheim, BRD	Epee
April 26	Budapest, Hungary	Sabre
May 4	London, G.B.	de Beaumont Women's
May 11	Padova, Italy	Luxardo Sabre
May 11	London, G.B.	Miller Hallet Epee
May 18	London, G.B.	Coronation Foil
May 25	Como, Italy	d'Argento Foil
June 1	Bologna, Italy	Giovannini Foil
June 8	Warszawa, Poland	Trybuna Foil
July 16	Grenoble, France	World Championships

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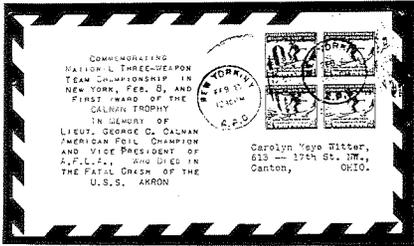
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PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

by Emily B. Johnson, Chairman
By-Law Revision Committee

In the last issue of American Fencing Bill Goering summarized the sad necessity for revising our dues schedule. There is no point in repeating it. What follows is the exact wording of the proposed changes.

A proposal to Amend Articles IV and V of the By-Laws of the Amateur Fencers League of America.

ARTICLE IV:

COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all persons who have attained the age of 18 but have not reached their 23rd birthday as of the beginning of the current fiscal year upon payment of the dues for the current year as specified in these By-Laws.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all persons who have not yet attained the age of 18 as of the beginning of the current fiscal year as specified in these By-Laws.

* * *

**ARTICLE V:
Fees, Dues and Arrears**

Section 1. The schedule of annual dues of the Amateur Fencers League of America shall be as follows:

Class of Membership	Annual Dues	Annual Dues Prepaid for a 3 year period
Active	\$15.00	\$37.50
Collegiate	8.00	20.00
Student	4.00	10.00

All annual dues shall be paid directly to the Secretary of the Corporation or his authorized agent.

Section 3. Associate Membership Fee. Associate Membership in the Corporation shall be divided into the following categories:

Class of Associate Membership	Annual Dues	Annual Dues Prepaid for a 3 year period
Regular	\$5.00	\$12.50
Supporting	12.00	30.00
Contributing	25.00	60.00
Class "A"	50.00 (or more)	120.00

One-third of this fee shall be paid over by the Secretary of the Corporation to the Treasurer of the Division to which the member belongs to be retained by the Division.

**PROXY FOR ANNUAL MEETING SOLICITED
ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

The undersigned hereby appoints William A. Goering, Emily Johnson, & Bernstein, or any of them, in his stead, attorneys and proxies to vote with a which the undersigned would possess if personally present at the Annual Meeting (including all adjournments thereof) of members of the Amateur Fencers League of America to be held during the period June 22-29, 1974 in New York, New York at the s National Fencing Championships, as follows:

1. On the proposed changes in the By Laws as printed:

- for all changes as proposed
- Against all changes as proposed
- For all changes **except** those listed below

2. Upon other business as may properly come before the meeting, or an adj This proxy shall be voted as directed, and if no direction to the contrary is i it shall be voted **FOR** all changes to the By Laws.

I hereby certify that I am a member in good standing of the AFLA as of this have attained my 18th birthday.

Signed Date
SEND PROXY TO: Irwin F. Bernstein, 249 Eton Place, Westfield, N.J. 07090

CONTRIBUTORS PLEASE NOTE

Articles, letters to the editor, etc. are cordially solicited. All manuscripts should be typewritten, double spaced, on one side of the paper only, with wide margins. No anonymous articles can be accepted.

**MID ATLANTIC
UNDER 19 SECTIONAL**

The Mid Atlantic Section's Championships will be held on Me 19 at Fort Dix, New Jersey, with th ation of the Department of the / the South Jersey Division.

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