

American Fencing

More About the A.F.L.A.

By Jose de Capriles, President

In the last issue I discussed with you briefly some of the advantages of belonging to the Amateur Fencers League of America. Now we might well take a look at how the A.F.L.A. is constituted and operated.

The A.F.L.A. is a national organization with administrative subdivisions scattered throughout the country. These units are called divisions and have such powers as are granted to them by a charter issued by the national governing body over a specified territorial area. A fencer who becomes a divisional member of the A.F.L.A. must reside in, or fence regularly with an organization located in, the territory of that division. There is in addition a "non-divisional" group which consists of all the fencers in and around New York City and all others who do not live or fence within the territorial boundaries of an A.F.L.A. division.

The management of the League is vested in a Board of Governors composed of the president, four sectional vice-presidents (one each from the East, the Mid-West, the Southwest, and the Pacific Coast), the secretary, the treasurer, the foreign secretary, the chairman of each division, a number of "non-divisional" governors, some "additional governors" from the divisions, and the three previous presidents of the A.F.L.A. All but the last named are elected annually. The "non-divisional" governors are those elected by the non-divisional group, and their number is determined by dividing the total number of non-divisional voting members (Life, Active, Collegiate and Associate), as of the preceding August 31, by 35 and adding 1. The same basic formula is applied in determining the number of divisional governors. When a division has more than 50 voting members, it is entitled to one or more "additional" governors (i.e. in addition to the divisional chairman), so that it shall have one governor for every 35 divisional members. All business of the A.F.L.A. is transacted by this Board of Governors.

The election of national officers, including the sectional vice-presidents, all of whom are automatically on the Board, takes place at the Annual Meeting of the League, which is held at the time and place of the national championship tournament. Nominations are filed in January by the National Nominating Committee, consisting of five fencers elected at the preceding Annual Meeting; additional nominations may be filed by written petition of 10 or more voting members. The national committee is so



composed that it represents all sections of the country, and its members are expected to sound out sentiment in their respective sections and submit nominations which will meet general approval.

The Board of Governors usually meets in New York once a month during the fencing season. The choice of New York as a meeting place is dictated by reasons of convenience and economy, in view of the fact that a major portion of the League's membership (and therefore of the governors) is to be found in the metropolitan area and its surrounding divisions. In carrying out its functions, the Board relies heavily upon the work of certain Standing Committees and a few special committees. The most important committees are:

1. Executive Committee. This is a committee of not less than five governors, which must include four of the elected officers of the League and is empowered to act for the Board of Governors during the period between regular meetings.

2. Metropolitan Committee. This committee is entrusted with the conduct of fencing affairs for the New York metropolitan area, and roughly corresponds to the executive committee for the divisions. Its powers are somewhat more limited, however, since the Board as a whole must decide policy questions affecting the non-divisional member-

ship. The function of the metropolitan committee is to relieve the Board of routine administrative duties of a local nature, in order to enable the Board to concentrate on national affairs.

3. Rules Committee. This committee recommends to the Board changes in the rules of competition. All proposals for rule changes are normally referred to the committee for study. If the Board resolves that a change shall be made, the committee is asked to draft the exact text and present the final draft for formal approval of the Board.

4. Constitutional Committee. All major proposed amendments to the constitution and by-laws are submitted to this committee for study and recommended text. The Board also calls upon this group for interpretations whenever necessary.

5. Policy Board on American Fencing. All questions of policy affecting the publication of **American Fencing** are referred for decision to a "policy board" consisting of the elected officers of the League and the publisher and editor of **American Fencing**.

6. Reinstatement Committee. Whenever the Board receives an application for reinstatement to amateur status, the Board turns over the application to this committee for thorough investigation and review; a complete report and recommendation is then submitted to the Board for action. A basic requirement for consideration by this committee is that the applicant shall have ceased all professional activity at least two years prior to the date of application for reinstatement.

7. Certificate of Merit Committee. Applications made to the Board of Governors by a local executive committee for the award of the certificate of merit to a teacher of fencing who meets the specific qualifications outlined in the Rules Book are referred to this committee for investigation and recommendation prior to formal Board action.

8. Major Special Committees. The Board of Governors usually appoints special committees whenever contemplated action requires either more careful study than can normally be obtained at a regular meeting or the carrying out of a detailed administrative function. Thus special committees are always appointed to handle various aspects of the national championship tournament, and to examine all cases of discipline (whether divisional or non-divisional) involving serious penalties.

INTERIM MEMBERSHIP REPORT

In order to facilitate accurate check of membership figures, an effort will be made to print the current statistics in **American Fencing** three or four times a year. The following interim report shows the state of the records of the national secretary as of January 5, 1954. Divisional secretaries should communicate with the national office promptly if their records show any discrepancies:

Members	Act.	Col.	St.	Assoc.	Total
Non-Divisional					
Metropolitan	78	63	29	16	186
Kansas	3	2	5	0	10
Divisional					
Columbus	0	25	0	1	26
Delaware	4	0	0	0	4
Gulf Coast	18	58	19	1	96
Illinois	13	13	25	3	54
Iowa	4	0	18	0	22
Michigan	42	30	16	2	90
Mid New York	5	1	0	0	6
Minnesota	7	8	1	0	16
Nebraska	5	7	0	0	12
New England	12	11	2	2	27
New Jersey	14	20	16	5	55
New Orleans	2	10	0	0	12
No. Calif.	25	15	5	2	47
Oregon	6	4	1	0	11
Philadelphia	15	27	20	2	64
Seattle	7	7	0	0	14
So. Calif.	100	30	7	5	142
So. Florida	4	2	1	0	7
Westchester	5	1	0	0	6
West. New York	21	33	14	2	70
Wisconsin	10	4	4	0	18

Totals as of Jan. 5, 1954 400 370 183 42 995
Life Members 18

The first membership report for the 1953-1954 season has not yet been received from the following divisions: Alaska, Border, Cincinnati, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Miami Valley, Northern Ohio, Northern Texas, Spokane, St. Louis, Washington (D.C.) and West Point.

It is important that divisional secretaries file regular membership reports once a month, and as promptly as possible. This is requested not only in the interest of efficient handling of the national office's affairs but also to insure that new members are placed on the mailing list of **American Fencing** without delay.

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and all Division Secretaries. Cartoons by Ida Balint.

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necessarily of American Fencing or the A.F.L.A. No anonymous articles accepted.

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Application for entry as second class matter is pending.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS MARCH 15, 1954

Masters Foil Scheduled For May 23

The first annual Masters Foil Competition has been scheduled for Sunday, May 23, 1954, at 1 P.M., at the Fencers Club, New York. Eligible for this event are amateur "masters" — i. e. those who have twice placed in the national foil championship or who have been memers of a U. S. Olympic fencing team in foil—and fencing teachers who are associate members of the A.F.L.A.

The perpetual trophy for this event is a small bronze figure by Rougelet, depicting a foilsman of the classical French school circa 1900. The trophy has been named in honor of Rene Pinchart, fencing master at the Fencers Club and coach of the 1928, 1932, 1948 and 1952 United States Olympic teams.

Massard Honored

Armand Massard, Honorary President of the French Fencing Federation, President of the French Olympic Committee, and Vice-President of the International Olympic Committee, has been awarded the insignia of Commander of the Legion of Honor. Mr. Massard won the individual Olympic epee title at Amsterdam in 1928.

Rossi on Olympic Committee

Major Don Rossi, USAF, has been named Armed Forces representative on the United States Olympic Fencing Committee. His selection increases the membership of the committee to thirteen. Major Rossi represented the armed forces as an observer at the Olympic Games in Helsinki, and is now working with the A.F.L.A. on a plan for the development of fencing centers at the major air bases in the United States.

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HELENE MAYER MEMORIAL

The first annual Helene Mayer Memorial Competition, scheduled for May 2, 1954 at 2 p.m. in the Mills College Gymnasium, Oakland, California, is open to all woman fencers in good standing in any division of the A.F.L.A. Entry fee is \$1.00. All entries must reach Mrs. Shirley Canter, 2580 Polk St., San Francisco, not later than April 24, 1954.

The winner will receive custody of a beautiful cup, 17 inches high and imported from Paris, for one year. Individual prizes will be given for the first three places.

Boys High School Wins Castello Trophy

By Pieter Mijer

Boys High School of Brooklyn, last year's winners, again captured the Hugo 'M. Castello trophy and the N.Y.U. gold medals at the 19th annual invitation interscholastic tournament held at the downtown center of New York University. The tournament was first organized in 1934, but there was a gap of two years during the war in the continuity of the event. The champion trio, Frank Carnevale, Frank Bronciforte and Angelo Espiritu, was tested to the utmost in the final match and won only by 5-4 against Eastern District's team, composed of John Mocariski, Petro Sodol and Jack Szepelek. In the battle for third place, Dickinson High School of Jersey City defeated DeWitt Clinton High School of the Bronx.

Eighteen preparatory and high schools, including Nichols from Buffalo, competed in the event. The quality of the fencing was above average. Jack Gorlin, N.Y.U. alumnus, was in charge.

Official A.F.L.A. Notes By RALPH GOLDSTEIN, Secretary

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS

National

The annual meeting of the Amateur Fencers League of America will be held at the Fencers Club, 320 East 53rd Street, New York City, on Monday, June 14, 1954, at 8:00 P.M.

The Agenda includes reports from the present national officers and from representatives of the divisions of the League, the election of national officers for the 1954-1955 season, and the election of the nominating committee for national officers for the 1955-1956 season. Ratification of an amendment to Section 11, Chapter VIII of the By-Laws is also included.

All members of the A.F.L.A. are urged to attend.

Non-Divisional

The annual meeting of the Non-Divisional Members of the League will be held at the Fencers Club, 320 East 53rd Street, New York City, on Monday, June 7, 1954, at 8:00 P.M.

The Agenda includes reports from the Metropolitan Committee officers and discussion of matters of local interest, the election of non-divisional members of the 1954-1955 Board of Governors, and the election of the nominating committee for non-divisional governors to serve during the 1955-1956 season.

All non-divisional members of the League, whether in the metropolitan area or elsewhere, are urged to attend.

A.A.U. Delegates Named

The A.F.L.A. Board of Governors at its December meeting appointed four delegates to the Amateur Athletic Union: Jose de Capriles, Dernel Every, Ralph Goldstein and Tracy Jaeckel; and also named four alternates: Miguel de Capriles, James Flynn, Rudolph Ozol and George Worth.

Before the foundation of the A.F.L.A. in 1891, the A.A.U. conducted the national fencing championships. Shortly after 1891, the A.F.L.A. entered into Articles of Affiliation with the A.A.U., whereby the A.F.L.A. was recognized as the official governing body for U. S. amateur fencing and the A.F.L.A. champions as the amateur fencing champions of the United States. As a symbol of the close cooperation which has prevailed among the two amateur organizations, the individual national fencing championship medals bear on one side the A.F.L.A. musketeer and on the other side the official A.A.U. championship emblem.

Special Committee

The President has appointed a Technical and Safety Committee whose task will be to conduct a continuing study of all problems involving technical improvements and safety measures in A.F.L.A. competitions, and to make periodic reports and recommendations to the Board of Governors. The committee includes Albie Axelrod, Dick Lutz, Jules Campos, Bill Latzko, Nat Lubell and Charlie Willous.

NATIONAL NOMINATIONS

Dr. James H. Flynn, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for National Officers, has submitted the following proposed slate for the 1954-1955 fencing season:

For President: Jose R. de Capriles, Westchester.

For Vice President: Donald S. Thompson, No. Ohio.

For 2d Vice President: Dr. Paul T. Makler, Philadelphia.

For 3d Vice President: Harold Van Buskirk, Gulf.

For 4th Vice President: Gerard Biagini, No. Calif.

For Secretary: Ralph Goldstein, Westchester.

For Treasurer: Rudolph Ozol, New Jersey.

For Foreign Secretary: Tracy Jaeckel, Non-Divisional.

Additional nominations may be filed in writing with the Secretary of the A.F.L.A., Ralph Goldstein, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y., on or before March 5, 1954, if supported by petition of not less than ten voting members of the League.

NON-DIVISIONAL NOMINATIONS

Tracy Jaeckel, Chairman of the Nominating Committee for Non-Divisional Governors, has submitted the following slate for the 1954-1955 fencing season:

Dr. Daniel Bukantz, Fencers Club

Miss Dorothy Friedman, Salle Santelli

Sol Gorlin, Salle Santelli

Norman Lewis, Salle Santelli

Wilfred Ritayik, Saltus Club

Maria C. Tishman, Fencers Club

Albert C. Vogt, N.Y.A.C.

Additional nominations may be filed in writing with the Secretary of the League if supported by petition of not less than ten non-divisional voting members.

Joseph Levis Reinstated

Acting upon a strong recommendation from the Reinstatement Committee, the Board of Governors at its December meeting approved the reinstatement of Joseph Levis to amateur standing.

Mr. Levis, the greatest amateur foinisman ever developed in the United States, won several national titles and placed second in the 1932 Olympic Foil Championship at Los Angeles—a performance which still stands as the highwater mark of American success in international fencing. An alumnus of M.I.T. and long interested in the promotion of the sport at his Alma Mater, Mr. Levis joined the M.I.T. coaching staff in 1939 and served on a part-time basis for ten years. He received moderate compensation for his services in some years, but during the war coached the M.I.T. team without pay. He never solicited other pupils or set up a salle d'armes. Under the circumstances, the Reinstatement Committee was of the opinion that Mr. Levis had never held himself out to the public as a fencing master, and that his reinstatement to amateur standing was well within the Statement of Policy adopted by the Board of Governors in 1952.

Have you changed your address recently? Please notify us promptly of any change of address, so that our mailing list may be up to date.

NEW RULES

Some modifications in the Rules covering judging were made necessary by the Constitutional Amendment passed last June (see May, 1953 issue) and by the mail vote of the Board of Governors in October (see December 1953 issue). These changes were completed by Board action on January 11th, 1954. Here is the exact text of the new rules, so that you may correct your Rules Book accordingly.

Rule 601. The Bout Committee for all A.F.L.A. events shall consist of members of the League in good standing. If professional Associate members serve on the Committee, they may not participate in the seeding of pools.

Rule 603. The Jury shall be composed of a Director and four Judges whenever possible. The Director and Judges in official A.F.L.A. competitions shall be amateurs in good standing except that for Divisional or Non-Divisional competitions a jury may contain one or more non-amateur members of the League if such a decision is made by affirmative action of the appropriate governing body.

Rule 608. In team matches, the Director and Judges shall not be members or teachers of either club participating in the match.

Rule 609. In individual events the Director and Judges should not belong to the same club as, or be the teacher of, either contestant. For practical reasons, however, final decision in this matter as regards amateur officials rests solely with the Bout Committee.



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In a recent article in *L'Esprime Francaise*, the President of the French Academy of Arms reports the findings of the International Council of Military Sports (C.I.S.M.) in its investigations concerning the value of different sports to military training, and in particular for the extraordinary requirements of modern air combat. Medical opinion in Europe, as exemplified by the testimony of French, Italian, Belgium and Dutch medical experts, seems to place fencing at the top of the list of recommended sports for air-force pilots.

The Italian expert, Professor of Human Physiology at the University of Rome and Head of the Aeronautical Medical Research Center, states: "There is a profound analogy between aviation and fencing. . . . Fencing is a particularly good sport because it accustoms (the pilot) to an evaluation of the strength of the opponent, to the use of reasoning and the exercise of courage."

A French authority, Director of the Center for Aeronautical Biology in Nancy, puts it this way: "The war pilot must be determined to win without pity. The summary of the qualities which must be developed in the military aviator shows the need of physical education, but it also shows the need of orienting such education toward the objective to be attained. Fencing competitions are a good test of speed, appropriate choice of the time for action, and precision in motor reactions."

A Dutch Air-Force colonel in the medical corps goes into more detail: "Even though medical examinations and psycho-technical tests are important, it is quite clear that it is necessary to build up and improve physical and mental aptitudes. One must look for such qualities as speed in sensory and muscular reactions, concentration and distribution of attention, the making of precise and rapid decisions, endurance and initiative; and these qualities are all developed by fencing."

The Secretary of the Executive Committee of the C.I.S.M. sums it up: "Everyone agrees that fencing has a privileged place in developing proper reactions, because of the preeminent role played by 'controlled reaction', which is so vital in aviation. Thus, the parry calls for the riposte, but the riposte may be made in different lines, and may in turn be met by the counter-riposte, and so on, without forgetting the counter-time against the feint, or the secondary intention which are such important factors in fencing. In addition, fencing develops

serenity under fire, because the fencer does not have to deal with an object but with a thinking person—his opponent—in a struggle fought at terribly close quarters and with movements of lightning rapidity."

The author of the article concludes as follows: "Fencing occupies a place of honor among aviators. . . . Through this specialized sport, they may stabilize their psychological tensions, control their emotional reactions, and develop self-mastery. They therefore will have confidence in themselves at every moment, and will be able to react immediately on the attack or defense."

It is interesting to note that the U. S. Air Force is also deeply interested in developing fencing, and that efforts are being made to establish fencing centers at all major air bases in this country.

—M. de C.

INTERCOLLEGIATE INVITATION (Men)

A strong field of 38 entries from 18 colleges competed in the first annual AFLA college invitation foil tournament for men held during the Christmas recess at the New York Athletic Club. Midshipman Gonzales of Navy, with clean sweeps in the preliminaries and finals, and but one defeat in the semi-finals, was clearly the best fencer in the event. The results:

Finalists: (1) Gonzales, Navy, 8-0; (2) Clinton, Wayne, 6-2; (3) Kolowrat, Princeton, 5-3, 23/33; (4) Wallner, N.Y.U., 5-3, 23/29; (5) Craig, Boston U., 5-3, 27 t.r.; (6) Schoeck, N.Y.U., 3-4; (7) Keggi, Yale, 2-6; (8) Cohen, Yale, 1-7; (9) Zechlin, Navy, 0-7.

Semi-Finalists: Daos and Sutter, Navy; Hagihara and Rubinstein, Columbia; Glatzer, Brooklyn College; Goldman, Pennsylvania; Jesswine, U. of Connecticut; Shoemaker, Yale.

Others: Patchowsky, Seeman, Weiss and Wortlieb, CCNY; Davidson, Lee and Pell, U. Conn.; Fenichal and Peronti, Johns Hopkins; Karp and Nickels, U. of Pa.; Mernick and Prostick, Brooklyn; Richards and Lovely, Boston U.; Mateo, U. of Bridgeport; De Martini, Columbia; Alessio, N.Y.U.; Schneider, Harvard; Sherman, Tufts; Tongring, Yale.

—J. de C.

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT

Coach R. J. Perry reports the following dual meet schedule: January 8: At Fenn College and Case; 9, Oberlin and Ohio State at O.S.U.; 16, Wayne and Michigan State at home; 23, Northwestern at Mich. St.; February 6, Toronto at home; 12, at Notre Dame; 13, Chicago and Wisconsin, at Wis.; 19, at Illinois; 20, Cincinnati and Indiana at Ind. Louis Busch is captain of the team.

INTERCOLLEGIATE FENCING ASSOCIATION

By George L. Shiebler

At the annual meeting of the Association held on December 9, Mr. James Gilloon was re-elected President and Mr. Asa S. Bushnell was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. The award of the 1954 championships to New York University was confirmed. The tournament will be held at the Alumni Gymnasium, University Heights, on Friday and Saturday, March 12 and 13, 1954.

The Bout Committee in charge of the championships consists of alumni of member colleges as follows: Norman Lewis, NYU, Chairman; Dr. Daniel Bukantz, CCNY; Alfred Skrobisch, Columbia; Hamilton Millard,

Cornell; Rudolph J. Ozol, MIT; Commo. Leonard Doughty, USN; Tracy Jaeckel, Princeton; and Joseph B. Ullman, Yale. The Rules Committee consists of M. de Capriles, chairman; Robert Driscoll and Dernel Every.

The safety electrical point without prongs (either flat or hemispheric tip) was made compulsory for the 1954 championships in epee. The use of school colors on parts of the mask not liable to come in contact with the opponent's blade was approved. A liberalization of substitution rules for dual meets (not for the championships) was also approved.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION 1954 Fencing Championship Rules

By **Alvar Hermanson**
Chairman

The N.C.A.A. rules committee has prescribed the following regulations for the 1954 fencing championships to be held at the University of Chicago on Friday and Saturday, March 26 and 27, 1954:

1. An institution should, if possible, be represented by a full team (one man in each weapon).
2. Only one fencer in each weapon from the same school may compete in the tournament.

3. A fencer may compete in one weapon only.
4. There shall be no substitutions during the tournament.

5. All coaches who will be acting as officials must report 15 minutes prior to starting time of each session.

6. A scoring squad should be organized and rehearsed in order that a master score sheet will be kept accurate and up to date.

7. All fencers must wear identification arm bands to identify their school.

8. Equipment (uniform, mask, glove, weapon) will be rigidly inspected and any unsafe material absolutely excluded. This is done in the interest of safety. **Each fencer is personally responsible for the adequacy of his equipment.**

9. It is recommended that when new strips are purchased they be 48' or 50' in length to allow sufficient room off the end of the strip to permit normal operation of the ground rules regarding going off the end of the strip.

10. When the strip is of exactly official length (40') and there is no place to retreat beyond the end of the strip a line shall be drawn four feet from the ends of the strip and the bout shall be stopped when the fencer steps behind the line with both feet.

In foil the fencer shall be placed 1 meter in front of the 4' line and if he steps behind that line again with both feet a touch shall be awarded to his opponent.

In sabre and epee the fencer who steps behind the 4' line with both feet will be brought back to the center of the strip and thereafter the foil rule shall apply.

11. Fencers who are "on deck" must report when called and wait at opposite ends of the strip for their bout to start.

12. All bouts shall have a five minute time limit measured as follows: The first three minutes shall be straight running time (except for official time out). The bout shall be stopped and the director shall give a two minute warning. At the end of the next minute of actual fencing time, measured by a stop watch, with time out for the deliberations of the jury or other official interruptions of the bout, the bout shall again be stopped and the director shall give a one minute warning. The last minute is also actual fencing time. No other time warning shall be given. If at the end of the time allotted the fencers are tied in touches, the score shall be brought to four-all in foil and sabre, and two-all in epee. The fencers shall compete for a single decisive touch without limit of time.

If the bout is not stopped and a time warning given, the bout shall continue on the basis of the warnings already given. If no warning was given, two minutes remain. If one warning was given, one minute remains.

13. In the event that a fencer withdraws from the tournament due to accident or other inability to continue in the tournament, such accident or inability being duly certified by the bout committee, the results achieved by the withdrawing fencer shall be scored as follows:

(a) If the withdrawing fencer has completed 50 per cent or more of the bouts he was scheduled to fence, the results of the bouts fenced shall stand. All bouts remaining unfenced shall be scored as defeats for the withdrawing contestant by default.

(b) If the withdrawing fencer has actually

fenced less than 50 per cent of the bouts he was scheduled to fence, the results shall be completely cancelled in the same manner as if the withdrawing fencer had never entered the competition.

(c) However, in the event that a withdrawing contestant's bouts shall have been annulled, the relative standing of the medalists shall be determined without counting the annulled bouts, except that if two or more fencers are tied for a medal and all of them have met the withdrawing fencer, the tie shall be resolved by including the results of the annulled bouts in the count of victories and touches.

14. The Rules Committee strongly recommends that epeeists especially be trained to relax the grip, withdraw the arm, or otherwise halt the progress of the weapon once the touch lands. This is not an attempt to control the technique of fencing. It is purely an attempt to insure safety and to try and stop what appears to be a dangerous trend.

15. For the 1954 N.C.A.A. Championships all electrical weapons must be equipped with the new safety points **without prongs**. Two types are permitted: the flat tip with serrated surface developed last year by Mr. Charles Willous, A.F.L.A. technical expert; or the hemispheric convex tip with a burred surface adopted by the International Fencing Federation and prescribed for the 1953 World Championships.

16. In the N.C.A.A. Championships, the position of the teams on the prearranged order of bouts should be determined by drawing lots at the coaches' meeting.

17. A.F.L.A. Rules with N.C.A.A. modifications of these rules shall prevail and be strictly enforced.

18. There shall be no smoking by fencers or officials during the meet on the gym floor. Rooms will be set aside for said purpose.

National Collegiate Championship

The 48th Annual Convention of the National Collegiate Association voted to change the name of the fencing competition sponsored by it from N.C.A.A. Fencing Tournament to "National Collegiate Fencing Championship." The Convention was of the opinion that the tournament was truly national in character and that the athlete winning this type of competition should be designated as national collegiate champion. The change becomes effective with the 1954 competition which is to be held at the University of Chicago, March 26 and 27.

WOMEN'S INTERCOLLEGIATE INVITATION

By **Dorothy Friedman**

Beverly Feigelman of Hunter College, by her clear-cut victory in the annual Christmas Invitation meet, loomed as the leading challenger to Cathy Kopp's intercollegiate title. Miss Kopp, representing Montclair S.T.C., tied with Grace Marchant of Tufts College for the runner-up spot, but finished third on a count of touches. There were 35 competitors. The summaries:

Finalists: (1) B. Feigelman, Hunter, 7-1; (2) G. Marchant, Tufts, 6-2, 13 t.r.; (3) C. Kopp, Montclair, 6-2, 17 t.r.; (4) G. Monaco, Paterson, 5-3, 16 t.r.; (5) M. Rich, Brooklyn, 5-3, 17 t.r.; (6) R. Di Lello, Hunter, 3-5; (7) D. Heys, Montclair, 2-6; (8) E. Terhune, Farleigh-Dickinson, 1-8, 21 t.r.; (9) J. Monteverde, F-D, 1-8, 24 t.r.

Semi-Finalists: S. Schechter and D. Mastropaolo, Brooklyn; E. Miller, J. Dardia and M. A. Nebiker, Paterson; V. Brown, N.Y.U.; Rawcliffe, Montclair; Connie Shames, Hunter; D. Kessler, F-D.

Others: H. Calkin and A. Herman, N.Y.U.; C. Zschaler and H. King, Hunter; J. Ricketts, Barnard; J. Moreck, Paterson; S. Miller and M. Schultz, Brooklyn; M. Waro and J. Perraudin, Montclair; R. Moran, E. McNeely and B. Biel, F-D; D. Capasso, M. McInerney, M. Barrett and D. O'Connor, Jersey City S.T.C.

NORTH ATLANTIC INTERCOLLEGIATES

The 4th North Atlantic Intercollegiate Fencing Conference Championships, open to colleges not belonging to other conferences, will be held at the University of Buffalo on Saturday, March 20, 1954, beginning at 1 p.m. Applications may be obtained by writing Sidney Schwartz, c/o University of Buffalo Athletic Department, 3335 Main St., Buffalo, N. Y.

The University of Buffalo won the three-weapon and foil team titles last year, and tied with Syracuse for the sabre team crown. Rochester Institute of Technology is the defending epee team champion. The 1953 individual winners were Carl Del Bruno, Utica College, in foil; John Goldstein, Syracuse, in epee; and Crawford Rose, St. Lawrence, in sabre.

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News from the Divisions

Southern California

By Fred Linkmeyer

There was an error in the results of the Novice Epee competition held on October 16 and reported in the last issue. The correct results were:

1. Bob Crawford, Faulkner
2. Arthur Reich, Knights
3. Keith Glazer, Unatt.

The results of competitions from mid-November to mid-January were:

Novice Sabre 11/13/53

1. Henry Morales, Cavaliers
2. Bob Crawford, Faulkner
3. Sal De Bellis, Cavaliers

Junior Sabre 11/20/53

1. Fred Rayser, L.A.A.C.
2. Bob Crawford, Faulkner
3. William Lundeberg, Cavaliers

Junior Sabre Team 12/4/53

Faulkner S.F. (Martin Kirschner, Bob Crawford, Forrest Carter).

Senior Foil 12/11/53

1. Josef Lampl, L.A.A.C.
2. Herb Sauke, Unatt.
3. Garry Martin, Unatt.

Bowen Handicap Foil 12/18/53

1. Bob Crawford, Faulkner
2. Lucius Foster, Faulkner
3. Clayton Williams, Unatt.

Senior Epee 1/8/54

1. Josef Lampl, L.A.A.C.
2. William Lundeberg, Cavaliers
3. Dave Rice, L.A.A.C.

Women's Junior Team 11/13/53

Faulkner S.F. (Pamela Mason, Bettie Merwin, Bonnie Merwin).

Women's Senior 12/4/53

1. Maxine Mitchell, Hollywood A.C.
2. Barbara Baxter, Unatt.
3. Trudi Wodgenske, Cavaliers

Women's Intermediate

1. Barbara Baxter, Unatt.
2. Alice Gerakin, Faulkner
3. Trudi Wodgenske, Cavaliers

Gulf Coast

By Mabel Morse

The first prize competitions of the season were held at Rice Institute on December 12, 1953. The results were:

Women's Open

1. Miss Carolyn Babbitt
2. Mrs. Ruth Peaceman
3. Mrs. Nancy Derrick

Open Foil

1. Gus Wulfman (on fence-off)
2. W. L. Huettel
3. Carl Hill (on touches)
4. R. S. Clark (on touches)
5. W. E. Anderson (on touches)

The second set of prize competitions was held at the University of Houston Gymnasium on January 9. The results:

Women's Novice

1. Miss Carolyn Babbitt, Houston F.C.
2. Mrs. Nancy Derrick, Humble Club
3. Miss Mabel Morse, Humble Club

Novice Foil

1. R. W. Derrick, Humble Club (on fence-off)
2. Jurgen Strobel, Houston F.C. (on fence-off)
3. Don Caldwell, Houston F.C. (on fence-off)

Open Sabre

1. Wm. T. Brown, Buccaneers
2. A. E. Garner, Texas A. & M. (on touches)
3. Carl Hill, Texas A. & M. (on touches)

Northern California

By Ferard Leicester

The first annual Helene Mayer Memorial Trophy Competition has been scheduled for Mills College, Oakland, California, May 2, 1954 at 2 p.m. The trophy committee consists of Tommy Angell, Jack Baker, Shirley Canter, Salvatore Giambra, Mary Huddleston, Hans Halberstadt and Ferard Leicester. Results of recent competitions:

Women's Junior (Nov. 27, 4 entries)

After two fence-offs of triple tie:

1. Harriet Coe, Funke F.A.
2. Lynn Zelinski, Halberstadt S.F.
3. Vera Pirquet, Halberstadt S.F.

Junior Foil (Dec. 5, 14 entries)

Fence-off for first place, 5-3:

1. Ralph Amado, Stanford
2. Jerome Klotz, U. of Calif.
3. Dirk Van Peenen, Berkeley F.C.

Junior Epee (Dec. 11, 5 entries)

1. Dirk Van Peenen, Berkeley F.C.
2. Edgar Talley, Halberstadt S.F.
3. Arnold Kirschner, Funke F.A.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Janice Lee York, national champion in 1950 and 1951, was married on Thanksgiving Day to Charles Gerald Romary and is now residing at 1015 1/2 North Hayworth Street, West Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. Romary, who was a member of the 1948 and 1952 U. S. Olympic fencing teams, and placed fourth at Helsinki, is planning to try out for the 1956 team to improve on her previous performance.

Nebraska

By John Giele

The possibility of fencing developing well in this area appears to be good at this time. In the past year there has been keen interest in the sport, and this area does not have certain winter sports, such as skiing, to compete with it. The University of Nebraska has been very cooperative in getting fencing started in the school, as well as assisting in the formation of a club for those who are not able to compete on the varsity level. There is also a large interested group of fencers in the Omaha area. It would be very helpful to have a professional in the area. A schedule of events is being prepared and will be announced shortly.

A.F.L.A. DIRECTORY CHANGES

Colorado: Divisional Secretary: Robert Johnson, 520 Equitable Building, Denver, Colorado.

Nebraska: Chairman: John Giele, 516 North 16th Street, Apt. 14, Lincoln 8, Nebraska.

Secretary: Richard Dahl, 205, South 27th Street, Lincoln 8, Nebraska.

An ad in American Fencing reaches fencers throughout the country. Write us for rates.

Illinois

By Tom Soddy

The University Club of Chicago (L. Turner, R. Venegas and Al Rose) defeated Salle Champaign, 5-3, to win the junior foil team championship in a field of six teams. Austin H. S. "A" team was third.

A dual meet between Chicago and Milwaukee resulted in a spirited battle but a one-sided score. Milwaukee shaded Chicago in the men's foil, 5-4, but the home team swept the remaining events: epee 6-3, sabre 8-1, women's foil 5-4. Final score, Chicago 23, Milwaukee 13. Don Thompson, national epee champion, and his wife, Mrs. Sue Thompson, were undefeated for the winners.

Results of other competitions:

Prep Foil

1. Mark Zirino, Tribilene Club
2. Juan Morales, Tribilene Club
3. Don Shuford, Champaign

Open Foil

1. Tony Zombolas, Champaign
2. Herman Velasco, Champaign
3. Richard Podlesak, University Club

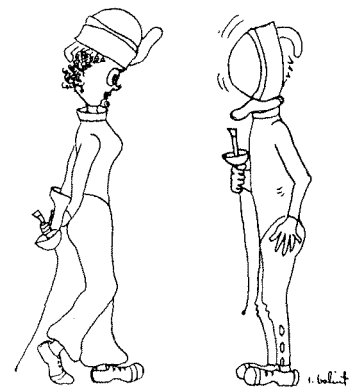
Junior Foil Team

University Club (L. Turner, A. Rose, R. Venegas).

MIAMI VALLEY

By Robert F. Goodbar

The Central YMCA at Dayton, Ohio (117 W. Monument Avenue) has organized a co-educational fencing group, under the leadership of Bob Goodbar. Activities began October 28.



"How many times did you say you had won the world championship?"

Georgia

By Warren G. Davis, Jr.

The results of 1953 competitions were as follows:

Novice Foil (1) Dan Roberts; (2) Phil Massey; (3) R. Keaton.

Novice Sabre (1) Robert Gillis (on fence-off); (2) Warren G. Davis, Jr.; (3) William E. Deal.

Novice Epee (1) Warren G. Davis, Jr.; (2) Phil Massey; (3) Dan Roberts.

News from the Divisions

Western New York

By Roger F. Jones

Our season opened with an Open Invitational Tournament in November, and was followed by the Open Team, and Individual Novice and Junior events. Professor Julius Alpar has been making regular trips to Buffalo and giving lessons to interested fencers. Much attention is now being focused on finding a location for a fencing club which will serve as a central headquarters for local activities. Our divisional lapel pins have been put on sale and have proved very popular. Recently Sid Schwartz and Fran Breton were selected to represent fencing at Buffalo's annual March of Dimes Sportswriters Dinner. Divisional members contributed the two \$25.00 tickets (which were awarded as a surprise to the lucky two on a local TV sports show).

Results of competitions up to January 10, 1954:

WESTERN NEW YORK OPEN INVITATION

Women's Foil

1. Judy Goodrich, Lapeer H.S., Michigan
2. Fran Breton, Penguins, Buffalo
3. Gyorgyi Telbisz, Catelli F.C., Montreal

Men's Foil

1. Robert Dederian, Sampson AFB, Geneva
2. Arthur Plouffe, Rochester
3. Les Williams, Penguins, Buffalo

Epee

1. Bill Kohsmann, U.B. Alumni, Buffalo
2. Donn Boyle, Penguins, Buffalo
3. Howard Fried, Cleveland

Sabre

1. Dan Rubinstein, Syracuse
2. Tony Buzzelli, Penguins, Buffalo
3. Aldo Santorri, U. of Buffalo

OTHER EVENTS

Women's Foil Team

1. Buffalo F.C. (Janet Jegart, Roslyn Schwartz, Jeanne Sikes).
2. Buffalo Jewish Center

Men's Foil Team

1. Rochester (Art Plouffe, Lou Cargill, Dave Bohacket).

2. U.B. Alumni
3. Buffalo F.C.

Epee Team

1. Buffalo F.C. (Fulton Dye, Rogers Jones, Dave Bohacket).
2. U.B. Alumni
3. Penguins

Sabre Team

1. Rochester (Dave Bohacket, Art Plouffe, Norb Reade).
2. Penguins
3. Sampson A.F.B.

Novice Foil

1. Steve Sikes, Sampson A.F.B.
2. Roger Jones, Buffalo F.C.
3. Al Jed, U.B.

Novice Epee

1. Al Jed, U.B.
2. Francis Catlin, Elmira
3. Larry Silverman, Sampson A.F.B.

Novice Sabre

1. Les Williams, Penguins
2. Al Jed, U.B.
3. Fred Marschall, Buffalo J.C.

Women's Junior

1. Jeanne Sikes, Buffalo F.C.
2. June Johnson, Rochester
3. Jane Jegart, Buffalo F.C.

Junior Foil

1. Dave Bohacket, Rochester
2. Lou Cargill, Rochester
3. Les Williams, Penguins

New England

By Helen A. Dargie

The results of New England Division competitions between November 15 and January 9 were as follows:

Novice Foil 11/15/53

1. Ed Richards, Salle Elde
2. George Younis, Salle Elde
3. C. Arvanites, Salle Elde

Novice Sabre 11/22/53

1. Ed Richards, Salle Elde
2. C. Arvanites, Salle Elde
3. Ed Somody, M.I.T.

Junior Foil 11/29/53

1. George Younis, Salle Elde
2. Ed Washwell, Independent
3. Ed Richards, Salle Elde

Junior Epee 12/13/53

1. Zigurds Kaktins, Independent
2. William Pierskalla, Harvard
3. V. Bergs, Independent

Women's Novice 11/21/53

1. Jane Wiswall, Boston F.C.
2. Doris Salisbury, Boston F.C.
3. Cornelia Davenport, Radcliffe College

Women's Junior 1/9/54

1. Florence Power, Salle Elde
2. Doris Salisbury, Boston F.C.
3. Sheila Fred, Radcliffe College

In a dual meet, Salle Elde defeated the University of Connecticut on January 7 by a score of 14 to 13. The collegians, led by Robert Davidson, who won all his bouts in foil, captured the foil and sabre divisions by 6-3 scores, but Salle Elde's margin of 8-1 in epee proved decisive. For the winners, P. Craig and C. Arvanites were undefeated in epee, and George Younis was undefeated in sabre.

New Jersey

By Lucy Stamilla

The results of recent competitions have been as follows:

Prep Foil, 11/17/53, Jersey City

1. J. K. Tan, Princeton
2. Peter Howell, Princeton
3. Frank Finnerty, J.C. Dept. Recr.

Women's Prep, 11/18/53, Verona

1. Joan Ulrickson, Pat. S.T.C.
2. Dorothy Kessler, Farleigh-Dickinson
3. Cathy Kopp, Montclair S.T.C.

Novice Foil, 12/3/53, Jersey City

1. Jerrold Cohen, N.Y.U.
2. Vincent Antoniuk, Pat. B. & M.
3. Marcel Pons, N.Y.U.

Women's Novice, 12/10/53, Montclair

1. Doris Heys, Montclair S.T.C.
2. Pat Hoon, Montclair S.T.C.
3. Miriam Rosenbaum, Santelli

Junior Epee

1. Les Williams, Penguins
2. Norbert Reade, U.B. Alumni
3. Alan Castellion, U.B.

Junior Sabre

1. Donn Boyle, Penguins
2. Aldo Santorri, U.B.
3. Jules Goldstein, Buffalo J.C.

Outstanding young fencers are Al Jed, U.B. senior, and Les Williams of the Penguins Club. This is only the second season of competition for both. Jed made his mark by winning three novice medals in one day, and Williams has won six medals to lead the Division in this department.

Maryland

By Alan Rose

The following are the results of competitions held in the division during the months of December and January:

Official Events

Women's Prep

1. Dottie Hayes, International Centre
2. Judy McBride, Goucher College
3. Elizabeth Geis, Goucher College

Women's Novice

1. Eloise Tighlman, Goucher College
2. Fay Dallmeyer, York (Pa.) YWCA
3. Mrs. Helen Buebel, International Centre

Women's Junior

1. Marilyn Rich, Salle Pavloff (NY)
2. Mrs. Gloria Morrison, Tri-Weapon
3. Florence Drill, Tri-Weapon

Prep Foil

1. Richard Crane, International Centre
2. John Swanson, City College
3. Mansoor Javahery, Johns Hopkins

Novice Foil

1. Edward Merek, International Centre
2. Victor Marder, Johns Hopkins
3. Robert Mazan, International Centre

Novice Epee

1. Richard Oles, Johns Hopkins
2. Rudy Manelli, YMCA
3. { Robert Mazan, International Centre
Carlyle Storm, Johns Hopkins

Novice Sabre

1. Hugh Montague, Johns Hopkins
2. Edward Merek, International Centre
3. Carleton Jones, Johns Hopkins

Unofficial Events

Bailey Three-Weapon

1. Robert Lewis, Jewish C.C.
2. Alfred Hurwitz, YMCA
3. Alan Rose, YMCA

Tri-Weapon Women's Handicap

1. Mrs. Gloria Morrison, Tri-Weapon
2. Mrs. Jeanne Millman, Tri-Weapon
3. Mrs. Abbie Rose, Tri-Weapon

INTERESTED?

Our president encourages any members interested in observing how the AFLA operates to attend a meeting of the Board of Governors. An invitation and information as to time and place may be obtained by contacting one of the national officers.

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MURAY SENIOR SABRE

By Martha Rothman

Abram Cohen of the Fencers Club scored the outstanding victory of his career when he defeated the favored George Worth of Salle Santelli in the final match of the Nickolas Muray Senior Sabre competition. Another upset featured the battle for third place, as Dick Dyer of Philadelphia defeated Sol Gorlin of Salle Santelli, who had shut out Allan Kwartler to enter the semi-finals. Mr. Muray was a member of the final jury and personally presented the medals to the winners. The summaries:

Qualifying Round

Pool I. (1) Worth, 4-1, 9 t.r.; (2) Dyer, 4-1, 16 t.r.; (3) Neil Lazar, SS, 3-2, 18/20; (4) Michel Mamlouk, SS, 3-2, 18/19; (5) Lorand Marcel, SS, and Anthony Orsi, NYAC, 0-4. Worth and Dyer qualified for finals; Lazar qualified for fence-off.

Pool II. (1) Cohen, 4-0; (2) Kwartler, SS, 3-1; (3) Robert Blum, SS, 2-2; (4) Herbert Spector, SS, 1-3; (5) R. P. Socky, Washington, 0-4. Cohen and Kwartler qualified for finals; Blum qualified for fence-off.

Pool III. (1) Kevis Kapner, SS, 3-1; (2) Sol Gorlin, SS, 2-2, 14 t.r.; (3) Paul Lorant, SS, 2-2, 15 t.r.; (4) Arthur Spingarn, FC, 2-2, 18 t.r.; (5) James Flynn, NYAC, 1-3. Kapner and Gorlin qualified for finals; Lorant qualified for fence-off.

Fence-off (for seventh and eighth places in final): Blum, 2-0; Lorant, 1-1; Lazara 0-2.

Finals (Direct Elimination)

Quarter-Finals: Worth defeated Lorant, 5-2, 5-4; Gorlin defeated Kwartler, 5-0, 5-0; Dyer defeated Kapner, 5-3, 5-3; Cohen defeated Blum, 5-2, 5-3.

Semi-Finals: Worth defeated Gorlin, 4-5, 5-0, 5-3; Cohen defeated Dyer, 3-5, 5-2, 5-3.

Third Place Match: Dyer defeated Gorlin, 5-3, 1-5, 5-3.

First Place Match: Cohen defeated Worth, 5-1, 0-5, 5-3.

VOORHEES WOMEN'S OPEN

By Leo Sobel

Grace Acel, in her first appearance since her participation in the 1953 World Championships, scored an impressive victory in the Voorhees Open following a shaky start. After two elimination round-robins, the field of 19 was cut to 8, and the finalists were then paired for direct elimination on the basis of the best two of three bouts. The summaries:

First round. Pool I: Dalton, F.C., 4-0; Drungis, S.S., 2-1; Aboulafia, unatt., 2-2. Eliminated: Stack, F.C.; Pierce, S.S. **Pool II:** Acel, S.S., 2-1, 7/10; Makabe, S.S., 2-1, 7/8; Balint, Saltus, 1-2, 10/9. Eliminated: Boyce, F.C., 1-2, 10/7. **Pool III:** Shaff, S.S., 3-1, 6 t.r.; Rich, Pavloff, 3-1, 7 t.r.; Knab, S.S., 2-2, 11 t.r. Eliminated: Funke, F.C., 2-2, 12 t.r.; Miller, Pat., 0-4. **Pool IV:** Doershuk, F.C., 3-0; Gormley, Saltus, 2-1, 7 t.r.; Monaco, Pat., 2-2 (10 t.r.). Eliminated: Feigelman, S.S., 1-3; Kopp, Mont., 1-3.

Second round. Pool I: Dalton, 4-0; Shaff, 4-1; Balint, 2-3, 15/16; Knab, 2-3, 15/10. Eliminated: Rich, 2-3, 18 t.r.; Makabe, 0-4. **Pool II:** Acel, 4-0; Doershuk, 2-2, 10 t.r.; Aboulafia, 2-2, 12 t.r.; Drungis, 1-3, 15/9. Eliminated: Gormley, 1-3, 15-8; Monaco, wd.

Quarter-Final: Dalton d. Drungis, 4-1, 4-0; Balint d. Doershuk, 4-3, 3-4, 4-3; Shaff d. Aboulafia, 4-2, 4-0; Acel d. Knab, 4-1, 4-0.

Semi-Final: Dalton d. Balint, 2-4, 4-1, 4-1; Acel d. Shaff, 4-3, 3-4, 4-1.

Third place: Shaff d. Balint, 4-3, 0-4, 4-3.

Final: Acel d. Dalton, 4-1, 4-3.

SENIOR FOIL

By Dorothy Friedman

Ralph Goldstein of Salle Santelli scored a clear-cut victory in the Senior Foil Competition held on January 23 at his home club. Ralph won seven of his eight bouts, being defeated only 5-4 by Evan Quinn. The results:

Round Robin

(1) Goldstein, SS, 7-1; (2) Allan Kwartler, SS, 5-3, 26 t.r.; (3) James Strauch, FC, 5-3, 29/36, won fence-off, 5-3; (4) Arthur Spingarn, FC, 5-3, 29/36; (5) Evan Quinn, NYAC, 4-4, 28 t.r.; (6) Abram Cohen, FC, 4-4, 33 t.r.; (7) Leonard Turk, SS, 3-5; (8) Daniel Edwards, Phila. FC, 2-6; (9) Daniel Rubinstein, Mid-NY, 1-7.

WOMEN'S JUNIOR

By Grace Acel

Cathy Kopp of Montclair State Teachers College defeated Louise Knab of Salle Santelli, 4-1, in the fence-off for first place in the Junior Championship for the Marion Lloyd Vince medals. Miss Kopp had a remarkable touch score, being hit only eight times in nine bouts, but four of those hits were scored by Marilyn Rich of Salle Pavloff, who finished third on a count of touches.

Round Robin Results: (1) C. Kopp, MSTC, 8-1; (2) L. Knab, SS, 8-1; (3) M. Rich, Salle Pavloff, 6-3, 17 t.r.; (4) Beverly Feigelman, SS, 6-3, 20 t.r.; (5) Bea Matzkin, SS, 6-3, 21 t.r.; (6) Elaine Miller, Paterson STC, 3-6, 29 t.r.; (7) Jean Moreck, PSTC, 3-6, 30 t.r.; (8) Phyllis Boyd, Grand Central Y, 2-7, 29 t.r.; (9) Jane Dardia, PSTC, 2-7, 34 t.r.; (10) Constance Jenkins, Salle Lucia, 1-8.



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WOMEN'S JUNIOR TEAM

By Milton Markowitz

Paced by Louise Knab's 8 victories in 9 bouts, Salle Santelli easily defeated the other three teams in the competition. Paterson Teachers College was second, largely on Grace Monaco's excellent performance. The summaries:

Final Round Robin: (1) Salle Santelli (B. Feigelman, L. Knab, B. Matzkin, M. Rosenbaum) defeated Montclair S.T.C., 7-2; N.Y.U., 5-2; and Paterson S.T.C., 5-3.

(2) Paterson S.T.C. (C. Dahauski, E. Miller, G. Monaco) defeated N.Y.U. 5-4 and Montclair S.T.C. 6-2.

(3) Montclair S.T.C. (C. Kopp, D. Heys, J. Rawcliffe) and N.Y.U. (V. Brown, H. Calkin, J. Shallock) each lost two matches.

WOMEN'S PREP

By Leo Sobel

Hannah Calkin of N.Y.U., barely squeezing past the first round by one touch "for," scored a surprise victory in a closely fought final. Barbara Nankeville of Paterson, after scoring ten successive victories was blanked in her eleventh bout and finished fifth. The results:

Finalists: (1) H. Calkin, N.Y.U., 4-1; (2) Phyllis Boyd, Gr. Cent. YMCA, 3-2, 11/17; (3) Pat Krzeminski, Pat., 3-2, 11/12; (4) Joy Pirauden, Montclair, 3-2, 16 t.r.; (5) B. Nankeville, Pat., 2-3; (6) L. Cravero, Pat., 0-5.

Semi-Finalists: Parker, Schumann and Truehart, Rohdes Academy; Zschaler, Hunter; Lindholm, Gr. Cent. YMCA; Nebicker, Paterson.

Others: Baliczky, Kopp and Waro, Montclair; Curry and Jenkins, Lucia; Brown and Shallock, NYU; Reinauer, Pat.; Sim, Gr. Cnt. YMCA.

Santelli Wins Met. Women's Team Title By Sol Gorlin

The Salle Santelli "A" team, composed of Grace Acel, Eve (Cohen) Siegel, and Betty Dedouis, barely nosed out its "B" squad, 5-4, but triumphed 5-3 over the Fencers Club combination of Diane Millstein, Madeline Dalton, Dolly Funke and Julie Doershuk, to win the metropolitan women's team championship. Both the Santelli "A" team and the Fencers Club, which defeated Santelli "B" team by 7-2, qualified for the national team championships next June.

NOVICE SABRE

By Austin Prokop

Umberto Milletari, Fencers Club, defeated his club-mate Joseph Sonnenreich, 5-1, in a fence-off for first place. There were 31 contestants.

Finalists: (1) Milletari, F.C., 7-1; (2) Sonnenreich, F.C., 7-1; (3) Schoeck, NYU, 6-2, 20 t.r.; (4) Mastro Paolo, Saltus, 6-2, 24 t.r.; (5) Susco, CCNY, 3-5, 31 t.r.; (6) Cohen, NYU, 3-5, 32 t.r.; (7) Carducci, St. Peter's, 2-6, 35 t.r.; (8) Kaufman, Col., 2-6, 37 t.r.; (9) Stein, Col., 0-8.

Semi-Finalists: Abrams, Rosenberg and Moskowitz, NYU; Kaneff, Byfield and Olcott, Santelli; Storer, N.Y.A.C.; Ratkins, C.C.N.Y.; Weinstein, Columbia.

Quarter-Finalists: Paul, Brooklyn; Flynn, NYAC; Whittington, Saltus; Hansens, St. Peter's; Tullsen, Santelli.

Others: Anderson, NYAC; Padula, Philadelphia; Cakooras, NYU; Dow, NYAC; Kaye, Columbia; Siegel, Columbia; Canvin, Fencers Club.

Events

INTERMEDIATE FOIL TEAM

By M. de Capriles

By action of the Board of Governors, the New York Athletic Club was awarded the Eastern intermediate foil team championship when the winner of the event, the Philadelphia Fencers Club, was found to have used an ineligible competitor on its team. The misunderstanding on the rules of eligibility arose when the North American Championships held last summer were declared an unofficial international tournament because only two countries participated, and therefore the rank of contestants in the individuals was not affected. However, the Board declared that the men chosen to represent the United States against Canada in the team events became seniors if not already of that rank, and this affected the standing of Dr. Paul Makler. The error was costly to the Philadelphians, who won the final match against the N.Y.A.C. by 5-0 and conceivably might have won without using Dr. Makler.

Summaries

Qualifying Round: (1) Philadelphia F.C. "A" (Makler, Austin, Ostrofsky) defeated U. of Penna. (Goldman, Nickels, Karp), 7-2; New York A.C. (Surti, Orsi, Sully) defeated U. of Penna., 7-2. (2) Philadelphia F.C. "B" (Zitomer, Edwards, Taylor) defeated Fencers Club (NY) (Marmer, Brandeis, Lerner) 5-4; Fencers Club (NY) defeated Santelli (Price, Lansing, Schulewski) 7-2; Philadelphia F.C. "B" defeated Santelli, 7-2.

Semi-Final: (1) Philadelphia F.C. "A" defeated Philadelphia "B" 5-1. (2) New York A.C. defeated Fencers Club 5-2.

Finals: Philadelphia F.C. "A" defeated N.Y.A.C. 5-0. New York Athletic Club awarded title by forfeit.

NOVICE EPEE

By Pieter Mijer

In a final round composed exclusively of college fencers, R. Alessio of NYU defeated his team-mate B. Schoeck, 3-2, in the first bout and this victory decided the competition as both men thereafter won six of their seven remaining bouts. There were 25 competitors.

Finalists: (1) R. Alessio, NYU, 7-1; (2) B. Schoeck, NYU, 6-2; (3) L. Lazovick, CCNY, 5-3, 14 t.r.; (4) Wald, Col., 5-3, 15 t.r.; (5) Miller, CCNY, 4-4; (6) Oshinsky, Bklyn, 3-5, 17 t.r.; (7) Pederson, Col., 3-5, 21 t.r.; (8) Moreau, Col., 2-6; (9) Petix, NYU, 1-7.

Semi-Finalists: Pons and Jones, NYU; Weiss and Cevan, Co.; Ulenas, CCNY; Karoly, Brooklyn; Bernard, F.C.; Podnos, Santelli.

Others: Barvess, Glatter and Rothman, Brooklyn; Bertal and Camp, Col.; Cohen, NYU; Westlich, CCNY; Olcott, Santelli; Leon, F.C.

WESTCHESTER

By Evan Quinn

With the cancellation of the women's All-Eastern intermediate team event due to the fact that only two teams showed up at White Plains, the Westchester Division organized an impromptu invitation meet which was won by Ronnie Pierce of Salle Santelli, 4-3, on a fence-off with Betty Dedousis. Dorothy Friedman, Anne Drungis and Louise Knab followed in that order.

Have you paid your current AFLA dues? You may not receive copies of American Fencing unless you are in good standing.

METROPOLITAN AND ALL-EASTERN SCHEDULE CHANGES

Through the generous cooperation of Mr. Douglas F. Boyea, Director of Physical Education and the Grand-Central Y.M.C.A., the following competitions have been removed from their original site and are to be held at the Railroad Y.M.C.A., located at 224 East 47th Street, New York City:

Tuesday, March 2, 7 P.M.: SABRE—Junior Team Championship. (Lubell in charge; Gorlin, Pongo, Kwartler officiating.)

Saturday, March 20, 1 P.M.: All Eastern Intermediate Foil Individual Championship. (Anthony Orsi in charge.)

Sunday, March 21, 1 P.M.: All-Eastern Women's Individual Championship. (Dorothy Friedman in charge.)

Saturday, April 17, 1 P.M.: SABRE—Qualifying Round for Nationals. (M. Rothman in charge; Bukantz, Nunes, Prokop officiating.)

The following competition has been added to the schedule:

Saturday, May 15, 1 P.M.: SABRE—Italo Santelli Memorial Open. Railroad Y.M.C.A. (Worth in charge.)

INTERMEDIATE SABRE TEAM

By Anthony Orsi

Salle Santelli's seasoned veterans crushed the Philadelphia F.C. 5-0 in the decisive match of the six-team competition. The winning foursome, Blum, Kapner, Marcel and Zimet, dropped only five bouts in four matches, three against the New York A.C., which was upset 5-4 by the University of Pennsylvania for third place.

Summaries

Semi-Finals: N.Y.A.C. defeated Princeton "B" 8-1; Philadelphia defeated Princeton "B," 9-0. U. of Penna. defeated Princeton "A" 5-4; Santelli defeated Princeton "A" 5-1.

Finals

(1) Salle Santelli defeated N.Y.A.C. (Ozol, Orsi, Sully) 5-3; Univ. of Penna. (Farber, Hurwitz, Venuto) 5-1; and Philadelphia F.C. (Otto, Ostrofsky, Austin) 5-0.
(2) Philadelphia F.C. defeated U. of Penna. 5-2, and N.Y.A.C. 5-4.
(3) Univ. of Penna. defeated N.Y.A.C. 5-4.

METROPOLITAN QUALIFIERS FOR ALL-EASTERN INTERMEDIATE EPEE

By Pieter Mijer

Dan Chafetz, former intercollegiate champion, led the field of nine qualifiers from the metropolitan area for the All-Eastern intermediate epee championship. Chafetz was one of four Fencers Club qualifiers, the others being Sonnenreich, Bernard and Bavuso. Columbia University placed three: Pedersen, Moreau and Bernstein; and the remaining two were Ritayik, Saltus, and Petix, NYU. Three alternates, in order, were: Wald of Columbia, Mastropaolo of Saltus, and Karolyi of Santelli. Other competitors included Barthel and Lubeck, N.Y.A.C.; Leon and Dollinger, Fencers Club; Pons and Cohen, N.Y.U.; Bertal and Civan, Columbia; Stephens, Saltus; and Levitan, Santelli.

METROPOLITAN QUALIFIERS FOR ALL-EASTERN INTERMEDIATE FOIL

By Dorothy Friedman

Albert C. Vogt, N.Y.A.C. veteran, led the field of 10 metropolitan qualifiers for the All-Eastern individual foil championship. The other nine are Norman Lerner, Al Milletari, Peter Frank and Daniel Marmer of the Fencers Club; Myron Matzkin of Salle Santelli; Paul Anderson, N.Y.A.C.; Herman Wallner, N.Y.U.; Aubrey Seeman, C.C.N.Y., and Joe Mastropaolo, Saltus Club. Four alternates were named in the following order:

INTERMEDIATE EPEE TEAM

By Evan Quinn

The Philadelphia F.C.'s national ranking star, Al Rubin, scored three victories in the final match with the Saltus Club, and this proved the winning margin as Dick Dyer and Jimmy Otto broke even in their bouts. The Saltus team, composed of Steven Stephens, Bill Ritayik and Joe Mastropaolo, eliminated the Fencers Club's defending champions in the semi-final round.

Summaries

Quarter Finals: (1) Fencers Club (Sonnenreich, Chafetz, Corbett) defeated N.Y.U. (Cohen, Pons, Schafft) 5-4; New York A.C. (Reda, Quinn, Barthel) defeated N.Y.U. 5-3. (2) Saltus-McBurney (Mastropaolo, Ritayik, Stephens) defeated Salle Santelli (Lazar, Levitan, Lutz) 6-3; Philadelphia F.C. (Rubin, Dyer, Otto) defeated Santelli 5-1.

Semi-Finals: (1) Philadelphia F.C. defeated N.Y.A.C. 5-4 (2) Saltus defeated Fencers Club (Chafetz, Bavuso, Sonnenreich) 5-4.

Finals: Philadelphia F.C. defeated Saltus 5-2.

METROPOLITAN QUALIFIERS FOR ALL-EASTERN INTERMEDIATE SABRE INDIVIDUAL

By Austin Prokop

The nine qualifiers were equally divided among three clubs: Schmuckler, Spingarn and Milletari of the Fencers Club; Kapner, Spector and Marcel of Salle Santelli; and Reuter, Pariser and Sobel of Columbia. Three alternates were named, in the following order: Weinstein of Columbia, Stephens of Saltus and Shaff of Santelli. Other contestants included Suein, Susco, Wolken and Ratkelis of CCNY; Blum, Byfield, Olcott, Stein and Tullsen of Santelli; and Sonnenreich of Fencers Club.

Val Yurchenko, Santelli; James Canvin, Fencers Club; Michel Mamlouk, unattached, and P. V. Johnson, Tri-City Fencers Club, Schenectady. Other entries: Alessio, Petix, Schafft, N.Y.U.; Buchalter, Fixman, Zelkowitz, Swordsman F.C.; Duryea, Menaker, Tri-City F.C.; Brandeis, Dollinger, Fencers Club; Price, Schulewski, Santelli; Gradkowski, Shome, unattached; Edwards, Philadelphia, hors concours.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH IN AUGUST? U. S. versus British Empire

By Tracy Jaeckel, Foreign Secretary

Except for final negotiations as to exact date and place, it is now reasonably certain that an international fencing match will be held in August between official teams representing the United States and the British Empire. The initiative for this match was taken by Major Jack Davies, president of the fencing events for the British Empire Games which are being held in Vancouver from July 31 to August 7, who reported to the U. S. Olympic Fencing Committee that arrangements were being made in several other sports for U.S.-British Empire contests at the invitation of the A.A.U. It is understood that the Dayton Chamber of Commerce has bid for several events, including track and field, for August 10 and 11.

At the Board of Governors meeting in December, the A.F.L.A. voted to invite the British Empire fencing team to meet the United States fencing team at a time and place to be mutually acceptable, and authorized the Executive Committee to make the necessary decisions. At the same time, the Foreign Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Amateur Fencing Association of Great Britain, and suggest that the proposed match be considered as a part of the series of British-American matches for the Thompson Trophy. A reply has now been received from London enthusiastically endorsing the proposal, so that the provision of the Thompson Trophy rules calling for a team representing Great Britain only will be waived by mutual consent.

The British-American matches for the

Colonel Robert M. Thompson Trophy were established after the 1920 Olympic Games. They have been held in 1921, 1923, 1926, 1934 and 1948. The first four matches consisted of team events in foil, epee and sabre, four men in each weapon. A women's team competition was added in 1948. The United States has won all matches thus far. It is expected that the 1954 British Empire team will be unusually strong, especially in sabre and women's foil.

Although no official decision has been made with respect to the method of selecting the United States team, it is obvious that the results of the 1954 national championships will count heavily. The United States Olympic Fencing Committee has recommended that all candidates for places on the U. S. team for the Pan-American Games to be held in 1955 should try for a place on the team which will meet the British Empire, and thereby obtain the benefit of international competition.

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY CHAMPIONS

The CISM (Conseil International Sport Militaire) fencing tournament was held in Copenhagen last December. The winners were: Foil - D'Orlola of France; Epee - Carlson of Sweden; Sabre - Treves of the United States of America.

CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GAMES

By Miguel de Capriles

The 1954 Central American and Caribbean Games will be held from March 6 to 20 in Mexico City. These games are of special interest to the United States this year because they will serve as a prelude to the II Pan American Games to be held in the same city and at about the same time in 1955.

Ten eligible countries have indicated their intention to compete in the fencing events, and the Organizing Committee has invited three United States fencers to officiate as directors: Jose de Capriles, Tracy Jaeckel and George Worth. The F.I.E. representative will be Carlo Agostoni, Italian Olympic epeeist from 1932 to 1948, now residing in Mexico, who competed and placed in the U. S. national epee championship in 1947.

It is expected that a battle royal will develop for top fencing honors between Cuba and Mexico, inasmuch as these old rivals have each recently added a new European fencing master to their competent coaching staffs. Jean B. Lesieux, trained in France, has been teaching in Havana for about a year; he was formerly in Lima, Peru. Eduardo Alajmo, master of the Italian school, did a remarkable job with the 1952 Finnish Olympic Team before transferring his activities to Mexico City.

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MIXED STRATEGY IN FENCING

By Herbert R. Lawrence

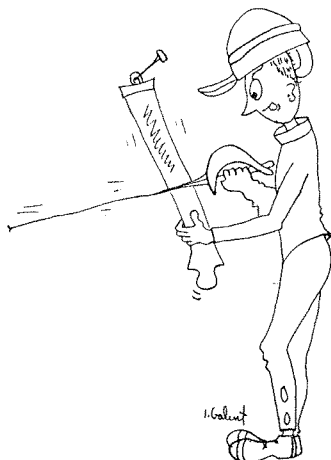
The Theory of Games developed in a recent book by Von Neuman and Morgenstern has pertinent applications in the theory of fencing. Although a complete analysis of the science of fencing by game theory would be long and tedious, there is every reason to believe that it could be carried through with great benefit.

A simple example will serve to show some of the possibilities of game-theory analysis as applied to the art of the foil. Consider the elementary situation where fencers Adam and Basil agree to take turns attacking each other from proper distance. Let us suppose that they agree to limit attacks to a 1-2 or **double** from an engagement in sixte, and to limit parries to a counter-sixte against the 1-2 and quarte against the **double**. Let us also assume that Adam is a better fencer than Basil. Then Adam should never try to anticipate Basil's defense, and should use an equally probable or random sequence of the two allowed attacks against Basil. The same principle applies on defense, so that Adam should not try to anticipate Basil's attacks. In this situation, both game theory and common sense indicate that, if Basil also uses the strategy of not anticipating, Adam will usually win a five-touch bout. This is undoubtedly Adam's best basic strategy.

However, let us suppose that Adam is dissatisfied with this state of affairs and tries to win **all** of his bouts with Basil by anticipating Basil's attacks and defenses. In this second case, if Basil also tries to anticipate Adam's maneuvers, the result of the bout will be a toss-up. Adam has relinquished his advantage in fencing skill and has reduced the bout to a guessing game with equal probabilities for either contestant to win.

Consider now the case where Adam uses his best strategy, but Basil becomes tired of being the loser of the great majority of the bouts. This forces Basil to think, and after carefully reading a 700-page book, The Theory of Games by Von Neuman and Morgenstern, he comes up with the following strategy: Basil will attempt to anticipate Adam's defense or attack at each turn. He is gratified to find, in this third case, that although he does not win half of his bouts with Adam, he nevertheless has improved his score considerably as compared with the results of the first case.

It is obviously impossible to do any more than hint at the applications of the mathematical theory of games to fencing in this short article. However, the writer hopes that these few lines have served to focus the attention of mathematically minded fencers on this most fascinating aspect of fencing strategy. Two useful books are: Von Neuman and Morgenstern, "Theory of Games and Economic Behavior," Princeton University Press, 1947; and John McDonald, "Strategy in Poker, Business and War," W. W. Norton and Company, New York.



"The Maestro says I've got to sharpen my game."

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
IS MARCH 15, 1954

National Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 27 No. Cal. WOMEN'S Interm. 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- 28 **All-East. Three Weapon Team** (Honeycutt) Noon—N.Y.A.C.
- Md. FOIL Jr. 2 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- New Eng. WOMEN'S Prep 2 p.m.—Dana Hall
- Ore. FOIL (men and women) Junior Reed College
- Wis. 3-WEAPON Indiv. 1:30 p.m.—Shorewood Gym

MARCH

- 1 N. J. WOMEN'S Open 7:30 p.m.—Paterson S.T.C.
- West. N. Y. FOIL Prep 7:30 p.m.—U. Buffalo
- 2 Met. SABRE Junior Team 7 p.m.—Grand Central YMCA
- 5 No. Cal. FOIL Junior Team 8 p.m.—U. of Calif.
- So. Cal. FOIL Open Team 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- 6 Met. EPEE (Qual. Rd. for Nat.) Noon—Fencers Club
- Gulf WOMEN'S Prep, SABRE Jr. 2 p.m.—Menard Pk., Galveston
- 7 **All-Eastern 3-Weapon Indiv.** Noon—N.Y.A.C.
- New Eng. FOIL Team 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- Md. SABRE Team 2 p.m.—International Centre
- Ore. EPEE Junior Reed College
- 10 N. J. FOIL (Qual. Rd. for Nat.) 7:30 p.m.—Grove St., Verona
- 12 So. Cal. EPEE Indiv. 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- 12-13 **Intercol. Fencing Assn. Ch.** All day—N.Y.U. (Heights)
- 13 No. Cal. EPEE Open 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- Gulf MEN (all weapons) Prep 2 p.m.—Texas A&M
- Wisc. FOIL Novice (Farrell) Noon—Wauwatosa H.S.
- 14 Md. FOIL (men and women) Team 1:30 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- New Eng. SABRE or EPEE Team 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- West. N.Y. WOMEN'S, EPEE, Preps 1:30 p.m.—Falcons, Buffalo
- 16 Met. FOIL Prep 7 p.m.—Rohdes Academy
- 19 No. Cal. SABRE Int. Team 8 p.m.—Olympic Club
- 20 **All-Eastern FOIL Intermediate** 1 p.m.—Grand Central YMCA
- No. Cal. WOMEN'S Int. Team 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- Md. FOIL (Pavese, men and women) 2 p.m.—Y.M.C.A.
- Gulf All Weapons (men and women) Novice 2 p.m.—Rice Institute
- No. Atlantic College Ch.** 1 p.m.—U. Buffalo
- Wisc. SABRE, EPEE, Novice Noon—Wauwatosa H.S.
- 21 **All-Eastern WOMEN'S Interm.** 1 p.m.—Grand Central YMCA
- New Eng. THREE WEAPON Indiv. 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- West. N.Y. THREE WEAPON Indiv. 1:30 p.m.—Buffalo J.C.
- 26 N.J. SABRE Ch. (Qual. Rd. Nats.) 7:30 p.m.—Newark Col. Eng.
- No. Cal. WOMEN'S Open 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- So. Cal. EPEE Team 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- 26-27 **NCAA Fencing Championships** All day—U. Chicago
- Northwest Fencing Tournament** Seattle, Wash.
- 27 Met. WOMEN'S (Qual. Rd. Nats.) Noon—Fencers Club
- No. Cal. EPEE Team 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- Gulf FOIL (men and women) Open 2 p.m.—U. Houston
- Gulf FOIL (men and women) Teams 4 p.m.—U. Houston
- 28 Met. EPEE-SABRE (Lyon) Team Noon—N.Y.A.C.
- New Eng. FOIL (Qual. Rd.) 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- Wisc. FOIL (Heinze Closed) Noon—Milwaukee Y.M.C.A.
- 30 Met. FOIL Junior Team 7 p.m.—N.Y.A.C.

APRIL

- 2 No. Cal. SABRE Open 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- So. Cal. SABRE Open 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- 3 Met. FOIL (Qual. Rd. Nats.) Noon—Saltus-McBurney
- Gulf FOIL (men and women) Open 2 p.m.—Corpus Christi
- West. N.Y. Four Weapon Team 7:30 p.m.—Buffalo J.C.
- 4 **All-Eastern EPEE Interm.** Noon—Waterbury YMCA, Conn.
- New Eng. EPEE (Qual. Rd.) 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- Md. EPEE Open 1:30 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- Md. SABRE Open 3:30 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- Wisc. WOMEN'S Open 1:30 p.m.—Milwaukee Y.M.C.A.
- 6 Met. EPEE Junior Team 7 p.m.—Fencers Club
- 9 No. Cal. WOMEN'S Team 8 p.m.—Funke F.A.
- 10 Gulf SABRE Open 2 p.m.—U. Houston
- Gulf SABRE Team 4 p.m.—U. Houston
- No. Cal. SABRE Team 8 p.m.—Halberstadt
- Women's Intercollegiates** 9 a.m.—Elmira, N.Y.
- Md. FOIL Open 2 p.m.—U.S. Naval Academy
- Wisc. FOIL Open 1 p.m.—Shorewood Gym
- 10-11 West. N.Y. Divisional Ch. All day—Buffalo J.C.
- 11 New Eng. WOMEN'S (Qual. Rd.) 2 p.m.—BFC, Cambridge YWCA
- Wisc. EPEE, SABRE Open 1 p.m.—Shorewood Gym
- 16 No. Cal. FOIL Open 8 p.m.—Olympic Club
- 17 Met. SABRE (Qual. Rd. Nats.) 1 p.m.—Grand Central YMCA
- Ore. SABRE Junior Reed College
- 21 N.J. EPEE Ch. (Qual. Rd. Nats.) 7:30 p.m.—Grove St., Verona

- 23 So. Cal. WOMEN'S Team 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- So. Cal. SABRE Team 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- 24 **All-Eastern SABRE Interm.** Noon—U. of Penn.
- Gulf EPEE Open 2 p.m.—Galveston
- Gulf EPEE Team 4 p.m.—Galveston
- Md. WOMEN'S Open 2 p.m.—Y.M.C.A.
- No. Cal. FOIL Team 8 p.m.—U. Calif.
- 25 Met. FOIL Champ. Noon—N.Y.A.C.
- New Eng. SABRE (Qual. Rd.) 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- 30 So. Cal. 3-Weapon Indiv. 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.

MAY


- 1 Met. SABRE Champ. 10:30 a.m.—N.Y.A.C.
- Md. WOMEN'S (Closed) 2 p.m.—Y.M.C.A.
- All Boston HIGH SCHOOL Teams 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- 1-2 **Mid-West Championships** All day—Marquette U., Milwaukee
- 2 Met. WOMEN'S Champ. Noon—Fencers Club
- Md. FOIL (Closed) 2 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- New Eng. SABRE Champ. 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- No. Cal. Helene Mayer Memorial** 2 p.m.—Mills Col., Oakland
- Ore. 3 WEAPON Event Reed College
- 6 N.J. WOMEN'S Ch. (Qual. Rd. Nats.) 7:30 p.m.—Montclair STC
- 7 So. Cal. 3 Weapon Team 8 p.m.—L.A.A.C.
- 7-8 **Inland Empire Tournament** Spokane, Wash.
- 8 Met. EPEE Champ. Noon—Fencers Club
- 9 New Eng. EPEE Champ. 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- Md. EPEE (Closed) 1:30 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- Md. SABRE (Closed) 3:30 p.m.—Jewish C.C.
- 15 Md. EPEE Team 2 p.m.—Y.M.C.A.
- New Eng. WOMEN'S Champ. 2 p.m.—BFC, Cambridge YWCA
- Met. SABRE (Santelli Open) 1 p.m.—Grand Central YMCA
- 16 Met. EPEE MASTERS 1 p.m.—Fencers Club
- New England FOIL Champ. 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- Ore. EPEE Outdoor Open Mt. Tabor Pk.
- 21-22-23 **Pacific Coast Championships** All day—Los Angeles A.C.
- 23 New Eng. FOIL (Levis comp.) 2 p.m.—M.I.T.
- Met. FOIL MASTERS 1 p.m.—Fencers Club

JUNE

- 11-18 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS NEW YORK

FENCING

MEDALS



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OLYMPIC FENCING FACTS

By M. A. de Capriles

At its meeting in December, the U. S. Olympic Fencing Committee instructed me to draft a statement concerning Olympic Fencing in general, and the problems confronting United States Fencing in particular, for the information of the leaders of the United States Olympic Association. Subsequently it has been suggested that the A.F.L.A. membership would be interested in these Olympic Fencing Facts, and that a series of shorter articles published in **American Fencing** would be of general interest. This is the first of the series.

* * *

1. Fencing is a compulsory Olympic sport.

Since the establishment of the Modern Olympic Games in 1896, fencing has been a compulsory sport on the Olympic program. It is one of the original combat sports prescribed for the Games. It is also one of the five sports in the modern pentathlon (the others being running, riding, swimming and shooting), which is likewise a prescribed event in the Olympic program.

2. Fencing is a world-wide sport.

In accordance with modern practice, Olympic fencing is conducted under the supervision of its international organization, the Federation Internationale d'Escrime (F.I.E.) The F.I.E. in 1952 comprised 51 countries, geographically distributed as follows:

Europe (27): *Austria, *Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, *Denmark, *Erie, *Finland, *France, *Germany, *Great Britain, Greece, Holland, *Hungary, *Italy, *Jugoslavia, *Luxembourg, Monaco, *Norway, *Poland, *Portugal, *Roumania, *Saar, Spain, *Sweden, *Switzerland, Turkey, and *U.S.S.R.

Africa (2): *Egypt, Union of South Africa.

Asia (4): Iran, Israel, *Japan, *Vietnam.

Australasia (2): *Australia, New Zealand.

America (16): *Argentina, Bolivia, *Brazil, *Canada, Chile, Colombia, *Cuba, Ecuador, *Guatemala, *Mexico, Netherlands West Indies, Panama, Peru, *U.S.A., *Uruguay, and *Venezuela.

The 33 countries marked with a star (*)

competed in the 1952 Olympic Games at Helsinki. Among those who did not compete in 1952, the following sent representatives to the Olympic Games in London: Czechoslovakia, Greece, Holland, Spain, Turkey, Chile, Colombia, Panama and Peru.

3. There are seven Olympic fencing events.

Since 1924, the Olympic program has consisted of seven events: Individual competitions for men in foil, epee and sabre (established in 1896), foil and sabre team (established in 1904), epee team (established in 1908), and women's foil individual (established in 1924). The total length of the fencing program has often been the full 14 days of the Olympic Games. In 1952, the length was reduced to 12 days by scheduling the women's individual so as to overlap the men's epee team and individual.

Proposals to add the women's team event in recent years have failed due to the length of the fencing program and the movement toward a curtailment of the Olympic Games. Nevertheless, the F.I.E. has conducted a women's team world championship in a nearby city immediately preceding the Olympic Games. In 1952, ten teams competed in that event at Copenhagen.

4. Three countries usually dominate Olympic fencing.

The three countries which have outranked all others consistently in over-all performance have been France, Hungary and Italy. In 1952, these three countries captured all the medals in the seven Olympic events except for two third places (epee team and individual). In the 1953 world championships they missed only three third places in the eight events of the world championship (which includes women's team). Nevertheless, the concentration of supremacy in these three countries has not adversely affected the number of countries competing in the Olympic Games. In this respect, the Olympic emphasis on taking part, regardless of victory, is faithfully observed.

5. The United States ranks high in Olympic fencing.

The United States has usually performed creditably in all seven Olympic events, and generally ranks at or near the top of the

second-flight fencing countries, that is, the group of 30 or more countries below the "Big Three," in terms of over-all record. Some countries have earned more medals than the United States by concentrating their strength in one event: Luxembourg, Sweden and Switzerland in epee; Denmark in women's foil; Poland in Sabre. In recent Olympic years, the chief rivals of the United States for fourth place in all-around performance have been Belgium and Egypt.

It is customary in Olympic records to keep track of the first six places in team and individual events. In fencing, only the first four places are clear in the team events due to the method of competition. The record of the United States has been as follows:

Individual foil: 2nd in 1932 (Levis).

Individual epee: 3rd in 1928 (Colman).

Individual sabre: 5th in 1948 (Worth); 6th in 1932 (Huffman).

Women's individual: 4th in 1948 (Cerra); 4th in 1952 (York), 6th in 1952 (Mitchell).

Foil team: 3rd in 1912 and 1932; 4th in 1948.

Epee team: 3rd in 1932.

Sabre team: 3rd in 1948; 4th in 1952.

Fencing Philatelists Please Note

A new series of French postage stamps, placed on sale for the first time on November 30, 1953, carries the figure of a left-handed fencer and the word "Escrime." A number of first-day covers has been reserved for fencing philatelists by the French Fencing Federation, and may be obtained by writing the federation at its address, 13 Rue de Londres, Paris, at a cost of 100 francs, as long as the supply lasts.

The model for this postage stamp was none other than Olympic foil champion Christian D'Oriola. The fencing issue is to be followed by others honoring France's representatives in the Olympics at Helsinki. The series was planned and authorized by the Hon. Pierre Ferri, Minister of Posts, Telephones and Telegraphs, former French international fencer who served as Secretary General of the F.I.E. for the four-year term 1948-1952.

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Application for entry as Second Class matter is pending.

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