

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE
OF AMERICA



FENCING RULES
1968 EDITION

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE
OF AMERICA



FENCING RULES

1968 EDITION



*Authorised Translation of the F.I.E. Rules from
the French by—*

C.-L. DE BEAUMONT

President of the Amateur Fencing Association of Great Britain



*Adopted by the Amateur Fencers League of
America for use in the U.S.A.*



Copies at \$1.00 each (including postage)
may be obtained from:—

DEPT. R.B.

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA

33, 62ND STREET

WEST NEW YORK

NEW JERSEY 07093



FOREWORD

This Rules Book is published by the Amateur Fencers League of America (A.F.L.A.) for the guidance of all fencers in the U.S.A. The A.F.L.A., founded in 1891, is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, consisting of geographically distributed divisions, primarily engaged in increasing participation in the sport of fencing. The A.F.L.A. is the official governing body for fencing in the U.S.A. as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Fencing Federation (F.I.E.).

Membership in the A.F.L.A. is available to all persons who are interested in fencing. Members receive the official A.F.L.A. magazine "American Fencing" which is published bi-monthly. Membership applications and informational brochures such as "Questions and Answers re the A.F.L.A.", "How to Understand and Enjoy the Sport of Fencing", etc., all are available by writing to Dept. R.B., Amateur Fencers League of America, 33, 62nd Street, West New York, New Jersey, 07093.

Ignorance of the Rules is No Excuse

The rules covering amateur fencing in the U.S.A. are enacted, amended and repealed solely by the Board of Directors of the A.F.L.A. As a matter of policy, the A.F.L.A. generally follows the rules enacted by the F.I.E.

The provisions in this Rules Book are mandatory without variation for all championships and nationally rated competitions. Unless exceptions are announced in advance by the appropriate authorities, they are also applicable to all events scheduled by or under the auspices of the A.F.L.A.

RULES FOR COMPETITIONS

Table of Contents

PART I

GENERAL RULES AND RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL THREE WEAPONS

	Article
CHAPTER I — HISTORICAL NOTE.	
CHAPTER II — APPLICATION OF THE RULES.	
1. Obligatory use of the Rules.....	1
2. Exceptions to the Rules.....	2
CHAPTER III — GLOSSARY.	
(A) President	3
(B) Competitions	
1. Assaults and Bouts.....	4
2. Match	5
3. Competition	6
4. Championship	7
5. Tournament	8
(C) Explanation of some technical terms commonly used when judging fencing.	
1. Fencing Time	9
2. Offensive and Defensive Actions.....	10
3. Counter-Attacks	12
4. Varieties of Offensive Actions.....	13
CHAPTER IV — THE FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN)	14
CHAPTER V — FENCERS' EQUIPMENT.	
(Weapons — Equipment — Clothing.)	
1. Responsibility	16
2. Control of Equipment:	
(A) <i>Control organization</i>	17
(B) <i>Control equipment</i>	20

	Article
3. Non-Regulation Equipment	21
4. Specifications common to all weapons....	22
5. General specifications for equipment and clothing	27

CHAPTER VI — THE ASSAULT.

1. Method of fencing.....	28
2. Exactitude of the hit.....	29
3. Method of holding the weapon.....	30
4. Putting on Guard.....	31
5. Beginning, stopping and re-starting the Bout	32
6. Fencing at close quarters.....	33
7. Corps à Corps.....	34
8. Displacing the Target and reversing positions	35
9. Ground gained or lost.....	36
10. Crossing the limits of the piste.....	38
11. Duration of the Bout.....	45
12. Accident—Indisposition—Withdrawal of a competitor	50

CHAPTER VII — DIRECTION OF A BOUT AND JUDGING.

(A) Officials.

1. The President	53
2. The Jury. Judges and Ground Judges....	54
3. Auxiliary personnel.....	59

(B) Judging by a Jury.

1. The Duties of the President.....	61
2. Positions occupied by the Jury.....	62
3. Method of Judging.....	63
(a) Procedure.....	63
(b) Materiality of the hit.....	68
(c) Validity or priority of hits	70

(C) Judging with a Judging Apparatus.

1. Direction of the Bout.....	71
2. Method of Judging:	
(a) Materiality of the hit.....	72
(b) Validity or priority of hits	75

PART II: FOIL

Article

CHAPTER I — HISTORICAL NOTE.

CHAPTER II — THE FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN). 201

CHAPTER III — FOIL EQUIPMENT.

(Weapons — Equipment — Clothing.)

(A) Weapons.

1. Specifications for all foils.....	205
2. Specifications for the electric foil.....	211

(B) Equipment.

1. General specifications for all foil equipment	212
2. Specifications for equipment required for fencing with the electric foil.....	214

(C) Clothing.

1. Specifications for clothing for ladies' foil..	215
2. Specifications for clothing required for fencing with the electric foil.....	216

CHAPTER IV — THE CONVENTIONS OF FOIL FENCING.

(A) Method of making a hit..... 218

(B) Target.

1. Limitation of the target.....	219
2. Extension of the Valid Target (Illustration)	222
3. Hits off the Target.....	223

(C) Corps à corps and flèche attacks..... 224

(D) Number of hits—Duration of the bout..... 225

(E) Judging of hits at foil..... 227

I. Materiality of a hit.

1. With a Jury	
2. With an electrical apparatus	228

II. Validity or priority of hits.

1. Preface	232
2. Observance of the fencing phrase.....	233
3. Judging of hits.....	237

PART III: EPEE

Note.	Article
CHAPTER I—HISTORICAL NOTE.	
CHAPTER II—FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN).	301
CHAPTER III—EPEE EQUIPMENT.	
(A) Weapons.	
1. General specifications for épées.....	306
(B) Equipment.	
1. The mask	313
2. The body wire.....	314
(C) Clothing	315
CHAPTER V—THE CONVENTIONS OF EPEE FENCING.	

(A) Method of making a hit.....	316
(B) Target (Illustration)	317
(C) Corps à corps and flèche attacks	318
(D) Number of hits—Duration of the bout.....	319
(E) Judging of hits at épée.	
I. Materiality of a hit.	
1. Basic principle.....	323
2. Annulment of hits.....	324
II. Validity or priority of the hit.	
1. Basic principle.....	329
2. Judging of hits.....	330

PART IV: SABRE

CHAPTER I—HISTORICAL NOTE.	
CHAPTER II—FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN).	401
CHAPTER III—SABRE EQUIPMENT.	
(A) Weapons.	
General specifications for sabres.....	404
(B) Equipment and clothing.....	408

CHAPTER IV—THE CONVENTIONS OF SABRE FENCING.

	Article
(A) Method of making a hit.....	409
(B) Target.	
1. Limitation of the target.....	410
2. Hits off the target (Illustration).....	411
(C) Corps à corps and flèche attacks	412
(D) Number of hits—Duration of a bout.....	413
(E) Judging of hits at sabre.....	415
I. Materiality of the hit.....	68
II. Validity or priority of the hit.	
1. Preface	416
2. Observance of the fencing phrase.....	417
3. Judging of hits.....	422

PART V: ORGANIZATION OF COMPETITIONS

CHAPTER I—COMPETITIONS	501
CHAPTER II—BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZATION AND CONTROL.	
1. The Organizing Committee.....	503
2. The Central Office of the F.I.E.....	504
3. The Directoire Technique.....	505
4. Court of Appeal (Jury d'Appel).....	506
5. Juries	512
6. Auxiliary Personnel.....	516
(a) <i>Scorekeepers.</i>	
(b) <i>The Time-Keeper.</i>	
(c) <i>The Superintendent of the Apparatus.</i>	
(d) <i>The Experts.</i>	
(e) <i>The Repairers.</i>	

CHAPTER III—ENTRIES FOR COMPETITIONS	517
CHAPTER IV—CONTROL TO BE EFFECTED BEFORE A COMPETITION. See Art. 17.	
CHAPTER V—TIMETABLE	519
CHAPTER VI—TEAM COMPETITIONS.	
1. Methods of organizing	523
2. Composition of teams.....	525
3. Order of bouts.....	526
4. Classification of teams.....	527
(a) <i>Match between two teams.....</i>	528
(b) <i>Classification of several teams in the same pool</i>	529

	Article
(c) Retirement of a member of a team during a match	530
(d) A team not completing an event	531
5. Team events by direct elimination	532
CHAPTER VII — INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS.	
(A) Under the pool system.	
1. Number of fencers in a pool	536
2. Composition of pools	537
3. Order of bouts	538
4. Classification	541
5. There shall be promoted to the next round	542
6. Barrages	543
7. Competitor abandoning a competition	545
(B) By direct elimination.	
1. Application	554
2. Method of holding matches and number of hits	555
3. Duration of matches	556
4. Competitor abandoning a competition	557
5. Order of bouts	558
6. Classification	559
7. Organization of competitions	
(a) Complete system	560
(b) Mixed system	
(1) Individual	561
(2) Teams	561
Number of hits	562
8. Match Plans	563
CHAPTER VIII — SPECIAL RULES FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.	
(A) Individual Championships.	
1. Annual Championships	564
2. Candidatures	565
3. Entries	566
(B) Team Championships.	
1. Simultaneous events	567
2. Entries	568
(C) Conditions common to team and individual championships.	
1. Nationality of competitors	569
2. Entries	569
3. The F.I.E. Rules	570
4. Order of events	571

	Article
5. The Directoire Technique	572
6. Supervision by the F.I.E.	573
7. Number of hits	574
(D) The Olympic Games	575
CHAPTER IX — RULES FOR THE WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS.	
1. Annual competition	576
2. Candidatures	577
3. Entries	578
4. Age of competitors	579
5. Rules	580
PART VI: DISCIPLINARY RULES FOR COMPETITIONS	
CHAPTER I — APPLICATION	
1. Persons subject to these Rules	601
2. Maintenance of order and discipline	602
3. The competitors	603
4. The team captain	609
5. The members of the Jury	610
6. The instructors, trainers and technicians ..	611
7. The spectators	612
CHAPTER II — THE DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITIES AND THEIR COMPETENCE.	
1. Jurisdiction	613
2. Principle of jurisdiction	614
3. The President of the Jury	615
4. The Organizing Committee	616
5. The Directoire Technique	617
6. The Court of Appeal (Jury d'Appel)	618
7. The Executive Committee of the C.I.O. at the Olympic Games	619
8. The National Federation	620
9. The Central Office of the F.I.E.	621
10. The Congress of the F.I.E.	622
CHAPTER III — PENALTIES.	
1. Classification of penalties	623
2. Penalties applicable during a competition:	
(a) Loss of ground on piste	624
(b) Refusal to award a hit made	625
(c) Award of a hit not in fact received	626
(d) Exclusion from the competition	627

	Article
3. Disciplinary penalties:	
(e) <i>Exclusion from the competition</i>	628
(f) <i>Exclusion from participation in the whole meeting</i>	629
(g) <i>Suspension</i>	630
(h) <i>Permanent suspension</i>	631
(i) <i>Disqualification</i>	632
(j) <i>Expulsion from the competition</i>	633
4. Announcement of Penalties.....	634
 CHAPTER IV — OFFENCES, THEIR PENALTIES AND THE COMPETENT JURIDICAL AUTHORITIES.	
1. Preface.....	635
2. Warning.....	636
3. Offences committed while fencing:	
(a) <i>Competence</i>	637
(b) <i>Offences concerned with the piste</i>	638
(c) <i>Offences concerning the duration of the bout</i>	639
(d) <i>For the use of the unarmed hand</i>	640
(e) <i>For intentionally making a corps à corps at foil or sabre</i>	641
(f) <i>For dishonest or incorrect fencing</i>	642
(g) <i>For seeking to favour an opponent</i>	643
(h) <i>For having benefited from collusion with an opponent</i>	644
(i) <i>For violence or brutality</i>	645
(j) <i>For indisposition</i>	646
(k) <i>For an accident</i>	647
4. Offences concerning sportsmanship:	
(a) <i>Non-regulation equipment</i>	648
(b) <i>For non-observance of the regulations for the competition</i>	649
(c) <i>For breach of rules re amateurism</i>	650
(d) <i>For having used a "dope"</i>	651
(e) <i>Partiality by Judges</i>	652
(f) <i>Other offences</i>	653
5. Offences concerning the maintenance of order:	
(a) <i>For failing to be present when required</i>	654
(b) <i>Competitor who disturbs the maintenance of order</i>	655
(c) <i>Spectator or supporter who disturbs the maintenance of order</i>	656
6. Offences concerning discipline.....	657

CHAPTER V — PROCEDURE.	Article
1. Basic Principle.....	658
2. Protests and appeals.....	659
3. Investigation—Right of defence.....	661
4. Method of decision.....	662
5. Stay of execution.....	663
6. Repetition of offence.....	664
7. Pardon, remission and commutation of penalty.....	665

PART VII: AUTOMATIC JUDGING EQUIPMENT
CHAPTER I — RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL AUTOMATIC JUDGING EQUIPMENT.

1. Authorised designs.....	701
2. Definition of equipment.....	702
3. Approval of designs of apparatus.....	703
4. Control of apparatus before each competition.....	708
5. Specifications for all electrical equipment:	
(a) <i>Central judging apparatus</i>	709
(b) <i>Spools, cables and their connections</i>	710
(c) <i>The metallic piste</i>	711
(d) <i>Weapons</i>	712

CHAPTER II — SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VARIOUS PARTS OF ELECTRICAL FOIL EQUIPMENT.

(A) The stationary equipment.

1. The central judging apparatus:	
(a) <i>Principles</i>	713
(b) <i>Sensitivity and regularity</i>	714
(c) <i>Extension lamps</i>	715
(d) <i>Source of electrical current</i>	716
2. Spools, cables and their connections.....	717

(B) Weapons.

1. Principle.....	718
2. Pointes d'arrêt and buttons.....	719
3. Method of affixing the button.....	720
4. The insulation of the button and of the blade.....	721

(C) Metallic plastrons and masks..... 722

CHAPTER III — SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE ELECTRICAL EPEE EQUIPMENT.

(A) The stationary equipment.

1. The central judging apparatus:	
-----------------------------------	--

	Article
(a) <i>Principle</i>	723
(b) <i>Timing</i>	724
(c) <i>Sensitivity</i>	725
(d) <i>Non-registration</i>	726
(e) <i>Visual signals</i>	727
(f) <i>Sound signals</i>	728
(g) <i>Source of electrical current</i>	729
2. Spools, cables and their connections	730
 (B) Weapons.	
1. Principle	731
2. Pointes d'arrêt and buttons	732
3. Method of affixing the button	733

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TEXT

- Cf. (followed by a number) = see article no...
 s (after a number) = and following article.
 ss (ditto) = and the following articles.

NUMBERING OF ARTICLES

The articles are numbered for each part without continuity from one part to the next, the number of each part corresponds to the number of the hundred articles it contains:

- Part I (GENERAL RULES) begins at Art. 1.
 Part II (FOIL) begins at Art. 201.
 Part III (EPEE) begins at Art. 301.
 Part IV (SABRE) begins at Art. 401.
 Part V (ORGANIZATION) begins at Art. 501.
 Part VI (DISCIPLINARY RULES) begins at Art. 601.
 Part VII (EQUIPMENT) begins at Art. 701.

Note: For practical reasons conversions from metric distances are made to nearest inch.

RULES FOR COMPETITIONS

It is presumed that everyone is cognizant of the rules.

PART ONE:

GENERAL RULES AND RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL THREE WEAPONS

CHAPTER I — HISTORICAL NOTE

The technical rules of the Fédération Internationale d'Esgrime were unanimously adopted by the International Congress of National Olympic Committees held at Paris in June 1914 for use in all events at the Olympic Games. They were first codified in 1914 by the Marquis de Chasseloup-Laubat and Monsieur Paul Anspach and issued in 1919 with the title of "Rules for Competitions".

They were modified by different F.I.E. Congresses and were revised after the 1931 Congress and again after the 1954 Congress when they were re-named "Technical Rules"; revised and modernised after the 1958 Congress and renamed "Rules for Competition".

CHAPTER II — APPLICATION OF THE RULES

1. Obligatory use of the rules.

These rules are obligatory for the "official Competition of the F.I.E." viz.:

- The World Championships,
 - The fencing events at the Olympic Games,
 - The World Youth Championships.
- (Cf. 17, 45, 56, 58s, 201, 227, 301, 304, 322, 401, 501ss, 515, 525, 535s, 561ss, 573ss, 614, 622, 708, 715.)

Unless "exceptions are made and announced in advance," these rules must be applied at every International Meeting of whatever nature it may be.

2. Exceptions to the rules.

These exceptions should be confirmed by the national association of the country to which the organizing committee belongs, and should be brought to the notice of those concerned when the announcement of the meeting is published. (Cf. 1.)

CHAPTER III — GLOSSARY

A. — PRESIDENT.

- 3 Throughout these rules the word "President" means "President of the Jury" or "Director of the Bout".

B. — COMPETITIONS.

1. Assaults and bouts.

- 4 Friendly combat between two fencers is called an "assault". When the score of such an assault is kept to determine a result it is called a "bout".

2. Match.

- 5 The aggregate of the bouts fought between the fencers of two different teams is called a "match".

3. Competition.

- 6 Is the aggregate of the bouts (individual competitions) or of the matches (team competitions) required to determine the winner of the event.

Competitions are distinguished by weapons, by the competitors' sex, age or occupation (military — students, etc.) or by the fact that they are for individuals or for teams.

Competitions are said to be by "direct elimination" when the competitors are eliminated as soon as they have received their first defeat (Cf. 532ss, 554ss); conversely a "pool" is a group of competitors (or all the competitors) who all fence each other successively in order to determine their respective classification (Cf. 524ss, 536ss).

4. Championship.

- 7 Is the name given to a competition held to determine the best fencer or the best team at each weapon for an association or for a specific region and for a specific period of time.

5. Tournament.

- 8 The name given to all competitions held at the same place, at the same period and for the same reason.

C. — EXPLANATION OF SOME TECHNICAL TERMS COMMONLY USED IN JUDGING FENCING (1).

1. Fencing time (Temps d'Esgrime).

- 9 Fencing time (Temps d'Esgrime) is the time required to perform one simple fencing action.

(1) It is stressed that this chapter is not designed as a manual on fencing and that it is only included here in order to help the reader to understand the rules.

2. Offensive and defensive actions.

The attack is the initial offensive action made by extending the arm and continuously threatening the opponent's target (Cf. 233ss, 417s).

The parry is the defensive action made with the weapon which prevents the attack arriving.

The riposte is the offensive action made by the fencer who has parried the attack.

The counter-riposte is the offensive action made by the fencer who has parried the riposte.

The different offensive actions are:

(a) Attack or Riposte:

simple: by one movement;

either *direct* (in the same line);

or *indirect* (in another line);

composed: by several movements.

(b) Riposte:

immediate or delayed: depends on what action takes place and the speed at which it is carried out.

Examples:

1. Simple direct ripostes:

Direct riposte: a riposte which hits the opponent without leaving the line in which the parry was formed.

Riposte along the blade: a riposte which hits the opponent by grazing along the blade after the parry.

2. Simple indirect ripostes:

Riposte by disengagement: a riposte which hits the opponent in the opposite line to that in which the parry was formed (by passing *under* the opponent's blade if the parry was formed in the high line, and over the blade if the parry was formed in the low line).

Riposte with a coupé: riposte which hits the opponent in the opposite line to that in which the parry was formed (the blade always passing over the opponent's point).

3. Composed ripostes:

Riposte with a doublé: a riposte which hits the opponent in the opposite line to that in which the parry was formed, but after having described a complete circle round the opponent's blade.

Riposte with a one-two: a riposte which hits the opponent in the same line in which the parry was formed but after

the blade has first been into the opposite line by passing *under* the opponent's blade.

Etc., etc.

3. Counter attacks.

12 (a) *The Stop hit*: a counter-attack made on an attack.

(b) The stop hit made with opposition (formerly called the "time-hit") is a counter-attack made by closing the line in which the opponent's attack will be completed (Cf. 233s, 329ss, 418ss).

4. Varieties of offensive actions.

13 (a) The *Remise* is a simple and immediate offensive action which follows the original attack, *without withdrawing the arm*, after the opponent has parried or retreated, when the latter has either quitted contact with the blade without riposting or has made a riposte which is delayed, indirect or composed.

(b) The *Redoublement* is a *new* action, either simple or composed, made on an opponent who has parried without riposting or who has merely avoided the first action by retreating or displacing the target.

(c) The *Reprise d'attaque* is a new attack executed immediately after a return to the on guard position.

(d) *Counter time*: is every action made by the attacker on a stop hit made by his opponent.

CHAPTER IV — THE FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN)

(Cf. 201ss, 301ss, 401ss.)

14 The field of play should have an even surface. It should give neither advantage nor disadvantage to either of the two fencers concerned, especially as regards slope and light.

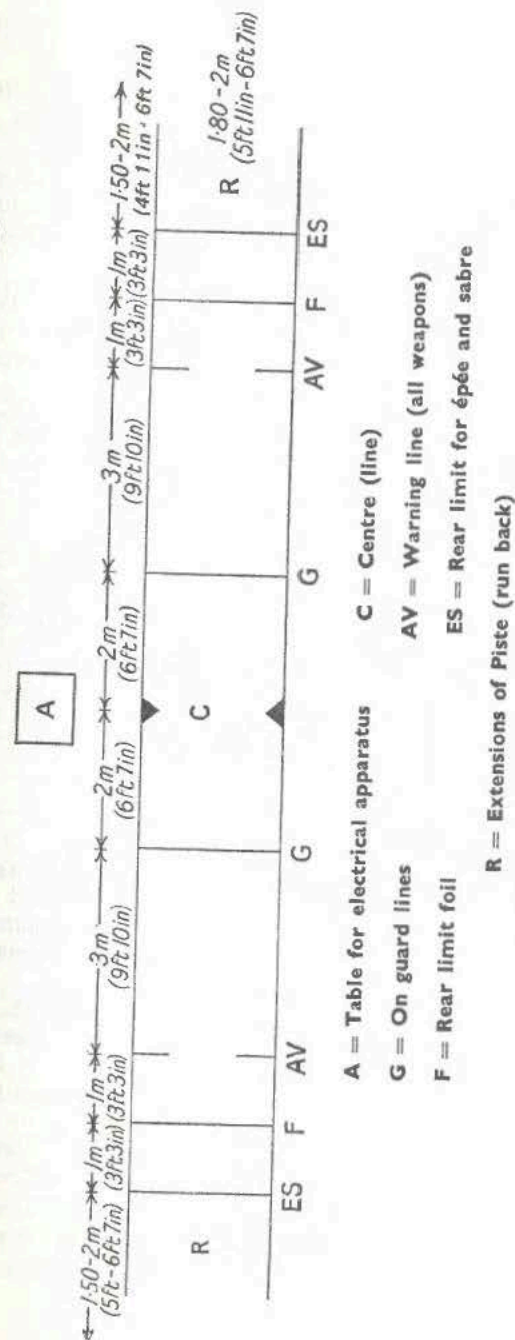
When announcing the particulars of a competition the organizers must always state the nature of the field of play on which the competition will be fought. In particular they should state when a competition is to be held in the open air.

15 That portion of the field of play which is used for fencing is called the piste (strip or board). The piste may be made of various materials: earth, wood, linoleum, rubber, plastic, metallic mesh, etc.

The width of the piste must be from 1.80 metres (5 ft. 11 ins.) to 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.). Its length varies according to the weapon used (Cf. 202, 302, 402).

In addition to the length of the piste laid down for each weapon, the piste should in practice be extended a distance of 1.50 metres (4' 11") to 2 metres (6' 7") at each end,

THE REGULATION PISTE FOR ALL THREE WEAPONS



For electric foil and épée the metallic piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions (run back)

Note: Measurements given to nearest inch, the distance from ES to AV is 6 ft. 7 ins.

to enable the competitor who is about to cross the limit of the piste to retire over a level surface.

If the piste is mounted on a platform the latter must not be higher than 0.60 metres (23 ins.) above the position occupied by the President of the Jury.

If it is impracticable to have a piste of regulation length the length of the piste must not be less than 13 metres (42 ft. 8 ins.) including the above mentioned extensions.

CHAPTER V — THE FENCERS' EQUIPMENT

(Weapons - Equipment - Clothing)

(Cf. 205ss, 306ss, 404ss.)

1. Responsibility of fencers.

- 16 Fencers arm, equip and clothe themselves and fence on their own responsibility and at their own risk.

Fencers are alone responsible in all respects for any accidents which they may cause or suffer.

The safety measures, and the methods of control laid down in the present rules are only designed to *supplement* the fencers' safety, and cannot *guarantee* it absolutely, they cannot, therefore (however they are applied), involve the responsibility either of the F.I.E. or of the organizers of competitions, the officials who carry out such organizations, or of those who may cause an accident.

2. Control of fencers' equipment.

(Cf. 53.)

A. — Control, organization.

- 17 The Directoire Technique (or, failing them the Organizing Committee), may appoint one or more special delegates whose duty it will be to verify the weapons, equipment and clothing of the fencers (obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.).

The control may be supervised by the members of the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment of the F.I.E.

- 18 The pieces of equipment which have been thus controlled will be marked with a distinctive mark: a fencer must not, on pain of penalties laid down hereafter (Cf. 21ss) use any piece of equipment which does not bear this control mark.

In addition to the measures of control mentioned above, the President of a bout may at any time, on his own initiative or at the request of a fencer or of a team captain, carry out

himself such control, or verify the measures of control already carried out or even carry out, or have carried out, new controls.

He will, in any case, before each bout control the pressure of the spring in the point of electric weapons and, at *épée*, the total travel and the residual travel of the *pointe d'arrêt*

—the total travel, by inserting a gauge measuring 1.5 mm. (0.059 ins) between the *pointe d'arrêt* and the button;

—the residual travel, by inserting a gauge measuring 0.5 mm. (0.019 ins) between the *pointe d'arrêt* and the button when the apparatus should not register when the point is depressed.

For details of the control weight required for this purpose, see the description in Part VII (Cf. 719, 732).

At electric foil, before the commencement of each pool, the President, under the supervision of a member of the Directoire Technique or of the special delegates, must assemble all the competitors on the piste and verify that the metallic jacket conforms to the provisions of Article 217 when each competitor is standing upright, is on guard and when lunging.

At *épée* the same procedure should be followed as for foil in order to verify: (a) that the material from which the clothing is made has not too smooth a surface, and (b) that the competitor is wearing his *plastron* (under garment) (Cf. 27, 315).

B. — Control equipment.

In order to enable the controllers to fulfil their functions, the organizers must supply them with the necessary equipment (gauges, weights, scales, electrical control apparatus, etc.).

3. Non-regulation equipment.

(Cf. 18, 648.)

(a) Under whatever circumstances a fencer on the piste is found to be in possession of equipment which is non-regulation or defective, such equipment will be *confiscated* and will only be returned to the fencer after the completion of the event or after having been put in order, at the fencer's expense, and re-controlled.

(b) When an irregularity is found in equipment:

1. If the fencer cannot be made responsible (no previous control, weapon which does not function, damage occurring

— should there be a repetition of the same fault during the same pool or match or the last 15 bouts by direct elimination, the fencer will be *excluded*.

(c) If the President establishes (Cf. 18) that a fencer is using *falsified* equipment, the said fencer will be immediately and irrevocably excluded from the competition and, if necessary, from the whole meeting, without prejudice to the application of other penalties enumerated in Part VI.

(d) In addition to the penalties enumerated above, the rules relating to the judging of hits for each weapon specify the circumstances in which hits made during a bout should be annulled (Cf. 47, 231, 326).

4. Specifications common to all weapons.

22 All kinds of weapons are authorised providing that they conform to the regulations.

The weapon should be so constructed that it can normally neither injure the user nor his opponent.

A. — General description:

23 All weapons are composed of the following parts:

1. A flexible steel *blade* completed at its forward extremity by a *button* and at the rear by the *tang* (the latter included in the hilt when the weapon is mounted).

2. A *hilt* within which the tang of the blade is fixed by a *locking nut* or in any other way, and which enables the fencer to hold the weapon. It may be composed of one or of several parts: in the latter case it is divided into a *handle* (which is normally held in the hand) and a *pommel* (rear portion of the hilt which locks the handle on the tang).

3. A metal *guard* (*coquille*) fixed (with the convex portion towards the front) between the blade and the hilt serving to protect the sword hand. The guard may contain a *padding* or cushion (Cf. 26/2, 712) to reduce the effect of blows; in electrical weapons, it will also contain a *plug* to which the *body wire* can be connected.

B. — Dimensions:

(Cf. 205ss, 306ss, 404ss.)

24 Each weapon has its particular design and measurements.

1. The length of the blade includes the button and everything which is added in front of the convex surface of the guard whether or not it is fixed to the latter.

2. The total length of the weapon and of its various parts correspond to the distances between lines (planes) drawn

parallel to each other and perpendicular to the axis of the blade; these lines are situated:

(a) at the forward extremity of the weapon;

(b) at the point where the blade leaves the front, convex, surface of the guard;

(c) at the back of the guard;

(d) between the handle and the pommel;

(e) at the rear extremity of the hilt.

3. The total length of the weapon is the distance between lines (a) and (e); the length of the blade, that between (a) and (b); the length of the hilt, that between (b) and (e); and the depth of the guard, that between (b) and (c).

4. The maximum total length of the weapon must be less than the greatest permissible lengths for the blade and the hilt added together, these two latter lengths must, therefore, compensate each other to arrive at the total length of the weapon.

5. In order to measure either the total length of the weapon or the length of the blade, it is essential that the latter should be straight: when, therefore, measurements are being made, the blade should be kept straight on a flat surface.

6. Only the pommel or the locking nut may be placed between lines (d) and (e).

C. — The hilt:

1. The maximum length of the hilt at all weapons is 23.5 cm. ($9\frac{1}{4}$ ins.) between lines (b) and (e) and 18 cm. ($7\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) between lines (b) and (d).

2. The hilt must be able to pass through the same gauge as the guard. It is so made that normally it can injure neither the user or his opponent.

3. All types of hilts are allowed providing that they conform to the regulations which have been framed with a view to placing the various types of weapons on the same footing of equality.

4. The hilt must not include any device which assists the fencer to use it as a throwing weapon.

5. The hilt must not include any device which can increase in any way the protection afforded to the hand or wrist of the fencer by the guard: a cross bar which extends beyond the edge of the guard is expressly forbidden.

6. If the hilt (or the glove) includes any device or attach-

ment which fixes the position of the hand on the hilt, such device must conform to the two following conditions:

(a) Determine and fix one position only for the hand on the hilt.

(b) When the hand occupies this one position on the hilt, the extremity of the thumb when completely extended must be less than 2 cm. ($\frac{1}{4}$ in.) from the inner surface of the guard.

D. — *The guard (coquille):*

(Cf. 208, 310, 407.)

26

1. The convex face of the guard must be of shape and surface which is both smooth and not too bright, it must be so made that it can neither hold nor catch the opponent's point. It must not have a raised rim.

2. The padding inside the guard must have a thickness which is less than 2 cm. ($\frac{1}{4}$ in.) and must not be made in such a way as to increase the protection which the guard affords the hand.

E. — *Buttons and pointes d'arrêt:*

(Cf. 210s, 311s, 406, 719s, 732s.)

See under each weapon and Part VII, Chapters II and III.

5. **Equipment and clothing — general conditions.**

27

1. The competitor must have the maximum protection compatible with the freedom of movement necessary for fencing.

For men as well as for ladies, when the jacket is cut horizontally at the waist, the lower edge must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ "") when the fencer is in the "on guard" position.

Ladies' equipment must include breast protectors in metal or of other rigid material (Cf. 215).

At épée the wearing of an under garment (plastron) as described in Article 315 is obligatory.

2. It must not be possible for the opponent to be obstructed or injured by the equipment, nor for the opponent's weapon to be caught up or deflected by the equipment which, in consequence, must have neither buckles nor openings in which the opponent's point may be caught up — except accidentally.

At all weapons, the gauntlet of the glove must, in all circumstances, cover approximately half the forearm of the competitor's sword arm to prevent the opponent's blade entering the sleeve of the jacket.

22

3. The judging of hits should be facilitated as far as possible; the material from which the equipment is made must not have a surface which is smooth enough to cause the *pointe d'arrêt*, the button or the opponent's hit to glance off (Cf. 313).

4. All clothing, as well as the bib and the exterior parts of the mask, must be white (or of a very light colour).

5. They must be made of sufficiently robust material and be in good condition.

At all weapons fencers' clothing must include a pair of white stockings.

6. The mask, in particular, must be made up with meshes (spaces between the wires) of maximum 2.1 mm. (0.08 in.) and from wires with a minimum gauge of diameter 1 mm. (0.039 in.) before tinning (which should be effected hot after the mesh has been shaped) (Cf. 722/4).

CHAPTER VI — THE ASSAULT

1. Method of fencing.

(Cf. 16.)

The competitors fence in their own ways and at their own risk with the one condition that they must observe the fundamental rules of fencing (Cf. 35).

All bouts or matches must, however, preserve the character of a courteous and frank encounter. All violent actions (flèche attack which ends by a shock jostling the opponent, disorderly fencing, irregular movements on the piste, any action which the President considers dangerous — for example, attacks made by running with loss of equilibrium — as delivered with undue violence) are expressly forbidden (Cf. 645).

A competitor must not remove his mask until the President has given his decision (Cf. 657).*

28

2. Exactitude of the hit.

Every thrust with the point at all weapons must reach the target clearly and distinctly to be counted as a hit.

29

*The 1967 Congress decided that when the deciding hit in a bout was being contested (e.g., score 4-all) the penalty for removing the mask at that stage will be to *remove* a hit from the score of the competitor penalised (and thus not *score* a penalty hit against him) and any hit which he had then made on his opponent would be annulled.

23

3. Method of holding the weapon.

30

With all three weapons, defence must be effected exclusively with the guard and the blade used either separately or together.

If there is no special device or attachment a fencer may hold the handle in any way he wishes and he may also alter the position of his hand on the handle during a bout. However, the weapon must not be — either permanently or temporarily, or in an open or concealed manner — transformed into a throwing weapon; it must be used without the hand leaving the hilt, and without the hand being slipped along the hilt from front to back during an offensive action.

The weapon must be used with one hand only; a fencer must not change hands until the end of the bout, unless the President gives special permission to the contrary because of the hand or arm being wounded. The use of the hand and arm which are not used to hold the weapon to carry out an offensive or defensive action is forbidden. The penalty for transgression of this rule is the annulment of a hit which has been scored and the penalty of one hit after previous warning during the same bout.

4. Putting on guard.

31

The fencer whose number is called first should place himself on the right of the President, except in the case of a bout between a right and a left-hander and if the left-hander is called first.

The President places each of the two competitors in such a way that the foot of each which is in front is 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) from the centre line of the piste (that is behind the "on guard" lines).

Competitors are always put on guard, whether at the beginning of the bout or subsequently, in the centre of the width of the piste.

Competitors come on guard when the President gives the order "On Guard", after which the President asks: "Are you ready?" On receiving an affirmative reply, or in the absence of a negative reply, he gives the signal for the assault to commence with the word "Play".

5. Beginning, stopping and restarting the bout.

32

1. As soon as the word "Play" has been pronounced the competitors may assume the offensive. No movement made or initiated before the word "Play" is counted.

2. The bout stops on the word "Halt", except in the case

24

of special events occurring which modify the regular and normal conditions of the bout (Cf. also 47).

Directly the order "Halt" has been given, the competitor may not commence a new action; only the movement which has been begun before the order was given remains valid. Everything which takes place afterwards is entirely invalid (But Cf. 47).

If a competitor stops before the word "Halt", and is hit, the hit is valid.

The order "Halt" is also given if the play of the competitors is dangerous, confused, or contrary to the rules, if one of the competitors is disarmed or entirely leaves the piste, or if, when retiring, he approaches too near the spectators or the jury (Cf. 231-7).

3. After each valid hit is scored the competitors are put on guard in the middle of the piste. If the hit is not allowed they are placed in the position which they occupied when the assault was interrupted. (However, Cf. 226, 321, 414.)

The competitors will change ends

— in the open air after each hit scored;

— indoors, after each bout by direct elimination, or for bouts taking place in several hits, after one of the competitors has received half the maximum number of hits which he can receive; at sabre, if one of the competitors is a left-hander and if the President cannot cross to the other side of the piste, the competitors remain in their positions and the judges will exchange places from right to left and vice versa.

However, with the electrical judging apparatus competitors do not change ends during the bout (But Cf. 556).

4. The President cannot allow a fencer to leave the piste, save in exceptional circumstances. If a competitor does so without permission he is liable to incur the penalties enumerated in Article 654.

6. Fencing at close quarters.

Fencing at close quarters is allowed so long as the competitors can wield their weapons correctly and the President can, at foil and sabre, follow the phrase.

33

7. Corps à corps.

The corps à corps is said to exist when the two competitors remain in contact; when this occurs the President must stop the bout (Cf. 37, 224, 318, 412).

34

25

8. Displacing the target and passing the opponent.

- 35 Displacing the target, ducking, turns and half-turns are allowed including the action of ducking during which the unarmed hand may come into contact with the piste.

When a fencer passes his opponent during a bout, the President must immediately call "Halt" and replace the competitors in the positions which they occupied before the movement which caused the fencer to pass his opponent occurred.

When hits are made during the movement of a fencer passing his opponent, hits made during this movement are valid but a hit made by a fencer after he has actually passed his opponent must be annulled.

9. Ground gained or lost.

- 36 When the order "Halt" is given ground gained is held until a hit has been scored. When competitors are replaced on guard, each fencer should retire equally in order to attain fencing distance.

However

- 37 (a) When the bout has been stopped on account of a corps à corps, the fencers are again put on guard in such a position that the competitor who has sustained the corps à corps is at the place which he previously occupied; this also applies if his opponent has subjected him to a flèche attack, even without corps à corps.

(b) The competitors must not be again put on guard in such a way that a fencer who was in front of the warning line at the moment when the assault was stopped is placed behind this line if this competitor has not already been warned (Cf. 38).

(c) The competitors must not again be put on guard in such a way that the fencer who was already behind the warning line at the moment when the assault was stopped, is caused to lose ground.

10. Crossing the limits of the piste.

(a) Stopping the bout:

- 38 When a competitor crosses one of the boundaries of the piste with both feet, the President must immediately call "halt" and annul everything which has occurred after the boundary has been crossed, except a hit received by the competitor who has crossed the boundary even after he has crossed it provided that this hit is made immediately as part of the movement in the course of which he crossed the boundary.

When one of the competitors leaves the piste only a hit

made by the fencer who remains on the piste can be counted valid, even in the case of a double hit, except, however, in the case provided for in Article 42.

(b) Rear limits and warning lines:

When the rear foot of a competitor reaches his warning line for the last time the President gives the order "halt", and advises the fencer as to how much ground remains before he will cross the extreme limit of the piste. He will repeat this warning each time the competitor has, meanwhile, regained 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) of ground (that is to say, in practice, on a regulation piste, each time he has advanced until his leading foot has reached his on guard line). Competitors are not advised of their position at any other part of the piste.

The competitor who, after being warned, crosses — i.e., crosses with both feet — the rear limit of the piste, has one hit scored against him. However, if a competitor crosses the rear limit of the piste without having been warned, he is again put on guard at the warning line.

Competitors must be allowed to retire on the piste as many times as is necessary in order that each should have at his disposal the regulation distance for retiring (1). But they are only warned when they reach the warning line for the last time (Cf. 302, 402).

If having crossed the rear limit of the piste, the fencer who is attacked parries and makes an immediate riposte or makes a stop hit or time hit such hit will be counted as valid. This rule will not apply to a fencer who crosses the rear limit of the piste for the last time (Cf. 38).

(c) Lateral boundaries:

A competitor who crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with both feet is penalised. When the competitors are replaced on guard, his opponent will step forward from the position which he occupied when the action occurred 1 metre (3 ft. 3 ins.) at foil and 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) at épée and sabre. When the infliction of this penalty places a competitor with both feet beyond the rear limit of the piste, the competitor is considered as having been hit, always provided that he had previously been warned at his warning line.

(1) Note: Illustration. When A retires once over the limit of the piste and then B also retires over the limit of the piste, in fact A has regained the ground lost and the two competitors are considered at that moment as having at their disposal the full length of their piste, because the bout is always being fought over the full length of the piste.

A competitor who crosses one of the boundaries of the piste with both feet — e.g., when making a flèche — to avoid a hit, will, after one warning during the same bout, be penalised by having one hit scored against him (Cf. 638).

(d) *Leaving the piste accidentally:*

44 A competitor who crosses one of the boundaries of the piste, as the result of an "accidental cause" (such as a collision) incurs no penalty whatever.

11. Duration of the bout.

45 By duration of a bout is meant the actual duration, that is the total of the intervals of time between the orders "Play" and "Halt", deduction being therefore made for the time taken for the deliberations of the jury and other interruptions.

The duration of the bout must be registered exactly by a timekeeper appointed by the organizing committee (obligatory for official competitions of the F.I.E.) (Cf. 59).

At the finals of major competitions the stop clock may be visible for the spectators but not for the fencers.

The actual duration of a bout is:

— at épée for one hit — 5 minutes;

— at all weapons:

for 4 hits — 5 minutes;

for 5 hits — 6 minutes;

for 8 hits — 10 minutes;

for 10 hits — 12 minutes.

46 The President (himself advised by the timekeeper who must not call "Halt" or strike a bell) stops the bout and warns the competitors 1 minute before the expiration of the actual time limit. Should a prolonged interruption of the bout occur, the competitors may, when replaced on guard, be advised how much time remains for fencing.

47 When the time limit expires, a loud bell, which shall either be automatic or be struck by the timekeeper, will stop the bout and even a hit which has already been initiated is not valid.

48 The President may, during the bout, penalise by a warning, then by scoring one hit against the competitor and finally by exclusion from the competition a competitor who endeavours improperly to cause or to prolong interruptions during the bout.

49 When the time limit expires before the bout is completed, the procedure to be followed is detailed in the chapters dealing with each weapon (Cf. 226, 321, 414).

12. Accidents — indispositions — withdrawal of a competitor.

If a competitor is the victim of an accident which has been duly recognized, the President may allow him a period of rest once only and that for a maximum time of 20 minutes in order that he may recover sufficiently to continue the bout (1).

In the case of one or several indispositions which have been duly recognized, the President may grant the competitor a period of rest for a maximum time of 10 minutes once only during the same match (teams) or the same pool (individual) or the last 15 bouts by direct elimination (1).

The President may on his own authority, require the withdrawal of a competitor whose physical inability to continue the bout is obvious.

CHAPTER VII — THE DIRECTION OF A BOUT AND THE JUDGING OF HITS

A. OFFICIALS.

1. The President.

All bouts at fencing are directed by a President who has many duties:

(a) He directs the bout (Cf. 63);

(b) He controls the equipment (Cf. 18s);

(c) He supervises his assistants (judges, ground-judges, timekeepers, scorers, etc.);

(d) He maintains order (Cf. 615);

(e) He penalises faults (Cf. 615);

(f) He awards the hits (Cf. 67, 69, 75).

2. The Jury, Judges and Ground-Judges.

The President fulfils his duty of judging hits, either with the help of four judges or with the assistance of an apparatus for the automatic registering of hits, with the latter he may be assisted by two ground-judges.

Ground judges are obligatory when there is no metallic piste.

The President and the judges (or the ground-judges) constitute the "Jury".

(1) When applying articles 50 and 51, cramp must be considered as an indisposition and not as an accident and therefore follow the provisions of article 51

55 By accepting a position on a jury, each of the members concerned, by so doing, pledges his honour to respect the regulations and to cause them to be respected, and to carry out his duties with the strictest impartiality and most sustained attention.

56 All members of a jury must be amateurs when acting at an international competition; they must, in addition, hold an amateur licence when acting at an official competition of the F.I.E.

57 They are appointed by the Directoire Technique (or in its absence by the Organizing Committee) which will select neutral juries as far as possible and will appoint the President from among the international Presidents recognized by the F.I.E. (Cf. 512s).

58 For the finals of individual competitions comprising at least eight fencers, there shall be, whenever possible, two complete juries (or two Presidents when judging with an apparatus). (This is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.) (Cf. 515).

3. Auxiliary personnel.

1. Scorers and timekeepers.

59 Whenever possible the organizers will appoint, on their own responsibility, scorers whose duty it will be to keep the score-sheet and the scoreboards and a timekeeper whose duty it will be to keep time for the duration of the bouts (Cf. 45ss). (This is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.)

2. Specialist personnel.

60 When judging is done with the assistance of an apparatus for registering hits, the Organizing Committee will further appoint:

(a) *A superintendent of the apparatus.*

The Organizing Committee must choose qualified persons, who should follow the working of the apparatus with careful attention in order that they may be able to advise the President as to what their apparatus has registered, and warn him, even during the course of a bout, as to all abnormal phenomena which may occur.

The superintendent of the apparatus must not touch the apparatus while fencing is in progress. When fencing ceases, he re-sets the apparatus either after the President has given his decision, or when the competitors are testing their weapons; but he must never — after a phase of the bout has caused the apparatus to signal a hit — annul this signal before the President has given his decision.

(b) *One or more experts.*

For each meeting, the Organizing Committee must appoint experts in matters relating to electrical judging. These experts are placed under the supervision of the Directoire Technique.

The experts may be consulted, separately or conjointly, by the Presidents or by the Directoire Technique regarding all questions relating to the electrical apparatus.

Members of the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment of the F.I.E. who may be present are *ex-officio* qualified to act as experts.

(c) *The repairers.*

The Organizing Committee must, for each international meeting, ensure the presence of competent repairers to remedy faults which may arise during the competition to the personal equipment of the fencers, and, if necessary, to the rest of the electrical apparatus.

B. — JUDGING BY A JURY.

1. The duties of the President.

The President will take up his position at a distance from the piste which will enable him completely to follow the actions of the fencers and will follow the competitors in their movements on the piste. 61

He directs the bout according to the provisions of the rules (Cf. 227ss, 322ss, 415ss).

2. Positions occupied by the judges.

Two judges are placed on each side of the piste on the President's right and left respectively, and slightly behind the competitors. 62

The two judges placed on the President's right hand should watch the fencer who is placed on the President's left hand and especially verify the arrival of hits which this competitor may receive.

Similarly, the two judges placed on the President's left hand should watch the fencer who is placed on the President's right hand and especially verify the arrival of hits which this competitor may receive (however Cf. 69/4).

3. Method of judging.

(a) *Procedure.*

The President, who alone is responsible for the direction of the bout, gives the orders. However, any other member of the jury may give the command "Halt", but only if he thinks that there is an accident. 63

Similarly the timekeeper stops the bout by calling "Halt" when time expires.

64 As soon as a judge sees a hit (whether on a valid surface or not) arrive on the fencer whom he is watching he *must* raise his hand in order to advise the President.

65 All judging is carried out aloud and without the members of the jury leaving the positions which they occupy.

66 The jury is not bound to take account of the acknowledgment of a hit properly made by a competitor (Cf. 606).

67 The jury first decides as to the *materiality* of the hit or hits. The President then alone decides against which fencer a hit shall be scored by applying the conventional rules for each weapon.

(b) *Materiality of the hit.*

68 As soon as the bout has been stopped, the President reconstructs briefly the movements which composed the last fencing phrase before the order "Halt" (this formality is not obligatory at *épée*) and in the course of his analysis he questions the two judges watching one fencer in order to ascertain whether in their opinion any of the movements occurring in his analysis of the phrase has resulted in a hit on the competitor; he then follows the same procedure with the two other judges for the other competitor (this formality must be observed at all three weapons).

When the judges are questioned they must reply in one of the following ways: "Yes", "Yes but not valid", "No" or "I abstain". The President votes last.

69 The President then aggregates the votes thus made from each side, the opinion of each judge counts as one vote, the opinion of the President counts as one and a half votes while abstentions are not counted at all:

1. If both judges on the same side agree in a positive opinion (either both say "Yes", or both say "No", or both say "Yes but not valid") their judgment prevails.

2. If one of the judges has a definite opinion and the other abstains, the opinion of the President prevails since his vote is over-riding; if he also abstains, the decision of the judge who has a definite opinion prevails.

3. If the two judges concerned are positive but contrary in their opinions or if both abstain, the President may decide according to his own observations (1); if he also abstains, the hit is regarded as doubtful (Cf. 5 below).

(1) Examples: I.—Judge A says "no"; Judge B says "yes but not valid"; even if the President considers the hit valid, the judgment must be "no hit"; but in this example since one Judge and the President

4. In the case of a double abstention, the President may, as an exceptional measure, ask the opinions of the two other judges if he considers that they were better placed to see the hit—for example: a riposte on the back made on a fencer who has made a *flèche* attack and has passed his opponent.

5. A doubtful hit is never scored against the competitor who might have received it; but, on the other hand, any hit made subsequently or simultaneously in the same phrase by the fencer who has thus been granted the benefit of the doubt must also be annulled; (but Cf. 38) as regards a hit made subsequently by the fencer who originally made the doubtful hit, the following courses will apply:

I.—If the new hit (*remise*, *redoublement* or *riposte*) is made by a fencer who made the doubtful hit without any hit having been made by his opponent, this new hit must be scored.

II.—But if the doubt concerns the surface on which the hit arrived (one "Yes" and one "Yes but not valid") no other hit in this phrase can be scored.

III.—This is also the case if the opponent has made a doubtful hit between the doubtful hit and the new hit made by the same competitor.

(c) *Validity or priority of the hit.*

After the jury has decided the materiality of a hit, the President, acting alone and by applying the conventional rules for each weapon, decides against which fencer a hit is to be awarded, whether both are hit (*épée*) or if there is no valid hit (Cf. 232ss, 329ss, 416ss).

C.—*JUDGING WITH A JUDGING APPARATUS.*

1. *Direction of the bout.*

1. The bout is directed by the President who should move up and down the piste in order to follow the fencing phrases while being able to see the appearance of the light signals.

2. At the beginning of each bout, and whenever a weapon is changed, the President must check the resistance of the agree that there has been contact with the point on the opponent, after the decision "no hit" anything which occurs thereafter must be annulled.

II.—Judge A says "yes"; but Judge B says "yes but not valid" the President abstains: he cannot therefore score the hit since there is a doubt as to whether it arrived on a valid surface or not; however, since both judges are agreed that there was contact with the point on the opponent, after the decision "no hit" anything which occurs subsequently must be annulled.

spring in the point of the weapon by means of the special weight (Cf. 18, 719, 732).

3. The President will superintend the proper functioning of the electrical apparatus. Either on his own initiative or when asked to do so by a competitor, he will have the necessary tests made in order to verify the apparatus and localise any faults which may be found. He will prevent the competitors complicating the tests by unplugging or untimely changing of their equipment.

4. If there are ground-judges, they will be placed on either side of the President and on opposite sides of the piste and they should observe all the actions during the bout (Cf. 54).

5. The President should consult the experts for the electrical apparatus each time he considers it necessary (Cf. 60b).

2. Method of judging.

(a) Materiality of the hit.

72 The materiality of the hit is established according to the indications of the apparatus, when necessary after consulting the ground-judges (Cf. 74).

Only the indications of the electrical apparatus can be taken into consideration for judging hits. Under no circumstances can the President declare a competitor to be hit unless the hit has been properly registered by the apparatus (except as a penalty as laid down in the rules) (Cf. 228ss, 323ss, 626).

73 On the other hand, the President should, in the cases enumerated for each weapon, annul a hit registered by the apparatus (Cf. 230s, 325s).

74 Only the two ground-judges, who each have one vote, and the President, who has one and a half votes, decide if a hit has been made on the ground or not. If they cannot reach a majority decision that this is so (three abstentions or the two judges of different opinions and the President abstaining) the hit must be considered doubtful (Cf. 69/5). In no circumstances may the President take account of the opinions of other persons.

(b) Validity or priority of the hit.

75 After reaching his decision regarding the materiality of a hit, the President, by applying the conventional rules for each weapon, decides against which fencer a hit is to be awarded, whether both are hit (*épée*) or if there is no valid hit (Cf. 232ss, 329ss, 416ss).

PART TWO: FOIL

CHAPTER I — HISTORICAL NOTES

The Rules for Foil were adopted on 12th June, 1914 by the Commission for Foil of the F.I.E. at a meeting in Paris under the presidency of General G. Ettore, representing the Italian Fencing Federation, who edited the proposed rules.

They were basically the same as those drawn up by Monsieur Camille Prévost, president of the Académie d'Armes and president of the Technical Committee for Foil of the French National Federation. They also conformed to the rules drawn up by the Marquis de Chasseloup-Laubat for "Les Armes de France", to the various earlier international regulations drawn up by the different countries affiliated to the F.I.E. and to the Franco-Italian rules.

The present rules merely define and complete those adopted in 1914.

The rules governing foil competitions judged with the electrical judging apparatus were adopted in 1957.

CHAPTER II — FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN)

(Cf. 14ss).

Foil competitions are held indoors on pistes made of wood, linoleum, cork, rubber, plastic, metallic mesh, etc. 201

In competitions judged with the electrical apparatus, the piste and its extensions must be entirely covered by a metallic piste in order to neutralise hits made "on the ground" (obligatory for official competitions of the F.I.E.).

The width of the piste must be from 1 m 80 (5 ft. 11 ins.) to 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.). 202

The length of the piste must be 12 metres (39 ft. 4 ins.), so that each competitor being placed at 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) from the centre line has at his disposal for retreating a total distance of 4 metres (13 ft. 1 ins.) without it being necessary for him to cross the limit of the piste with both feet (Cf. 15, 38ss and Plan, page 17).

Seven lines should be drawn very clearly on the piste parallel to its width, thus: 203

1 centre line (which may be replaced by a central point or a special sign drawn on the edge of the piste);

2 on guard lines at 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) on each side of the centre line (these must be drawn across the whole width of the piste).

2 rear limits of the piste, which must be drawn across the whole width of the piste, at a distance of 6 metres (19 ft. 8 ins.) when possible from the centre line, but which may be less when sufficient space is not available but never less than 5 metres (16 ft. 5 ins.) (Cf. 15).

2 warning lines drawn 1 metre (3 ft. 3 ins.) in front of the rear limits of the piste (and which may be drawn only 30 cm. (11 $\frac{3}{8}$ ins.) from each side of the piste).

- 204 The table on which the judging apparatus is placed should stand level with the centre line and at least 1 metre (3 ft. 3 ins.) from the piste, and the President must ensure that its isolation is maintained by the officials, the competitors and the spectators. As a general rule the same table should not be used by the score-keepers, timekeepers, etc.

CHAPTER III — FOIL EQUIPMENT (Weapons — Equipment — Clothing)

A. — WEAPONS (Cf. 16ss, 22ss).

1. General specifications for foils.

(a) Weight.

- 205 The total weight of the foil ready for use must be less than 500 grammes (17 $\frac{3}{8}$ ozs.).

(b) Length.

- 206 The maximum total length of the foil must be 110 cm. (3' 7")

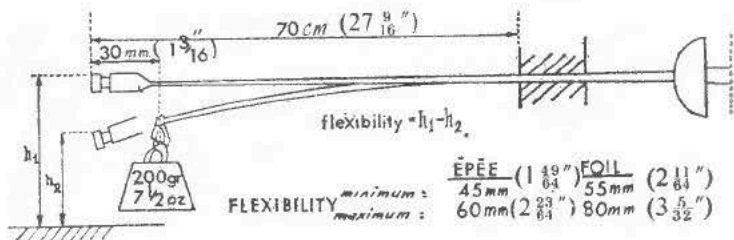
(c) The blade.

- 207 The blade, which must be made of steel, is rectangular in section.

It is mounted with the widest face of the blade placed horizontally.

The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (2' 11 $\frac{7}{16}$ ")

The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend minimum 5.5 cm. (2 $\frac{3}{16}$ ins.) and maximum 8 cm. (3 $\frac{1}{8}$ ins.) measured in the following way:



1. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm. (27 $\frac{9}{16}$ inches) from the extremity of the button.

2. A 200 gramme weight (7 $\frac{1}{8}$ ozs.) is suspended 3 cm. (1 $\frac{3}{16}$ ins.) from the extremity of the button.

3. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and the weighted position.

(d) The guard (coquille) (Cf. 26).

The guard must be able to pass through a straight cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 12 cm. (4 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches) and a length of 15 cm. (5 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches)

Eccentric mounting is forbidden, that is to say that the blade must pass through the centre of the guard.

(e) The martingale.

The martingale is obligatory when the foil is not secured to the hand by an attachment or by the body wire.

(f) Buttons and points.

The point of the foil must be covered unless it is fitted with an electric point for registering hits (or one of a design previously approved), that is to say that the flattened metal button which completes the blade must be covered with waxed thread or plastic or with some other non-metallic material.

2. Specifications for the electric foil.

Foil fencers' electrical equipment must conform to the following conditions, in addition to the special conditions regarding construction laid down in Part VII (Cf. 702, 712, 718).

(a) The pointe d'arrêt.

The pressure which must be made on the pointe d'arrêt in order to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit must be more than 500 grammes (17 $\frac{3}{8}$ ozs.), that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point (Cf. 719).

The course or stroke which the pointe d'arrêt must travel back in order to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit may be extremely short: the total stroke must be a maximum of 1 mm. (0.039 ins.).

(b) Insulation.

The body of the point, except those parts which are insulated, and part of the blade to a length of 15 cm. (5 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches) below the point, as well as the pommel or the end of the handle, must be completely covered with insulating material (adhesive tape or varnish) (Cf. 721).

B. — EQUIPMENT.

1. General specifications for all foil equipment.

(a) *Mask* (Cf. 27, 722/4).

212 For foil, the mask must be of such a design that, when the fencer is in the on guard position, the bib is not lower than 2 cm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ ins.) below the collar and in any case not below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).

(b) *Glove*.

213 The glove may be slightly padded (Cf. 27).

(c) *The jacket*.

When the jacket is cut horizontally at the waist, the lower edge must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm. (4 ins.) when the fencer is in the on guard position (Cf. 27).

The sleeves of the jacket must be neither too large nor too puffed.

2. Specifications for equipment required to fence with the electrical judging apparatus.

Body wire and attachment plugs.

214 The body wire (fencer's personal equipment) has a connection (plug) at each end.

At the spool end the three-pronged connection must conform to the specifications for manufacture and mounting laid down in Part VII (Cf. 710, 717).

At the end nearest the foil, inside the guard, any method of attachment is allowed, but the method adopted must always conform to the specifications laid down in Article 712.

C. — CLOTHING.

1. Specifications for clothing for ladies' foil.

215 Ladies' clothing must include breeches closed below the knee, or the divided skirt, and inside the jacket breast protectors of metal or other rigid material must be worn (Cf. 27).

2. Specifications for clothing required to fence with the electrical judging apparatus.

(a) *Protection under the arm.*

216 The jacket must compulsorily include a lining making a double thickness of material for the sleeve down to the elbow and covering the flank in the region of the armpit.

(b) *Metallic plastron (overjacket).*

217 The conducting surface of the metallic plastron must cover the valid target of the fencer entirely and without omission both when in the on guard position and when lunging.

The metallic collar must have a minimum height of 3 cm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ ins.).

The lamé material must conform to the specifications for its verification detailed elsewhere (Cf. 722).

The plastron must be so made that when it is laid flat there is a straight line between the point of junction of the lines of the groin and the two points corresponding to the tops of the hip bones (ilium), the strip of metallic material which passes between the legs must have a minimum width of 3 cm. ($1\frac{3}{8}$ ins.) (Cf. illustration next page).

(c) *Mask.*

The wire mesh of the mask must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material which does not chip off before the mask is made up (Cf. 722).

CHAPTER IV — THE CONVENTIONS
OF FOIL FENCING

A. — METHOD OF MAKING A HIT.

The foil is a thrusting weapon only. Offensive actions with this weapon must be made with the point and with the point only. 218

B. — TARGET.

1. Limitation of the target.

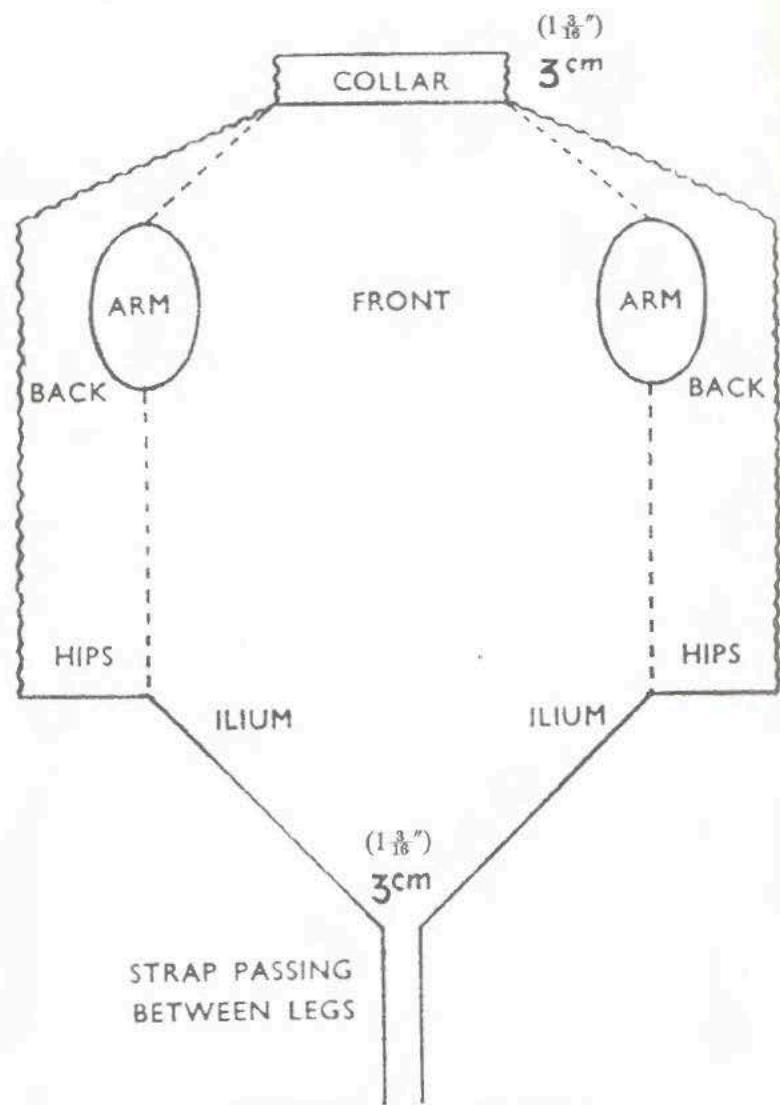
At foil, only hits which arrive on the target are counted as valid. 219

The target at foil, for ladies as for men excludes the limbs and the head. It is confined to the trunk, the upper limit being the collar up to 6 cm. ($2\frac{3}{4}$ ") above the prominences of the collar bones; at the sides to the seams of the sleeves which should cross the head of the humerus; and the lower limit following a horizontal line across the back joining the tops of the hip bones (ilium) thence following in straight lines to the junction of the lines of the groin. 220

The bib of the mask is not included in the target (Cf. 212, Cf. illustration page 41). 221

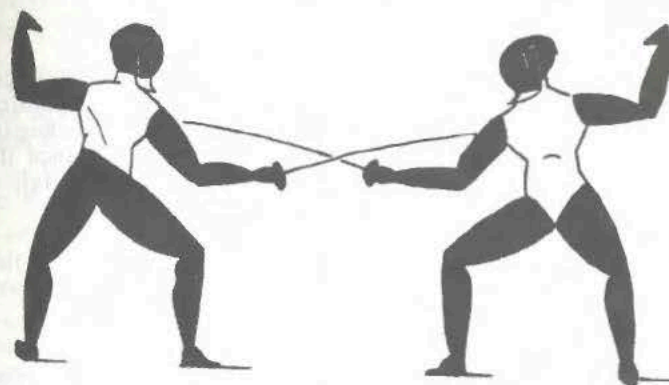
2. The possible extension of the valid target.

Hits which arrive off the target are counted as valid whenever, by reason of an abnormal position, the fencer 222



THE METAL PLASTRON

who is hit has substituted a part of his body which is not counted as the target for a part which is.



**The Target: Foil
For Ladies and for Men**

3. Hits off the target.

A hit which is made on a part of the body other than the target (whether directly or as a result of a parry) is not counted as a valid hit, but it stops the phrase and annuls all hits which are scored thereafter (but Cf. 222). 223

C. — CORPS A CORPS AND FLECHE ATTACKS.

At foil, when a fencer intentionally or systematically causes the corps à corps (even with neither brutality nor violence) he must be penalised by having one hit scored against him after he has been warned during the same bout (Cf. note to 318). 224

D. — NUMBER OF HITS, DURATION OF A BOUT.

At foil, bouts are fought for five hits for men and for four hits for ladies, the duration of the bout is 6 and 5 minutes respectively; for events by direct elimination, two bouts of five and four hits respectively with a deciding bout if necessary or one bout for a given number of hits (Cf. 554ss, 561ss). 225

When the time limit expires before the bout has been completed: 226

(a) If one competitor has received more hits than his opponent, the number of hits required must be added to his score to bring it up to the maximum being fought for, and the same number of hits must be added to his opponent's score;

(b) If both competitors have received the same number of hits, they are counted as having both received the maximum number of hits being fought for less one and they fence for

the last hit without any time limit. They are replaced on guard in the position which they occupied when the bout was interrupted (Cf. 32).

E. — JUDGING OF HITS AT FOIL.

227 Foil competitions are judged with an electrical judging apparatus. This is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E. In the case of all other competitions, the organizers are obliged to make an announcement in advance if it is intended that they should be judged by a jury (Cf. 1s).

I. — Materiality of the hit.

1. With a jury.

(See articles 61ss.)

2. With an electrical judging apparatus.

228 1. The indications of the electrical apparatus can alone be taken into consideration for judging the materiality of hits. Under no circumstances can the President declare a competitor to be hit unless the hit has been properly registered by the apparatus (except as a penalty as laid down in the regulations) (Cf. 72, 626).

229 When using the apparatus it should be noted that:

(a) If both signal lights (white and coloured) appear on the same side of the apparatus, a non-valid hit has preceded a valid hit;

(b) The apparatus does not otherwise indicate whether there is any priority in time between two or more hits which it registers simultaneously.

230 2. The President will disregard hits which are registered as a result of hits

— made before the word "Play" or after the word "Halt" (Cf. 32);

— which are made on the ground (when there is no metallic piste or outside it) or which are made on any object other than the opponent or his equipment (Cf. 73s).

A competitor who, intentionally, causes the apparatus to register a hit by placing his point on any surface other than that of his opponent will, after a warning which will be sufficient for the whole pool or match or the last 15 bouts be direct elimination, be penalised by one hit.

231 3. The President must, on the other hand, take into account possible failures of the electrical equipment, in particular:

(a) He must annul a hit which he has just awarded as a

result of a hit registered as on the valid target (coloured lamp) if he establishes, by tests made under his personal supervision, before the bout has effectively recommenced (1) and without changing anything whatever of the equipment in use (Cf. 71-3/5):

— either that a hit registered as "valid" against the competitor against whom the hit has been awarded can be made without there being in fact a valid hit;

— or that a "non-valid" hit made by the fencer against whom the hit was awarded is not registered by the apparatus;

— or that a "valid" hit made by the fencer against whom the hit was awarded does not cause any hit either valid or non-valid to be registered;

— or that the registration of hits made by the competitor against whom the hit was awarded does not remain fixed on the apparatus.

(b) On the other hand, when the President has decided that a hit made by a competitor has priority, this hit shall not be annulled if subsequently it is found that a valid hit made by the opponent is registered as non-valid or that the weapon of the fencer against whom the hit was awarded is permanently registering a non-valid hit.

(c) If a fencer's equipment does not conform to the provisions of paras. 2-4 of Article 722, a hit made off the target which is registered by the apparatus as valid will not be annulled.

4. The President must also apply the following rules:

(a) only the last hit made before the fault was established can be annulled;

(b) a competitor who makes any modification in, or changes his equipment without being asked by the President to do so, before the President has given his decision, loses all right to the annulment of the hit (Cf. 71/3);

(c) if the bout has effectively recommenced (Cf. note to article 3(a) above) a competitor cannot claim the annulment of a hit awarded against him before the said recommencement of the bout;

(d) the localization of a fault found in the equipment

(1) The fact that the President has called "Play," or even that thereafter a certain amount of time has elapsed, does not necessarily mean that "the bout has effectively recommenced" if the two fencers have maintained a passive attitude. In order that the bout should be considered to have effectively recommenced the fencers should have engaged in a fencing phrase which could have affected the equipment in use.

(including the equipment of the competitors) is of no importance for this possible annulment;

(e) it is not necessary that the failure found should repeat itself each time a test is made; but it is essential that the fault should be manifested to the President without the possibility of doubt at least once, during the tests made by him or under his supervision;

(f) the fact that the competitor against whom a hit has been awarded has broken his blade cannot alone justify the annulment of that hit.

5. Whenever accidental causes make it impossible to carry out tests, the hit will be considered "doubtful" (Cf. 69/5).

6. If hits are registered simultaneously on both sides of the apparatus and the President cannot establish the priority with certainty, he must replace the competitors on guard.

7. In accordance with the general rules (Cf. 32) the President must stop the bout, even if no hit is registered by the apparatus, whenever play becomes confused and he is unable to analyse the phrase.

8. The President should also supervise the state of the metallic piste; he must not allow the bout to commence or to continue if the metallic piste has holes in it which might affect the proper registering of hits. (The organizers must make the necessary arrangements to ensure the rapid repair or replacement of the metallic piste.)

II. — Validity or priority of the hit.

1. Preface.

232 Whatever method a President has used to make a decision regarding the materiality of a hit (either with the assistance of a Jury or by the electrical judging apparatus), he then *alone* decides as to the validity or the priority of the hit by applying the following basic rules which are the conventions applicable to foil fencing.

2. Observance of the fencing phrase.

233 (a) All correctly executed attacks must be parried or completely avoided and the phrase must be followed through.

In order to judge as to the correctness of an attack the following points must be considered:

1. If the attack is initiated when the opponent has his "point in line" (i.e., "with the arm straight and the point threatening the target") the attacker must first deflect his opponent's weapon (1).

(1) Presidents must ensure that a mere contact of the blades is not considered as sufficient to deflect the opponent's blade.

2. If the attack is commenced when the opponent's blade is not in line, the attack may be completed either direct, or by one disengagement or by a cut over, or else be preceded by successful feints which oblige the opponent to form a parry.

3. If, when attempting to find the opponent's blade to deflect it, the blade is not found (*dérobement* or *trompement*), the right of attack passes to the opponent.

(b) The parry gives the right to riposte: the simple riposte may be direct or indirect, but to annul any subsequent action by the attacker, it must be executed immediately, without indecision or delay. 234

(c) If a composed attack is made and the opponent finds the blade during one of the feints, he has the right to riposte. 235

(d) When composed attacks are made, the opponent has the right to stop hit; but to be valid the stop hit must precede the conclusion of the attack by an interval of fencing time (*temps d'escrime*); that is to say that the stop hit must arrive before the attacker has begun the final movement of the attack. 236

3. Judging of hits.

In applying the basic conventions of foil fencing, the President should judge as follows: 237

When, during a phrase, both fencers are hit simultaneously, there is either a simultaneous action (*tempo commune*) or a double hit (*coup double, in contro*).

The first of these conditions is due to simultaneous conception and execution of an attack by both fencers; in this case the hits exchanged are annulled for both fencers even if one of them has been hit off the target.

The double hit (*coup double*) on the other hand, is the result of a faulty action on the part of one of the fencers.

Therefore, when there is not a period of fencing time (*temps d'escrime*) between the hits:

1. *The fencer who is attacked is alone counted as hit:*

(a) If he makes a stop hit on his opponent's simple attack;

(b) If, instead of parrying, he attempts to avoid the hit and does not succeed in so doing;

(c) If, after a parry is effected, he makes a momentary pause which gives his opponent the right to re-attack (*redoublement, or remise or reprise*);

(d) If, during a composed attack, he makes a stop hit without being in time (*temps d'escrime*);

(e) If, having his "point in line" (arm straight and point threatening the target) and being subjected to a beat or a prise de fer which deflects his blade, he attacks or places his point in line again instead of parrying a direct thrust made by his opponent.

2. *The fencer who attacks is alone counted as hit:*

(a) If he initiates his attack when his opponent has his point in line (arm straight and point threatening the target) without deflecting the opponent's weapon; (1)

(b) If he attempts to find the blade, does not succeed (*dérobement* or *trompement*) and continues the attack;

(c) If, during a composed attack, he allows his opponent to find the blade, and continues the attack while his opponent ripostes immediately;

(d) If, during a composed attack, he makes a momentary pause, during which time the opponent makes a stop hit while the attacker continues his attack;

(e) If, during a composed attack, he is stopped in time (*temps d'escrime*) before he begins his final movement;

(f) If he makes a hit by a remise, redoublement or reprise on his opponent's parry, which has been followed by a riposte which is immediate, simple, and executed in one period of fencing time without withdrawing the arm.

3. When there is a double hit (*coup double*), each time the President is unable clearly to judge from which side the fault has come, *he must replace the competitors on guard.*

One of the most difficult cases to judge arises when a stop hit is made and there is doubt as to whether it was made sufficiently in time in relation to the final movement of a composed attack. Generally, in such cases, the double hit occurs through the fault of both fencers concerned, which justifies the President replacing them on guard. (The fault of the attacker consists of indecision, slowness of execution or the making of feints which are not sufficiently effective, the fault of the defender lies in delay or slowness in making the stop hit.)

(1) Presidents must ensure that a mere contact of the blades is not considered as sufficient to deflect the opponent's blade.

PART THREE: EPEE

Note regarding the method used for drawing up these rules: The few differences which exist between the rules applicable to the use of the electrical judging apparatus and those applicable to the non-electrical épée are indicated below in italics.

CHAPTER I—HISTORICAL NOTE

The rules for épée drawn up in 1914 co-ordinated and completed all the various épée rules which existed prior to the foundation of the F.I.E. and which had been evolved from 1892 both in France and elsewhere notably by:

The Permanent Committee of the Société d'Escrime à l'Épée de Paris; l'Académie d'Épée; the Société d'Entraînement à l'Escrime et au Pistolet; and les Armes de France;

The 1905 International Committee, subject to the laws of each country, regarding the application to duelling;

L'Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques;

Le Comité National des Sports de France;

The French Olympic Committee;

The Organizing Committees for the Tournaments held at Nice, on the Riviera, at Ostend, etc.

The present rules only modify in detail the principles laid down in 1914.

The rules governing épée competitions judged with the electrical judging apparatus were adopted in 1936.

CHAPTER II—FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN)

(Cf. 14ss.)

Épée competitions may be held indoors or in the open air. The official competitions of the F.I.E. must only be held indoors. 301

The width of the piste must be from 1·80 metres (5 ft. 11 ins.) to 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) and its length is 24 metres (78 ft. 9 ins.). 302

For practical reasons the actual length of the piste must be 14 metres (45' 11") but each fencer will be allowed to retire on the piste in such a way that, being placed at 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) from the centre line, he has at his disposal for retreating a total distance of 10 metres (32 ft. 10 ins.) without it being necessary for him to cross the rear limit of the piste with both feet (Cf. 15, 38ss and plan, page 17).

303 Seven lines should be drawn very clearly on the piste parallel to its width, thus:

One centre line (which may be replaced by a central point or a special sign drawn on the edge of the piste);

Two on guard lines at 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) on each side of the centre line (these must be drawn across the whole width of the piste);

Two rear limits of the piste, which must be drawn across the whole width of the piste, at a distance of 7 metres (22' 11 $\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the centre line, but which may be less when sufficient space is not available; this distance must never be less than 5 metres (16 ft. 5 ins.) (Cf. 15);

Two warning lines drawn 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) in front of the rear limits of the piste (and which may be drawn only 30 cm. (11 $\frac{3}{8}$ ") from each side of the piste).

304 When competitions are judged with the electrical judging apparatus, the piste and its extensions must be entirely covered with a metallic piste in order to ensure the non-registration of hits made on the ground (this is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.).

305 The table on which the judging apparatus is placed should stand level with the centre line and at least 1 metre (3 ft. 3 ins.) from the piste, and the President must ensure that its isolation is maintained by the officials, the competitors and the spectators. As a general rule the same table should not be used by the score-keepers, timekeepers, etc.

CHAPTER III — EPEE EQUIPMENT

(Weapons — Equipment — Clothing)

(Cf. 16ss.)

A. — WEAPONS (Cf. 22ss).

1. General specifications for épées.

(a) *Weight.*

306 The total weight of the épée ready for use shall be less than 770 grammes (27 $\frac{1}{8}$ ozs.).

(b) *Length.*

307 The total maximum length of the épée shall be 110 cm. (3' 7")

(c) *The blade.*

308 The blade which must be made of steel is triangular in

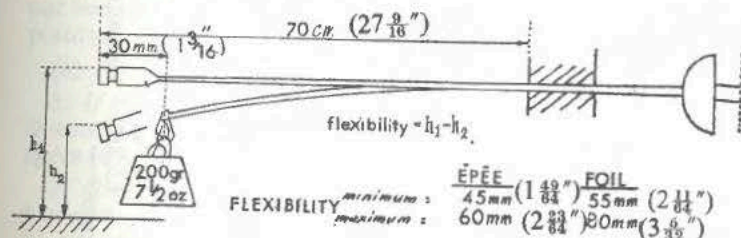
section without cutting edges. It should be as straight as possible; it should be mounted with the groove uppermost. The curve of the blade must be in any case less than 1 cm. ($\frac{3}{8}$ in.), it is only allowed in the vertical plane.

The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (35 $\frac{7}{16}$ ")

The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is less than 24 mm. ($\frac{15}{16}$ in.).

The blade should have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of 4–5 cm. (1 $\frac{1}{8}$ ins.) minimum and 6 cm. (2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ") maximum measured in the following way:

1. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm. (27 $\frac{9}{16}$ ") from the extremity of the button;
2. A 200 gramme (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.) weight is suspended 3 cm (1 $\frac{3}{16}$ ins.) from the extremity of the button;
3. The bend of the blade is measured at the extremity of the button between the non-weighted and the weighted position (see illustration).



TOTAL WEIGHT MAX 770 GR
27 $\frac{1}{8}$ OZ.

(d) *The martingale.*

The martingale is obligatory when the épée is not secured to the hand by an attachment or by the body wire. 309

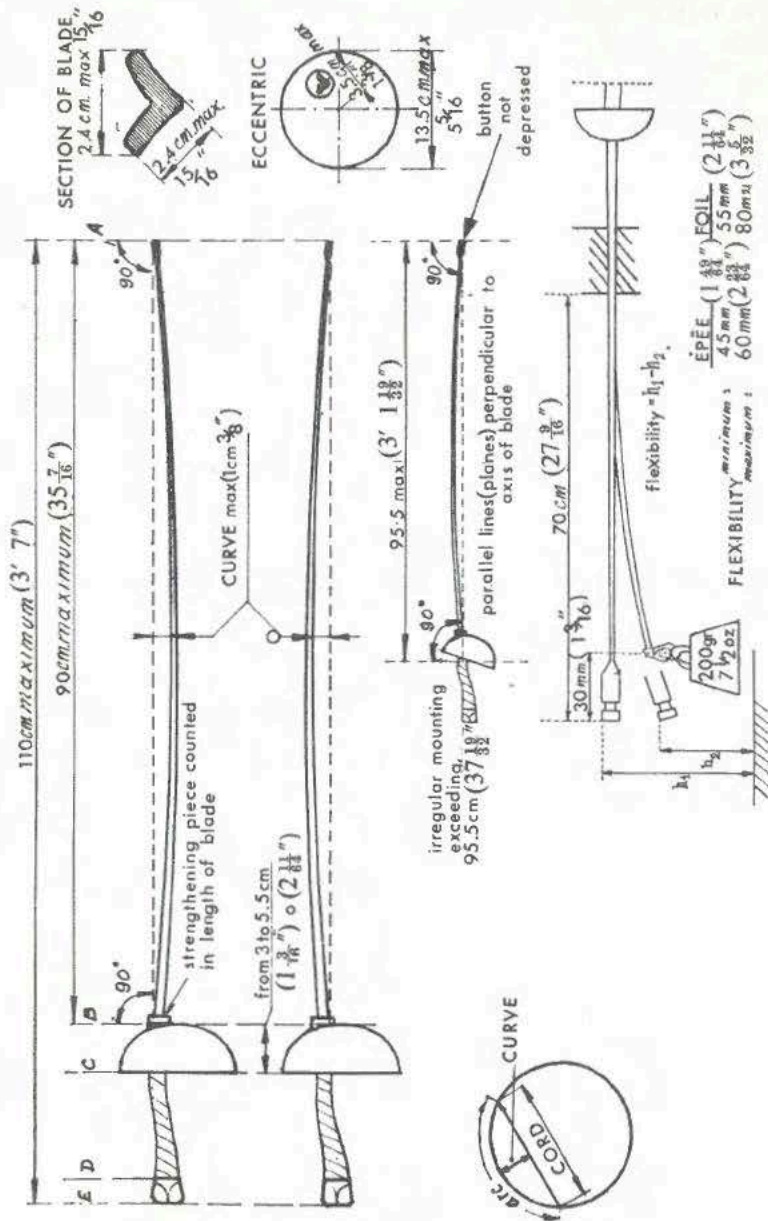
(e) *The guard (coquille) (Cf. 26).*

The guard, which must have a circular edge, must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm. (5 $\frac{3}{16}$ ins.) and a length of 15 cm. (5 $\frac{7}{8}$ ") 310

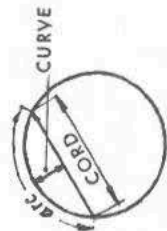
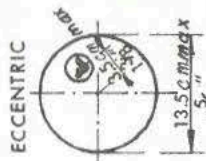
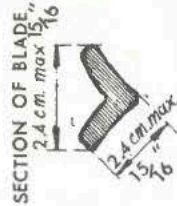
The depth of the guard (the distance between lines (b) and (c)) must be between 3 cm. (1 $\frac{3}{16}$ ins.) and 5.5 cm (2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.) (Cf. 24).

The total length between lines (a) and (c) must never be greater than 95.5 cm. (37 $\frac{9}{16}$ ins.) (Cf. 24).

Eccentric mounting (the distance between the centre of the guard and the point where the blade passes through the



TOTAL WEIGHT MAX 770 GR
27 1/8 OZ.



ÉPÉE (1 3/8") FOIL (2 1/4")
45 mm (2 3/8") 55 mm (2 1/8")
FLEXIBILITY minimum: 60 mm (2 3/8") 80 mm (3 1/8")
maximum: 60 mm (2 3/8") 80 mm (3 1/8")

guard) is allowed provided it does not exceed 3.5 cm. (1 3/8 ins.).

2. Pointe d'arrêt and button.

(a) For the electrical épée.

1. The electrical button is completed by a pointe d'arrêt which must conform to the specifications laid down in Part VII (Cf. 732).

2. The sharpening of the teeth of the point is forbidden.

3. The button should be fixed to the end of the blade and conform to the specifications laid down in Part VII (Cf. 733).

4. The pressure which must be made on the pointe d'arrêt in order to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit must be more than 750 grammes (26.45 ozs.), that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point (Cf. 732).

5. The course or stroke which the pointe d'arrêt must travel back in order to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit (which is called the "lighting stroke"), must be not less than 1 mm. (.039 in.). The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel must not be over 0.5 mm. (.0195 in.).

(b) For the non-electrical épée.

1. If the pointe d'arrêt is screwed on to the end of the blade it must conform to the specifications required for electrical épées (Cf. 733).

2. Otherwise, it should be fixed to the flattened end of the blade which must have a minimum diameter of 6 mm. (.117 ins.) by waxed thread and, then, the points, which must be parallel, must not be exposed for more than 2 millimetres (1/16 in.).

B. — EQUIPMENT.

1. The mask.

The mask must not be covered, in whole or in part, by material which can cause the point to glance off (Cf. 27).

2. The body wire.

The body wire (the fencer's personal equipment) has a connection (plug) at each end.

At the spool end the three pronged connection must conform to the specifications for manufacture and mounting laid down in Part VII (Cf. 730).

At the end nearest the épée, inside the guard, the use of the same type of connection is recommended. However, other methods of attachment are allowed provided they conform to the requirements of Articles 712 and 731.

C. — CLOTHING.

- 315 The jacket, which must cover the whole of the front portion of the trunk, must be completed by a lining making a double thickness of material for the sleeve down to the elbow and covering the flank in the region of the armpit.

In addition, the wearing of a plastron (under garment) made of hemp cloth, nylon, etc. is obligatory. This must:

1. Be of at least two thicknesses of cloth;
2. Include an upper part of the sleeve;
3. Ensure the best possible protection (Cf. 27).

It may be fixed to, but not be entirely sewn to, the jacket.

CHAPTER V — THE CONVENTIONS OF
EPEE FENCING

A. — METHOD OF MAKING A HIT.

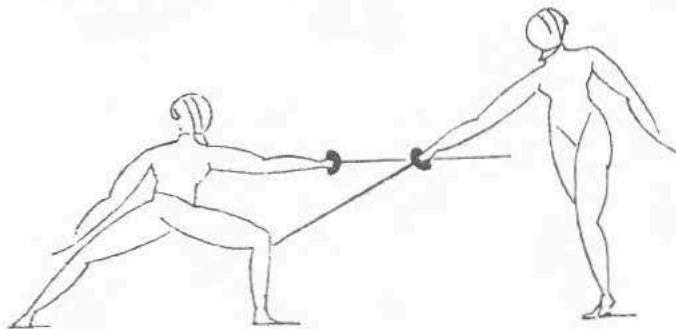
- 316 The épée is a thrusting weapon only. Attacks with this weapon must be made with the point, and with the point only.

Competitors must not allow the point of their weapon to drag along the metal piste for a prolonged period of time. The penalties for non-observance of this rule are enumerated in Article 657.

B. — THE TARGET.

- 317 At épée the target includes the whole of the fencer's body including his clothing and equipment.

Thus any point which arrives counts as a hit whatever part of the body (trunk, limbs or head) the clothing or the equipment it reaches. (See illustration.)



Target: épée

C. — CORPS A CORPS AND FLECHE ATTACKS.

At épée a fencer who either by a flèche attack or by vigorous attacks brings about a corps à corps even several times in succession (with neither brutality nor violence) does not transgress the basic conventions of fencing, and commits no fault thereby (Cf. 224, 412) (1).

D. — NUMBER OF HITS — DURATION OF THE BOUT.

At épée bouts are for five hits, with a duration of six minutes for each bout; for direct elimination, two bouts of five hits each with a deciding bout if required, or one bout for a given number of hits (Cf. 554ss, 561ss).

If, by reason of a double hit, both competitors receive the maximum number of hits being fought for, they must fence for one or more supplementary hits until the expiration of the time limit. Any further double hit is annulled (and therefore when this occurs the fencers remain in the position they then occupy on the piste). In these circumstances the maximum number of hits for which the bout is fought must be entered on the score sheet against each competitor (for example when the bout is for five hits, the score entered on the score sheet will be D/5 and V/5) (Cf. 321-b).

When the allotted time limit expires before a result in the bout has been achieved:

(a) at épée for one hit, both competitors are counted as hit and a defeat is scored against each.

(b) at épée for several hits:

— if one competitor has received more hits than his opponent, the number of hits required must be added to his score to bring it up to the maximum being fought for and the same number of hits must be added to his opponent's score;

— if both competitors have received the same number of hits (or neither has scored a hit) they are counted as both

(1) The "flèche ending systematically in a corps à corps" referred to in this article must not be confused with the "flèche resulting in a shock which jostles the opponent" which is considered as an act of voluntary brutality at all three weapons and is punished as such.

On the other hand the "flèche which is made by running past the opponent" and without a corps à corps is not forbidden; the President should not call "halt" too soon, in order not to annul a possible riposte; if when making such a running flèche without hitting his opponent the fencer who makes the flèche systematically crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste he must be punished as laid down in article 43.

having received the maximum number of hits being fought for and a defeat is scored against each.

E. — THE JUDGING OF HITS AT EPEE.

322 Epee competitions are judged with an electrical judging apparatus (this is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.).

I. — Materiality of the hit.

1. Basic principle.

323 Only the indications of the electrical apparatus can be taken into consideration for judging the materiality of hits. Under no circumstances can the President declare a competitor to be hit unless the hit has been properly registered by the apparatus (except as a penalty as laid down in the regulations) (Cf. 72, 626).

2. The annulment of hits.

324 1. In arriving at his judgment, the President will disregard hits which are registered as a result of hits:

— made before the word "Play" or after the word "Halt" (Cf. 32);

— caused by the meeting of the points of the épées or by a hit made on the ground (when there is no metallic piste or outside it) or which are made on any object other than the opponent including his equipment (Cf. 74, 331).

325 Any competitor who, intentionally, causes the apparatus to register a hit by placing his point on any surface other than that of his opponent, will, after a warning, which will be sufficient for the whole pool or match or the last 15 bouts by direct elimination be penalised by one hit (Cf. 74).

326 2. Further the President must take note of possible failures of the electrical equipment and must annul the last hit registered in the following events:

(a) If a hit made on the guard (*coquille*) of the competitor against whom the hit was registered or on the insulated track causes the apparatus to register a hit;

(b) If a hit properly made by the competitor against whom the hit was registered does not cause the apparatus to register a hit;

(c) If the apparatus fortuitously registers a hit on the side of the competitor against whom the hit was registered, for example, after a beat on the blade, by any movements of his opponent, by vibrations on the piste which are transmitted to

the central electrical apparatus or as a result of any cause other than a properly made hit;

(d) If the registering of a hit made by the competitor against whom the hit was registered:

— does not prevent the registering of a subsequent hit made by his opponent after a lapse of time greater than that required to register a double hit;

— or is annulled by a subsequent hit made by his opponent.

3. The President must also apply the following rules regarding the annulment of hits: 327

(a) The last hit which precedes the establishment of the failure of the apparatus alone may be annulled and then only if it is the competitor against whom the hit was registered who is placed at a disadvantage by the failure.

(b) The failure must be determined by tests made immediately after the bout was stopped, under the supervision of the President and without changing anything whatever of the equipment in use.

(c) When making these tests no attempt should be made to reconstruct what actually happened during the bout, but it is only necessary to ascertain whether there was the material possibility for there to be a mistake in the judgment caused by the failure. The localisation of the failure in the whole of the electrical equipment, including the personal equipment of either competitor, is unimportant in reaching a decision.

(d) A competitor who makes any modification in, or changes his equipment without being asked by the President to do so, before a judgment is pronounced, loses his right to the annulment of the hit (Cf. 71/3). Similarly after again coming on guard and after the bout has effectively recommenced, (1) a competitor cannot claim the annulment of a hit registered against him before the said recommencement of the bout.

(e) It is not necessary, in order to justify the annulment of a hit, that the failure found should repeat itself each time a test is made, but it is essential that the fault should be established by the President without the possibility of doubt at least once.

(f) If the incidents mentioned in article 326 occur as a result

(1) The fact that the competitors have been again put on guard and the order "Play" has been given or even that the two fencers have maintained a passive attitude after this order does not mean that the bout has effectively recommenced. In order that the bout should be considered to have effectively recommenced the fencers should have engaged in a fencing phrase which could have affected the equipment in use.

of the unplugging of the contacts of the body wire of the competitor (either near the hand, or at the back of the competitor), they cannot justify the annulment of the hit registered.

However, if the safety device as prescribed in article 710 does not function or is missing, the annulment should be allowed if the unplugging of the contacts at his back occurs.

(g) The fact that the épée of a competitor shows on the guard, on the blade or elsewhere large or small areas of insulation formed by oxidation, by gum, paint or any other material on which the opponent's hits can be registered cannot justify the annulment of hits registered against that competitor.

(h) When a competitor against whom a hit has been registered has broken his blade, the hit must be annulled unless the breaking of the blade has occurred clearly after the hit has been registered.

(i) When a competitor tears the metallic piste by a hit made on the ground and, at the same time, the apparatus registers a hit against his opponent, the hit must be annulled.

(j) Whenever, owing to some accidental cause, tests cannot be made, the hit must be considered as doubtful and must be annulled (but Cf. 331).

328 4. The President must supervise the condition of the metallic piste; he must not allow the bout to commence or to continue if the metallic piste has holes in it which might affect the proper registering of hits. (The organizers must make the necessary arrangements to ensure the rapid repair or replacement of the metallic pistes.)

II. — *Validity or priority of the hit.*

1. Basic principle.

329 At épée, when both competitors are hit, the question of the priority of hits is raised only when there is an appreciable difference of time between the hits; if no such difference exists there is a "double hit", that is to say a hit is scored against each competitor.

2. Judging of hits.

330 The electrical judging apparatus registers a double hit if the difference of time between the two hits is less than between 1/20th and 1/25th of a second.

When judging with the non-electrical épée the President alone decides whether there is or is not a difference of time between two hits which justify a priority or a double hit. If he has no opinion he must declare a double hit.

When there is a double hit made by two valid hits a hit is scored against each competitor: 331

If a double hit is registered and one hit is valid and the other is not valid (hit made otherwise than on the opponent Cf. 324, hit made after leaving the piste Cf. 43, etc.) only the valid hit is scored.

If a double hit is registered by an established hit and a doubtful hit (failure of the electrical apparatus, disagreement or uncertainty of judges) the fencer who has made the established hit may choose to accept the double hit or ask to have it annulled.

PART FOUR: SABRE

CHAPTER I — HISTORICAL NOTE

The F.I.E. Sabre Rules include the essential portions of the rules which were adopted at the Olympic Games in London in 1908 and in Stockholm in 1912. They also conform to the basic principles of the Ostend rules and of the Hungarian rules and were adopted on 12th June, 1914 by the Commission for Sabre of the F.I.E. assembled in Paris under the chairmanship of Dr. Bela Nagy, President of the Hungarian Fencing Federation, who edited the proposed rules.

The present rules merely complete and define those adopted in 1914.

CHAPTER II — FIELD OF PLAY (TERRAIN)

(Cf. 14ss.)

401 Sabre competitions are held indoors on pistes made of linoleum, cork, rubber, plastic or metallic mesh.

402 The width of the piste must be from 1 m. 80 (5 ft. 11 ins.) to 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) and its length is 24 metres (78 ft. 9 ins.).

For practical reasons the actual length of the piste must be 14 metres (45' 11") but each fencer will be allowed to retire on the piste in such a way that, being placed at 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) from the centre line, he has at his disposal for retreating a total distance of 10 metres (32 ft. 10 ins.) without it being necessary for him to cross the rear limit of the piste with both feet (Cf. 15, and plan, page 17).

403 Seven lines should be drawn very clearly on the piste parallel to its width, thus:

One centre lines (which may be replaced by a central point or a special sign drawn on the edge of the piste);

Two on guard lines at 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) on each side of the centre line (these must be drawn across the whole width of the piste);

Two rear limits of the piste, which must be drawn across the whole width of the piste, at a distance of 7 metres (22' 11 1/2") from the centre line, but which may be less when sufficient space is not available; this distance must never be less than 5 metres (16 ft. 5 ins.) (Cf. 15).

Two warning lines drawn 2 metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) in front of the rear limits of the piste (and which may be drawn only 30 cm. (11 1/8") from each side of the piste).

CHAPTER III — SABRE EQUIPMENT

(Weapons — Equipment — Clothing)

(Cf. 16ss.)

A. — WEAPONS (Cf. 22ss).

General specifications for sabres.

(a) *Length.*

The total maximum length of the sabre shall be 105 cm. 404
(41 3/8 ins.).

(b) *Weight.*

The total weight of the sabre ready for use shall be less than 500 grammes (17 3/8 ozs.). 405

(c) *The blade.*

The blade, which must be made of steel, is approximately rectangular in section. 406

The maximum length of the blade is 88 cm. (34 1/4"); the minimum width of the blade, which must be at the button, must be 4 mm. (.15 in.); its thickness, also immediately below the button, must be at least 1.2 mm. (1/32 in.). The point of the blade must be rounded to form a button. (The folding over of the point of the blade on to itself to form the end of the blade is allowed.) Blades which are too rigid or too whippy are forbidden. Similarly sabres having shapes out of the ordinary are forbidden. If the blade has a curve, it must be a distinct curve which must be continuous, the deflection must be less than 4 cm. (1 3/4 in.). Blades with sharply bent extremities or which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden. The grinding down of the blade or sharpening its rounded extremity is strictly forbidden.

(d) *The guard (coquille).*

(Cf. 26.)

The guard must be full in shape, made in one piece and externally smooth. It must have a convex form which is continuous, without rim nor having holes. 407

It must be able to pass through a rectangular gauge measuring 15 x 14 cm. (5 3/32" x 5 3/32") in section with a length of 15 cm. (5 7/8 ins.).

B. — EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING.

1. For sabre, masks must be well padded, having strong wirework and bibs which are sufficiently large and strong (Cf. 27). 408

2. The wrist or sleeve portion of the glove must not be made of leather which is hardened or of patent leather, or of any other material which might make the blade glance off.

3. The elbow guard may be made of hard leather.

4. The lower part of the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm. ($3\frac{1}{8}$ ") when the fencer is in the "on guard" position.

CHAPTER IV — THE CONVENTIONS OF SABRE FENCING

A. — METHOD OF MAKING A HIT.

409 The sabre is a weapon for thrusting and for cutting with the edge and the back edge.

(a) A hit which is made with any part of the cutting edge is called a "cut"; that made with the first third of the back edge is called a "back edge cut". No hit made with any other part of the weapon — except the point — is counted as valid.

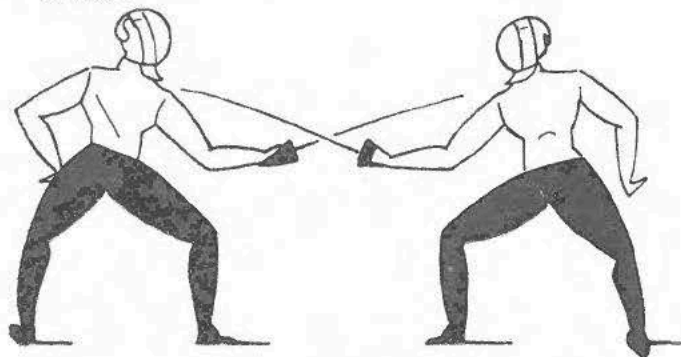
(b) Hits with the point which graze the target and slip along the opponent's body with the edge or back edge (hits which pass) do not count even as cuts;

(c) Hits through the blade, that is to say those which touch at the same time the target and sabre of the opponent, are valid whenever the cutting edge or the back edge arrives cleanly on the target.

B. — TARGET.

1. Limitation of the target.

410 At sabre, only hits which arrive on the target are counted as valid.



Target: Sabre

The target comprises any part of the body above a horizontal line drawn between the top of the folds formed by the thighs and by the trunk of the fencer when in the "on guard" position. (Cf. illustration, page 60.)

2. Hits off the target.

A hit which is made on any part of the body other than the target (whether directly or as the result of a parry) is not counted as a valid hit, but it stops the phrase and annuls all hits which are scored thereafter. 411

C. — CORPS A CORPS AND FLECHE ATTACKS.

At sabre, when a fencer intentionally or systematically causes the corps à corps (even with neither brutality nor violence) he must be penalised by having one hit scored against him after he has been warned during the same bout. (Cf. note to 318.) 412

D. — NUMBER OF HITS, DURATION OF A BOUT.

At sabre, bouts are fought for five hits, the duration of the bout being 6 minutes; for direct elimination, two bouts of five hits with a deciding bout if necessary or one bout for a given number of hits (Cf. 554ss, 561ss). 413

When the time limit expires before the bout has been completed: 414

(a) If one competitor has received more hits than his opponent, the number of hits required must be added to his score to bring it up to the maximum being fought for, and the same number of hits must be added to his opponent's score;

(b) If both competitors have received the same number of hits, they are counted as having both received the maximum number of hits being fought for less one and they fence for the last hit without any time limit. They are replaced on guard in the position which they occupied when the bout was interrupted (Cf. 32).

E. — JUDGING OF HITS AT SABRE.

At sabre, all bouts are judged by a Jury (Cf. 61ss). 415

I. Materiality of the hit.

(See Part I articles 68ss.)

II. Validity or priority of the hit.

1. Preface.

When the President, assisted by his judges, has made a decision regarding the materiality of a hit, he then alone 416

decides as to the validity or the priority of the hit by applying the following basic rules which are the conventions applicable to sabre fencing.

2. Observance of the fencing phrase.

417 (a) All correctly executed attacks must be parried or completely avoided and the phrase must be followed through.

418 In order to judge as to the correctness of an attack the following points must be considered:

1. If the attack is initiated when the opponent has his point "in line" (i.e. "with the arm straight and the point threatening the target") the attacker must first divert his opponent's weapon (1).

2. If the attack is commenced when the opponent's blade is not in line, the attack may be completed either direct, by one disengagement or by a cut-over, or else be preceded by successful feints which oblige the opponent to form a parry.

3. If, when attempting to find the opponent's blade to divert it, the blade is not found (*dérobement* or *trompement*), the right of attack passes to the opponent:

419 (b) The parry gives the right to riposte: the simple riposte may be direct or indirect, but to annul any subsequent action by the attacker, it must be executed immediately, without indecision or delay.

420 (c) If a composed attack is made and the opponent finds the blade during one of the feints, he has the right to riposte.

421 (d) When composed attacks are made, the opponent has the right to stop hit; but to be valid the stop hit must precede the conclusion of the attack by a period of fencing time (*temps d'escrime*), that is to say that the stop hit must arrive before the attacker has begun the final movement of the attack.

3. Judging of hits.

422 In applying the basic conventions of sabre fencing, the President should judge as follows:

1. When during a phrase both fencers are hit simultaneously there is either a simultaneous action (*tempo commune*) or a double hit (*coup double*, *in contro*).

The first of these conditions is due to simultaneous conception and execution of an attack by both fencers; in this case the hits exchanged are annulled for both fencers even if one of them has been hit off the target.

(1) Presidents must ensure that a mere contact of the blades is not considered as sufficient to deflect the opponent's blade.

2. The double hit (*coup double*) on the other hand, is the result of a distinctly faulty action on the part of one of the fencers.

Therefore, when there is not an interval of fencing time (*temps d'escrime*) between the hits:

1. *The fencer who is attacked is alone counted as hit,*

(a) If he makes a stop hit on his opponent's simple attack made from correct fencing distance;

(b) If, instead of parrying, he attempts to avoid the hit and does not succeed in so doing;

(c) If, after a parry is effected, he makes a momentary pause which gives his opponent the right to re-attack (*redoublement*, or *remise* or *reprise*);

(d) If, during a composed attack, he makes a stop hit without being in time (*temps d'escrime*);

(e) If, having his "point in line" (arm straight and point threatening the target) and being subjected to a beat or a *prise de fer* which deflects his blade, he attacks or places his point in line again instead of parrying a direct hit made by his opponent.

2. *The fencer who attacks is alone counted as hit,*

(a) If he initiates his attack when his opponent has point in line (arm straight and point threatening the target) without deflecting the opponent's weapon (1);

(b) If he attempts to find the blade, does not succeed (*dérobement* or *trompement*) and continues the attack;

(c) If, during a composed attack, he allows his opponent to find the blade, and continues the attack while his opponent ripostes immediately;

(d) If, during a composed attack, he makes a momentary pause, during which time the opponent makes a stop hit while the attacker continues his attack;

(e) If, during a composed attack, he is stopped in time (*temps d'escrime*) before he makes his final movement;

(f) If he makes a hit by a *remise*, *redoublement* or *reprise* on his opponent's parry which has been followed by a riposte which is immediate, simple and executed in one period of fencing time without withdrawing the arm.

3. When there is a double hit (*coup double*), each time the President is unable clearly to judge from which side the fault has come, *he must replace the competitors on guard.*

(1) Presidents must ensure that a mere contact of the blades is not considered as sufficient to deflect the opponent's blade.

One of the most difficult cases to judge arises when a stop hit is made and there is doubt as to whether it was made sufficiently in time in relation to the final movement of a composed attack. Generally, in such cases, the double hit occurs through the fault of both fencers concerned, which justifies the President replacing them on guard (the fault of the attacker consists of indecision, slowness of execution or the making of feints which are not sufficiently effective, the fault of the defender lies in delay or slowness in making the stop hit).

PART FIVE:

ORGANIZATION OF COMPETITIONS

CHAPTER I—COMPETITIONS

- The official competitions of the F.I.E. are organized according to special rules. (Cf. 561ss, 564ss.) 501
- Other international tournaments may include competitions for teams or individuals for: 502
- ladies at foil;
 - men at all three weapons.

CHAPTER II—BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZATION AND CONTROL

- 1. The Organizing Committee.** (Cf. 616.) 503
- The organizing committee is the group of persons responsible for organizing a competition.
- 2. The Central Office of the F.I.E.** (Cf. 621.) 504
- The Central Office of the F.I.E. controls the activities of the Directoire Technique at the World Championships and the Olympic Games as described in article 573.
- 3. The Directoire Technique (Executive Committee).** (Cf. 617.) 505
- (a) The technical organization of competitions is entrusted to a Directoire Technique (this is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.) composed of seven members for the Olympic Games and of five members for the World Championships. The Directoire Technique includes one member representing the country which is organizing the meeting, the other members belong to as many different countries. (Cf. 572.)
- (b) For other official competitions of the F.I.E., and whenever possible for all international competitions, a Directoire Technique composed of three members each representing a different country, and one of them representing the country in which the meeting takes place, may be sufficient.
- (c) For the official competitions of the F.I.E., the Directoire Technique is appointed by the Central Office of the F.I.E. by agreement with the national Federation which is organizing the meeting.

(d) For the Olympic Games, this agreement is made with the Organizing Committee for the fencing events appointed by the Olympic Committee of the country which is organizing the Games.

(e) The members of the Directoire Technique cannot act in any other capacity at the meeting, such as member of the Court of Appeal, team captain, official delegate of their federation, competitor, etc. In special circumstances they may act as Presidents, or as judges. Their functions include the strict but complete organization of the different events and the obligation to see that the rules are adhered to, they cannot decide on any departure from the rules except when circumstances arise in which it is absolutely impossible to apply them.

4. Court of Appeal (Jury d'Appel). (Cf. 618.)

(a) *Nomination.*

506 An international Court of Appeal composed of one representative of each competing nation, must be constituted for each international competition in which the representatives of two or more countries take part.

At the official competitions of the F.I.E., the members of the Court of Appeal must be nominated in writing by their national Federations not later than the eve of the competition.

The members cannot act if they are involved either personally or by reason of their position. They may not be replaced if unable to attend; no member of the Court of Appeal may be empowered to vote for an absent colleague.

(b) *President.*

507 It is under the Presidency ex-officio of the delegate of the Central Office of the F.I.E. who will only vote when a casting vote is required. In the absence of a delegate of the Central Office of the F.I.E., the Court of Appeal appoints one of its members as its President. In this case he always votes and, if there is equality of votes, his vote is decisive.

(c) *Jurisdiction.*

508 In no circumstances can the Court of Appeal decide on a departure from the Rules of the F.I.E. even with the agreement of the parties concerned (Cf. 505/e); it can only consider complaints and demands which are submitted to it in accordance with the Rules.

(d) *Meetings.*

509 The members of the Court of Appeal who are present when

a complaint is lodged are convened forthwith by the Directoire Technique or when necessary by the Organizing Committee; however, if an urgent decision is not required, the Court of Appeal may be convened later on. For this purpose, the members of the Court of Appeal should keep the Organizing Committee informed as to where they can be found in an emergency when they are absent.

(e) *At the Olympic Games.*

At the Olympic Games the decisions of the Court of Appeal are final, except in the case of a non-technical dispute regarding which the final decision rests with the Executive Committee of the International Olympic Committee (C.I.O.) which may intervene on its own responsibility or at the request of a National Olympic Committee, of the F.I.E. or of the Organizing Committee (article 39 of the General Rules for the Olympic Games, 1963 edition) (Cf. 619).

(f) *Guaranty.*

When submitting a complaint to the Court of Appeal, the appellant must deposit a guaranty of one hundred French francs, or its equivalent in other currency, which may be confiscated in whole or in part for the benefit of the F.I.E., in the case of a "frivolous appeal" (Cf. 614).

5. Juries.

All members of a Jury must be appointed in accordance with the provisions of articles 56ss, 610. 512

The Directoire Technique may (at any time and without having to justify their decision) alter the composition of a Jury, in particular for the bouts of a barrage (Cf. 610). 513

In an emergency, the Central Office of the F.I.E. may appoint the juries for particular competitions. 514

For the finals of individual competitions which contain at least eight competitors, two complete juries (or two Presidents when judging with the electrical apparatus) will be appointed. (This is obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E.) (Cf. 58.) 515

6. Auxiliary personnel.

Auxiliary personnel who function at competitions include: 516

(a) *Score-keepers* (who keep the score sheets on which the result of each bout is marked hit by hit, and who make the corresponding entries on the scoreboard) (Cf. 59);

(b) *The Timekeeper* (who controls the duration of each bout in accordance with articles 45ss, 59);

(c) The *Superintendent of the Apparatus* (who concerns himself with the apparatus) (Cf. 60a);

(d) The *Experts* (who may be consulted by the President or the *Directoire Technique* regarding all matters relating to the electrical apparatus) (Cf. 60b);

(e) The *Repairers* (who are present to remedy any faults which may occur in the electrical equipment) (Cf. 60c).

CHAPTER III—ENTRIES FOR COMPETITIONS

- 517 Entries for international competitions must be sent to the organizers by the competitor's national federation (or the national federation who granted the competitor his international licence, if the competitor in question is not resident in his native country) (Cf. 566, 578).
- 518 Members of federations affiliated to the F.I.E. are not allowed to participate in competitions organized by clubs or persons not affiliated to their national federation unless participation in such events is especially authorised by their national federation.

CHAPTER IV—CONTROL TO BE EFFECTED BEFORE A COMPETITION

(See articles 17ss.)

CHAPTER V—TIMETABLE

- 519 Organizers should arrange their programme in such a way as to avoid undue fatigue for the competitors and so as to complete one type of competition before commencing another.
- 520 The programme should be arranged in such a way that no fencer is obliged to participate in events for more than twelve hours in twenty-four hours. In any case, no pool or match may begin after midnight, or at any time when it can be foreseen that there is a likelihood of it ending long after midnight.
- 521 When a meeting includes several individual competitions which immediately succeed each other, those fencers who have fought in the final pool of one competition will, unless they have had twenty-four hours' rest, be exempted from participation in the first round eliminating pools of the succeeding competition.
- 522 Those fencers who have actually fought in a team in the

final of a team competition with one weapon will, unless they have had twenty-four hours' rest, be exempted from participation in the first round eliminating pools of the individual competition with the same weapon provided this competition is held after the team event.

CHAPTER VI—TEAM COMPETITIONS

1. Methods of organizing.

The matches are fought off in such a manner that each fencer of one team meets all the fencers of the opposing team in a pre-arranged order (Cf. 526). 523

When drawing up the pools for a team competition (Cf. 6), the *Directoire Technique* will establish the "têtes de serie" (seedings) without only taking into account the results of the previous round (as required in article 537 for individual competitions), but by assembling all the facts which may enable them to determine the relative strengths of the teams (but see Cf. 561/2). 524

2. The composition of teams.

At official competitions of the F.I.E., teams will consist of from four to five fencers of whom four are selected by the team captain for each match. 525

The captain of each team may, for each match, choose the order in which the members of his team are entered.

A team cannot begin a match if less than four members are present and ready to fence. But a team may complete a match which it has already started with less than four fencers.

Exceptionally, if by reason of an accident or for some cause outside their control which has been duly recognised, a team has less than four members available the *Directoire Technique* or the organizing committee can authorise one or more fencers properly entered for another weapon to complete the team.

3. Order of bouts.

The members of the two teams concerned must meet each other in the following order of bouts: 526

3-8	6-3	1-6	5-1
4-6	8-1	3-5	6-2
1-7	5-4	2-8	7-3
2-5	7-2	4-7	8-4

4. Classification of teams.

The classification of the teams will be determined as follows: 527

(a) *Match between two teams.*

528 The winner of the match is the team the members of which have scored the greater number of individual victories.

When both teams have the same aggregate of individual victories, then the winner is the team whose members have the lower aggregate of hits received; if there is equality of individual victories and of hits received the match is "drawn".

Each victory obtained by a team over another team scores two points to the team.

Each drawn match scores one point to each team concerned.
Each defeat counts zero.

(b) *Classification of several teams in the same pool.*

529 The general classification is ascertained by aggregating the points scored by the teams concerned, the winning team is the one which has obtained the greatest total number of points, and so on for the following places.

If there should be equality of the number of points scored by two or more teams in the same pool, the classification is obtained between them by ascertaining the total number of individual victories scored by members of the teams throughout the pool.

If there should be equality of the number of individual victories, the winning team will be the one whose members have received the lowest aggregate of hits throughout the pool.

Finally, should the number of hits received be equal, the winning team will be the one whose members have scored the greatest number of hits during the whole pool.

If the number of points scored, the number of individual victories scored, the number of hits received and the number of hits scored all reach the same total for two or more teams, the teams concerned are classed *ex-aequo*.

If it is necessary to differentiate between the teams, a barrage (tie) will be fought off immediately after the original event and the same day: in exceptional circumstances, owing to the length of competitions, this barrage may be postponed to another time (Cf. 520).

It is, therefore, apparent that, even when one team has obtained a victory over another before all the members of the teams concerned have met, *it is essential that the remaining bouts should still be fought with the same attention and concentration* (Cf. 607).

When the classification in a pool has been conclusively

determined, the Directoire Technique is allowed to stop the matches (or even the bouts) which remain to be fought and thus to stop the event when the result is determined.

(c) *Retirement of a member of a team during a match.*

When a member of a team retires during the progress of a match — without prejudice to disciplinary penalties which may later be enforced — the results which have been obtained up to the time of the retirement are allowed to stand, and defeats will be counted against the competitor for each of the subsequent bouts in which he should have taken part, that is to say that each member of the opposing team whom he should have met will be considered to have beaten him, without having received a single hit from him.

However, if a member of a team is "obliged" to retire during a match either as the result of an accident, or by reason of some cause beyond his control which has been duly recognised by the President of the jury, the captain of the team concerned may ask the permission of the Directoire Technique, or failing them, of the Organizing Committee, to put in a reserve to continue the match at the point where the competitor who was obliged to retire withdrew, even during a match in progress.

Nevertheless, a competitor who is thus replaced cannot again take his place in the team during the same match nor in the next following match during the same day.

(d) *A Team not completing an Event.*

I. — When for any reason whatever a team does not complete an event in which it is taking part, the Directoire Technique will apply the rules laid down for a competitor who does not complete an event in an individual competition, each team being considered in its entirety as being a single competitor (see article 545ss).

II. — When a team fails to appear against another team it is considered:

1. As not completing the event in which it is taking part, if it has already fenced against another team in the pool (Cf. 547ss).

2. As not competing at all in the event, if it is its first match in the pool.

5. **Team events by direct elimination.**

(a) *Basic principle.*

When organizing team competitions by direct elimination, the same rules should be applied as for individual competi-

tions, each team being considered as equivalent to a single competitor (Cf. 554ss, 561/2).

(b) *System for matches.*

533 Each match will be fought according to the same rules as those laid down for a match between two teams in a pool (Cf. 523, 526).

(c) *Barrages.*

534 When two teams cannot be divided (same number of individual victories and same number of hits), the result will be determined by a single barrage bout which will be fought to a result between one fencer from each team selected by the team captains from the fencers who have just participated in this team match. The team whose member wins this bout will win the match.

CHAPTER VII — INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS

535 Individual competitions may be organized:

- by pools;
- by direct elimination;
- by a mixed system.

A. — UNDER THE POOL SYSTEM.

1. The number of fencers in a pool.

536 (a) For one hit (*épée*) pools consist, in principle, of a minimum of ten fencers.

(b) For several hits, pools may consist of a lesser number, with a minimum of five fencers.

(c) However, final pools must be composed of a minimum number of six competitors.

2. Composition of pools.

537 For the first round, the principle of "Têtes de série" (seeding) must be observed. The *Directoire Technique* alone decides which competitors are to be seeded.

The principle of "Têtes de série" should not be interpreted in the singular; in each pool there may be 1st, 2nd, 3rd Têtes de série etc.

In subsequent rounds, each pool should contain, as far as possible, the same number of fencers who have been placed first, second and third, etc., in the preceding round, avoiding as far as possible placing together in the same pool competitors who were in the same pool in the previous round.

During all eliminating rounds, competitors of the same nationality should be distributed as far as possible among all the pools of each round. When there are several possible ways of effecting this, lots should be drawn.

The principle of distributing competitors of the same nationality takes precedence of the principle of distributing "Têtes de série."

For each pool the order of the competitors will be determined by drawing lots (however, see article 539s).

3. Order of bouts.

The order of bouts in each pool is as follows:

4 fencers	5 fencers	6 fencers	7 fencers	8 fencers	9 fencers	10 fencers
6 bouts	10 bouts	15 bouts	21 bouts	28 bouts	36 bouts	45 bouts
1-4	1-2	1-4	1-4	2-3		1-4 1-6 3-6
2-3	3-4	2-5	2-5	1-5	1-9 3-1	6-9 2-7 5-7
1-3	5-1	3-6	3-6	7-4	2-8 2-4	2-5 3-8 1-10
2-4	2-3	5-1	7-1	6-8	3-7 5-9	7-10 4-9
3-4	5-4	4-2	5-4	1-2	4-6 8-6	3-1 6-5
1-2	1-3	3-1	2-3	3-4	1-5 7-1	8-6 10-2
	2-5	6-2	6-7	5-6	2-9 4-3	4-5 8-1
	4-1	5-3	5-1	8-7	8-3 5-2	9-10 7-4
	3-5	6-4	4-3	4-1	7-4 6-9	2-3 9-3
	4-2	1-2	6-2	5-2	6-5 8-7	7-8 2-6
		3-4	5-7	8-3	1-2 4-1	5-1 5-8
		5-6	3-1	6-7	9-3 5-3	10-6 4-10
		2-3	4-6	4-2	8-4 6-2	4-2 1-9
		1-6	7-2	8-1	7-5 9-7	9-7 3-7
		4-5	3-5	7-5	6-1 1-8	5-3 8-2
			1-6	3-6	3-2 4-5	10-8 6-4
			2-4	2-8	9-4 3-6	1-2 9-5
			7-3	5-4	5-8 2-7	6-7 10-3
			6-5	6-1	7-6 9-8	3-4 7-1
			1-2	3-7		8-9 4-8
			4-7	4-8		5-10 2-9
				2-6		
				3-5		
				1-7		
				4-6		
				8-5		
				7-2		
				1-3		

When there are several fencers from the same country in a pool:

(a) If they do not form the majority of the competitors in the pool, they must fence off the bouts between themselves before meeting the competitors of another nationality;

(b) If they form the majority of the competitors in the

pool, the Directoire Technique may establish a special order of bouts, departing as little as possible from the principle laid down in (a) above, in order to obviate too great fatigue or too long delays for the competitors who form the minority in the pool;

(c) When competitors classed as "stateless" are included in a pool, they must first fence against the competitors of the nationality to which they originally belonged, after the latter have fenced each other, and thereafter against the competitors of the country which grants them their international fencing licence.

540 If a bout is interrupted by an accidental cause, and this interruption is likely to be prolonged, the President *may* (with the consent of the Directoire Technique, or when necessary the Organizing Committee) alter the order of bouts in such a way as to allow the normal progress of the competition to proceed.

4. Classification.

541 The classification in each pool is determined by the number of victories. If there is equality of victories between two or more competitors, the classification is determined by the number of hits received; if there is equality of victories and of hits received, by the number of hits given; if there is equality of victories and of hits received and given, the competitors are classed *ex-aequo*; if it is necessary to determine a classification between these competitors they must fence a barrage (Cf. 543s).

When there is equality of victories in a final pool, but only to determine the first place (the first three places at the Olympic Games) the classification is always determined by barrage bouts (Cf. 543). This barrage pool also determines the final classification of all the competitors who participate therein.

When during this barrage, two or more competitors have the same number of victories, there are two separate courses to follow: to determine the first place only, the barrage will be re-fought until one fencer obtains a number of victories which is superior to that of the other competitors; on the other hand, for the other places (including the second and third places at the Olympic Games) the aggregate of hits in the original pool added to the hits of the barrage, or successive barrages, will determine the classification.

5. There shall be promoted to the next round (qualification).

542 (a) For one hit (*épée*): at least 50% of the competitors in the pool shall be promoted.

(b) When at *épée* for one hit, it is not possible to form pools of at least ten competitors, a minimum of 50% will be promoted, and at least three fencers.

(c) For several hits (all three weapons); at least 33% and at least three fencers.

(d) In order that a competitor be promoted to the next round without a barrage, there must be a difference in the number of victories between him and those who are eliminated. When there is equality of victories, after one barrage round, the classification is determined by the number of hits received (and if necessary by the number of hits scored) during the original pool, added to the hits received (and if necessary the hits scored) during the barrage.

6. Barrages (Ties).

The classification of competitors who are in a barrage (tie) is determined after further bouts have been fought between them, these bouts are fought according to the rules of the original pool. 543

In individual competitions, barrages must be fought off immediately after the original pool (Cf. 513).

When there are three competitors in a barrage the order of bouts will be as follows: 544

For the first bout lots are drawn, unless there are two competitors of the same nationality, etc. (Cf. 539).

Thereafter one of the following alternatives will apply:

(a) If the barrage is for the first place in the final, or for promotion where two out of the three competitors can be promoted, the order of bouts must be:

1st bout: between A and B;

2nd bout: between C and the loser of 1st bout;

3rd bout: between C and the winner of 1st bout. (However, if the barrage is for promotion and C has won the 2nd bout, the 3rd bout will not be necessary.)

(b) If the barrage is for promotion and only one competitor can be promoted, the order of bouts must be:

1st bout: between A and B;

2nd bout: between C and the winner of 1st bout;

3rd bout: If C has lost 2nd bout this bout will be unnecessary: otherwise C versus loser of 1st bout.

7. A competitor abandoning a competition.

(a) *Fundamental principles.*

1. No one can be placed at a disadvantage because he has 545

been unable to contest one or more bouts which he would normally have fought.

2. No one can gain an advantage from not having met all the opponents against whom he would normally have fenced.

(b) *When only one competitor retires.*

- 546 When for any reason whatsoever a competitor (individual or team) abandons an event which has commenced, the *Directoire Technique* must apply the following rules (without prejudice to any disciplinary action which may eventually be taken against the competitor):

Introduction:

- 547 1. When a competitor (individual or team) during an event (pool) does not complete one of the bouts or matches in which he is engaged and which he has commenced and when his opponent is leading, that bout or match, but that bout or match only, will be considered as having been fought to the end (all the remaining hits in that bout or match which should have been fought for being placed to the credit of the competitor who does not retire). In all other cases that bout or match will be considered as not having been fought at all.

- 548 2. When the competitor who retires has obtained no victories before he retires, he will be considered as having taken no part in the pool.

Examples:

1. Pool of Teams: Match between Team X and Team Z. Total number of bouts 16. When the score is: X 9 victories (or even only 6 victories); Z 2 victories, team Z withdraws; the official score of this match will be X 14 victories, Z 2 victories. But if in this match the score was 5-5 or 3-2 in favour of Z, the retiring team, the whole score is annulled.

2. Individual pool for 5 hits. The bout between A and B has begun; when the score is 3-2 in favour of B, A is obliged to retire; for this bout B will be the winner with the official score of 5-2. But if the score was 3-3 or 3-2 in favour of A, who retires, the whole score is annulled.

Rule one.

- 549 When the event (pool) is finished (except for the bouts of the competitor who retires) the *Directoire Technique* will make out two score sheets, each showing a complete classification, by victories, determining exactly the places (following the general rules: barrage for first place in the final, or for the fencers who may be eliminated; total of hits received and scored for the other places, etc.).

Score Sheet No. 1. — A. Classification including only those competitors who have fought all the bouts envisaged in the pool.

Score Sheet No. 2. — B. Classification including only those competitors who have not fought the competitor who has not completed the event.

Rule two.

The order of classification between competitors in the same score sheet is final. 550

Rule three.

1. For the final pool. 551

For the first place a barrage (tie) must always be fought between the competitor best placed in score sheet B and the competitor best placed in score sheet A when the latter has a total number of victories equal to or not exceeding by more than one, the total number of victories attained by the competitor in score sheet B.

Successively for the final determination of each place, and with the proviso that the classification of each score sheet remains final with regard to the competitors appearing in the particular score sheet, the competitor who is — or who remains — best placed in score sheet B will fight a barrage with the competitor who is — or who remains — best placed in score sheet A and whose total victories are either equal to his or to his total plus one; however, the barrage will not be fought when the number of hits received, or, if necessary, of hits scored is such that, if the event had been finished normally, the fencer in score sheet B would under no circumstances ever have been placed above the fencer in score sheet A even had he won the bout left unfought without receiving a hit, or would never have been classed below the said fencer, even had he lost the bout left unfought without scoring a hit.

Example:

Epee pool; 3 hits; 10 competitors.

		SCORE SHEET A	
1st G	victories 7;	hits received 14;	
2nd H	" 5;	" " 18;	
3rd K	" 3;	" " 22;	hits scored 14
4th L	" 1;		

		SCORE SHEET B	
1st V	victories 6;	hits received 10;	
2nd X	" 6;	" " 10;	
3rd Y	" 4;	" " 19;	
4th Z	" 3;	" " 19;	hits scored 15
5th R	" 3;	" " 21;	

In score sheet B: V is the best placed competitor because according to Rule One, he must have won a preliminary barrage against X for first place in this score sheet. Therefore V ties with G who is best placed in score sheet A.

If G wins; 1st G; 2nd V; 3rd X.

If V wins; 1st V; then X, who "remains" the best placed in score sheet B and who could, had he won the bout left unfought, have obtained a number of points not less than G and been placed above the latter in the classification, ties with G for second and third place.

There will be no barrage between H and Y because Y has already received a number of hits greater than those received by H, so that he could never have been placed above the latter in the classification even had he won the bout left unfought.

Therefore 4th H and 5th Y.

Nor will there be a barrage between K and Z because K has a number of hits which would have prevented him ever being placed above Z even if the latter had lost the bout left unfought without scoring a hit. Actually in this event Z and K would both have received 22 hits, but Z had already scored an extra hit which would in any event have placed him above K.

Sixth will therefore be Z; while for 7th place a barrage must be fought between K and R, since the numbers of their respective hits are not such that the possible result of the bout which R has not fought might not have affected their respective classification.

L will be placed ninth.

2. For eliminating rounds.

Subject to the proviso that the classification of each score sheet remains unalterable for the competitors in that score sheet, the procedure is as for the final with this difference that no barrage will be fought between competitors appearing in different score sheets whose classification in any case assures their promotion to the next round.

Example:

Pool of 12 competitors of whom 6 are to be promoted to the next round.

SCORE SHEET A

1st A....	9 victories	4th D....	6 victories
2nd B....	7 "	5th E....	2 "
3rd C....	6 "	6th F....	1 victory

SCORE SHEET B

1st G....	8 victories	4th K....	6 victories
2nd H....	8 "	5th L....	1 victory
3rd I....	6 "		

E, L, F are eliminated.

A, G, H, B are qualified for promotion.

But B, although certain of promotion, must fight a barrage with I (who beat K in a barrage) because I has a right to his chance against all possible opponents.

If I wins, K must in turn fight a barrage with B, and if he also wins A, B, G, H, I, K are promoted.

If, on the other hand, B wins against I, C (who beat D in a barrage) must fight a barrage with I; according to whether C or I wins, the loser fights a barrage with D or with K for the sixth place.

If B wins against K, it will be for K to fight a barrage with C to determine the sixth place.

Rule four.

A competitor (individual or team) who has to retire by reason of some cause beyond his control, which has been duly recognized by the President is entitled to the classification resulting from his actual total of points; but should a barrage be necessary with one or other of his opponents he must obviously lose the benefit of being able to fight the barrage. In other cases, without affecting possible disciplinary penalties to be inflicted later, he loses the right to any classification whatever.

(c) *When more than one competitor abandons a competition (Cf. 545).*

In order to apply the fundamental principles to these circumstances (Cf. 545ss), the following supplementary rules will be applied to the previous rules:

1. When more than one competitor fails to complete an event, the Directoire Technique will, after the event is finished, prepare the following score sheets (each being complete and final in itself):

Score Sheet A, including only those competitors who have fought *all* the bouts envisaged for the pool;

Score Sheet B, including only those competitors who have fought all the bouts envisaged *less one*;

Score Sheet C, including only those competitors who have fought all the bouts envisaged *less two*.

And so on as required.

2. Every competitor who has not fought one or several bouts must fight a barrage with the competitors who are best placed in the other score sheets with whom they might have had the same number (or a greater number) of victories (except in those cases where, as laid down in rule 3 above, the number of hits received and scored makes the barrage unnecessary).

3. To determine the first place in the final pool, each score sheet having its final classification, it is first ascertained which competitor best placed in each score sheet has the greatest number of actual victories.

Should he be a competitor in Score Sheet A, he must fight a barrage with the competitor best placed in score sheet B who has the same number of victories, or one less, than himself, and with the competitor best placed in score sheet C who has the same number of victories or one or two less, than himself, and with the competitor best placed in score sheet D who has the same number of victories, or one, two or three less, than himself, etc.

Should he be a competitor in Score Sheet B, he must fight a barrage with the competitor best placed in score sheet C who has the same number of victories, or one less, than himself, and with the competitor best placed in score sheet D who has the same number of victories or one or two less, than himself, etc.

Should he be a competitor in Score Sheet C, he must fight a barrage with the competitor best placed in score sheet D who has the same number of victories, or one less, than himself and with the competitor in score sheet B who has only one victory less than himself.

And so on as required.

The competitor who wins this barrage will be placed first in the final: the classification of the other competitors in the barrage, as between themselves, will be determined by the result of the barrage as fought, but other competitors may be placed between them.

4. For the other places in the final, every competitor who has not fought one or more bouts in the final will fight a barrage with those competitors in the other score sheets with whom he might have tied on number of victories or even surpassed in number of victories (except in those cases where the number of hits received and scored by the different competitors concerned is such that this barrage is unnecessary).

5. For promotion from eliminating rounds, after determining which competitors are certain of promotion, and which are certain to be eliminated, a barrage will be fought between all the competitors who might, according to the number of their victories, actual or possible, be able to gain promotion to the next round.

Example: TABLE I. See below.

For first place; (a) preliminary barrage between L and T to decide which will fight barrage with M for first place. These three competitors will be placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd according to the results obtained between themselves.

For 4th place, barrage between N and O (best placed in score sheet C).

If N wins he is placed 4th, followed by O and P. If O wins he is placed 4th and N and P will fight a barrage for 5th and 6th places.

Q will be 7th and R 8th; the difference of hits making a barrage unnecessary.

If U who has three victories has the right to be classified (e.g. if he abandons owing to an injury) he will be placed immediately after P; the latter being regarded as having obtained a victory over U (who cannot fight off the barrage) and thus having one victory more than U.

EXAMPLE: TABLE I
Pool of 10 Competitors, for 5 hits. Score Sheets A, B and C

	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	A	B	C
L	×								L	—		6V.8.3*	
M	L	×	V.3	V.1	V.1	V.0	V.1	V.0	L	—			5V.6.4
N	V.2	L	×	V.1	V.1	L	L	V.1	L	L	4V.5.8		
O	L	L	L	×	V.2	V.2	L	—	V.3	—			3V.7.6
P	L	L	L	L	×	V.3	V.3	—	V.2	—			3V.8.5
Q	L	L	V.1	L	L	×	V.2	—	L	L		2V.3.8	
R	L	L	V.3	V.2	L	L	×	L	L	L	2V.5.7		
S	L	—	L	—	—	—	V.0	×	L	V.3			
T	V.1	V.1	V.1	L	L	V.2	V.0	V.1	×	—		6V.6.5	
U	—	—	V.0	—	—	V.0	V.0	L	—	×			

* — Only Hits against and hits scored in victories and defeats respectively.

ANOTHER EXAMPLE: TABLE II
Pool of 9 Competitors, for 5 hits.
Score Sheets A, B and C

	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	A	B	C
L	×	—	—	—	V.2	L	—	—	V.2	abandons		
M	—	×	V.3	V.0	—	V.3	L	V.1	L			4V. 7.5
N	—	L	×	V.4	V.2	L	L	V.1	L		3V. 7.13	
O	—	L	L	×	—	V.3	V.2	V.2	L			3V. 7.4
P	L	—	L	—	×	V.4	L	—	—	abandons		
Q	V.3	L	V.3	L	L	×	V.2	V.3	L	4V. 11.12		
R	—	V.1	V.3	L	V.3	L	×	L	L		3V. 7.10	
S	—	L	L	L	—	L	V.3	×	V.4			2V. 7.7
T	L	V.4	V.4	V.0	—	V.2	V.3	L	×		5V. 13.6	

Another Example: TABLE II. See below.

For first place, barrage between T and M which will decide 1st and 2nd places (because if M loses to T he has such an advantage of hits over Q that he will be placed above him without a barrage).

For next places: I. Barrage between O, Q and N (better placed than R).

1st possibility: The result of the barrage is Q, N, O; placed respectively 3rd, 4th and 5th and R and S fight a barrage for 6th and 7th places.

2nd possibility: The result of the barrage is N, Q, O; N will be third but R fights barrage with Q for 4th and 5th places and O will be 6th and S 7th.

3rd possibility: The result of the barrage is O, Q, N; then O will be 3rd; S will fight a barrage with Q for 4th and 5th places; N will be 6th and R 7th.

4th possibility: Result of the barrage is O, N, Q; then O will be 3rd; S will fight a barrage with N. If S wins he is 4th; N 5th; Q and R fight a barrage for 6th and 7th.

If N wins he is 4th; Q and R fight a barrage for 5th and the loser with S for 6th and 7th places.

B. — BY DIRECT ELIMINATION.

1. Application.

The general provisions of the rules are applicable without exception, in so far as they do not conflict with those of the special rules contained in this part B. 554

2. Method of holding matches and number of hits.

At all three weapons each individual match is for a given number of hits or consists of two bouts for five effective hits (four for ladies) with a deciding bout if required (Cf. 561D). 555

3. Duration of matches.

Six minutes for each bout. Five minutes for each bout for ladies. 556

There will be a compulsory period of rest of two minutes duration between bouts and the competitors will change ends.

If in any of the three bouts the time limit laid down expires and the fencers have scored an equal number of hits, the bout will be continued without time limit until a decision is reached (Cf. 561D).

4. Withdrawal of a competitor.

When, for any reason whatever, a competitor cannot fence, or cannot complete a match, his opponent wins that match. 557

5. Order of matches.

Matches are always fought off according to the order of the match plan, starting at the top and finishing at the bottom. 558

In order to gain time, the organizers may fence off several

bouts simultaneously on different pistes, but the bouts must always be fought off in the same order.

A fencer must always be allowed a rest period of ten minutes between two consecutive matches.

6. Classification.

559 A general classification is obtained as follows:

1st. The winner of the final match.

2nd. The loser of the final match.

When it is not necessary to divide the remaining competitors, the two fencers who lose the semi-final matches are placed equal 3rd; the four losers of the quarter final matches are placed equal 5th; the eight losers of the eight-final matches are placed equal 9th, etc.

When it is necessary to divide them, a barrage will be fought between the losers of the semi-final matches for 3rd and 4th places; a barrage by direct elimination between the losers of the quarter-final matches for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th places, etc.

7. Organization of competitions.

(a) *Complete system.*

560 The Directoire Technique will organize a first eliminating round according to the principles of têtes de séries (seeding) and nationalities and by exempting from this first round the number of competitors (the têtes de séries) necessary in order to preserve after this first round, a number of competitors which is a power of two (i.e. 4-8-16-32-64-128, etc. competitors).

The formula used to arrive at the number of competitors exempt from the first round E is:

$$E = 2 N - P$$

Where P is the number of competitors entered, and N the number of competitors who must be preserved to arrive at the match plan (i.e., 4 or 8 or 16 or 32, etc.).

The match plan for direct elimination is then drawn up, the principles of "Têtes de Série" being duly observed, and these will be placed on the match plan in order of merit at positions 1, 2, 3, 4, etc. according to the match plans in article 563.

(b) *Mixed system.*

561 1. *Individual.*

(A) A first round will be held by pools from each of which 50% will be promoted and at least four fencers.

The Directoire Technique will be responsible for drawing the pools for this first round and they may obtain any information which they may require from the team captains.

These pools must be completed even if the results affecting qualification to the next round have been ascertained before all the bouts have been fought.

(B) A second round will be held by pools from each of which 50% will be promoted (at least four fencers). When drawing these pools the Directoire Technique will take into account the results of the first round.

These pools must be completed even if the results affecting qualification for the direct elimination stage have been ascertained before all the bouts have been fought.

Barrages will not be fought off in these two rounds of eliminating pools.

Promotion from these two rounds of eliminating pools will be determined, in the case of equality of victories, by counting hits received and, if necessary, hits given during the pool. A barrage will only be fought off should the aggregate of victories, of hits received and of hits given be equal, and only between those competitors who have obtained this absolute equality.

(C) The results obtained by the fencers qualified in the first round will be recorded on a record sheet which shows the number of bouts fought, the number of victories obtained, the number of hits received and the number of hits scored.

The results obtained by the competitors qualified in the second round are recorded on the record sheet as for the results of the first round.

The Directoire Technique will then prepare the Match Plan for direct elimination on which the competitors who are qualified will be placed.

This Match Plan will be as laid down in the Rules of the F.I.E. (Cf. 563) (for the number of competitors qualified or the next higher number).

The classification of the qualified competitors will be made as follows:

(a) the results of the first and second rounds entered on the record sheet will be aggregated;

(b) the first indicator which will be used for the first classification will be determined by dividing the number of victories by the number of bouts fought

$$\left(\text{formula } \frac{V}{M} \right)$$

(c) the competitor with the highest indicator (maximum 1) will be placed first;

(d) when there is equality between competitors in the first indicator and to divide the competitors who thus are equal a second indicator will be determined by dividing the number of hits scored by the number of hits received

$$\left(\text{formula } \frac{HS}{HR} \right)$$

Should both indicators be equal lots will be drawn between the competitors concerned;

(e) to determine the positions on the Match Plan the classification as indicated above will be used.

The best placed competitor will be placed at No. 1, the next at No. 2 and so on for all the competitors who are qualified;

(f) the only exception allowed to the foregoing concerns fencers of the same nationality. In principle, the latter should not be placed in the same quarter of the Match Plan except when five competitors of the same nationality are qualified.

Whenever the application of the above mentioned system places two or more competitors of the same nationality in the same quarter of the final Match Plan, the competitor concerned who is worst placed will be given the next number below on the Plan required to make him change to another quarter of the final Match Plan.

This rule shall not apply to the 5th competitor of the same nationality, when five competitors of the same nationality qualify for the final Match Plan.

Further, this exception will not apply to the last fencers qualified for the final Match Plan if the place numbers still available do not allow the provisions of the above paragraph to be applied.

(D) All matches of the direct elimination stage will consist of two bouts of five effective hits (four for Ladies) with a time limit of six minutes for each bout (five minutes for ladies) with a deciding bout if required, and a result must be obtained in each bout (Cf. 556).

There will be a compulsory rest period of two minutes duration between bouts and the competitors will change ends (Cf. 556).

The competitors who win their matches in the various rounds of the direct elimination stage will meet each other according to the order of the match plan (see Match Plan B

and C) until four competitors are qualified who, together with the two competitors qualified from the various repechage rounds (see Match Plan D, E, F, G, H), form a final pool of six competitors.

The principles for the repechage are as follows :

(a) A competitor cannot be eliminated during the direct elimination until he has been defeated twice.

(b) matches are always fought off according to the order of the original Match Plan (Plan A) which must be established according to the classification of the competitors by indicators taking nationality into account (Cf. 561 (f)).

Plan D consists of the 16 competitors who were defeated in Plan A.

Plan E consists of the 8 competitors who won their matches in Plan D against the 8 competitors who were defeated in Plan B.

Plan F consists of the 8 competitors who won their matches in Plan E.

Plan G consists of the 4 competitors who won their matches in Plan F and the 4 competitors who were defeated in Plan C.

Plan H consists of the 4 competitors who won their matches in Plan G. The two winners in this plan are qualified for the final pool of six competitors.

(E) The rules for the final pool of six competitors are as follows :

The six competitors qualified will fence a pool of six-bouts for five hits (ladies four hits) with time limit of six minutes (ladies five minutes).

The normal rules for a pool will be applied with possibility of double defeat at epee, and barrage should there be equality of victories for the first place.

In this barrage :

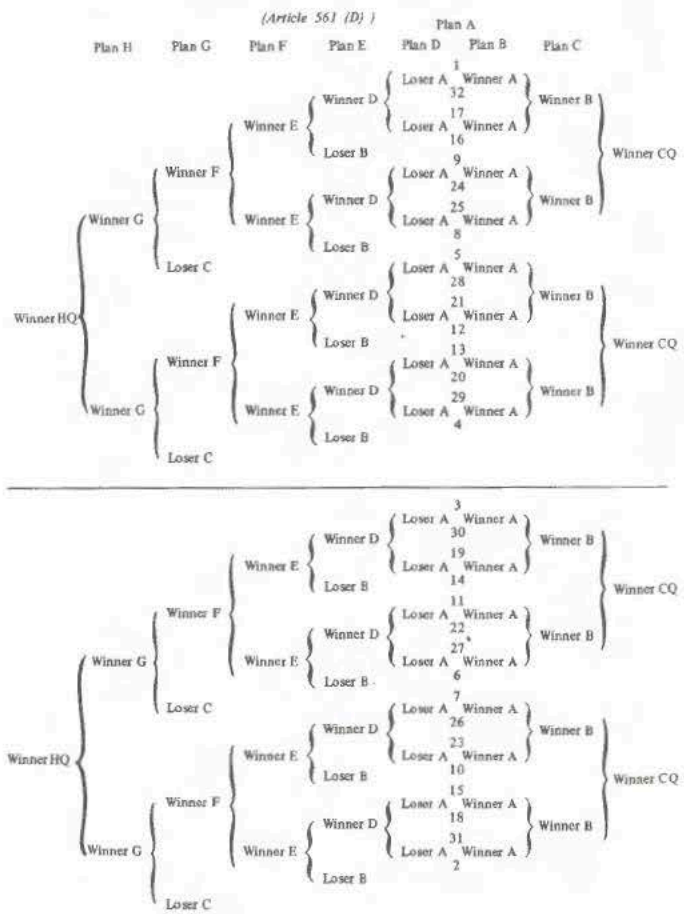
(a) if the barrage is between two competitors and they arrive at a score of five all, the bout will continue until one competitor obtains a decisive hit;

(b) if the barrage is between more than two competitors, the classification will be determined by taking account, in the barrage only, firstly of the number of victories then, if necessary, of the number of hits received and finally, of the number of hits scored.

Should the aggregate of victories and of hits again be equal, a bout or, if necessary, a supplementary pool will be held between those competitors only who are in a position of equality for the first place.

In this new barrage, no double defeat will be scored because a result must be obtained in each bout and, should there be equality of victories in this final barrage, the first place will be determined by count of hits scored in both barrages.

MATCH PLAN FOR DIRECT ELIMINATION WITH REPECHAGE
BETWEEN 32 COMPETITORS



Q = Qualified for the final pool of six competitors.

2. Teams.

Team events are held with at least one round of pools followed by direct elimination.

The pools are drawn by the Directoire Technique who, to establish the seeding ("têtes de série") take into account the classification of the competitors who represent each country in the corresponding individual event, but only considering the results obtained by the four best placed competitors from each nation entered for the corresponding team event. Each pool must be completed in order to obtain a classification between the teams in each pool.

The same classification will also be used by the Directoire Technique to determine the classification between the teams placed first, then those placed second in the pools when drawing up the Match Plan for direct elimination. A supplementary match between the two teams beaten in the semi-finals will determine the third and fourth places.

This match must be fought before the match which determines the winner of the event.

Further, when required, the fifth and sixth places can be determined as follows:

The four teams beaten in the quarter finals of the direct elimination stage will meet in two matches in the order on the Match Plan.

The winners of these two matches will then meet to determine the fifth and sixth places.

These three matches should be fenced on a piste other than that on which the matches for the semi-final and final are held and must, in any case, be finished before the match to determine the third place is begun.

562 Number of Hits.

The number of hits at all three weapons is as follows:

For pools: Ladies foil—4 effective hits;

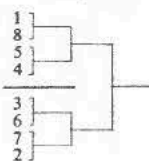
3 weapons, men—5 effective hits.

For direct elimination: Ladies foil—8 effective hits;

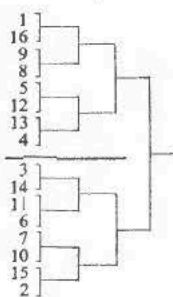
3 weapons, men—10 effective hits.

563 8. Match plan for:

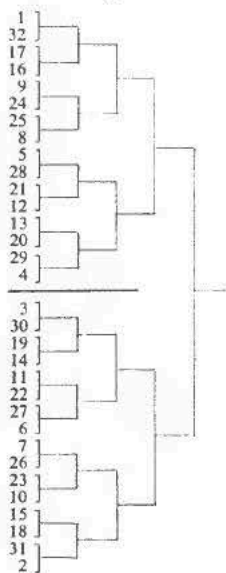
8 Competitors



16 Competitors



32 Competitors



N.B. — On these Match Plans the Nos. 1, 2, 3, etc., indicate the places to be assigned to the "Têtes de série" in order of merit.

64 Competitors

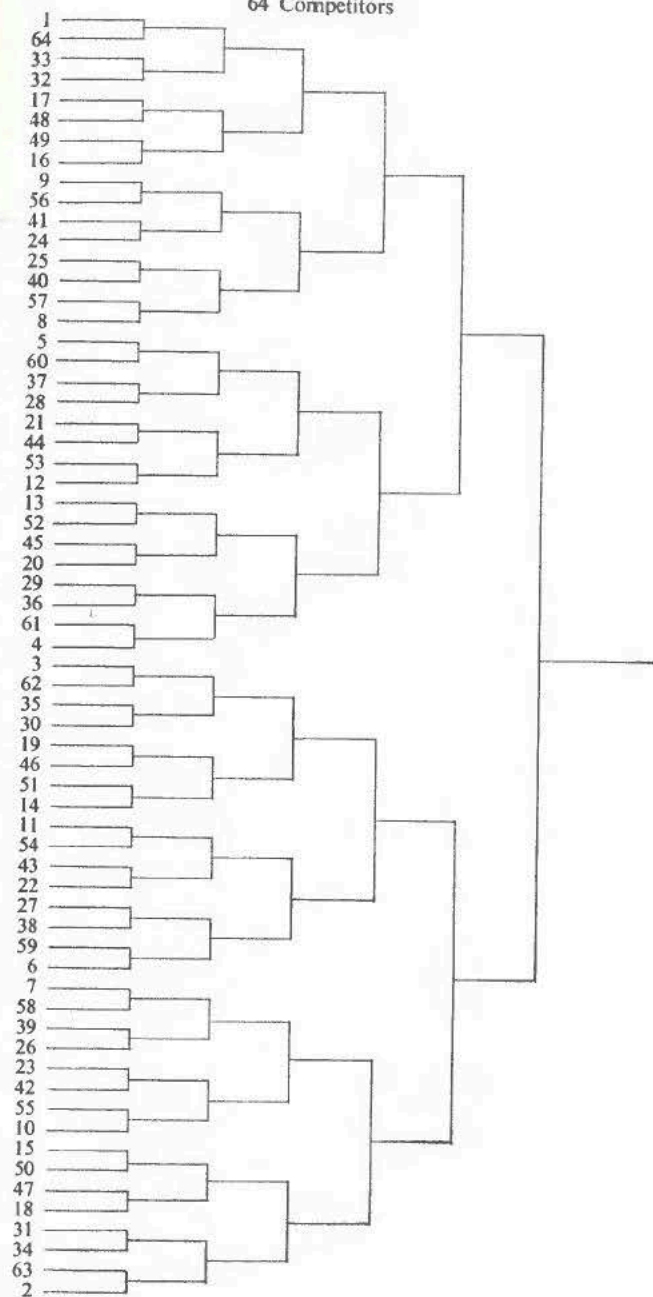


TABLE FOR INDICATORS

I. For Victories

INDICATOR		$\frac{V}{M}$ = ratio between the number of victories obtained and the number of bouts fought													
$\frac{V}{M}$	NUMBER OF BOUTS FOUGHT														
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
NUMBER OF VICTORIES OBTAINED	2	1	0,666	0,500	0,400	0,333	0,285	0,250	0,222	0,200	0,181	0,166	0,153	0,142	0,133
	3		1	0,750	0,600	0,500	0,428	0,375	0,333	0,300	0,272	0,250	0,230	0,214	0,200
	4			1	0,800	0,666	0,571	0,500	0,444	0,400	0,363	0,333	0,307	0,285	0,266
	5				1	0,833	0,714	0,625	0,555	0,500	0,454	0,416	0,384	0,357	0,333
	6					1	0,857	0,750	0,666	0,600	0,545	0,500	0,461	0,428	0,400
	7						1	0,875	0,777	0,700	0,636	0,583	0,538	0,500	0,466
	8							1	0,888	0,800	0,727	0,666	0,615	0,571	0,533
	9								1	0,900	0,818	0,750	0,692	0,642	0,600
	10									1	0,909	0,833	0,769	0,714	0,666
	11										1	0,916	0,846	0,785	0,733
	12											1	0,923	0,857	0,800
	13												1	0,928	0,866
	14													1	0,933
	15														1

CHAPTER VIII — SPECIAL RULES FOR
THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (1)

A. — INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1. Annual Championship.

In accordance with decisions taken at the Congresses at Antwerp 1920, The Hague 1927, Amsterdam 1928, Brussels 1937, Antwerp 1939, Brussels 1947, Paris 1959, Madrid 1962 and at Gdansk 1963, official individual championships at foil, épée and sabre for men and at foil for ladies, called World Championships (called European Championships until 1936) are held annually under the auspices of the F.I.E. in principle between 1st July and 15th August. 564

The fencing events at the Olympic Games are under the direction of the F.I.E. and constitute the World Championship in the Olympic years.

2. Candidature.

Each year, requests to undertake the organization of the World Championship to be held the following year must be submitted to the Central Office of the F.I.E. to be placed on the agenda of the annual Ordinary Congress, within the time limit laid down for the submission of items for the agenda in the book of Statutes (Cf. Book of Statutes). 565

The Congress will decide to which National Federation the organization of these Championships will be entrusted for the following year, and at the same time fix the date and place where they will be held.

Should the annual Ordinary Congress be unable to decide which National Federation shall organize the World Championships for the ensuing year, because no candidate has come forward, the Central Office of the F.I.E. may itself decide which National Federation shall organize these Championships if it receives one or more candidatures after the Congress has taken place.

The Central Office of the F.I.E. will have the same powers should the National Federation to whom the organization was entrusted by the Congress withdraw.

3. Entries.

Entries are limited to five fencers of any one nation for each event. 566

(1) Chapter VIII is inserted in this technical Rules book for reference, its text appears in the book of Statutes of the F.I.E. It is drawn up by the Commission for Statutes.

Should it contain errors, the text of the book of Statutes is authoritative.

H.S. = Ratio between: the number of hits scored and H.R. = the number of hits received

NUMBER OF HITS RECEIVED = H.R.

Table with 49 columns (H.S. 2-49) and 49 rows (H.R. 2-49). Each cell contains a numerical value representing the ratio of hits scored to hits received for a given combination of H.S. and H.R.

1	0.951	0.952	0.953	0.954	0.955	0.956	0.957	0.958	0.959	0.960	0.961	0.962	0.963	0.964	0.965	0.966	0.967	0.968	0.969	0.970	0.971	0.972	0.973	0.974	0.975	0.976	0.977	0.978	0.979	0.980	0.981	0.982	0.983	0.984	0.985	0.986	0.987	0.988	0.989	0.990	0.991	0.992	0.993	0.994	0.995	0.996	0.997	0.998	0.999	1.000				
2	1.050	1.051	1.052	1.053	1.054	1.055	1.056	1.057	1.058	1.059	1.060	1.061	1.062	1.063	1.064	1.065	1.066	1.067	1.068	1.069	1.070	1.071	1.072	1.073	1.074	1.075	1.076	1.077	1.078	1.079	1.080	1.081	1.082	1.083	1.084	1.085	1.086	1.087	1.088	1.089	1.090	1.091	1.092	1.093	1.094	1.095	1.096	1.097	1.098	1.099	1.100			
3	1.150	1.151	1.152	1.153	1.154	1.155	1.156	1.157	1.158	1.159	1.160	1.161	1.162	1.163	1.164	1.165	1.166	1.167	1.168	1.169	1.170	1.171	1.172	1.173	1.174	1.175	1.176	1.177	1.178	1.179	1.180	1.181	1.182	1.183	1.184	1.185	1.186	1.187	1.188	1.189	1.190	1.191	1.192	1.193	1.194	1.195	1.196	1.197	1.198	1.199	1.200			
997	3.997	3.998	3.999	4.000	4.001	4.002	4.003	4.004	4.005	4.006	4.007	4.008	4.009	4.010	4.011	4.012	4.013	4.014	4.015	4.016	4.017	4.018	4.019	4.020	4.021	4.022	4.023	4.024	4.025	4.026	4.027	4.028	4.029	4.030	4.031	4.032	4.033	4.034	4.035	4.036	4.037	4.038	4.039	4.040	4.041	4.042	4.043	4.044	4.045	4.046	4.047	4.048	4.049	4.050
998	4.050	4.051	4.052	4.053	4.054	4.055	4.056	4.057	4.058	4.059	4.060	4.061	4.062	4.063	4.064	4.065	4.066	4.067	4.068	4.069	4.070	4.071	4.072	4.073	4.074	4.075	4.076	4.077	4.078	4.079	4.080	4.081	4.082	4.083	4.084	4.085	4.086	4.087	4.088	4.089	4.090	4.091	4.092	4.093	4.094	4.095	4.096	4.097	4.098	4.099	4.100			
999	4.150	4.151	4.152	4.153	4.154	4.155	4.156	4.157	4.158	4.159	4.160	4.161	4.162	4.163	4.164	4.165	4.166	4.167	4.168	4.169	4.170	4.171	4.172	4.173	4.174	4.175	4.176	4.177	4.178	4.179	4.180	4.181	4.182	4.183	4.184	4.185	4.186	4.187	4.188	4.189	4.190	4.191	4.192	4.193	4.194	4.195	4.196	4.197	4.198	4.199	4.200			

B. — TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1. Simultaneous events.

567 The country which is entrusted with the organization of the individual championships, must, at the same time and place, hold team championships at all three weapons for men and at foil for ladies (1).

2. Entries.

568 Entries are restricted to one team at each weapon from each country, each team to be composed of from four to five fencers of the same nationality from whom four are selected by the team captain for each match.

The names of the five members of a team must be announced on the eve of the event and cannot thereafter be altered.

Countries which wish to enter a team for one or more events at the World Championships, must so inform the National Federation which is undertaking the organization one and a half months before the Championships begin, and confirm eight days before the same date the number of teams which will actually participate.

At least one month before the Championship, the organizers must advise the Central Office of the F.I.E. of the countries which have entered for each team event.

C. — CONDITIONS COMMON TO TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1. Participation.

569 The World Championships are open to all national federations affiliated to the F.I.E.

2. Entries.

The countries who wish to send their fencers to participate in the World Championships, in either individual or team events, must so advise the National Federation which undertakes the organization one and a half months before the Championships are due to begin.

The teams of those Federations who are entered for all eight events at the World Championships must be accompanied by two International Presidents of Juries — those who are entered for a lesser number of events and comprise seven or more fencers must be accompanied by one International President — these Presidents of Juries will be at the disposal of the Directoire Technique throughout the duration of the events.

(1) The title of "champion" cannot be awarded for team events unless there is a minimum participation of five teams for men's events and of four teams for ladies' events.

Each participating country must advise the organizers eight days before the Championships begin of the numbers and names of the competitors in each event. Substitution of names by countries, due to reasons beyond their control, can only be made up to the eve of the events.

3. The F.I.E. rules.

The F.I.E. Rules must be strictly applied during the World Championships in addition to the Special Rules of the present chapter. 570

4. Order of events.

The events will be held in the following order: 571

- 1st day. Men's Foil Individual.
- 2nd day. Men's Foil Individual (continued);
— Classification for 5, 6, 7, 8 places;
— Final (pool of 6);
Sabre Individual.
- 3rd day. Sabre Individual (continued);
— Classification for 5, 6, 7, 8 places;
— Final (pool of 6).
Men's Foil Teams.
- 4th day. Men's Foil Teams (continued);
— Classification for 5 and 6 places;
— Match for 3rd place;
— Final.
Sabre Teams.
- 5th day. Sabre Teams (continued);
— Classification for 5 and 6 places;
— Match for 3rd place.
— Final.
- 6th day. Ladies' Foil Individual.
- 7th day. Ladies' Foil Individual (continued);
— Classification for 5, 6, 7 and 8 places;
— Final (pool of 6).
Epee Individual.
- 8th day. Epee Individual (continued);
— Classification for 5, 6, 7, 8 places;
— Final (pool of 6).
Ladies' Foil Teams.
- 9th day. Ladies' Foil Teams (continued);
— Classification for 5 and 6 places;
— Match for 3rd place;
— Final.

10th day. Epée Teams.

11th day. Epée Teams (continued);
— Classification for 5 and 6 places;
— Match for 3rd place;
— Final.

5. Directoire Technique (Executive Committee).

572 The technical organization of the championships is undertaken by a Directoire Technique composed of five members of different nationalities of whom one must represent the country which has undertaken the organization of the championships.

For the Olympic Games, it is composed of seven members, one representing the country organizing the Games, one the countries of North America and one the countries of South America.

The President of the Directoire Technique is appointed from among its members by the Central Office of the F.I.E.

6. Supervision by the F.I.E.

573 The President or the member of the Central Office of the F.I.E. appointed by him has the right to attend all meetings of the Directoire Technique in order to ensure that the Rules are observed, the Directoire Technique is obliged to give them notice of such meetings.

Similarly if the Court of Appeal is assembled it is presided of right by the President of the F.I.E. or by a delegate of the Central Office of the F.I.E. (in their absence, see Cf. 507).

7. Number of hits.

574 The number of hits to be fenced for at all three weapons is as follows:

For pools:

Ladies (foil): 4 effective hits.

Men (three weapons): 5 effective hits.

For direct elimination—Ladies (foil): 8 effective hits;

Men (three weapons): 10 effective hits.

D. — THE OLYMPIC GAMES.

The Rules for the World Championships are applicable to the Olympic Games save, on some points, where the Olympic Rules are at variance (1).

CHAPTER IX — RULES FOR THE WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS (2)

1. Annual competition.

In accordance with the decisions taken by the Congresses held at Paris (1949), Paris (1951), Venice (1955), Paris (1959), Madrid (1962) and Gdansk (1963) a World Youth Championship is held annually under the auspices of the F.I.E., comprising individual competitions at foil, épée and sabre for men, and at foil for ladies.

The Control of the F.I.E. is assured as is the Technical Direction under the same conditions as for the World Championships.

2. Candidatures.

Each year, requests to undertake the organization of the World Youth Championships must be submitted to the Central Office of the F.I.E. to be placed on the agenda of the annual Ordinary Congress, within the time limit laid down for the submission of items for the agenda in the Statutes (Cf. Book of Statutes, article 50).

The Congress will decide to which National Federation the organization of this Competition will be entrusted for the following year, and at the same time fix the date and place where they will be held.

As a general rule, the World Youth Championships are held at Easter.

Should no candidate come forward, or the National Federation to whom the organization is entrusted withdraw, the same rules will be applied as in the case of the World Championships (Cf. 565).

(1) At the Olympic Games, entries for the individual events are limited to three competitors of the same nationality for each event instead of five as at the World Championships. Further, the total participation for each nation must not exceed 21.

(2) Chapter IX is inserted in this technical Rules book for reference, its text appears in the book of Statutes of the F.I.E. It is drawn up by the Commission for Statutes. Should it contain errors or differences, the text of the book of Statutes is authoritative.

3. Entries.

578 Entries are limited to three fencers of the same nationality for each event.

The countries who wish to send their fencers to the World Youth Championships must inform the federation which undertakes the organization one and a half months before the event begins.

The country organizing the event must be advised eight days before the event begins of the number and names of the fencers who are to represent each country. Substitution of names by countries, due to reasons beyond their control may be made up to the eve of the events only.

4. Age of competitors.

579 Competitors must be less than 20 years of age on the 1st January of the year in which the World Youth Championships is held.

5. Rules

580 The rules for World Championships apply to the World Youth Championships.

581 However, if the Directoire Technique considers that the number of entries is insufficient to enable them to apply these Rules in their entirety, only one round of pools will be fought before the direct elimination stage.

PART SIX: DISCIPLINARY RULES FOR COMPETITIONS CHAPTER I—APPLICATION

1. Persons subject to these rules.

The regulations laid down in part six apply to all persons who take part in, or who are present in any capacity whatsoever at an international fencing competition (organizers, officials, members of the jury, auxiliary personnel, team captains, competitors, trainers, spectators, etc.) whether they are amateurs or not and whatever their nationality. 601

All these persons are described as "fencers" hereinafter.

2. Maintenance of order and discipline.

Fencers must observe strictly and faithfully the rules of the F.I.E., the particular rules for the competition in which they are engaged, the traditional customs of courtesy and integrity and the orders of the officials. 602

Notably they will subscribe, in an orderly, disciplined and sporting manner to the following provisions, all breaches of these rules may entail punishments by the competent disciplinary authorities after, or even without prior warning, according to the facts and circumstances.

3. The competitors.

(a) Pledge of honour.

By the mere fact of taking part in a fencing competition, the fencers pledge their honour to observe the regulations and the decisions of the judges, to be respectful towards the members of the jury and scrupulously to obey the orders and injunctions of the President of the Jury (Cf. 657). 603

(b) Presence on time.

The competitors must be present, fully equipped and ready to fence, not only at the time and the place appointed for the commencement of each pool or match or competition by direct elimination, but also during the event each time the President requests their presence (Cf. 654). 604

(c) Method of fencing.

The competitors must fence faithfully and strictly according to the rules laid down in the chapters dealing with the conventions of fencing in general (Cf. 28) and those relating to each weapon in particular (Cf. 218, 316, 409) all breaches of these rules will incur the penalties laid down hereinafter (Cf. 640, 641, 642, 645). 605

(d) *Acknowledgement of a hit.*

606 Every competitor is at liberty to acknowledge aloud a hit which he has received at the moment he receives it. But the jury is not bound by this acknowledgement and can still deliberate on this hit. (Cf. 66s, 72ss, 642, 655).

It is, on the other hand, absolutely forbidden for competitors to make any gestures or comments — except the acknowledgement of a hit as allowed — which might influence the decisions of the Jury, or to acknowledge a hit which has not been awarded after the decision of the President (Cf. 655).

(e) *Personal effort.*

607 Competitors will expend the same effort and give the same attention to each bout; they will defend their personal chance in a sportsmanlike manner until the end of the competition in order to obtain the best possible classification, without giving away hits, or seeking to be favoured in scoring hits by anyone (Cf. 643s).

(f) *Doping.*

608 Doping is the use of any stimulants of abnormal usage with the object of increasing the athletic powers of a competitor beyond the normal. Any form of doping of a competitor during or before an event is absolutely forbidden.

Any "fencer" knowingly acting in this way, or knowingly assisting in this way shall immediately be disqualified, suspended or expelled from the meeting without prejudice to later suspension or permanent disqualification (Cf. 651).

The Fédération Internationale Médico-Sportive has defined doping as: any substance taken, or treatment applied, "on the day of the competition" which can artificially or fraudulently increase the true performance of an athlete. On the contrary, anything which is done during training with a view solely to re-establish the physiological equilibrium must not be considered as doping.

It is not considered necessary to enumerate the substances the use of which is forbidden; a study was made of the substances, diets and practices which are designed to improve the performance of athletes by placing them in the best physiological condition or the best possible form.

Any system which improves form and muscular performance in a lasting manner is allowable. However innumerable substances give a momentary stimulation and improved performance over a very short period; these should be forbidden; for example: strychnine, caffeine, cocaine, atropine,

nitro-glycerine, morphine and its derivatives, as well as other products of opium, arsenical salts, camphor, etc. Many other basic products found in a multitude of specialities based on coca, kola, caffeine, heroin, coramin, ephedrin and especially benzidrene, pervitine, etc.

4. **The Team Captain.**

In all competitions between nations, the competitors of the same nationality must be under the direction of a team captain (who may or may not fence), who is responsible to the Organizing Committee for the discipline, conduct, and sportsmanship of the members of his team.

The team captain alone has the right to approach the Organizing Committee, the juries, etc., in order to decide technical matters, register protests, or make observations.

The members of the team who strictly carry out his instructions cannot be held responsible for them before competent authorities. However, they always remain personally responsible for all actions which they may commit apart from the intervention of their captain, and for all actions which they commit which violate the provisions of these regulations.

5. **The Members of the Jury.**

The members of the jury must fulfil their functions not only with complete impartiality, but also with the most scrupulous attention (Cf. 652).

It is the duty of the Directoire Technique (or the Organizing Committee) immediately to find a substitute for a President or for a member of the jury, when they think that, for any reason whatever, even without question of their perfect good faith, such a substitution is necessary, either on technical grounds, or to maintain the good order of the competition.

6. **The instructors, trainers and technicians.**

The instructors, trainers and technicians (whether amateurs or not) may be allowed to remain near their team or individual fencers during a competition. They are, however, obliged to confine themselves strictly to their duties, without intervening in any way in the progress of the competition. They may not go on to the piste to give medical or technical help to a competitor unless they are authorized by the President to do so (Cf. 656).

7. **The spectators.**

Spectators are obliged not to interfere with the good order of a competition, to do nothing which may tend to

influence the fencers or the jury, and to respect the decisions of the jury even when they do not approve of them. They must obey any instructions which the President may deem it necessary to give them (Cf. 656).

CHAPTER II — THE DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITIES AND THEIR COMPETENCE

1. Jurisdiction.

613 The order and discipline of fencing competitions is the responsibility, in varying degrees, of the following persons or authorities:

- The President of the Jury (Cf. 615);
- The Organizing Committee (Cf. 503, 616);
- The Directoire Technique (Cf. 505, 617);
- The Court of Appeal (Cf. 506ss, 618);
- The Executive Committee of the C.I.O. at the Olympic Games (Cf. 505, 510, 619);
- The National Federation (Cf. 620);
- The Central Office of the F.I.E. (Cf. 504, 573, 621);
- The Congress of the F.I.E. (Cf. 622).

2. Principle of jurisdiction.

614 (a) Whatever juridical authority has taken a decision, this decision may be subject eventually to an appeal to a higher juridical authority, but to one appeal only.

(b) However, every decision taken on an appeal will include the right to an "ultimate appeal" to the Congress of the F.I.E. (when it concerns an official competition of the F.I.E.) or to the Central Office of the F.I.E. (when it concerns any other international competition).

(c) No decision on a question of "fact" can be the subject of an appeal.

(d) When an appeal against a decision only suspends that decision when it can be judged immediately. On the contrary, an "ultimate appeal" does not suspend the decision except when the juridical authority who has inflicted the penalty agrees that it should be suspended pending appeal.

(e) Every appeal must be accompanied by the deposit of a guaranty of one hundred French francs, or its equivalent in other currency, and every ultimate appeal must be accompanied by the deposit of a guaranty of two hundred French francs, or its equivalent in other currency; these sums may be confiscated in whole or in part for the benefit of the F.I.E. if the appeal is rejected on the grounds that it is

"frivolous"; this decision will be taken by the juridical authority responsible for hearing the appeal. However, appeals against the decisions of the President of the Jury do not require the deposit of the guaranties mentioned above (Cf. 511, 659s).

3. The President of the Jury.

(a) The President of the Jury is responsible not only for the direction of the bout, the judging of hits and the control of equipment, but equally for the maintenance of order in the competition which he is presiding (Cf. 53).

(b) In his capacity as director of the bout and arbiter of hits, he can, in accordance with the rules, penalise the competitors, either by refusing to award a hit which they have in fact made on the opponent, or by awarding against them a hit which they have not in fact received, or by excluding them from the competition which he is presiding, all, according to the circumstances, after or without prior warning. In these circumstances, and if he has judged on a matter of *fact*, his decisions are irrevocable (Cf. 659).

(c) By reason of the right of jurisdiction which he has, over all the fencers who participate in, or are present at a competition which he is presiding, he can also require the expulsion from the venue of the competition, of the spectators, trainers, instructors and other persons who accompany the competitors (Cf. 656).

(d) Finally, he may recommend to the Directoire Technique (or, in its absence, to the Organizing Committee) all other penalties which he deems advisable (exclusion from the whole competition, suspension or disqualification) (Cf. 617).

(e) The Directoire Technique (or, in its absence, the Organizing Committee) is the authority competent to deal with appeals against the decisions of the President of the Jury (Cf. 616s, 659).

4. The Organizing Committee.

(Cf. 503).

In disciplinary matters, the Organizing Committee is only competent to act when there is no Directoire Technique the functions of which it has assumed; in these circumstances it must undertake all the obligations incumbent on the Directoire Technique (Cf. 617).

5. The Directoire Technique (Executive Committee).

(Cf. 505).

(a) The Directoire Technique has jurisdiction over all

615

616

617

the fencers who take part in, or are present at a competition which it directs.

When necessary it can intervene on its own initiative in all disputes.

It may inflict, either on its own initiative or at the request of the President of the Jury, all the penalties enumerated for the duration of the competition.

(b) It is the juridical authority to deal with appeals against the decisions of the President of the Jury. In such circumstances, however, if it is not international (Cf. 505) it is obliged to co-opt one representative of each country taking part in the competition.

(c) The decisions of the Directoire Technique are subject to appeal to the Court of Appeal (Cf. 506ss, 618), except however, those decisions which it has itself taken on an appeal and which can only be subject to an ultimate appeal (Cf. 614).

(d) The Directoire Technique is obliged, when necessary, to inform the Court of Appeal regarding complaints, protests or requests for appeal which it receives in the prescribed forms.

(e) Further, it sends direct to the Central Office of the F.I.E., requests for suspension, extension of penalty, of permanent suspension or disqualification, as well as eventual requests for ultimate appeals.

(f) The Directoire Technique ensures the execution of any penalty pronounced finally, or which is not subject to suspension (Cf. 614).

6. The Court of Appeal (Jury d'Appel). (Cf. 506).

618

(a) The Court of Appeal must immediately be assembled by the Directoire Technique (or when necessary by the Organizing Committee), either on its own initiative, or at the request of a team captain, of the official delegate of a Federation concerned, of a President of the Jury or of a delegate of the Central Office of the F.I.E. (Cf. 573).

(b) The decisions of the Court of Appeal, being always made as the result of an appeal, are only subject to an ultimate appeal to the Central Office or the Congress of the F.I.E. (Cf. 614).

7. The Executive Committee of the C.I.O. at the Olympic Games.

619

The Executive Committee of the International Olympic Committee (C.I.O.) is the final arbiter for all disputes of a

non-technical nature which may arise during the Olympic Games. It may intervene either on its own responsibility, or at the request of a national Olympic Committee, of the F.I.E. or of the Organizing Committee (see article 39 of the General Rules for the Olympic Games, 1963 edition) (Cf. 505, 510).

8. The National Federation.

(a) The National Federation is the competent body for all fencing events organized in its territory; it has jurisdiction by its regular disciplinary procedure over all fencers who reside, even transiently, within its territory.

(b) It may inflict within the limits of its territory all the penalties enumerated herein.

(c) It may propose to the Central Office of the F.I.E. the extension beyond its own territory of penalties inflicted by itself.

(d) It deals with complaints which reach it through the regular channels; it has the right to bring up directly, at whatever stage the matter may be, the question of any offence enumerated herein committed in its territory.

(e) When a foreign fencer, not normally under its jurisdiction, is concerned, the Federation can inflict the penalty only after receiving advice from the National Federation to whom the person concerned normally belongs. The latter Federation must give its opinion within one month, not including the time required for normal postal delay. If no opinion has been given at the expiration of this period, the penalty is inflicted. Should there be disagreement between the two Federations concerned, the file containing all particulars regarding the matter is forwarded to the Central Office of the F.I.E.

9. The Central Office of the F.I.E.

(Cf. 504, 573).

(a) The Central Office of the F.I.E. within the limits of the countries under its jurisdiction, is the competent body to deal with all matters which it may receive from a National Federation, a Court of Appeal (*jury d'appel*) or the Directoire Technique of an international meeting.

(b) In particular it is the authority which judges the ultimate appeals against the decisions of appeal which arise during international competitions other than the official competitions of the F.I.E.

(c) The Central Office of the F.I.E. may inflict all the

620

621

penalties laid down, it may confirm, increase or annul the penalties inflicted by the lesser authorities.

10. The Congress of the F.I.E.

- 622 The Congress of the F.I.E. has the same rights as the Central Office, but more especially as regards matters concerning the official competitions of the F.I.E. (Cf. 614).

CHAPTER III — PENALTIES

1. Classification of penalties.

- 623 There are two distinct categories of penalties applicable to the two sorts of offences (Cf. 635ss).

1. Penalties applicable during a competition, applicable to offences committed while fencing, these are:

- the loss of ground on the piste,
- refusal to award a hit actually made,
- awarding a hit which has not in fact been received,
- exclusion from the competition.

2. Disciplinary penalties applicable to offences committed regarding maintenance of order, discipline or sportsmanship, these are:

- awarding a hit which has not in fact been received,
- exclusion from the competition,
- exclusion from participation in the whole meeting,
- temporary suspension,
- permanent suspension,
- disqualification,
- expulsion from the venue of the competition.

2. Penalties applicable during a competition.

(a) *Loss of ground on the piste* (Cf. 43):

- 624 The competitor who crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste may be penalised by the loss of ground, which is one metre (3 ft. 3 ins.) at foil and two metres (6 ft. 7 ins.) at épée and sabre.

(b) *Refusal to award a hit actually made:*

- 625 Although a competitor may have in fact hit his opponent on the target, this hit may be disallowed, either because it did not arrive during the period of time during which fencing is allowed, or because the competitor had crossed the boundaries of the piste, or because of defects in the electrical equipment, or because the hit was made with undue brutality, or because of other reasons as laid down in

the rules (Cf. 30, 32, 38ss, 42, 47, 73s, 230s, 237, 324ss, 422, 638ss, 645).

(c) *Award of a hit which has not in fact been received:*

A competitor may have a hit which he has not in fact received awarded against him, either because the time limit for the bout has expired (penalty against both competitors), or because he has crossed the rear limit of the piste, or because he has committed an offence which has prevented his opponent fencing (a *flèche* attack which jostles the opponent, a *corps à corps* made intentionally at foil or sabre, the use of the unarmed hand while fencing etc.) (Cf. 30, 40, 48s, 224, 226, 321, 326, 412, 414, 638ss, 654, 657).

(d) *Exclusion from the competition:*

A competitor who, while fencing, commits certain violent or vindictive actions against his opponent, or who does not defend his personal chance, or who profits from a fraudulent agreement with his opponent, may be excluded from the competition.

A competitor who is excluded from a competition cannot continue to take part in that competition, even if he is already qualified for promotion to the next round.

In a team event, this penalty does not necessarily involve the disqualification of the whole team, but all the hits which remain to be fought for in the bout in progress, as well as all the hits which remain to be fought for in the bouts remaining to be fought by the competitor concerned, will be awarded against him.

The President shall decide whether the competitor concerned shall be excluded only from the match in progress or whether he shall recommend to the *Directoire Technique* that the competitor be excluded from all the matches which his team has still to fence (in which case this competitor may be replaced by a reserve for the other matches remaining) (Cf. 530).

3. Disciplinary penalties.

(e) *Exclusion from the competition:*

The exclusion from a competition may also be inflicted for a disciplinary offence (failure to appear on the piste as required, weapons not in accordance with the rules, reprehensible attitude towards a judge etc.).

The consequences of such exclusion for the competitor are the same as those described in sub-paragraph (d) above.

(f) *Exclusion from participation in the whole meeting:*

A competitor who is excluded from a meeting will no

longer be allowed to participate in any competition during that meeting, either with the same weapon or with another.

When this penalty is inflicted on a team, the position of each member of that team must be examined individually, and the members of that team may, according to the circumstances, have different penalties inflicted on them (Cf. 609).

(g) Suspension:

- 630 A competitor who is suspended cannot take part in any international competition during the time he is suspended.

All other persons who are suspended are debarred from exercising their functions within the limits of time and place fixed when the suspension is inflicted.

(h) Permanent suspension:

- 631 Permanent suspension involves the same consequences as suspension, but is permanent (except for the special provisions for clemency as laid down in article 665 below).

(i) Disqualification:

- 632 The disqualification of a competitor (for example for a breach of the amateur rules, or because he does not conform to the rules regarding age, qualification, etc. required for the competition) does not necessarily involve his suspension or permanent suspension, if he has acted in good faith; a request for supplementary penalties for fraudulent intention may, however, be made against the competitor.

A team which has included a competitor who is disqualified, necessarily incurs the penalty of their member and is also disqualified.

If the disqualification is inflicted while a pool or match is in progress, the competitor, or the team, concerned is considered as having abandoned the competition (Cf. 545 ss).

If it is inflicted after a competition the competitor (or the team) is eliminated from the classification, all the other competitors are maintained in their respective classification and the elimination of the competitor will not, in any case, have a retroactive effect on the previous competitions for qualification.

(j) Expulsion from the competition or meeting:

- 633 All non-competitors who participate in or are present at a competition (instructors, trainers, technicians, supporters, officials, spectators) may be expelled, which has the effect of forbidding them access to the venue of the competition or the meeting for its duration.

In no circumstances can the infliction of this penalty give cause for redress to anyone.

4. Announcement of penalties.

The Organizing Committee is obliged without delay to inform the National Association to which it belongs as to its decision, and the latter must register the penalty and immediately advise the Central Office of the F.I.E. of it. The latter will also register the decision arrived at and will ensure its publication in the official journal.

At the Olympic Games where the F.I.E. assumes the duties of Organizing Committee, the Central Office must advise the Olympic Games Committee.

CHAPTER IV — OFFENCES, THEIR PENALTIES AND THE COMPETENT JURIDICAL AUTHORITIES

1. Preface.

In general, this chapter merely repeats and co-ordinates the disciplinary measures detailed in the various previous Parts. Should there be any differences between the following and the previous articles, the latter are authoritative.

The offences are classified as "offences committed while fencing", "offences concerned with sportsmanship", offences concerned with the maintenance of order", and "offences concerned with discipline".

References are given to the articles concerned with these offences and their penalties in the previous Parts.

The consequent penalty is described for each offence, as well as the disciplinary authority competent to deal with it.

2. Warning.

When the infliction of a penalty requires a prior warning, this must have been given to the offending competitor during the same bout, the same pool, the same match or the last 15 matches by direct elimination (see under each case).

3. Offences committed while fencing.

(a) Competence:

The President of the Jury is competent to deal with all offences committed while fencing.

(b) Offences concerned with the piste:

1. For merely crossing the lateral boundaries of the piste, both:

— loss of ground (foil 1 metre, épée and sabre 2 metres) without warning (Cf. 43).

— and annulment of any hit made by the competitor who has left the piste and which arrives when he is already outside the piste, also any hit initiated against this competitor after he has left the piste (except for the immediate riposte); without warning (Cf. 38).

2. For crossing the lateral boundaries of the piste in order to avoid a hit:

— penalty of one hit after a warning given during the same bout (Cf. 43).

3. For crossing the rear limit of the piste:

— penalty of one hit after a warning at the warning line (Cf. 40).

(c) *Offences concerning the duration of the bout:*

639 1. For a hit initiated before "Play" or after "Halt" (Cf. 32).

— annulment of the hit, without warning.

2. When the time limit for the bout expires:

— add to the score of each competitor a certain number of hits, after a warning given one minute before time expires (Cf. 49, 226, 321, 414) or a double defeat (épée) (Cf. 321).

3. For improperly causing or prolonging interruptions of the bout:

— penalty of one hit, after a warning during the same bout: exclusion if offence is repeated (Cf. 48).

(d) *For the use of the unarmed hand:*

640 — penalty of one hit and annulment of a hit made after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 30).

(e) *For intentionally making a corps à corps at foil or sabre:*

641 — penalty of one hit after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 224, 412).

(f) *For dishonest or incorrect fencing:*

642 — exclusion from the meeting after a warning during the same pool or match or the last 15 matches by direct elimination (Cf. 28, 605ss).

(g) *For seeking to favour an opponent:*

643 — exclusion from the competition after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 607).

(h) *From having benefited from collusion with an opponent:*

644 — exclusion after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 607).

(i) *For violence and brutality:*

1. For all violent actions caused by disorderly fencing and irregular movements on the piste or any action which the President considers dangerous, for example an attack made by running with loss of equilibrium or hits delivered brutally: 645

— warning valid for the whole pool or team match or the last fifteen matches by direct elimination.

— one hit penalty on first repetition of the offence.

— exclusion from the competition on second repetition of the offence.

2. For having caused a corps à corps with intentional brutality (even at épée), for hitting the opponent with the hilt, the pommel or the guard during fencing at close quarters:

— exclusion after a warning during the same pool or match or the last fifteen matches by direct elimination (Cf. 28, 605).

3. For a flèche attack which jostles the opponent:

— after a first warning given during the same pool or match or the last fifteen matches by direct elimination (Cf. 28, 605) the hit thus made is annulled; if repeated, exclusion.

4. For having committed a vindictive action against the opponent (a hit made with brutality, or, at sabre, a hit made intentionally off the target):

— exclusion from the competition after a warning, or even without a warning, as the President judges fit (Cf. 28).

(j) *For indisposition (including cramp):*

— withdrawal from the competition after one period of rest of maximum of 10 minutes allowed during the same pool, match or the last 15 matches by direct elimination (Cf. 51). 646

(k) *For an accident:*

1. Retirement from the competition after 20 minutes rest (Cf. 50). 647

2. Retirement from the competition of a competitor whose physical inability to continue is obvious (Cf. 52).

4. Offences concerning sportsmanship.

(a) *Non-regulation equipment:* 648

1. In every case:

— confiscation of the defective equipment (Cf. 21).

2. When the irregularity in the equipment cannot normally have arisen since it was controlled (a weapon not bearing the

control sign, or which has been altered since it was controlled, etc.):

— exclusion after a warning during the same pool or match or the last 15 matches by direct elimination (Cf. 21).

3. When it is obvious that the weapon has been fraudulently tampered with:

— irrevocable exclusion from the competition or even from the meeting (Cf. 21) without prejudice to other more severe penalties.

(b) For non-observance of the regulations for the competition:

649 When a competitor has not complied with the regulations for the competition, for example, by assuming a qualification which he does not in fact possess:

— he may be disqualified by the Directoire Technique (Cf. 632).

(c) For breach of the rules regarding amateurism:

650 A competitor who stands convicted of a breach of the rules governing amateurism may be disqualified as an amateur by the Central Office of the F.I.E., either on their own initiative, or at the request of the Directoire Technique, or again on a complaint from an opponent (at the Olympic Games by the Executive Committee of the C.I.O.) (Cf. 619).

(d) For having used a "dope":

651 For having contravened the rules regarding "doping" (Cf. 608):

— exclusion from the meeting by the Directoire Technique, and later suspension by the Central Office of the F.I.E., either on their own initiative, or at the request of the Directoire Technique or the Court of Appeal.

(e) Partiality by Judges:

652 For having been convicted of giving an intentionally partial judgment:

— disqualification by the Directoire Technique as a judge for the whole meeting and later this penalty may be prolonged for a stated period or for all time by the Central Office of the F.I.E., either on their own initiative, or at the request of the Directoire Technique or of the Court of Appeal (Cf. 610).

(f) For any other offence concerning sportsmanship:

653 — exclusion from the competition or from the meeting (by the Directoire Technique), suspension or permanent suspension (by the Central Office of the F.I.E.).

5. Offences concerning the maintenance of order.

(a) For failing to be present when required (Cf. 604):

For the fencer or the team which is not present (or if a team is not complete) when called for by the President at the time laid down for the commencement of a pool or match or the commencement of the last 15 matches by direct elimination:

— the call is repeated twice at one minute intervals after which exclusion from the competition by the President if the competitor or the complete team is not present when he makes the third call.

During a (team or individual) competition, when a competitor has received prior warning that he will be required to fence a bout, if he does not present himself at the first order to do so by the President or if he presents himself with defective equipment:

— warning sufficient for each bout;

— penalty of one hit on first repetition of the offence;

— exclusion from the competition on second repetition of the offence.

Similarly if a competitor abandons a bout by leaving the piste (Cf. 32/4):

— warning sufficient for each bout;

— penalty of one hit on first repetition of the offence;

— exclusion from the competition on second repetition of the offence.

(b) For any competitor who disturbs the maintenance of order:

For any competitor who by his gestures, attitudes or words interferes with the maintenance of good order (Cf. 602s):

— exclusion from the competition and when necessary expulsion from the venue of the competition by the President, after or even without warning, but this shall not exempt him from possible further penalties.

(c) A spectator or supporter who disturbs the maintenance of order:

For any spectator, instructor, trainer, technician or other supporter who interferes with the maintenance of good order (Cf. 611s):

— expulsion by the President or the Directoire Technique or the Organizing Committee from the venue of the competition after or even without prior warning.

6. Offences concerning discipline.

For all disciplinary offences, refusal to obey immediately

the orders of the President of the jury, or of other officials, etc: (Cf. 602, 609):

- warning sufficient for each bout;
- penalty of one hit on first repetition of the offence;
- exclusion from the competition on second repetition of the offence.

CHAPTER V — PROCEDURE

1. Basic principle.

658 The various penalties are inflicted by the competent authorities who will reach their decisions in an equitable manner, without being restricted to any regulation as to procedure, and will take into account the gravity of the offence and the circumstances in which it was committed (but see 661s).

2. Protests and appeals.

(a) *Against a decision of the President:*

659 No appeal can be made against the decision of a President regarding the materiality and the validity of a hit. But if the President ignores a definite rule or makes a decision contrary to the rules, an appeal on this matter may be entertained.

This appeal should be made by the competitor or his team captain, courteously but without formality and should be made verbally to the President *immediately and before any decision is made regarding a subsequent hit.*

If the President maintains his opinion, the matter may be decided by the Directoire Technique (or by the Organizing Committee) (Cf. 615).

(b) *Other protests and appeals:*

660 Complaints and protests must be made in writing within a maximum period of one hour after the occurrence giving rise to them; they must be addressed to the Directoire Technique or to the Organizing Committee.

3. Investigation — Right of defence.

661 No penalty can be inflicted until after an enquiry has been held in the course of which the parties concerned have been called on to give their explanation of the occurrence either verbally or in writing within a reasonable interval of time suited to the time and place. After this time limit has expired, the penalty may be inflicted.

4. Method of decision.

662 The decisions of all juridical authorities are made according

to the vote of the majority, in cases of equality, the President has a casting vote.

5. Stay of execution.

If the party involved has not previously incurred a penalty of disqualification or suspension, either for the same offence or for one which is practically similar, with or without stay of execution, the authority which inflicts the penalty may, at the same time, grant a stay of execution the duration of which is double that of the suspension inflicted.

If, during the time of the stay of execution, from the time the decision inflicting the penalty was announced, the party concerned incurs no further penalty, the original penalty is annulled. If the contrary should be the case, then the original penalty is enforced and is added to the new penalty.

6. Repetition of offence.

A fencer is said to repeat an offence if he commits a new offence, other than violation of the rules governing bouts:

Within two years, if he has previously been censured or warned;

Within five years, if he has previously been suspended, or subjected to exclusion, or disqualified.

If there is a repetition of an offence, the minimum penalty which must be inflicted is:

(a) Exclusion from the competition (competitors), suspension during the meeting (officials), expulsion (spectators), if the previous penalty was a warning or censure.

(b) Disqualification from participation in the meeting if the previous penalty was exclusion from the competition.

(c) Suspension for double the time of the previous penalty, or permanent suspension, if the previous penalty was suspension (competitors or officials).

7. Pardon, remission and commutation of penalty.

In exceptional cases, the Central Office or the Congress of the F.I.E., or a National Federation, may, after special consideration, pardon a fencer whom they have punished, remit the remainder of his penalty or commute the same.

**PART SEVEN:
AUTOMATIC JUDGING EQUIPMENT**

**CHAPTER I — RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL
AUTOMATIC JUDGING EQUIPMENT**

- 1. Authorised designs.**
- 701** Only those electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting the fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorised: this expressly excludes apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only.
- 2. Definition of equipment.**
- 702** All electrical judging equipment includes:
- (a) *Equipment provided by the organizers of a competition viz.:*
1. The central judging apparatus, with extension lamps (Cf. 709, 713ss, 723ss);
 2. The spools, with cables and connections (Cf. 710, 717, 730);
 3. The metallic piste which neutralises hits made on the ground (Cf. 711);
 4. The source of electrical current (accumulators) (Cf. 709/7, 716, 729).
- (b) *The equipment provided by the competitors themselves:*
1. The weapon, furnished with a connecting socket inside the guard and with a special point for registering hits at the extremity of the blade (Cf. 712, 718ss, 731ss);
 2. The body wire with plugs connecting to the spool and to the weapon (Cf. 710, 712/2);
 3. The metallic plastron (for foil only) (Cf. 722).
- 3. Approval of designs of apparatus.**
- 703** Judging apparatus for use in an official competition, must be approved by the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment of the F.I.E.
- In order to obtain this approval, the apparatus which it is proposed to use must be submitted complete, with spools, connections, etc., for an examination by the said Commission, at a place and on a date to be agreed with the Commission at least six months before the date of the competition.
- The apparatus must be accompanied by a detailed drawing showing their construction.

Approval is given for the use of the apparatus in one official competition only. The Commission is willing, as far as it is able, and without charge, to examine prototypes of apparatus submitted by constructors even if the use of such apparatus is not envisaged for an imminent official competition. **704**

Approval is given for only one established design of apparatus which conforms to the drawing submitted, and is not given as a general approval for all the products made by a manufacturer. The latter may state in their publicity only the fact that the design of apparatus which they offer for sale has been used at a specific official competition (if this in fact is the case); but they themselves must guarantee that the apparatus conforms to the design for which approval was given. **705**

The approval of an apparatus by the Commission as well as its acceptance (see 4 below) implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction. **706**

All expenses incurred by the Commission for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons concerned. **707**

4. Control of apparatus before each competition.

Before each official competition of the F.I.E., the proper functioning of the apparatus which it is intended to use and its conformity to the approved design, must be controlled by a representative of the Commission for E.A. and E of the F.I.E., this control is additional to the approval of design detailed at paragraph 3 above (Cf. 705). **708**

All the apparatus must be submitted to this representative at least 48 hours before the competition begins.

5. Specifications for all electrical equipment.

(a) *The central judging apparatus* (Cf. 713ss, 723ss).

1. A hit made on the metallic piste or on the metallic parts of the weapon must not be registered by the apparatus, nor may it prevent the registering of a hit made simultaneously by the opponent. **709**

2. The apparatus must not have any device whereby the President can interrupt its working during a bout.

3. Hits must be registered by light signals. The signal lamps must be placed on the top of the apparatus, in order that they may be simultaneously visible to the President, the competitors and the superintendent of the apparatus. They must be so positioned that they show clearly from which side the hit was made. Arrangements must be made so that

extension lamps can be added to the exterior of the apparatus, in order to increase the visibility of the signals. However, should there be a difference between the signals given by the lamps on the apparatus and those given by the extension lamps, the signals given by the apparatus are decisive.

4. Once the signals lamps are alight, they must so remain until the apparatus is reset, without their having any tendency to go out or to flicker either when subsequent hits are made or if the apparatus is subjected to vibrations.

5. The visual signals must be accompanied by audible signals (see under each weapon) (Cf. 713/3, 728).

6. The re-setting switches must be placed either on top of, or on the front part of the apparatus.

7. The apparatus must draw its electrical supply from accumulators, without there being any connection with the mains electrical supply.

(b) *Spools, cables and their connections* (Cf. 717, 730).

710

1. The maximum electrical resistance of each wire of the spool, measured from socket to socket must be 3 ohms.

2. There must be no interruption of electrical contact even when the spool is being fully rotated. To ensure this the contact rings must have double brushes. The wire connected to the blade of the weapon will be connected to the frame of the spool.

3. The spools must allow 18 to 20 metres (59' 1" to 65' 7") of cable to be unwound without straining the springs.

4. The connector carrying sockets which terminates the spool cable and is designed to receive the plug of the body wire at the fencer's back, must include a safety device which fulfils the following requirements:

- that it is impossible to use it unless correctly joined;
- that it is impossible for it to become separated during the bout;
- the possibility for the competitor to verify that the two foregoing requirements are satisfied.

5. The resistance of each of the three wires in the connecting cables must not exceed 2.5 ohms.

6. The plugs used to connect the body wire to the spool wire and the connecting cables to the spool, and the apparatus, must have three pins of 4 mm. (0.15 in.) diameter arranged in a straight line. The external pins must be spaced 15 and 20 mm. (0.58 and 0.78 in.) from the centre pin. The body wire and the connecting cables have plugs, the spool wires and the electrical central apparatus have sockets to join with them.

(c) *The metallic piste.*

1. The metallic piste consists of fine metallic mesh and is generally made of brass mesh (which is a waste product used in the manufacture of paper, and which can be acquired at its scrap value, is generally used for this purpose).

2. The metallic piste must cover the whole of the length and breadth of the piste including its extensions.

When the piste is mounted on a platform the metallic piste must cover the whole width of the platform (obligatory for official competitions of the F.I.E.).

3. Because of the fact that the amount of wire which the spools can carry is limited, the metallic piste is designed for use on a piste 14 metres (45' 11") long on which épée fencers are allowed exactly twice the length of the piste while fencing; an extension of 1.50 to 2 metres (4' 11" to 6' 7") is added at each end of the piste on which the competitors can retire.

The metallic piste must therefore have a length of 17 to 18 metres (55 ft. 9 ins. to 59 ft. 1 ins.).

4. It is preferable to lay the metallic piste on a wooden piste with some flexible material between. It must be provided with some device which enables it to be kept well stretched.

5. The paint used to draw the lines on the metallic piste must not prevent its electrical conductivity, so that a hit made on it at a point where a line occurs is also neutralised.

6. The organizers of a competition must ensure that soldering equipment is available, so that any hole which may appear in the metallic piste can be repaired immediately (Cf. 231/8, 328).

(d) *Weapons* (Cf. 718ss, 731ss).

1. Inside the guard there must be a cushion which is sufficiently large to protect the wires from contact with the competitor's fingers. The connections must be so arranged that it is impossible for the fencer to break or make contacts while fencing (Cf. 26).

2. Any system of attachment inside the guard is allowed, provided that it conforms to the following requirements:

- it must be easy to detach or attach;
- it can be checked by a simple method such as by using a penknife or a coin;
- it must be possible easily to apply the *pointe d'arrêt* of the opponent's weapon to that part of the circuit connected to the blade;
- it must have a security device which makes it impossible

for the contact to be broken during the bout;

— it must ensure the complete connection of the electric wires; it must be impossible for even a momentary break of contact to occur while the plugs are connected.

3. The electrical resistance required for weapons is specified under each weapon.

Those who wish to assemble electrical weapons, but who are not equipped to undertake electrical tests, are advised that the limits for the electrical resistance for the circuits laid down for each weapon have been framed so that they can be attained by any assembler who is reasonably diligent in his work.

It is advisable:

— thoroughly to de-oxidise the external surface of the guard, and the connecting surfaces inside it;

— not to destroy the insulation of the wires, especially where they pass along the groove in the blade at the point and at the guard;

— to avoid accumulations of glue in the groove of the blade.

CHAPTER II

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VARIOUS PARTS OF ELECTRICAL FOIL EQUIPMENT

A. — THE STATIONARY EQUIPMENT.

1. The central judging apparatus.

(Cf. 709.)

(a) Principles.

713

1. The apparatus registers when a break occurs in the circuit of the foil, that is to say that the electrical current which is circulating permanently in the circuit of the foil is broken when a hit is made.

2. The apparatus will show a red signal to its one side and a green signal to the other when a hit is registered on the target; a white signal will indicate hits off the target on both sides.

3. The audible signals will either consist of a short ring, or of a continuous note which will be automatically limited to a duration of two seconds, either sort of sound will occur whenever a visual signal appears. The sound signal must be identical for both sides of the apparatus.

4. After registering a hit off the target, the apparatus must be able to register a subsequent hit on the target on the same side of the apparatus.

5. Conversely, after a hit has been registered on the target, the apparatus must not register any subsequent hit which

arrives off the target on the same side of the apparatus.

6. No priority must be indicated between a hit registered against one competitor and a hit registered against his opponent.

7. Conversely, after a lapse of a period of time "X" (which bears no relationship to "fencing time" which is the basis of judging according to the conventions governing foil fencing) after the first signal given by the apparatus, the latter must ignore all signals for subsequent hits. The central apparatus must be capable of being regulated for the period of time "X" between 1 and 2 seconds. The apparatus must be regulated for a period of time of 2 seconds.

(b) Sensitivity and regularity.

1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus.

2. A valid hit must always be signalled under the following conditions:

<i>Resistance of the return circuit by the opponent's plastron</i>	<i>Duration of the break of contact which must cause the signal</i>
— 10 ohms	5 milliseconds
— 100 ohms	10 milliseconds
— 250 ohms	unlimited

3. A "non-valid" hit must be signalled for a break of contact of 10 milliseconds, when the external resistance is normal, that is of 10 ohms.

4. The apparatus must be capable of supporting an increase in the resistance in the closed circuit of the foil of up to 200 ohms, without causing a "non-valid" signal to register.

5. Even if the resistance of the foil circuit is increased up to 30 ohms, none of the following irregular phenomena must occur:

— that hits are registered on the guard;

— that it is possible to obtain the registration of a hit merely by contact of the blade or of the pointe d'arrêt (without depressing it) on the plastron of either competitor.

6. If faulty insulation of one of the competitors causes a leakage of current between his weapon and his metallic plastron corresponding to a resistance of 500 ohms, even so the apparatus must continue normally to register the hits exchanged.

7. A specification for tests of apparatus under different conditions will be supplied on request by the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment of the F.I.E.

714

8. The Congress of the F.I.E. has authorised this Commission to modify or complete the above requirements whenever technical improvements allow the construction of apparatus which can ensure the better operation of the electrical foil judging apparatus.

(c) *Extension lamps* (Cf. 709/3).

- 715 Extension lamps outside the apparatus are obligatory for the official competitions of the F.I.E. The lamps should be placed about 1.80 metres (5 ft. 11 ins.) above the piste. The two lamps of the same group must not be further apart than 15 cm. ($5\frac{3}{8}$ ") and each group must be at least 50 cm. ($19\frac{1}{8}$ ") from the other.

The extension lamps should be arranged in the same order as the white and coloured lamps on the apparatus (Cf. 713/2).

(d) *Source of electrical current* (Cf. 709, 729).

- 716 1. The apparatus must be based on a 12 volt supply or, if the sources of current are separate, on 2×12 volts or 2×6 volts (the separation of the supply for each side of the apparatus is recommended because it can simplify a number of problems met with in the construction of apparatus for foil).

2. The supply is normally provided by accumulators. The connection on the apparatus provided for this supply must be so constructed that it is impossible to connect the apparatus by mistake to the general electrical supply (mains).

3. The apparatus may include warning lights to indicate that the foils are under tension. Such lamps should be colourless.

2. Spools, cables and their connections.

(Cf. 710.)

- 717 At foil, the connection of the various parts to the three sockets of the spools is as follows:

— socket 15 mm. from the central socket: to the metallic plastron;

— centre socket: to the wire in the foil;

— socket at 20 mm. from the central socket: to the foil blade and the metallic piste.

A strong crocodile clip must ensure good contact with the metallic plastron. The connecting wire must be soldered to the part of the crocodile clip which is in contact with the metallic side of the plastron. This soldered connection must be visible.

B. — WEAPONS (Cf. 712).

1. Principle.

The foil has a single wire, glued in a groove cut the whole length of the blade, which permanently connects the pointe d'arrêt to the corresponding socket inside the guard. At rest the pointe d'arrêt is similarly in contact with the metallic part of the foil. When a hit is made, this contact must be broken. 718

2. Pointes d'arrêt and buttons.

1. The diameter of the pointe d'arrêt is between 5.5 and 7 mm. (.22 and .28 in.); the diameter of the body of the button including its exterior insulation, must not be more than 0.3 mm. (.012 in.) less than that of the pointe d'arrêt. 719

2. The point should be cut in a semi-spherical body with a cylindrical prolongation of the same radius, and with a minimum length equal to one-fifth of that radius. Circular grooves must be formed by making two cuts for each; one in a plane perpendicular to the axis of the point, and the other at an angle so that part of a co-axial cone is formed (1). There must be a minimum of four of these grooves. The sharpening of the edges of these grooves is forbidden.

3. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt, in order to break the contact and cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 500 grammes ($17\frac{3}{8}$ ozs.), that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point (Cf. 211).

4. The course or stroke of the pointe d'arrêt required to cause the electrical apparatus to register a hit, called the "lighting stroke", may be infinitesimal; the total stroke of the pointe d'arrêt must not be greater than 1 mm. (.039 in.).

5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button at least two places equidistant from each other.

3. Method of affixing the button.

If the base of the button is not made in one piece with the blade, or if it does not permit the flattened piece at the tip of the blade to be retained, it must be screwed on to the end of the blade which must be cut and threaded for this purpose under the following conditions: 720

1. Affixing only by metal to metal is normally allowed.

(1) The prismatic teeth previously allowed are forbidden. Manufacturers who wish to ensure that their points will be accepted may communicate with the Commission for E.A. and E. of the F.I.E. sending a sample of the point and a detailed drawing of its construction. The Commission may always permit tests of special models and lay down the conditions for their use.

Nevertheless, fixing by means of an insulating material providing a great measure of mechanical strength, may be allowed provided it has been authorised by the Commission for E. A. and E.

2. All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden. Soldering by soft solder, used with a soldering iron to fix the thread, is alone authorised.

3. The end of the blade before cutting the thread must not have a diameter at any point which is less than 3.5 mm. (0.137 in.), and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.

4. For a steel button, the diameter of the core of the thread must not be less than 2.7 mm. (.106 in.) (thread S.I. 3.5 × 0.60). The threading must be very tight.

The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7 to 8 mm. (0.28 to 0.31 in.) entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length at the extremity of the blade be threaded. On the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 3.5 mm. diameter (0.137 in.) into which the corresponding part of the blade must be introduced with some force.

5. When a button made of light alloy is used, instructions should be sought from the Commission E. A. and E.

6. At the point at which the wire passes into the button, the width of the groove must not exceed 0.5 mm. (.019 in.) and its depth must not exceed 0.6 mm. (.024 in.) measured on the diameter of the core of the thread, in order to weaken the section of the blade as little as possible.

7. Only the members of the Commission E. A. and E. or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.

4. The insulation of the button and of the blade.

721

The body of the button and the foil blade to a length of 15 cm. ($5\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the button, as well as the pommel or the rear extremity of the handle, must be entirely covered with insulating material (gummed tape, plastic material or varnish) (Cf. 211). The flange of the sleeve which slides in the base of the point and within which is fixed the pointe d'arrêt, must be of a smaller diameter than the insulated head of the pointe d'arrêt itself, to obviate an accidental contact being made with the metallic plastron when a hit is made.

C. — METALLIC PLASTRONS AND MASKS.

722

1. The metallic plastron (overjacket) must cover every part of the fencer's target. Details of its dimensions are given in Part II (Cf. 217, 220).

2. The interior of metallic plastrons must be electrically insulated by a lining or by an adequate treatment of the lamé material.

3. The lamé material used must be of metallic thread in both warp and weft; as regards electrical conductivity it must conform to the following requirements:

(a) the electrical resistance measured between any two points of contact of the lame material must not be greater than 5 ohms. The resistance will be measured by using a 500 gramme copper or brass weight which has a semi-spherical end with a radius of 4 mm. (0.16 in.) which is moved about over the lamé material which is laid horizontally.

(b) under no circumstances must the use of a metallic plastron be allowed if it has holes in it, or patches of oxidation or other defects which may prevent the registration of a valid hit.

(c) a metallic plastron which is considered to be unusable will be so marked by very visible coloured paint by a member of the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment of the F.I.E.

(Note for information only. The resistance has been increased to 5 ohms because some manufacturers are using non-oxydisable metal thread).

4. The wire mesh of the mask must be insulated internally and externally by a plastic material which does not chip off applied before the mask is made up.

5. Masks and metallic plastrons conforming to the above specifications are obligatory for official competitions of the F.I.E.

6. In any case, if for any reason whatever a fencer's equipment does not conform to the requirements of paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 above, Article 231 will not apply if a hit made off the target is registered as a valid hit.

CHAPTER III — SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VARIOUS PARTS OF THE ELECTRICAL EPEE EQUIPMENT

A. — THE STATIONARY EQUIPMENT.

1. The Central Judging apparatus. (Cf. 709.)

(a) Principle.

The apparatus registers when contact is established between

723

125

the wires forming the circuit in the épée thus allowing the current to flow.

(b) *Timing.*

- 724 The apparatus must register only the first hit which is made. If the interval of time between two hits is less than 40 milliseconds, the apparatus must register a double-hit (both signal lamps must light up simultaneously). When the interval is greater than 50 milliseconds the apparatus must register only one hit (only one signal lamp is lit). The tolerance allowed for timing the apparatus is that between these two limits.

(c) *Sensitivity.*

- 725 When the external resistance is normal, that is to say 10 ohms, the apparatus must register hits when these are made with a duration of contact of 10 milliseconds. When, exceptionally, the external resistance is 30 ohms, hits made must still be registered, but without any specified duration of contact.

(d) *Non-registration.*

- 726 The apparatus must not register hits which are made on the guard or on the metallic piste even when there is a resistance of 30 ohms in the earth circuit.

(e) *Visual signals.*

- 727 1. Visual signals include at least two signal lamps on each side of the apparatus so designed that if one lamp does not function it does not prevent the other from lighting up, nor cause an excessive current through the latter.
2. The signal lamps should give a red signal on one side of the apparatus and a green signal on the other.
3. The apparatus may include lights which indicate shorts to the coquille circuit, such lights should be of an orange colour.
4. The lights which show when hits are registered are usually covered with translucent shades. It must, however, be possible to remove these shades, and use naked lights, when the light conditions in the locality makes it desirable to do so (strong sunlight or in the open air).

(f) *Sound signals.*

- 728 The apparatus must have a loud sound signal. The apparatus may include a device which allows the sound signal to be stopped before the apparatus is re-set.

(g) *Source of electrical current* (Cf. 709, 716).

- 729 1. The apparatus must be based on a supply of 12 volts.

The electrical connection on the apparatus provided to connect it to the supply must be so constructed that it is impossible to connect the apparatus by mistake to the general electrical supply (mains).

2. If the apparatus is constructed for use with dry batteries, it must be equipped with a voltmeter or other device whereby the state of the dry batteries can be checked at any time. Nevertheless, the apparatus must always be provided with the electrical connection prescribed above to enable it to be supplied by accumulators.

3. The apparatus must include a warning light to indicate that the apparatus is under tension and this lamp should be colourless.

2. Spools, cables and their connections.

(Cf. 710.)

At épée, the connection of the various parts by three-way plugs and sockets on spools and connecting cables is as follows:

— the pin 15 mm. from central pin: to the wire in the épée which is most directly connected to the pointe d'arrêt;

— the centre pin: to the other wire in the épée;

— the pin 20 mm. from the central pin: to the blade of the épée and to the metallic piste.

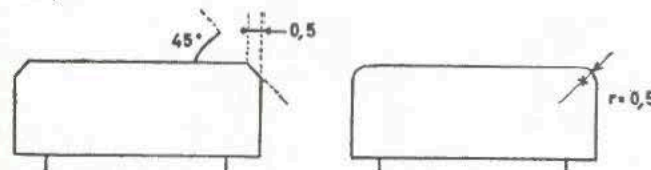
B. — WEAPONS (Cf. 712).

1. Principle.

The épée has two electrical wires, glued in a groove in the blade, which connect, as stated above, the button to two of the three sockets situated inside the guard and which form the active circuit of the épée. The rest of the épée is connected to the third socket.

2. Pointes d'arrêt and buttons.

(Cf. 311.)

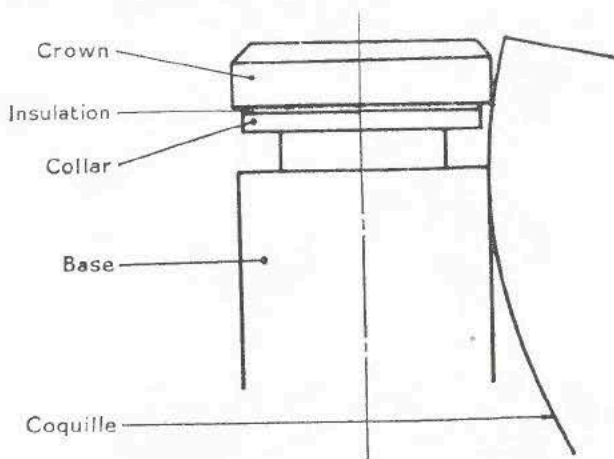


DESIGN OF POINTES D'ARRÊT

1. The pointe d'arrêt is cylindrical. Its front surface is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded for a radius of 0.5 mm. (.019 in.) or be chamfered at 45° in 0.5 mm. (.019 in.).

The diameter of the crown of the pointe d'arrêt is 8 mm. (.31 in.) with a tolerance more or less of 0.05 mm. (.0019 in.). The diameter of the base must not be less than 7.7 mm. (.303 in.).

The flange (collar) which guides the pointe d'arrêt as well as the insulating washer must be sufficiently recessed in relation to the crown (it is recommended that it be recessed in diameter by 0.3 to 0.5 mm. (.012 to .019 in.)) so that it shall not be possible to cause a hit to be registered merely by sliding the depressed pointe d'arrêt against the convex surface of the coquille, (see illustration) (Cf. 326/2/a).



2. The pressure required on the pointe d'arrêt, in order to establish the circuit in the épée, and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 750 grammes (26.45 ozs.), that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point (Cf. 311).

3. The weight used to control competitors' épées on the piste consists of a metal cylinder drilled part of the way along its axis by a hole parallel to its sides; this hole, into which is inserted the end of the blade, must have an insulated lining to prevent its metallic parts coming into contact with the épée blade which would then give a false result to the test.

4. The course or stroke of the pointe d'arrêt, required to cause the apparatus to register a hit by closing the circuit of the épée, called the "lighting stroke", must not be less than 1 mm. (0.039 in.). The further course which the pointe d'arrêt may travel, must not be more than 0.5 mm. (0.019 in.) (this requirement is just as essential as that for the lighting stroke).

To enable a control to be made on the piste, the total course or stroke of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm. (0.058 in.).

5. The pointe d'arrêt must be retained in the button at least two points equally spaced.

3. Method of affixing the button.

If the base of the button is not made in one piece with the blade, or if it does not permit the flattened piece at the tip of the blade to be retained, it must be screwed on to the end of the blade which must be cut and threaded for this purpose under the following conditions:

1. Affixing only by metal to metal to the end of the blade is allowed. Fixing by insulating (fibre or other) material is forbidden.

2. All methods of soldering or brazing or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden. Soft solder used with a soldering iron to fix the thread, is alone authorised.

3. The end of the blade, before cutting the thread, must not have a diameter at any point which is less than 4 mm. (0.16 in.) and this without anything being wrapped round it, a process which is strictly forbidden.

4. The diameter of the core of the thread at the end of the blade must not be less than 3.05 mm. (0.12 in.) (thread 4×0.70).

The part of the blade on which the button is fixed should be of a length of 7 to 8 mm. (0.28 to 0.31 in.) entirely covered by the button. It is recommended that only the half of this length at the extremity of the blade be threaded. On the other half the button will have a smooth surface of 4 mm. (0.16 in.) diameter, into which the corresponding part of the blade must be introduced with some force.

5. The groove necessary to enable the wires to enter the button, must be cut in such a way that it weakens the section of the blade as little as possible.

6. Only the members of the Commission E. A. and E or the Directoire Technique can require the verification of the above points.

INDEX

- Accident, 16, 50, 63, 530, 647.
 Accidental events, 44, 231/5, 327/f.
 Accident (responsibility), 16.
 Acknowledgement of hits, 66s, 606, 642, 655.
 Accumulators, 709, 716, 729.
 Age of competitors, 579.
 Amateurism (competitors), 619, 650.
 Amateurism (judges), 56.
 Amateur licence, 515.
 Annulment of hit, 73, 223, 231, 237, 324ss, 326s, 422, 615.
 Annulment of penalty, 621.
 Appeal (against decision), 614, 617, 659s.
 Appeal (frivolous), 511, 614.
 Appeal, (right of) 620.
 Application (of Rules), 1.
 Approval of apparatus, 703ss.
 Assault, 4, 28.
 Assistance (medical and technical), 611.
 Attention (of judges), 55.
 Attacks, 10s, 233ss, 417ss.
 Auxiliary personnel, 59ss, 204, 305, 516.
 Avoiding actions, 35, 237/1, 422/1.
 Award (of hit), 30, 40, 48s, 224, 226, 321, 412, 414, 623, 626, 638ss, 654, 657.

 Barrages, 534, 541, 543s, 559, 561.
 Bib, 27, 212, 221, 408.
 Blade, 23, 207, 308, 406, 720, 733.
 Blade (flexibility of), 207, 308, 406.
 Body wire, 214, 314, 710, 712, 717, 730s.
 Bout, 4, 28s, 36ss, 536ss.
 Bout (commencement), 32.
 Bout (duration), 45ss.
 Bout (interruption of), 48, 540.
 Bout (re-starting), 32, 231/a, 327/d.
 Breaking blade, 231, 327.
 Breast protectors, 27, 215.
 Broken-guard, 409.
 Brutality, 28, 605, 645.
 Button, 23s, 210s, 311s, 324, 406, 702, 719ss, 732s.

 Cables, 702, 710, 717, 730.
 Candidature, 565, 577.
 Central judging apparatus, 702, 709, 713ss, 723ss.
 Central Office, F.I.E., 504s, 507, 514, 573, 613, 617s, 621, 634.
 Championship, 7.
 Changing ends, 32, 556.

 Changing hands, 30, 640.
 Classification, 527ss, 541ss, 559s, 561, 607.
 Clothing, 27, 215ss, 315, 408.
 Collar (metallic), 217.
 Collusion, 607, 644.
 Commission electrical apparatus, 17, 60, 703ss, 706ss, 714, 720, 733.
 Commutation of penalty, 665.
 Competition, 6.
 Competence, 613ss, 635, 637.
 Competition (individual), 535ss.
 Competitor, 603ss.
 Composition of pools, 537.
 Composition of teams, 525.
 Confirmation of penalty, 621.
 Confused fencing, 32, 231.
 Congress of F.I.E., 614, 622, 665, 714.
 Connectors (plugs), 214, 314, 327, 702, 710, 712, 717, 730.
 Contact (between fencers), 34.
 Control of equipment, 17ss, 21, 708.
 Control Equipment, 20ss.
 Control by F.I.E., 504, 573, 576.
 Conventions (fencing), 67.
 Conventions (foil), 232ss.
 Conventions (épée), 316s.
 Conventions (sabre), 416ss.
 Corps à corps, 34, 37, 224, 318, 412, 641.
 Counter attack, 12.
 Counter riposte, 10.
 Counter time, 13.
 Coupé, 11, 233/2, 418/2.
 Court of Appeal, 506ss, 510, 613s, 618s.
 Courtesy, 4, 28, 602.
 Covering point, 210.
 Cramp, 51 and note, 646.
 Cross bar, 25.
 Curve of Blade 207, 308, 406.
 Cuts, 409.
 Cuts (back-edge), 409.

 Deciding bout, 225, 534, 555.
 Defence, 30.
 Defence (right of), 661.
 Defensive actions, 10s, 630.
 Deliberations (of jury), 45, 68ss.
 Deliberations (juridical), 662.
 Dérobement, 233/3, 237/2, 418/3, 422.
 Dimensions (piste), 202, 302, 402.
 Dimensions (weapons), 24ss, 205ss, 306ss, 404ss.
 Direct elimination, 6, 532, 554ss, 560s.
 Direct hits, 233/2, 418/2.
 Direction of bout, 61ss.

 Directoire Technique, 57, 505, 509, 513, 572, 610, 613ss, 617s.
 Director of Bout, 3.
 Discipline, 602, 657.
 Disciplinary authorities, 613ss.
 Disciplinary code, 601ss.
 Disengagement, 11, 233ss, 418ss.
 Displacements (of body), 35.
 Disqualification, 615, 617, 623, 632.
 Doping, 608, 651.
 Double hits, 38, 237, 329ss, 422, 724.
 Doubtful hits, 69/5, 74, 231/5, 327/j, 331, 422.
 Draw (bout), 528.
 Drawing lots, 537, 544, 561.
 Ducking, 35.
 Duration of bout, 32, 45ss, 59, 225s, 319s, 413s, 556, 561D, 639.

 Eccentric mounting, 208, 310.
 Elbow-guard, 408.
 Electrical apparatus, 60, 204, 227, 228ss, 305, 322, 323ss, 701ss.
 Electrical apparatus (drawing of), 703.
 Electrical apparatus (prototype), 704.
 Electrical apparatus (publicity by makers), 705.
 Electrical apparatus (regularity), 714.
 Electrical apparatus (repairers), 60/c, 516.
 Electrical apparatus (resistance), 710/5, 712/3, 714, 725.
 Electrical apparatus (sensitivity), 714, 725.
 Electrical apparatus (table for), 204, 305.
 Electrical apparatus (timing), 724.
 Electrical apparatus (types of), 701.
 Electrical current (source), 716, 729.
 Electric épée, 731ss.
 Electric foil, 211ss, 718ss.
 Electrical equipment, 701ss.
 Electrical equipment (definition), 702.
 Electrical weapons, 712, 718ss, 731ss.
 Eliminating rounds, 537ss.
 Entries (competitions), 517s, 566, 568, 575, 578.
 Enquiry, 661.
 Épée, 301ss.
 Épée apparatus, 724ss.
 Épée (length), 307.
 Épée (weight), 306.
 Épée equipment, 306ss, 731ss.
 Equipment of fencers, 16ss, 27, 205ss, 215ss, 306ss, 313ss, 404, 408, 702, 722ss.
 Equipment (control of), 20ss.
 Equipment (seizure of), 21/a, 648.
 Exactitude (of hit), 29.
 Exceptions to rules, 2, 505, 508.

 Exclusion (competitor), 21/c, 530, 615, 623, 627s, 639ss.
 Executive Committee, see Directoire Technique.
 Experts (apparatus), 60/b, 71, 516/d.
 Expulsion, 623, 633.
 Events, 6, 523ss, 532ss, 536ss, 554ss.

 Fact (decision on), 614.
 Falsification (of equipment), 21/d, 648.
 Fatigue (competitor), 519ss.
 Faults (in apparatus), 60, 71.
 Faults (in equipment), 21/a, 231, 326, 648.
 Faults (localisation of), 231/d, 327/c.
 Favouring opponent, 607, 643.
 Feints, 235, 418/2, 420.
 Fencers, 601, 603.
 Fencing 28ss.
 Fencing at close quarters, 33.
 Fencing (confused), 32, 231.
 Fencing (dangerous), 32.
 Fencing (incorrect), 28, 605ss, 642.
 Fencing time, 9, 236s, 421s.
 Field of play (terrain), 14ss, 201ss, 301ss, 401ss.
 Finals, 58, 520s, 536s, 541, 544, 559, 561.
 Flèches, 37, 43, 69, 224, 318, 412, 645.
 Flexibility, 207, 308, 406.
 Foil, 201ss.
 Foil apparatus, 713ss.
 Foil apparatus (use of), 229.
 Foil (electrical), 211ss, 718ss.
 Foil equipment, 205ss, 718ss.
 Foil (length), 206.
 Foil (weight), 205.
 Fortuitous (circumstances), 44, 231/5, 327/j.

 Gauge, 20, 25, 208, 310, 407.
 Glossary, 3 to 13.
 Glove, 25, 213, 408.
 Good order, 602, 655.
 Graze, 237, 422.
 Ground (gaining), 36, 39.
 Ground judges, 54ss, 71s, 74, 610.
 Guaranty, 511, 614.
 Guard (coquille), 23, 26, 208, 310, 326/a, 407, 712.
 Guard (padding in), 23, 26, 712.
 Guard (placing on), 31, 37.
 Guard (on, lines), 31, 203, 303, 403.
 Guard (re-placing on), 36, 37, 226, 237, 320, 414, 422.

 Halt, 32, 47, 639.
 Handle, 23, 25, 211/b.
 Hilt 23.

Hand (armed), 30, 640.
 Hand (unarmed), 30, 640.
 Hits (acknowledgement of), 66, 72ss, 606, 655.
 Hits (doubtful), 69/5, 74, 231/5, 327/j, 331, 422.
 Hits (initiated), 32, 38s 47.
 Hits (on ground), 74, 201, 304.
 Hits (immediate), 32, 38s, 42.
 Hits (method of making), 218, 316, 409.
 Hits (not valid), 230ss, 328ss.
 Hits (number of), 45ss, 225, 319, 413, 555, 562, 574.
 Hits (seeking or offering), 607, 643s.
 Hits (with point), 218, 316, 409.

Increase of penalties, 617.
 Indicators, 563
 Individual events, 520, 535ss, 554ss, 561.
 Indisposition, 51, 646.
 Initiation (of hits), 32.
 Injury, 22, 30, 50.
 In line (fencer), 231/1, 237, 418, 422.
 Instructors, 611.
 Insulation (electric foil), 211/b, 721.
 Insulation (of guard), 566, 598, 726.
 Insulation (of piste), 201, 304.
 International Fed.: Sport & Medicin, 608.
 International Olympic Committee, 505, 510, 613, 619.

Jacket, 27, 213, 315, 408.
 Judges, 3, 54ss, 56, 62ss, 68s, 227, 415, 512ss, 610.
 Judges (ground), 54ss, 71s, 74, 610.
 Judges (impartiality of), 55.
 Judges (licences for), 56.
 Judges (neutral), 57.
 Judges (positions of), 62s.
 Judging (hits), 53ss, 61ss, 71ss, 227ss, 237ss, 320, 415ss, 422ss.
 Juridical Authorities, 613, 658ss.
 Jurisdiction (principles), 614, 658.
 Jury 54ss, 56, 62, 227, 415, 512ss, 610.
 Jury d'appel, 506ss, 510, 613s, 618s.
 Jury of honour, 613, 619.

Lamé (plastron), 21, 217, 722.
 Lamps (control), 729.
 Lamps (electrical), 709.
 Lamps (extension), 702, 709, 715.
 Lamps (warning), 716, 729.
 Leaving the piste, 32.
 Lighting stroke, 211, 311.
 Limits of piste (crossing), 38ss.
 Limits of piste (lateral), 43.
 Limits of piste (rear), 39ss.

Line (centre), 31, 203, 303, 403.
 Line (on guard), 31, 203, 303, 403.
 Line (warning), 37, 39ss, 203, 303, 403.
 Line (rear), 39ss, 203, 303, 403.
 Locking nut, 23.
 Loss of ground, 36ss, 43, 623s, 638.
 Martingale, 209, 309.
 Mask, 27, 212, 217, 313, 408, 722.
 Match, 5, 523, 525.
 Match plans, 563.
 Materiality of hits, 62, 64, 67, 68ss, 72, 228ss, 323ss, 415ss.
 Metallic piste, 15, 54, 201, 231/8, 304, 327s, 461, 702, 711.
 Metallic piste (stretching), 711.
 Metallic plastron, 217, 702, 722.
 Method of fencing, 28, 218, 316, 409, 605, 640ss, 645.
 Method of holding weapons, 30.
 Mounting weapons, 712.

National Federation, 565ss, 577ss, 613, 618, 620, 634.
 Nationality (fencers), 537, 539, 544.
 Neutralisation (coquille), 718, 726, 731.
 Neutralisation (piste), 201, 304.
 Neutrality of judges, 57.
 Non-registration (electrical), 726.
 Non-regulation equipment, 18, 21ss, 231, 648.
 Number of hits, 45ss, 225, 319, 413, 555, 562, 574.
 Number of fencers (Pool), 536.
 Number of fencers (Teams), 525.

Obedience, 602, 609, 657.
 Offences, 635ss.
 Offences (re discipline), 654ss, 657ss.
 Offences (while fencing), 624ss, 637ss.
 Offences (re piste), 624ss, 638.
 Offences (re sportsmanship), 648ss.
 Offences (re time limit), 639.
 Offensive actions, 10ss, 32.
 Official events of F.I.E., 1, 17, 45, 56, 58s, 201, 227, 301, 304, 322, 401, 501ss, 513s, 515, 517, 525, 535s, 561s, 564ss, 576ss, 614, 622, 708, 715.
 Olympic Games, 1, 505, 510, 564, 575, 619, 634.
 Order (Barrages), 544.
 Order of bouts, 523, 525s, 538, 540, 558s, 561.
 Order of events, 571.
 Order of competitors, 525, 534, 537, 539.
 Orders of President, 31s.
 Organization (Direct elimination), 554ss, 561ss.

Organization (Competitions), 501s, 523ss, 535ss.
 Organizing (method of), 523ss, 537ss.
 Organizing Committee, 503, 613, 616, 634.

Padding (Coquille), 23, 26, 712.
 Pardon, 665.
 Parry, 10, 233ss, 417ss.
 Partiality (judges), 610, 652.
 Penalties, 623ss, 634.
 Penalties (disciplinary), 628ss.
 Penalties (while fencing), 624ss.
 Penalties (extension of), 617.
 Penalties (procedure), 658s.
 Penalties (promulgation of), 634.
 Penalty (one hit), 615, 626.
 Penalty (remission of), 665.
 Penalty (suspension of), 615, 617, 623, 630, 663.
 Personal effort, 607, 643s.
 Phrase (respect of), 233ss, 417ss.
 Piste, 15, 201ss, 301ss, 401ss.
 Piste (leaving the), 32, 38ss.
 Piste (length of), 15, 41, 202, 302, 402.
 Piste (retiring on), 39ss.
 Piste (width), 202, 302, 402.
 Planes (measuring weapons), 24.
 Plastron, 27, 315.
 Plastron (épée), 27, 315.
 Plastron (foil), 21, 217, 702, 722.
 Plugs, 23, 214, 314, 327, 712, 717, 730.
 Pommel, 23s, 211/b, 721.
 Pointes d'arrêt, 26E, 210s, 311s, 406, 719s, 732s.
 Pointes d'arrêt (fixing), 312, 720, 733.
 Point (covering), 210.
 Pool, 6, 524, 535ss, 561.
 Pool sheets, 59, 516.
 Position (of competitors), 31.
 Position (of judges), 62s.
 Preliminary rounds, 537ss.
 President of Court of Appeal, 507.
 President of Jury, 3, 53, 615, 637, 659.
 President (control duties), 19, 71, 231, 327, 615.
 President (direction duties), 61, 63, 71, 615.
 President (disciplinary duties), 613, 615, 617s.
 President (judging duties), 67ss, 72ss, 228, 237, 324, 416, 422.
 Priority (between hits), 70, 75, 229, 232ss, 329ss, 416ss, 713, 724.
 Promotion, 542, 544, 561.
 Protests, 511, 614, 659s.
 Protection (of fencers), 27.
 Prototype (apparatus), 704.
 Publishing (penalties), 634.
 Punctuality, 604, 654.
 Putting on guard, 31, 37.

Qualification (fencers), 542, 544, 561.
 Quillion, 25.

Readiness on time, 604, 654.
 Redoublement, 13, 237/1/c, 422/1/c.
 Refusal to award hit, 30, 32, 38ss, 42, 47, 73s, 230s, 237, 324ss, 422, 623, 625, 638ss, 645.
 Registration of hits, 228ss, 709, 713s, 724s.
 Remise, 13, 237/1/c, 422/1/c.
 Repairers, 60/c, 516/e.
 Repetition of offence, 21, 664.
 Replacement (of competitor), 530.
 Replacement (on guard), 36s, 226, 237, 320, 414, 422.
 Reprise, 13, 237/1/c, 422/1/c.
 Reserves, 530.
 Respectfulness, 603.
 Respect of fencing phrase, 233ss, 417ss.
 Rest (competitor), 519ss, 556, 561.
 Rest (granting of), 50s.
 Result established, 529s.
 Retirement (competitor), 52, 545ss.
 Retirement (during competition), 34/4, 530, 545ss, 556, 654.
 Retirement (obliged to), 530.
 Retirement (member of team), 530, 545ss.
 Retirement (team), 531, 545ss.
 Reversing positions, 35, 318. (note)
 Riposte, 10ss, 234s, 419s.
 Rules (special), 632, 649.

Sabre, 401ss.
 Sabre (length), 404.
 Sabre (weight), 405.
 Score board, 59, 516/a.
 Score-keepers, 59, 204, 305, 516/a.
 Security measures, 16, 27, 215s, 315, 408.
 Security (system of), 214, 314.
 Seeding, 524, 537, 560, 561.
 Side-stepping, 35.
 Signals (light), 709, 713/2, 727.
 Signals (sound), 709, 713/3, 728.
 Simultaneous actions, 237, 422.
 Sleeve (lining of), 216, 315.
 Soldering (equipment), 231, 328, 711.
 Source of current, 716, 729.
 Specialists, 60, 516.
 Specifications (weapons), 22ss, 205ss, 306ss, 404ss.
 Spectators, 204, 305, 612, 656.
 Spools, 214, 314, 702, 710s, 717, 730.
 Sportsmanship, 602, 648ss.
 Spring in point, 18, 71, 719, 732.
 Starting bout, 32.
 Stay of execution, 663.

Stateless persons, 539.
Stop hit, 12, 236s, 421s.
Stopping bout, 32, 38, 45, 47, 223, 411.
Stroke (of point), 211, 311, 719, 732.
Superintendent of apparatus, 60/a,
516/c.
Supporters, 611, 656.
Suspensions, 615, 617, 630, 723.
System (complete), 560.
System (Mixed), 561ss.
Tang (of blade), 23.
Target, 219s, 317, 410.
Target (extensions of), 222.
Target (off the), 221, 223, 411.
Teams (composition of), 525.
Teams (events), 522s.
Team captain, 525, 609, 618.
Technicians, 611, 656.
Tests (apparatus), 71, 231, 327, 703ss,
708, 714/7.
Tests (weapons), 71, 231, 327.
Threading (blades), 720, 733.
Thrusts, 218, 316, 409.
Thrusting Weapons, 218, 316, 409.
Throwing weapon, 25, 30.
Timetable, 519ss, 604, 654.
Time (broken), 11, 237/1/c, 422/1/c.
Time (expiration of), 49, 63, 226, 321,
414.
Time hit, 12.
Timekeeper, 45, 59, 63, 204, 305, 516.
Tournament, 8, 502.
Trainers, 611, 656.
Trompement, 233/3, 237/2/b, 418/3,
422.
Ultimate appeal, 614, 617s, 621.
Undergarment, 27, 315.
Unplugging, 71, 327.
Use of unarmed hand, 30, 640.
Validity of hits, 70, 75, 232ss, 329ss,
416ss.
Vindictive actions, 28, 605, 645.
Violence, 28, 605, 645.
Warning (before penalty), 615, 636ss.
Warning line, 37, 39ss, 203, 303, 403.
Warning (time), 46.
Weapon (normal use of), 33.
Weapons (parts of), 23.
Weapons (specifications), 22ss.
Weight (control), 18, 71, 719, 732.
Weight (on spring), 18, 71/2, 211, 311,
719, 732.
Withdrawal (competitor or team), 52,
531, 545ss.
World Championships, see official
events and 564ss.
World Youth Championships, 576ss.
Wound, 22, 30.

