

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE
OF AMERICA



FENCING RULES & MANUAL

1970 EDITION

AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE
OF AMERICA

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**FENCING RULES
AND OPERATIONS MANUAL**

1970 EDITION

★

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

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President of the Amateur Fencing Association of Great Britain

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

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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'Escrime 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'Escrime).

- 9 Fencing time (Temps d'Escrime) 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).
(c) The stop hit made with a period of fencing time (Cf. 236, 421)

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.

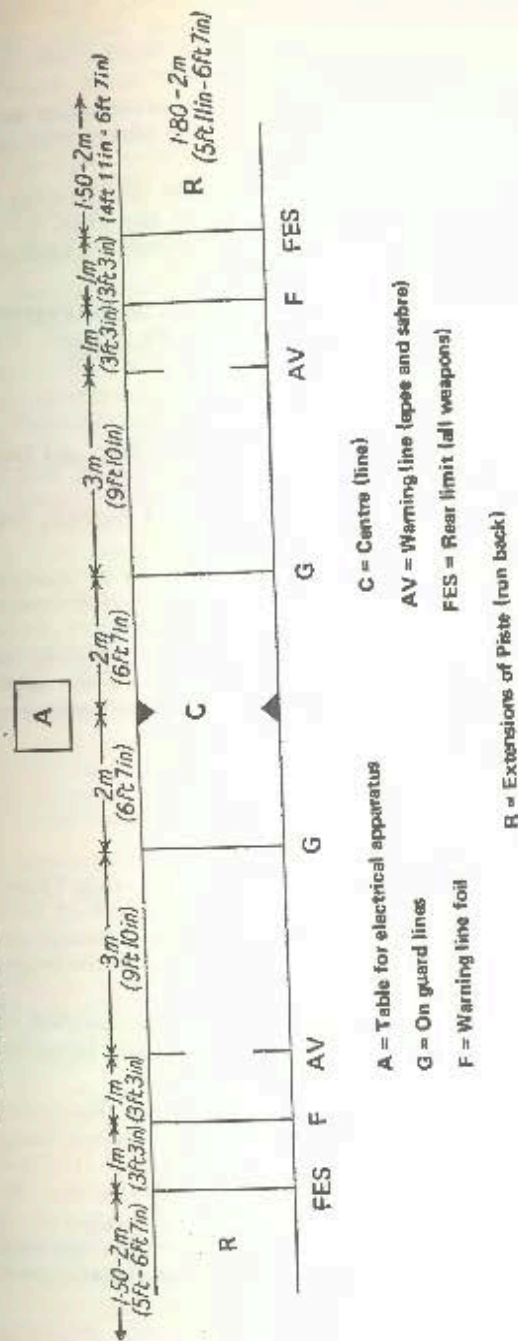
When announcing the particulars of a competition the organizers must always state the nature of the field of play on which the competition will be fought. In particular they should state when a competition is to be held in the open air.

- 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 epee 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 FES 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 must 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

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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 l'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.) and the personnel necessary to carry out this work.

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 during a bout, irregularity unknown to him, etc.) the President will allow the fencer the time strictly necessary to appear on the piste with regulation equipment, but he will impose neither a penalty nor a warning.

2. If the fencer can be made responsible:

— on the first occasion the President will allow the fencer the time strictly necessary to appear on the piste with regulation equipment and will give him a *warning*.

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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

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

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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 must 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.) and the personnel necessary to carry out this work.

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.

All methods of treating a blade with a view to altering its flexibility, either by grinding or filing or other methods, are forbidden.

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. (9¼ ins.) between lines (b) and (e) and 18 cm. (7¾ 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. ($\frac{1}{8}$ 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).

The wearing of an under garment (plastron) is obligatory at all weapons (Cf. 216, 315, 408).

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.

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 — hits 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).*

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.

*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.

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 pool or team match or during the matches by direct elimination.

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

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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.

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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).

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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, the hit made is valid, a hit made after passing his opponent by the competitor who has made the passing movement is annulled, but the hit made immediately, even by turning round, by the competitor who has been subjected to the attack is valid (Cf. 638).

When during a bout a fencer who has made a *flèche* attack has a hit registered against him and he continues to run beyond the extreme limit of the piste sufficiently far to cause the spool or the connecting line to the spool to be torn out. The hit which he has received will not 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:

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. 38

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 according to the rules laid down for each weapon 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, advanced until his leading foot has reached his on guard line (Cf. 203, 303, 403). Competitors are not advised of their position at any other part of the piste. 39

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. 40

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). 41

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. 32, 38). 42

(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.

(c) *Lateral boundaries:*

- 43 When one of the competitors crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with one foot, the president must immediately call "Halt" and replace the competitors on guard on the piste.

A competitor who crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with both feet is penalised. When the competitors are replaced on guard, the opponent of the competitor who has crossed the lateral boundary 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, the competitor who is penalised must retire an equal distance. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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:

(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

- (a) He calls the roll of the competitors (Cf. 604, 615, 654);
- (b) He directs the bout (Cf. 63);
- (c) He controls the equipment (Cf. 18s);
- (d) He supervises his assistants (judges, ground-judges, timekeepers, scorers, etc.);
- (e) He maintains order (Cf. 615);
- (f) He penalises faults (Cf. 615);
- (g) He awards the hits (Cf. 67, 69, 75).

2. The Jury, Judges and Ground-Judges.

- 54 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".

- 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.

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.

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

2. Positions occupied by the judges.

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

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.

63 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.

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.

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).

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:

(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 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.

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.*

- 70 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.*

- 71 1. The bout is directed by the President who should move up and down the piste in order to follow the fencing phrase 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 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.*

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

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).

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

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. 74

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

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). 75

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).

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

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.).

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

The length of the piste must be 14 metres (46 ft.), 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 5 metres (16 ft. 5 ins.) without it being necessary for him to cross the limit of the piste with both feet (Cf. 15, 38ss and Plan, page 17).

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

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 7 metres (23 ft.) when possible from the centre line, but which may be less when sufficient space is not available but never less than 6 metres (19 ft. 8 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 $\frac{1}{8}$ ins.) from each side of the piste).

When the rear foot of a competitor reaches his warning line, 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 (Cf. 39).

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.

The total weight of the foil ready for use must be less than 500 grammes (17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.).

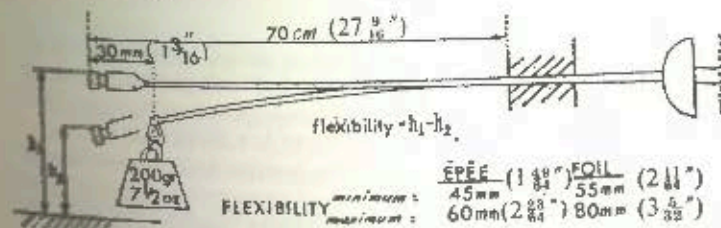
(b) Length.

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

(c) The blade.

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 $\frac{1}{16}$ ")

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 $\frac{6}{16}$ ") from the extremity of the button.
2. A 200 gramme weight (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.) is suspended 3 cm. (1 $\frac{1}{16}$ 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.
4. All methods of treating a blade with a view to altering its flexibility, either by grinding, filing or other methods, are forbidden.

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

- 208 The guard must be able to pass through a straight cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 12 cm. (4 $\frac{3}{16}$ ") and a length of 15 cm. (5 $\frac{3}{16}$ ")

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

(e) *The martingale.*

- 209 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.*

- 210 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.

- 211 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 $\frac{1}{8}$ 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 $\frac{3}{16}$ ") 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).

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. ($\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) below the collar and in any case not below the prominences of the collar bones (clavicles).

212

(b) *Glove.*

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

213

(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.

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

214

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.

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).

215

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

39

(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 of the sword arm and covering the flank in the region of the armpit.

In addition the wearing of a plastron (under garment) made of hempcloth, nylon etc: is obligatory, this must:—

1. Be of at least two thicknesses of cloth.
2. Include a sleeve down to the elbow without sewn seam or opening in the region of the armpit.
3. Ensure the best possible protection (Cf. 27).

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

(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. ($1\frac{3}{16}$ 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).

(Cf. illustration next page).

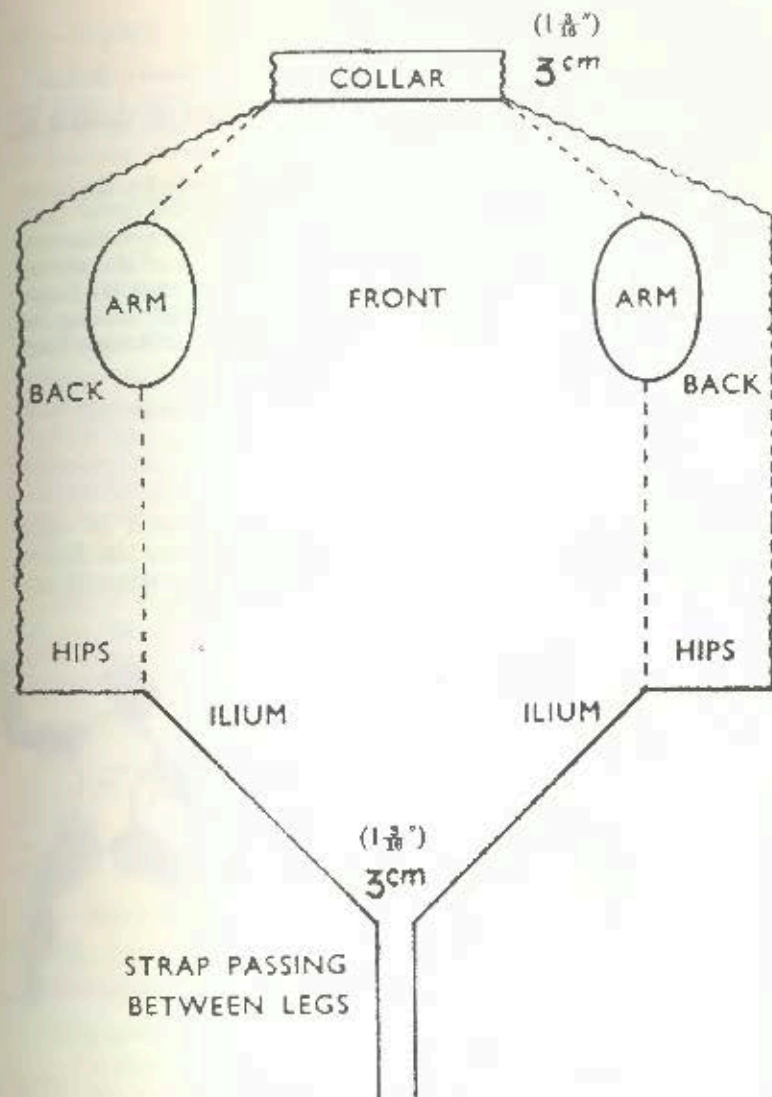
(c) *Mask.*

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.

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



THE METAL PLASTRON

B. — TARGET.

1. Limitation of the target.

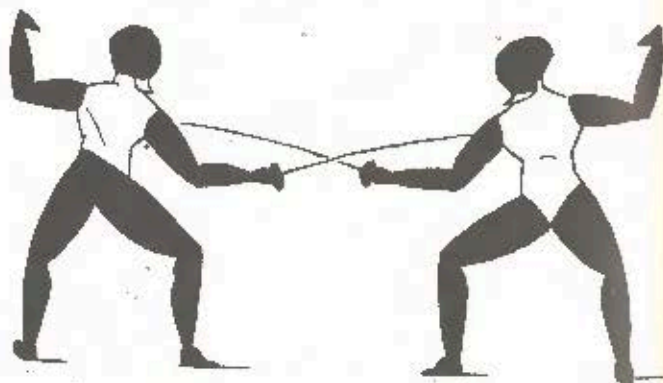
219 At foil, only hits which arrive on the target are counted as valid.

220 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 1/2") 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.

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

2. The possible extension of the valid target.

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

223 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).

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.

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). 227

I. — Materiality of the hit.

1. With a jury.

(See articles 61ss.)

2. With an electrical judging apparatus.

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). 228

When using the apparatus it should be noted that: 229

(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 matches by 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.

(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.

(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 (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.

(g) The president must pay particular attention to hits which are not registered or which are registered abnormally. Should such defects be repeated, the president must ask a member of the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment or an expert technician on duty to verify that the equipment conforms to the rules. The president must ensure that nothing is altered either in the competitors equipment or in the whole of the electrical apparatus before the expert makes the control.

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 (Cf. 10) 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).

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.

234 (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.

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

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

(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.

3. Judging of hits.

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

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

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;

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

(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.)

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 18 metres (59 ft. 1 in.). 302

For practical reasons the actual length of the piste must be 14 metres (46ft.) 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 7 metres (23 ft.) 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 (23 ft.) 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).

When a competitor has crossed the rear limit of the piste with both feet, he is replaced on guard with his rear foot on his warning line, and one hit is scored against him if he again crosses the rear limit of the piste with both feet (Cf. 39).

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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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

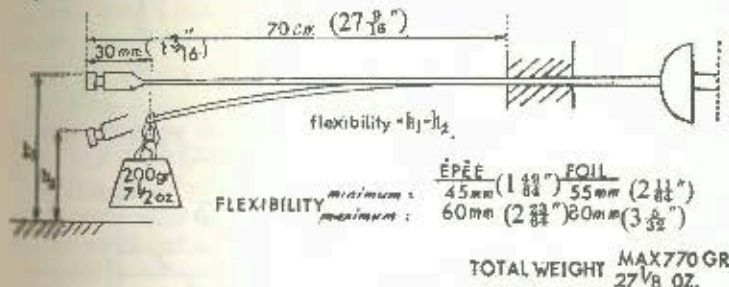
section without cutting edges. It should be as straight as possible; it should be mounted with the groove uppermost. The curve of the blade must be in any case less than 1 cm. ($\frac{3}{8}$ in.), it is only allowed in the vertical plane.

The maximum length of the blade is 90 cm. (35 $\frac{7}{8}$ ")

The maximum width of any of the three sides of the blade is less than 24 mm. ($\frac{13}{16}$ in.).

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

1. The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm. (27 $\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the extremity of the button;
2. A 200 gramme (7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.) weight is suspended 3 cm. (1 $\frac{1}{8}$ 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).



All methods of treating a blade with a view to altering its flexibility, either by grinding or filing or other methods are forbidden.

(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).

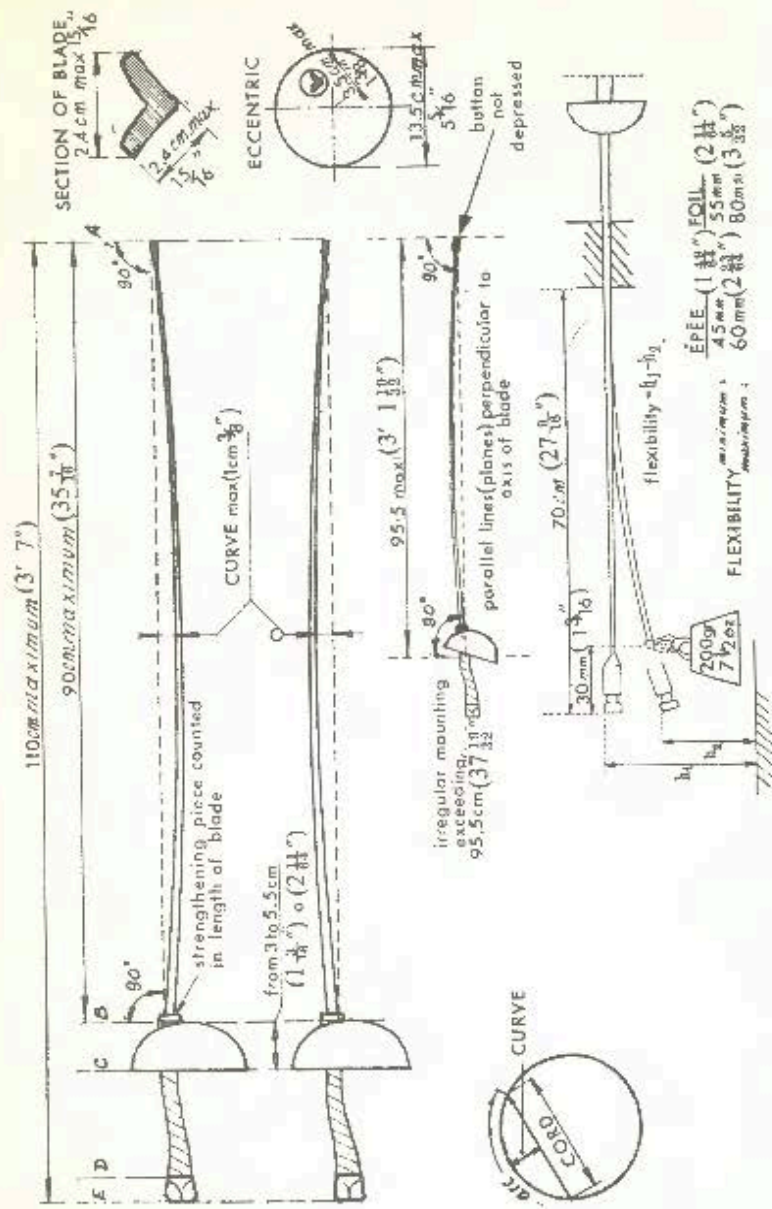
The guard, which must have a circular edge, must be able to pass through a cylindrical gauge having a diameter of 13.5 cm. (5 $\frac{3}{8}$ ins.) and a length of 15 cm. (5 $\frac{7}{8}$ ")

310

The depth of the guard (the distance between lines (b) and (c)) must be between 3 cm. (1 $\frac{1}{8}$ 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 $\frac{3}{8}$ 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.

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.).

311

(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.).

312

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).

313

2. **The body wire.**

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

314

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 of the sword arm 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 down to the elbow;
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.

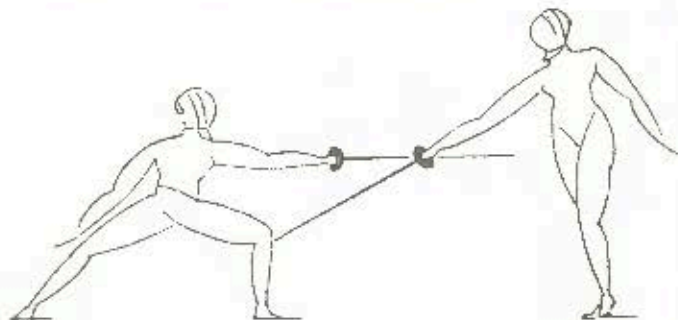
- 316 The épée is a thrusting weapon only. Attacks with this weapon must be made with the point, and with the point only.

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).

318

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).

319

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).

320

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

321

(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 Epée 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 matches 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:

(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).

(k) The President must pay particular attention to hits which are not registered or which are registered abnormally. Should such defects be repeated, the President must ask a member of the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment or an expert technician on duty to verify that the equipment conforms to the rules. The President must ensure that nothing is altered either in the competitors' equipment or in the whole of the electrical apparatus before the expert makes the control.

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.

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. 330

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 18 metres (59 ft. 1 in.).

For practical reasons the actual length of the piste must be 14 metres (46ft.) 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 7 metres (23 ft.) 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 (23ft.) 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).

When a competitor has crossed the rear limit of the piste with both feet, he is replaced on guard with his rear foot on his warning line, and one hit is scored against him if he again crosses the rear limit of the piste with both feet (Cf. 39).

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 $\frac{3}{8}$ ins.).

(b) *Weight.*

The total weight of the sabre ready for use shall be less 405
than 500 grammes (17 $\frac{3}{8}$ ozs.).

(c) *The blade.*

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

The maximum length of the blade is 88 cm. (34 $\frac{1}{4}$ "); 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. ($\frac{1}{8}$ in.) The end of the blade must be folded over onto itself to form a button which, viewed end on, must have a square or rectangular section of 4 mm (0.16 in.) minimum and 6 mm (0.236 in.) maximum. The maximum dimension must be at most at 3 mm (0.118 in.) from the end of the blade. 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ 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 407
externally smooth. It must have a convex form which is continuous, without rim nor having holes.

It must be able to pass through a rectangular gauge measuring 15×14 cm. ($5\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{5}{8}$ " in section with a length of 15 cm. ($5\frac{7}{8}$ ins.).

B. — EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING.

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

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.

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

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

1. Be of at least two thicknesses of cloth

2. Include a sleeve down to the elbow without sewn seam or opening in the region of the armpit.

3. Ensure the best possible protection (Cf. 27).

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

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.

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

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, below)

2. Hits off the target.

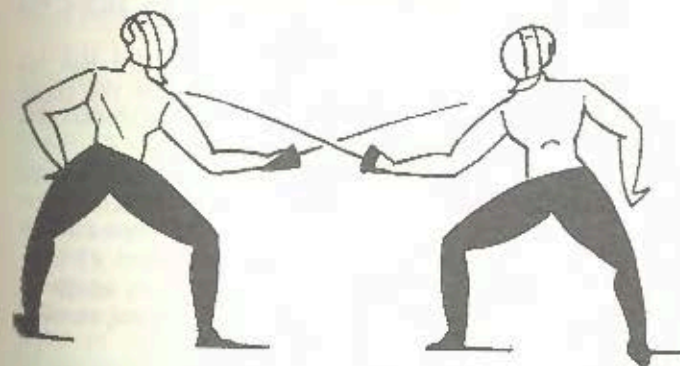
A hit which is made on any part of the body other than the target (whether directly or as the result of a parry) is not counted as a valid hit, but it stops the phrase and annuls all hits which are scored thereafter. 411

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



Target: Sabre

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

(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.

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

I. Materiality of the hit.

(See Part I articles 68ss.)

II. Validity or priority of the hit.

1. Preface.

416 When the President, assisted by his judges, has made a decision regarding the materiality of a hit, 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 sabre fencing.

2. Observance of the fencing phrase.

417 (a) All correctly (Cf. 10) 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:

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

(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. 419

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

(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. 421

3. Judging of hits.

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

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.

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 (*re-doublement*, 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 (dérochement 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.*

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 FIVE:

ORGANIZATION OF COMPETITIONS

CHAPTER I—COMPETITIONS

- The official competitions of the F.I.E. are organized according to special rules. (Cf. 553a, 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.

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).

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

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.)

6. Auxiliary personnel.

Auxiliary personnel who function at competitions include:

(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).

7. Control of Equipment

516a The control of the electrical equipment used to ensure the perfect organisation of official F.I.E. competitions and the control of competitors' equipment must be supervised by the Commission for the Electrical Apparatus and Equipment of the F.I.E.

In order to effect this supervision, two members of this commission must be appointed to undertake this work at each championship.

However, when a person competent to undertake the control of the electrical apparatus, and approved for this purpose by the F.I.E. Commission, is present in the organising country, only one member of the commission will be appointed (Cf. 17, 53, 60b, 516d, 708).

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.

OPERATIONS MANUAL

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The Operations Manual was prepared by a committee of the Board of Directors consisting of William J. Latzko, Chairman, Stephen Netburn and Dr. Ralph Zimmerman. It was reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee as authorized by the Board of Directors. The Manual Committee thanks all those who helped with the preparation of this work, particularly Miss Amelia Bernardo, Miss Anita Cannarilli, Mrs. Ralph Zimmerman, who typed the manuscript and Mrs. Connie Latzko, who assisted in the indexing, proofreading and final editing. William J. Latzko, Secretary

1. Authorized Competitions

(a) Except as herein provided, competitive members of the AFLA may participate only in competitions scheduled by or under the auspices of the national Board of Directors or of the divisions and sections of the AFLA. Violations of this rule are punishable by disciplinary penalties according to the gravity of the offense.

(b) Mixed bouts between men and women are not permitted in formal competitions or exhibitions in which touches are counted.

(c) Members of the AFLA are authorized to participate in collegiate and scholastic meets for which they are eligible, and in tournaments organized by the Intercollegiate Fencing Association, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and similar intercollegiate and interscholastic associations, provided that such events are conducted under fencing rules that substantially conform to the rules of the AFLA.

(d) Members of the AFLA are authorized to participate in foreign individual competitions when such events are organized by or under the sponsorship of a national federation that is a member of the FIE. Members are also authorized to compete in international collegiate or scholastic competitions which are held without any objection thereto by the federation of the country in which the event is held. Members of the AFLA who wish to participate in foreign or international competitions must be holders of FIE licenses and should be certified by the AFLA as to eligibility. Active and Life Members of the AFLA may obtain FIE licenses free of charge by applying to the Secretary of the AFLA. Other members must pay \$1.00. Members of the AFLA may not compete in foreign or international competitions as a team representing the U.S. except upon specific approval of the Board of Directors.

(e) Amateurs may compete against professionals in all competitions, as long as the professional is a competitive member of the AFLA, except in those competitions specifically limited to amateurs only by the Board. No purse, however, may be awarded to either amateur or professional in any competition.

2. Classification of Fencers

For the purpose of providing reasonable equality of strength in competitions, fencers are classified nationally on the basis of competitive experience and achievement into the following categories: Class A (highest), Class B, Class C, and Unclassified (lowest). The classification of a fencer in each weapon shall be changed when he meets the conditions outlined herein below, and once he achieves a higher category he may not compete in a lower one unless there is a revision of these rules and, by definition applicable to all members, he falls into a new or lower classification. The following rules govern the classification of fencers:

(a) A fencer is classified as Class A

(1) by winning an individual competition rated as Group 1 (see section 4, rating of Competitions, below); or

(2) by winning any of the first six places in the U.S. national championships; or

(3) by being officially selected to represent the U.S. in the Olympic or Pan American Games; or

(4) by being officially selected to represent the U.S. in the World Championships and having achieved the round of 32 or better; or

(5) by being officially selected to represent the U.S. in the World Under 20 Championships and having achieved the round of 16 or better; or

(6) by being officially selected to represent the U.S. in the World University Games and having achieved the round of 16 or better; or

(7) by attaining distinction in another country as a competitive fencer which in the judgment of the Board of Directors is equivalent to that involved in the preceding clauses of this paragraph.

(b) A fencer is classified as Class B

(1) by finishing second or third in an individual competition rated as Group I (see section 4 below); or

(2) by winning an individual competition rated as Group II (see section 4 below); or

(3) by competing as a member of a team that wins the U.S. national team championships; or

(4) by achieving first, second or third place in the Modern Pentathlon Epee event at the Olympic, Pan American or World Championships; or

(5) by being officially selected to represent the U.S. at the World Championships (excluding the World Under 20 Championships and the World University Games); or

(6) by having attained an A classification in another weapon; or

(7) by attaining distinction in another country as a competitive fencer which in the judgment of the Board of Directors is equivalent to that involved in the preceding clauses of this paragraph.

(c) A fencer is classified as C

(1) by being a finalist in an individual competition rated as Group I (see section 4 below); or

(2) by finishing second or third in an individual competition rated as Group II (see section 4 below); or

(3) by winning an individual competition rated as Group III (see section 4 below); or

(4) by competing as a member of a team that places second or third in the U.S. national team championships; or

(5) by having attained a B classification in another weapon.

(d) For the purposes of classification, in rated competitions (see section 4 below), any placing attained by a professional will be awarded to the next ranking amateur.

(e) A fencer remains Unclassified as long as he does not qualify for Class A, Class B, or Class C rating under the foregoing rules.

(f) Except as specifically provided herein, the classification of a fencer in one weapon has no effect upon his classification in another weapon and is not affected by his winning or competing in individual, three-weapon events, team events, invitation meets, intercollegiate events, or unofficial club and interclub competitions.

(g) Every member of the AFLA is personally responsible for ascertaining his own classification in each weapon. To avoid questions with respect to individual fencers, each division through its Executive Committee or other designated officer or committee should certify the classification of all fencers in the division at the beginning of each fencing season. The Secretary of each division should send a certified list of Class A and Class B fencers in the division to the Secretary of the AFLA and the Editor of American Fencing at the beginning of each season (September 1).

(h) Whenever at a competition a question is raised concerning the classification of a fencer, the Board Committee in charge shall decide the case and such determination shall be conclusive for that competition. However, for subsequent competitions the decision shall be subject to review by the appropriate Executive Committee and by the National Board of Directors.

3. Ranking Fencers, Veterans

Two additional categories exist independently of the above classifications: Ranking Fencers, and Veterans.

(a) Ranking Fencers in a particular weapon are those who, based upon their standings in the final of the most recent National Championship, have been selected by the Board as the strongest nation

competitors in that weapon. Such a classification will entitle that fencer to a seeded draw in individual competitions during the next succeeding fencing season.

(b) Veterans are all fencers who (1) have attained the age of 50 years, or (2) have attained the age of 40 years and in addition have retired from all competitions except the Veteran's individual events or team events in which they participate as part of a team made up exclusively of Veterans.

4. Rating of Competitions

(a) In order to qualify as a Group I Competition, a competition must meet all of the following requirements:

i. There must be a minimum of 12 participants in the competition, at least six of whom must have a classification of Class C or higher.*

ii. The final shall consist of not less than six fencers of whom not less than two must be classified as Class A and two as Class B (or higher).

(b) In order to qualify as a Group II Competition, a competition must meet all of the following requirements:

i. There shall be a minimum of 12 participants in the competition, at least four of whom must have a classification of Class C or higher.*

ii. The final shall consist of not less than six fencers of whom not less than two shall be Class B fencers and two Class C (or higher).

NOTE: If all other requirements are met for (a) or (b) above, and the event is by direct elimination, the last 8 (or 6, if to a "final" of 6) shall be considered finalists for purposes of these rules.

(c) Group III Competitions:

i. There shall be not less than ten participants in the competition.

ii. The final shall consist of not less than six fencers.

(d) In addition, every division is authorized to schedule competitions restricted to fencers under a certain age, or to such unclassified fencers as are novices or relatively inexperienced; provided that if some unclassified fencers are barred from such events an appropriate description of the basis of eligibility of contestants must be announced in the schedule.

5. Designation of Competitions

(a) An Open competition is one in which all competitive members of the AFLA in good standing, and of the same sex, are eligible to compete without regard to their classification, rank, age, or divisional membership.

(b) A Closed competition is a sectional, interdivisional, or divisional competition in which eligibility is limited on the basis of sectional or divisional membership.

(c) A Restricted competition is one in which the eligibility of competitors is limited on the basis of classification, rank, age, academic status, or special invitation.

i. A Class A competition is one open to Class A and Ranking fencers; it may be open to other members of the AFLA only to the extent noted in the schedule.

ii. The designation of a competition as Class B, or Class C (or other designation) indicates the highest category of fencers permitted to participate therein, but these competitions are also open to fencers of lower categories unless the contrary is specifically announced in the schedule.

*In determining the rating of a Sectional Championship, the divisional qualifying rounds shall be considered part of the event to establish the number of participants and those classified as Class C or higher.

ii. Restricted competitions limited to fencers of a certain age or academic status shall not be further restricted on the basis of classification or rank unless organized and announced as invitational events.

(d) The title "Championship" shall be limited to the most important competitions or tournaments in national, sectional, interdivisional or divisional schedules.

i. National Championships include the individual open foil, epee, sabre and women's championships, and the corresponding team events. The Board of Directors reserves the right to designate other competitions as national championships, open or restricted.

ii. Sectional Championships include the Midwest, North Atlantic, Pacific Coast, Southeast and Southwest open interdivisional championships, individual and team, in all weapons. No restricted competitions shall be designated as sectional championships without the express approval of the Board of Directors. Sectional Championships must be held at least four weeks prior to the day of the opening event of the National Championship.

iii. Divisional Championships may be open or closed and shall be limited to one per weapon during any one year. No restricted competition shall be designated as a divisional championship without the express approval of the Board of Directors.

(e) Academic contests, where the number of touches scored is not the sole criterion for victory in a bout, are permitted provided adequate notice of the exact character of the event is included in the schedule.

6. Schedule of Events

The fencing season officially begins on September 1 and continues through August 31 of the next calendar year.

(a) At the beginning of each season (and not later than October 15) each section and division through appropriate officers or Committees, shall draft and publish a schedule of team and individual events.

(b) The schedule shall indicate the name and address of the person to whom entries are to be forwarded and the closing date for entries. Unless otherwise announced in the schedule, entry fees will be refunded if notice of the withdrawal of a fencer is received not less than 72 hours before the competition is scheduled to start.

(c) All foil and epee competitions shall be held with the electrical apparatus unless specifically identified as "non-electric" in the schedule.

(d) The schedule should include the following information:

- i. The title and classification of each event.
- ii. The date, hour and place.
- iii. The entry fee, method and conditions for entries.
- iv. The terms for admission of spectators, if any.
- v. Any special regulations or conditions.

7. Eligibility of Individuals

(a) Only competitive members of the AFLA in good standing are eligible to compete in team or individual events scheduled by or under the auspices of the AFLA, except by special invitation of the appropriate divisional or sectional officers or Committees for events under their jurisdiction, or as restricted by the Board of Directors for the National Championships (see Chapter V, section B, Eligibility for the Tournament).

(b) No member of a division shall be in good standing unless his division is in good standing according to the established rules and practices of the AFLA. Consequently, if a member's division is not in good standing, the Board of Directors may transfer his membership to the National Division and make such

rules respecting eligibility to enter competitions and for the holding of additional competitions as may be appropriate.

(c) A fencer who has entered a competition but has failed to pay the required entry fee, and has either participated in the competition or failed to withdraw therefrom in time, shall be liable to the appropriate organizing committee of the AFLA for the amount of the entry fee and shall be ineligible to enter any subsequent AFLA competitions until restored to good standing by payment of the sum due.

(d) Every entry certifies the entrant's eligibility for the particular event not only with respect to AFLA membership in good standing but also as to compliance with every other requirement.

8. Club Representation

The term "club" as used in these rules includes any organized fencing group or individual members. The group may be affiliated with a club, industrial institution, association or other entity. A recognized club is one which has a reasonably stable organizational structure and membership, a place for regular fencing activity and preferably a professional fencing master for lessons and training.

(a) A fencer may at any time resign from one club and join another, or join or hold membership in two or more clubs. However, within the same fencing season no fencer may represent in competition more than one club without special permission of the Board of Directors.

(b) A college or scholastic fencer who is also a member of another recognized club may represent his school in dual meets and intercollegiate or interscholastic events, and also represent the other club in AFLA events, but in such case he may not represent his school in AFLA events except in AFLA events restricted to students.

(c) A fencer who, while a member of a recognized club, elects to fence unattached, may not be permitted to represent any club during the remainder of the season in individual competition, and may not compete in team events except as a member of composite teams.

9. Assumption of Risk

Every fencer engaging in competition, and every person attending a competition in any capacity whatsoever, does so at his own risk and peril and neither the organization having jurisdiction over the event nor the organization furnishing the place for the event, nor any officer, official, agent or employee of either of the aforementioned organizations, shall be liable in any manner for any damage, injury or loss suffered by any person as a competitor, official, attendant or spectator at a fencing event regardless of whether or not there has been compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed herein, and whether or not any official has waived or failed to enforce strict compliance therewith.

Chapter II — Management and Control

1. Responsibility For Events

The Organizing Committee is responsible for the organization of competition or tournament and shall provide the facilities, equipment and personnel indicated in Chapter V, Section A3 to the maximum extent necessary. It shall also provide or obtain the prizes to be awarded, if any.

(a) National events (including the annual National Championship Tournament) are under the supervision of the President and the Board of Directors. (See Chapter VI).

(b) Sectional events are limited to the annual Sectional Championships and are under the supervision of the Sectional Vice-Presidents and Executive Committees pursuant to Sectional by-laws. The Sectional Vice-Presidents, after consultation with the Chairman or Executive Committee of the host division, appoint the Organizing Committee, the Bout Committee and their respective Chairmen subject to the approval of the Sectional Executive Committee.

(c) Divisional events are under the supervision of the Chairman and the Executive Committee or other appropriate committee of the division, pursuant to the divisional by-laws. The Chairman, with the approval of the appropriate divisional committee, appoints the Organizing Committee, the Bout Committee and their respective chairmen.

2. Organizing Committee

The organization of a competition or tournament is the responsibility of an Organizing Committee which shall provide the facilities, equipment, and personnel indicated in Chapter V, Section A3, as well as any awards.

3. Bout Committee

Each Bout Committee through its Chairman is responsible for and in complete charge of all competitions within its jurisdiction, including all officials, contestants and spectators.

(a) The Chairman

The Chairman is responsible for review of plans and programs set up by the organizing committee, the conduct of the competition, assignment of officials, seeding of pools, maintenance of discipline.

(b) Decision Making Procedure

The Bout Committee itself is not a parliamentary body which makes administrative decisions by majority vote. All of the Committee's authority is vested in the Chairman who may delegate it as he sees fit. The Committee members are assistants who serve in an advisory capacity but cannot overrule the Chairman on administrative matters. Only on questions properly brought to it on appeal does the Bout Committee decide by majority vote. In such cases, the Chairman has only one vote.

(c) Requirements for Committee Membership

- i. The Bout Committee for AFLA events shall consist of members of the AFLA in good standing.
- ii. The minimum requirement for a place on the Bout Committee is a thorough knowledge of the rules.
- iii. Any member of the Bout Committee who is a competitor or team captain may not participate in the seeding of pools or direct elimination plan for the event in which he is involved.

(d) Scope of Authority

The Bout Committee has no power to amend the rules of fencing. In emergency cases it may waive or modify the rules of organization for a particular event with the consent of the fencers directly or indirectly affected, but in all such cases a report of the action taken must be submitted to the appropriate governing body.

(e) Appeal

The decisions of the Bout Committee on matters within its jurisdiction are final. However, if it ignores a positive prescription of the rules, or applies the rules incorrectly, a protest by the aggrieved person or team is allowed. If the protest is overruled by the Bout Committee, the aggrieved person or team may appeal, in writing, to the Jury of Appeal.

4. Jury of Appeal

The Jury of Appeal is responsible for hearing a protest against a decision of the Bout Committee or the President of Jury (where permitted under the Fencing Rules) which has been properly filed and overruled. Such an appeal to the Jury of Appeal must be in writing. Further, notice of appeal must be given to the Bout Committee.

A member of the Jury of Appeal may not act if he is personally involved or if by reason of his affiliation he is confronted with a potential conflict of interest: no proxy votes are permitted. The decisions of the Jury of Appeal are final. (For appeals from imposition of disciplinary penalties see Chapter IV, 2.)

(a) Composition of the Jury of Appeal at a national event

The Jury of Appeal at a national event shall be composed of all members of the Board of Directors present at the event, the Chairman or acting Chairman of the Bout Committee, and an officer from every division competing, not otherwise represented. In the latter case, if no officer is present a member of the division shall be chosen by majority vote of the other members of the Jury of Appeal. The Chairman shall be the senior nationally elected officer present; if no national officer is present, a chairman shall be elected by the Jury of Appeal from among its members. Each member of the Jury of Appeal, including the Chairman, shall cast one vote. In the event of a tie vote the Chairman shall have an additional vote.

(b) Composition of the Jury of Appeal at a sectional event

The Jury of Appeal at a sectional competition shall be composed of all members of the Board of Directors and of the sectional Executive Committee present at the event, the Chairman or acting Chairman of the Bout Committee, and an officer from every division competing and not otherwise

represented. In the latter case, if no officer is present a member of the division shall be chosen by majority vote of the other members of the Jury of Appeal. The Chairman shall be the AFLA Vice President for the Section. In his absence the Jury of Appeal shall elect a chairman from among its members. Each member of the Jury of Appeal, including the Chairman, shall cast one vote. In the event of a tie vote, the Chairman shall have an additional vote.

(c) Composition of the Jury of Appeal at a divisional event

The Jury of Appeal at a divisional competition which shall be composed of all members of the Board of Directors and of the divisional Executive Committee present at the event, the Chairman or acting Chairman of the Bout Committee, and the club or team captain of every club or team competing and not otherwise represented. In the latter case, if a captain is not present, a member of the club shall be chosen by majority vote of the other members of the Jury of Appeal. The Chairman shall be the Chairman of the division. In his absence the Jury of Appeal shall elect a chairman from among its members. Each member of the Jury of Appeal, including the Chairman, shall cast one vote. In the event of any tie vote, the Chairman shall have an additional vote.

5. Juries

All members of the Jury shall be members of the League in good standing. A jury may contain one or more professional members of the AFLA if permitted by the Bout Committee for that event.

6. Spectators (See Rules Book)

"Spectators" include any and all persons attending a competition who are not at the moment engaged in active participation therein either as contestants, or any other official capacity recognized by the rules.

Spectators are required, in the interest of safety and good order, to sit or stand at a distance of not less than ten feet from the limits of the strip and to obey any directives of the President of the Jury or the Bout Committee.

Competitors Check List

1. Associate members of the AFLA and other members not in good standing are not eligible to compete.
2. It is the responsibility of the fencer to insure that his entry for a competition is filed in accordance with the Organizing Committee's regulations for that event.
3. Unless otherwise specified, all AFLA competitions are governed by the AFLA Rules and it is the responsibility of the fencer to familiarize himself with them.
4. It is the responsibility of the fencer to provide himself with the necessary equipment to compete in accordance with the Rules of the AFLA.
5. Unless otherwise provided, a fencer who violates any of the above directions is subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Chapter III - Entries

1. Filing and Fees

Unless otherwise specified in the schedule of events, team and individual entries shall be forwarded in writing to the chairman of the appropriate Bout Committee at least one week in advance of the scheduled date for the event. The entry must be accompanied by the appropriate entry fee. Entries to the National Championships are subject to special regulations (Chapter VI, National Championship entries must be submitted at least three weeks prior to the opening of the event.

2. Refunds

Unless otherwise specified in the schedule of events, entry fees received in accordance with paragraph (1) above will be refunded if the Bout Committee receives notice of the withdrawal not less than 72 hours before the scheduled date for the event. (See special rules for National Championship.)

3. Denial of Entry

The Bout Committee shall reject any entry from a member who is not in good standing because of arrears in dues or entry fees, because of disciplinary penalties in effect, or otherwise.

4. Team Events

- (a) There shall be no limitation on the number of team entries from one club unless a specific limit is fixed in advance by the appropriate governing body.
- (b) Members of two or more teams representing the same club may not be interchanged during the competition (see exception for National Championships, Chapter V, Section C-2a).
- (c) The names of individual fencers on the team need not be formally filed at the time the team entry is made, but should be given to the Bout Committee before the plan of competition is worked out.
- (d) No team entry shall be permitted to compete with a lesser number of members than required for the particular event (which shall be three unless otherwise announced in the schedule).
- (e) Every individual member of a team shall, by participating in the competition, personally certify his eligibility to compete.

5. Composite Teams

- (a) A Composite team is one whose members do not represent the same club (they may all be unattached). Such teams are permitted unless notice to the contrary is included in the schedule of events. Further, a fencer may be part of a composite team in an event in which his club is formally represented with the approval of the appropriate Division. Composite teams may compete in all concours in the National Championship qualifying round.
- (b) Composite teams must furnish a guarantee for the safe custody of any trophy which may be won.
- (c) The Bout Committee shall refuse the entry of any composite team when, in its judgment, the conditions of subsections (a) and (b) have not been complied with in every respect.
- (d) A fencer who is a member of a club may fence on a composite team without prejudice to his right to represent his club during the same season. (See Chapter 1, Section 8).

Chapter IV - Discipline

The principles set forth in the International Code of Discipline (Part VII) shall govern the imposition of disciplinary penalties in the U.S., with such modifications as may be necessary to conform to the structural organization of the AFLA and to any provisions contained in this chapter.

1. Vindictive or Intentional Misconduct

In the U.S., a fencer who commits a vindictive act, or who during in-fighting intentionally strikes his opponent, shall immediately be penalized one touch; and upon repetition of the offense during any part of the competition shall be irrevocably excluded from the event without prejudice to further disciplinary action. The determination of whether a 'vindictive act' has been committed or 'intentional misconduct' has occurred lies within the discretion of the President of the Jury.

2. Jury of Appeal (See Chapter II, Section 4)

(a) Appeal procedure. If a protest against a decision of the Bout Committee or the President of Jury (where permitted under the Fencing Rules) has been properly filed and has been overruled, an appeal may be taken to the Jury of Appeal for that competition. Notice of the appeal must be given to the Bout Committee. No other body may recognize a competition appeal prior to its registry with the Bout Committee. (See also Rules 615 (c) 617, 650).

(b) Penalties. (See Rules 509, 618). In the case the penalty of exclusion or disqualification is inflicted during a competition upon an individual or team, the Jury of Appeal shall determine whether the penalty is for violation of a technical rule or for a serious breach of good order or a flagrant violation of the code of good sportsmanship. If the first, the penalty should not deprive an individual or team or any placement or prizes earned before the offense. If one of the latter, the penalty may include forfeiture of any placement or prizes earned during the competition. In all cases, the record of the action taken and the reasons therefor must be filed with the Secretary for presentation to the National Board of Directors. In addition, the Jury of Appeals may recommend to the appropriate Executive Committee or the Board of Directors the imposition of more severe penalties, i.e. reprimand, suspension or expulsion from the AFLA.

Chapter V - Special Rules for the National Championship Tournament

A. General

1. Nature of the Tournament

The national championship competitions shall be announced annually in the divisional and

International schedule of events and shall be held in two parts: First, a preliminary open qualifying competition (consisting of one or more rounds) which shall be held in each division for its AFLA members in good standing; Second, a subsequent championship competition limited to duly qualified contestants. The championship competitions shall constitute the National Championship Tournament and shall include open individual and team events in men's foil, epee, sabre, and women's foil and individual Under-19 events in men's foil, epee, sabre, and women's foil.

2. Date and Place of Tournament, Qualifying Competitions and Sectional Championships

The date and place of the Tournament shall be determined at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors in September of the preceding year.

Bids for the Tournament shall be submitted to the Board of Directors by interested divisions at least nine months in advance of the Annual Meeting of the Board held in September of the year preceding the event. Bids should include a full description of the facilities and personnel available and a plan for financing the necessary expenses of the Tournament. In the absence of divisional bids the Championships are automatically assigned to the Metropolitan Division.

The divisional qualifying rounds are to be held at least six weeks prior to the opening date of the National Championships. Sectional championships are to be held at least four weeks prior to the opening date of the National Championships.

3. Organization

(a) The Organizing Committee is responsible for providing all physical facilities, necessary equipment, supplies and personnel. The Chairman and additional members are appointed by the President of the AFLA after consultation with the Chairman and Executive Committee of the host division subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

i. The scope of the Tournament should be spacious, well-lighted and well-ventilated, with dressing rooms and showers for men and women. It should be within reasonable proximity to housing and eating facilities. Enclosed space with lock and key should be available for use by technicians and for storage. Adequate space for the Bout Committee should be close to and in sight of the fencing area. A closed room must be available for the Bout Committee deliberations. A public address system must be available.

ii. A minimum of ten regulation strips must be available for the Tournament. For electrical weapons there must also be a metallic covering for each strip, with masking tape or other means for fastening it to the floor; a minimum of 15 combination foil-epee, or 15 each of separate foil and epee indicators and batteries (or equivalent power source); not less than 40 reels and connecting cables so as to permit a double set of reels operating on each strip with scores; and interconnecting switches for each strip to switch the proper connecting cables to the indicators. Extension lights for each foil strip are required. Each strip must have a stop watch or stop clock as well as weights and travel gauges. These should be a public scoreboard for at least the final round.

iii. A Technician and Assistant Technicians (6 to 8) shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee shall provide the equipment and space required for inspection and repair of weapons and machines. It should also provide for the sale of weapons and body cords to contestants whose personal armament breaks down during the competitions and cannot be repaired without undue delay.

iv. The Organizing Committee shall arrange for the attendance of an adequate number of trained personnel (directors, judges, time keepers, scorers, etc.) to insure the proper and continuous conduct of the Tournament. It is also responsible for publicity, arrangements for Gala Night and publication of the program.

(b) The Organizing Committee shall nominate and obtain the services of a full-time Press Officer whose chief function shall be activities related to publicity and press releases, and who shall prepare a summary of the events for American Fencing.

(c) The Bout Committee, subject only to the Jury of Appeal, has the ultimate authority for conducting the National Championships. It is in charge of all personnel, competitors, officials and other persons present, including the audience. The Chairman and other members of the Bout Committee are appointed by the President of the AFLA after consulting with the chairman and Executive Committee of the host division subject to approval of the Board. The Bout Committee shall be responsible for the assignment of directors and judges. In this they must follow the approved list of officials published by the Directors Commission. The Bout Committee must assign the highest ranked directors before they assign lower ranked directors. (The rankings are "C", highest, 3, 2, 1A, 1 lowest.) Once assigned, directors may be reassigned or relieved at the discretion of the Bout Committee.

i. The elected National Officers of the League are automatically members of the National Bout Committee.

(d) The Jury of Appeal at the National championships shall be composed of all members of the Board of Directors present at the event, the Chairman or acting Chairman of the Bout Committee, and an officer from every division competing and not otherwise represented; in the latter case, if no officer is present a member of the division shall be chosen by majority vote of the other members of the Jury of Appeal. The Chairman shall be the senior nationally elected officer present; if no national officer is present, a chairman shall be elected by the Jury of Appeal from among its members. Each member, including the chairman shall cast one vote. In the event of a tie vote the chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

4. Financial Assistance

In order to assure the strongest possible representation from all sections of the country at the Tournament, the Board of Directors requires the host division to provide travel allowances under the following policies:

- (a) No allowance is made to any competitor residing in the Section where the Tournament is held.
- (b) National Champions are entitled to the cost of round trip transportation by air on scheduled airlines. They may not receive additional allowances under (c) and (d) below.
- (c) Outstanding competitors in the previous year's Tournament (medalists and the next three finalists) shall receive partial allowances not to exceed 1/3 of round trip fare by air.
- (d) Each Sectional and Metropolitan Champion shall receive an allowance not to exceed 1/3 of round trip fare and the contribution may be matched by the Section's treasury.
- (e) No individual may receive more than two of the allowances contemplated in (c) and (d) above, nor more than the cost of round trip by air.
- (f) Unused allowances detailed above may not be transferred to others.

5. Schedule of Tournament

The exact schedule of events shall be prepared by the Organizing Committee in consultation with the Chairman of the Bout Committee and, when approved by the Board of Directors, shall be published in the official organ of the AFLA, American Fencing.

B. Eligibility For The Tournament

1. General

- (a) Only members in good standing at the time the entries for the Nationals are closed are entitled to compete in the National Championship Competition.
- (b) Entry to the National Championship Competition is limited to qualified U.S. Citizens and permanent residents only.

2. Automatic Individual Qualifiers

- (a) The following members of the AFLA who are U.S. Citizens or permanent residents and in good standing are eligible to participate in the individual events of the Tournament without taking part in the qualifying competitions and without reducing the number of other qualifiers from the division or the national division to which they belong:
 - i. Medalists and the next 5 ranking finalists in each weapon of the immediately preceding National Championship are eligible to participate in the event in which they were ranked.
 - ii. Former national champions in each weapon.
 - iii. Members of the U.S. Olympic or Pan American Team, whichever team was selected most recently, provided, however, that such selection did not occur more than four years prior to the current Tournament, are eligible to participate in the weapon(s) in which they were selected for the team.
 - iv. Current Sectional and Metropolitan champions in each weapon are eligible to participate in the weapon in which they won their championships.
 - v. Not more than six members of the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Squad in specie certified for the current year by the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Olympic Committee. The normal rules regarding club representation during the season are waived as to Pentathletes for the purpose of exercising this privilege in the tournament.

(b) A fencer competing in an official FIE Championship with the approval of the Board of Directors may be granted automatic qualification, at the discretion of the Board, if the qualifying competition for his division (including the National Division) was held at the time he was so engaged.

(c) The privilege of automatic qualification for individual events in the Tournament may also be extended, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, to non-resident members of the AFLA who are U.S. Citizens.

(d) The medalists of the National Under 19 Championships in the prior year are automatically qualified for the National Under 19 Championships provided they meet the requirements of age and residence or citizenship.

3. Qualifying Competitions

(a) The divisional qualifying competitions shall be held at least six weeks prior to the date set for the opening of the Tournament and shall be open to all amateur members of the AFLA in good standing, who meet the requirements hereinafter set forth.

(b) i. Unless otherwise provided by the division, only members of the division may compete in that division's qualifying competition. No amateur member of the division who is in good standing and files a proper entry shall be denied entry because of nationality or membership in a foreign fencing federation. In exceptional cases, subject to specific approval by the Board of Directors, a member of the AFLA in good standing may be permitted to qualify directly if he fulfills all of the following conditions: (1) that he earned qualification from his division the previous season, (2) that he was physically unable to compete in his current qualifying competition. No individual who has for the same season unsuccessfully attempted to qualify in a divisional qualifying competition shall be permitted to qualify by any other method.

ii. In the event that the winner of a recognized inter-collegiate conference is unable to qualify from his AFLA division by virtue of a conflict between his collegiate schedule and his division qualifying round, he shall be eligible for automatic qualification as provided in the rules, notwithstanding his failure to qualify in the preceding year.

(c) Entries for the qualifying competition shall be timely sent to the Chairman of the Divisional Bout Committee or other person according to the divisional schedule.

(d) All qualifying competitions shall conform strictly to the rules governing AFLA events and shall be held by the round-robin pool method with not less than three contestants qualifying from each pool to the subsequent round. Ties for qualification to succeeding rounds of the qualifying competition and to the championship competition shall be fenced off.

(e) Subject to the limitations in the preceding paragraph, each division at its discretion may designate its divisional open championships as its qualifying competition.

(f) In the event that the number of entries for a qualifying competition is less than the number of authorized qualifiers (see Sections 3 and 4 following), the qualifying competition need not be held and all entries shall be automatically qualified for the Tournament.

(g) Only members of the armed forces of the U.S. not regularly assigned to duty within the territory of an established division, and not members of the U.S. Modern Pentathlon squad, may qualify for individual events as representatives of the "Armed Forces at Large." In the event that the number of such entries is more than three, the National Bout Committee for the National Tournament shall schedule a preliminary competition to determine the qualifiers for the Tournament.

(h) An aggrieved fencer may appeal from the local bout committee and/or the Jury of Appeal for a qualifying competition any decisions involving a possible violation of the rules to the Board of Directors by forwarding said appeal to the National Secretary, 3352nd Street, West New York, New Jersey 07093, within three days after the qualifying round.

(i) The qualifying competitions for the Under 19 Championships are open to all who have not reached their 19th birthday as of Jan. 1 of the year in which the final rounds of the Championships are held.

i. Each Section is required to set up divisional qualifying criteria in the manner of the regular Sectional Championship.

ii. East Section shall conduct an Under 19 qualifying tournament to determine three qualifiers in each weapon and 3 alternates. For purposes of the Under 19 Tournament, the Metropolitan division is considered a Section.

4. Number of Individual Qualifiers

(a) In all qualifying competitions for the national individual championships the number of

qualifiers who will be eligible to compete in the Tournament from each division shall be determined by the number of eligible contestants competing for qualification. Not included in the number of eligible contestants are those who, though fencing in the qualifying competition, (1) qualify automatically or (2) are not members of the division.

(b) The minimum number of qualifiers from a division shall be three if eight or fewer eligible contestants compete in the qualifying competition.

(c) Additional qualifiers shall be permitted if nine or more eligible contestants compete in the qualifying competition, as follows: 9-12 inclusive, one additional qualifier; 13-15 inclusive, two additional qualifiers; 16-19 inclusive, three additional qualifiers; 19-21 inclusive, four additional qualifiers; 22-24 inclusive, five additional qualifiers; 25-36 inclusive, six additional qualifiers, and one more additional qualifier for each 10 eligible competitors in excess of 36.

(d) Notwithstanding the limitations set forth above, the host division shall be allowed to qualify a minimum of ten for each individual event, in addition to automatic qualifiers.

(e) Each Section shall qualify 3 members in each weapon to the Under 19 Championships. The Metropolitan division is considered a section for the purpose of qualification to the National Under 19 Championships.

5. Number of Team Qualifiers

(a) Each division may qualify a maximum of three teams for each team event in the Tournament. The U.S. Modern Pentathlon squad and the three branches of the armed forces (Army, Air Force, Navy) may each enter one team in each event. The normal rules regarding club requirements during the season are waived as to Pentathletes and service persons for purposes of exercising this privilege in the Tournament.

(b) Teams shall represent a recognized U.S. club and no club may qualify more than one team even though the rules of the qualifying competition may permit a club to enter two or more teams.

(c) Composite teams are forbidden in the Tournament.

(d) Only Teams located within the territorial limits of the division shall qualify from that division.

(e) Composite teams may enter the qualifying rounds but must compete hors concours.

6. Alternates

(a) In addition to the regular qualifiers provided in the preceding rules, each division may determine a number of alternates who shall, in a specified order, become eligible for the Tournament in the event of the failure to enter of a regularly qualified individual or team. The number of such alternates shall be equal to the number of non-automatic qualifiers from the division. It is permissible for secretaries, if they determine at the time of the qualifying competition, that a person definitely will not go to the National Championships, to bypass this person's name and take the next qualified alternate. Once the list has been properly submitted, no substitutions may be made.

(b) No individual may be an alternate unless he has actually participated in the qualifying competition.

7. Certification of Qualifiers and Alternates

(a) Immediately upon the completion of the qualifying competition in each weapon the Secretary of each division shall transmit to the Secretary of the League the following information:

i. A certified list of the number of individual fencers taking part in the qualifying competition.

ii. A certified list of the qualifiers from that division (including automatic qualifiers who are members of that division), in order of their estimated competitive strength.

iii. A certified list of alternates in each weapon, in order of placement.

iv. A certified list of the teams authorized to represent the division, and any alternates.

(b) This information must reach the Secretary of the League at least four weeks prior to the date set for the opening of the Tournament, and does not constitute the required entry for the Tournament. Failure to provide such certified lists may lead to the disqualification of competitors from that division.

(c) The Sectional (and Metropolitan) secretaries must submit the list of Sectional (and Metropolitan) Champions, finalists and Under 19 qualifiers to the National Secretary, 33-62nd Street, West New York, New Jersey 07093, four weeks prior to the opening date of the National Championship.

(d) The Secretary of the League shall check the certified lists against the list of AFLA members in good standing and shall forward the lists, with his endorsement, or corrections, to the Chairman of the National Bout Committee for his guidance.

C. Entries

1. Procedure for Entries

(a) Every individual or team qualifier, including every automatic qualifier and every alternate, who wishes to participate in the championship competitions of the Tournament must file an official entry with the Chairman of the National Bout Committee (or the person designated in the schedule for the Tournament), at least three weeks in advance of the date set for the opening of the Tournament.

(b) Every entry must be accompanied by the required entry fee and a stamped self-addressed envelope. All fees are determined by the Board of Directors and shall be announced in the schedule for the Tournament.

(c) Within one week after the closing date for entries the Chairman of the Bout Committee shall check the entries received against the certified list of qualifiers and alternates which has the endorsement of the Secretary of the AFLA. He shall determine the number eligible to qualify from each division, the number of valid entries actually on hand from the division, and shall return the entries and fees to those alternates who are in excess of the permissible number for the division. No entry fees will be refunded for withdrawals thereafter and no substitutions shall be permitted.

(d) The Chairman of the Bout Committee shall inform every entrant of his acceptance for the Tournament and shall forward a complete list of accepted entries, and the collected fees, to the Chairman of the Organizing Committee not less than 10 days prior to the Tournament.

2. Composition of Teams

(a) A duly qualified and entered team need not limit its composition to those members of the club who actually competed on that team in the qualifying competition and the general rule providing that members of two or more teams representing the same club may not be interchanged during a competition (applicable in the qualifying competition) shall not apply.

(b) No fencer shall be permitted to represent a club in the team championship competition unless he is a bona fide member and represented that club at least once during that regular season in a competition held by the division where the club is located.

D. Form of Competition

1. First Round

(a) The first round of the championship competitions, team and individual, shall be held by the pool method, but byes may be given without limitation of number at the discretion of the Bout Committee according to a formula of general application.

(b) The seeded draw in the first round of the championship competitions shall be governed first by the list of National Ranking Fencers and fencers of International Rating and next according to the judgment of the Bout Committee aided by the statements of estimated strength contained in the certifications filed by divisional secretaries. However, members of the same division shall insofar as possible be separated, in the same manner as required for members of the same club.

2. Subsequent Rounds

(a) Unless otherwise specifically announced in the schedule, at least three fencers shall qualify from each elimination round in individual events, and the final round robin shall consist of at least six fencers. Tie for qualifications shall be fenced off in all rounds of the Tournament.

(b) In the event that a "super-final" of only two fencers is scheduled, the championship shall be decided either on the basis of a ten-touch bout in men's events and an eight-touch bout for women with a two-touch advantage (up to a maximum of 12 and 10 respectively) required for victory, or on the basis of individual matches for two out of three bouts (5 touches in men's events, 4 touches for women).

(c) If the schedule announces that the final of an individual championship is to be held by direct elimination, it shall state whether the top sixteen or top eight competitors will participate in the direct elimination and the type of bouts or matches to be fenced.

(d) In team events, after the first round, the competition may proceed, at the discretion of the Bout Committee, by the pool method or by direct elimination, or a combination of both, to produce a final of two, three, or four teams.

(e) Fencers who have been eliminated are required to report to the Bout Committee for assignment as officials in the subsequent round. Failure to report will make the individual subject to disciplinary action, which may include exclusion from subsequent National Championships.

Chapter VI - The League

A. Jurisdiction and Affiliations

The Amateur Fencers League of America, Inc. (AFLA) is the official governing body for amateur fencing in the United States and its exclusive jurisdiction is recognized by the Fédération Internationale d'Esgrime (FIE), the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and other organizations.

The AFLA is the sole representative of U.S. amateur fencing in the FIE, the governing body for all official international fencing competitions including the World and Olympic Fencing Championships. Any U.S. fencer wishing to participate in official international contests must be accredited to the FIE or to the host country as to amateur standing and qualification by the AFLA.

The AFLA is a member of the USOC, and its representatives serve on the Board of Directors of the USOC. The League works in close cooperation with the USOC in the selection and training of U.S. Olympic fencing teams through its majority membership on the Olympic Fencing Games Committee. Every member of a U.S. Olympic fencing team must be a member of the AFLA.

Through articles of alliance signed in 1905, the AAU recognizes the individual winners of AFLA national championships as the official amateur fencing champions of the United States. The AAU also respects and enforces all penalties of suspension and disqualification imposed by the AFLA.

The AFLA maintains close relations with the National Fencing Coaches Association of America (NFCAA), the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Intercollegiate Fencing Association (IFA), the intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association (IWFA), and several regional intercollegiate associations, whose respective jurisdiction of fencers in their member colleges is explicitly recognized. Most of the active fencing teachers in the U.S. are Associate Members of the AFLA and enjoy voting privileges.

B. Brief History

1. Foundation and Officers

The AFLA was founded in New York City on April 22, 1891. Prior to that date fencing events had been conducted by the AAU. The organizers elected Dr. Graeme M. Hammond as the first President and he held that office from 1891 to 1925. The office has been held successively by Col. Henry Breckinridge, F. Bernard O'Connor, Leon M. Schoonmaker, Harold Van Buskirk, John R. Huffman, Darnell Every, Miguel A. de Capriles, Jose R. de Capriles, Donald S. Thompson, Dr. Paul T. Makler, Norman Lewis, and Alan Miles Ruben, the present incumbent.

The office of Secretary has been held successively by W. Scott O'Connor (1891-1925), F. Bernard O'Connor, Leon M. Schoonmaker, J. Howard Hanway, Darnell Every, John R. Huffman, Ervin S. Acel, Warren A. Dow, Darnell Every, Ralph W. Goldstein, Allan S. Kwartler, Anthony J. Orsi, and William J. Latzko.

The office of Treasurer was discharged by the Secretary prior to 1936. Since then the Treasurers have been J. Howard Hanway, George Cochran, Robert S. Driscoll, Rudolph Ozol, Leo Sobel and Peter Tishman.

The office of Foreign Secretary was an elective position from 1951 to 1968, when it was discontinued. Tracy Jaekel, Gen. J. V. Grombach, Ralph M. Goldstein, Laszlo Pongo, Norman Lewis and George V. Worth held this position.

In 1968, the new office of Executive Vice President was authorized, and is now held by Norman Lewis. Five Vice Presidents, one from each Section, are also national officers.

All AFLA officers, national and local, perform their duties without remuneration or expense reimbursement and often at considerable sacrifice of time and personal income.

2. International Activity

Under the leadership of the AFLA, United States fencers have achieved considerable prestige on and off the strip. Despite financial and geographical handicaps to participation in most major

international competitions, the U.S. has competed with distinction in international events since 1904 and has been a finalist in the team and individual competitions of every weapon in the Olympic and World Championships. The record of the Pan American Games has established the supremacy of U.S. fencing in the Western Hemisphere.

In 1958 the AFLA has host to the World Championships in Philadelphia. The event attracted 33 nations, and 203 different individuals competed. Started in 1961, the annual Martini-Rossi International Tournament in New York has become a premier international fencing event that brings many of the ranking world fencers to the United States.

Two fencers have served on the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The first was Frederick R. Coudert of New York, who was succeeded in 1952 by J. Brooks B. Parker of Philadelphia.

The highest honor and vote of confidence in U.S. fencing was bestowed by the FIE in 1960 when it elected Miguel A. de Capriles as President for a four year term and entrusted the running of international fencing affairs to an all-U.S. Bureau including Jose R. de Capriles, Deputy President; Gen. J. V. Grombach, Secretary-General; and Leo G. Nunes, Treasurer.

The honor of taking the Olympic oath at the opening ceremony on behalf of all the assembled athletes was given to Lt. George C. Calnan in the 1932 Olympiad and to George V. Worth in the 1956 Pan American Games. The honor of carrying the flag for the U.S. delegation as it entered the stadium was awarded to Norman C. Armitage in the 1952 and 1956 Olympic Games and to Miguel A. de Capriles in the 1951 Pan American Games. In the 1968 Olympic Games Mrs. Janice Romary became the first woman ever to carry the flag for the U.S. delegation, this signal honor recognizing her sixth competitive appearance in the Olympic Games.

Chapter VII - Administration of National Affairs

A. The Corporation

The AFLA is a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, governed by annually elected representatives of the individual members. The classes of membership are defined in the By-Laws. The Internal Revenue Service has recognized the League as a tax-exempt organization, and all contributions qualify as charitable deductions for the donor. Information about such contributions may be obtained from the National Secretary.

B. The Board of Directors

The Board of Directors, which is the final authority on all fencing questions in the United States, consists of the national officers, the Chairman of each Division, and a number of "Additional Directors" from the divisions fixed each year on the basis of the number of members in each division.

All national officers are elected each year at the Annual Meeting of the AFLA, held at the site of and during the national championship tournament.

C. Committees of the Board

In carrying out its functions the Board of Directors relies heavily upon the work of certain standing committees and a few special committees. The committees are nominated by the President and elected by the Board. The standing committees are:

1. Executive Committee, consisting of the President, the Executive Vice President, the Secretary and not less than two other Directors, which acts for the Board during the period between regular meetings.

2. Rules Committee which recommends to the Board changes in the rules of competition. All proposals for rules changes are normally referred to this committee for study and when the Board resolves that a change shall be made, the committee is requested to draft the exact text and present it for formal approval.

3. Electrical Equipment Committee which serves the same function as the Rules Committee for all matters pertaining to the electrical equipment of competitive fencing.

4. Policy Board on American Fencing which consists of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the AFLA, and the Publisher and Editor of the magazine. All questions of policy affecting the publication of American Fencing are referred for decision to this Policy Board.

5. Junior Olympic Development Committee - which, under standards developed by the Board of Directors, reviews requests from divisions for funds and authorizes disbursements for development activities. It also distributes information on how to organize Junior Olympic development programs and otherwise assist in the build-up throughout the country of this most important AFLA activity.

6. Secondary and College Relations Committee - which working through local groups of high school and college coaches and AFLA divisional leaders, formulates comprehensive fencing programs for our school age fencers. Special competitions, increased publicity, instruction in judging and directing techniques, demonstration programs and other events are planned and carried out.

7. Fund Raising Committee - which organizes solicitation campaigns to support League activities.

8. Law Committee - which, under the supervision of the League Council, who serves as its Chairman, handles all legal matters affecting the League. It also advises on the interpretation of the Amateur Code.

9. Reinstatement Committee which reviews and investigates all applications for reinstatement to amateur status and makes recommendations to the Board. No applications are processed unless two years have elapsed since the last act of professionalism.

10. Certificate of Merit Committee which reviews properly submitted material pertaining to this honorary award and recommends issuance to the Board when appropriate.

D. The National Nominating Committee

The National Nominating Committee is elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting of the AFLA. It must consist of 5 voting members who come from at least 4 different sections of the country.

The function of the committee is to select candidates for national office and present a slate to the Secretary of the AFLA before February 1st. The committee is so composed that it is expected the members will sound out sentiment in their respective Sections and submit names which meet with general approval.

Every national officer is elected for a one-year term and there are no restrictions as to the number of terms in the By-Laws. The recent practice has been for the President to serve for four years. One new Vice President is normally elected each year, and the new Vice President must come from the same Section as the one dropped but preferably from another division. Rotation of this replacement order means that each Vice President normally serves a 5 year term.

The process for contested elections is available primarily as a safety valve in the event that the Nominating Committee fails to perform its function properly. Since contested elections are costly and usually generate animosities, the importance of the deliberations of the Nominating Committee cannot be overemphasized.

E. The U.S. Directors Commission

This commission is composed of all AFLA members who hold a valid FIE officials license, the Sectional Vice Presidents including the Chairman of the Metropolitan Division, and an appointee of the President. This group internally elects an Executive Committee of 5 members every four years, this term corresponding with the term of the International FIE Commission de l'Arbitrage. The current 5 members, empowered to act for the commission as a whole, are Lazlo Fongó (Chairman), William Latzko (Secretary), Daniel Bukantz, Ralph Goldstein, and George Worth.

Five classes of officials are recognized by this commission: 1, 1A, 2, 3, and C (FIE license). Classes 1 and 1A are awarded at the divisional level, and indicate that the holder is qualified to officiate at the preliminary and final levels, respectively, of divisional competitions. Class 2 rating is awarded by the Sectional Executive Committee after recommendation by the division and an examination by higher rated officials. The Class 2 official is qualified to officiate through the finals of the Sectional championships, as well as any lower-ranked competition. The highest domestic rating, Class 3, is awarded only by the Commission itself, after examination by at least three ranking officials and at least one Commission member. The Class 3 official is qualified to direct at any level of competition in the U.S., including the finals of the National Championships.

The U.S. Directors Commission published periodically a list of Class 2, 3 and C officials, and is responsible for maintaining the quality of this list. In any Group I competition it is mandatory that the highest-classified available officials be used, except they may be relieved by the Bout Committee as required to avoid overtime. The Commission is the sole authority for requests to the FIE for examination as an International Director.

U.S. fencers have served with distinction as presidents of jury in the finals of Olympic and World Championships. M. A. de Capriles (1936, 1957, 1958), J. R. de Capriles (1952, 1956), Dr. Daniel Bukantz (1958, 1960, 1964, 1967), Ralph M. Goldstein (1958, 1960), Allan S. Kwartler (1960), George V. Worth (1960, 1963). An all-U.S. jury served throughout the 1950 sabre final, consisting of Jose de Capriles, Dr. Bukantz, R. Richard Dyer, Mr. Kwartler and Mr. Worth. The following U.S. fencers have served on the Bout Committee in charge of Olympic Championships: Tracy Jaekel, M. A. de Capriles, J. R. de Capriles, and Curtis C. Ettinger.

F. Official Publication

In order to promote better communication among fencers throughout the United States, the AFLA in 1948 designated the magazine American Fencing as the official publication of the AFLA. American Fencing was founded by Jose R. de Capriles and William L. Dohorn who served as Editor and Publisher respectively and without remuneration. The magazine is distributed to all members of the AFLA six times a year as part of their membership, and is often used to make official announcements to the League members. Subscriptions also circulate throughout the fencing world.

Persons having articles they wish printed in the magazine should send them to the Publisher, W. L. Dohorn, P. O. Box 141, Terre Haute, Indiana 47808. Only signed articles will be accepted.

G. Promotional, Technical and Instructional Material Available

The following list of material is presently available (April 1968) to any interested fencer and additional material will be added to the list from time to time. Apply to:

The Secretary
Amateur Fencers League of America, Inc.
33 - 62nd Street
West New York, New Jersey 07093

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Questions and Answers about the AFLA | 6. How to Understand and Enjoy the Sport of Fencing | 11. Junior Olympic Fencing Brochure |
| 2. AFLA Membership Application | 7. Fencing Bibliography | 12. Junior Olympic Publicity Poster |
| 3. How to Build AFLA Membership | 8. Fencing Films and Visual Aids | 13. AFLA Pin |
| 4. How to Organize a Fencing Program | 9. Direction and Judging Questions and answers | 14. AFLA Patch |
| 5. How to Organize a Fencing Workshop | 10. AFLA Fund-Raising Brochure | 15. Rules Book |
| | | 16. Score Sheets |
| | | 17. AFLA Decals |

H. Trustees of Investment & Development Funds

The president of the AFLA and two other individuals who may not be officers of the League serve as managers of two investment accounts looking towards the long term development of the AFLA activities. One fund is earmarked for domestic development programs and the other is dedicated to improving our international efforts. While the investment income of each account is available for current activities, the principle and any additions thereto can not be expended until the account reaches \$100,000 or has been in existence for at least fifteen (15) years.

I. Geographical Organization

At first, membership in the AFLA was heavily concentrated in Metropolitan New York, although divisions were created to administer the local affairs of fencing groups in other parts of the country. The first divisions were established on March 20, 1892 in Nebraska and New England. In 1968 there were 52 active and 11 inactive divisions as well as a National group composed of members who do not belong to an active division. This National group included all of Metropolitan New York until 1950 when the Metropolitan Division was formed.

The active divisions in 1968 were: Arizona, Northern California, Southern California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Central Florida, Florida Gateway, Florida Gulf Coast, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Central Illinois, Indianapolis, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, St. Louis, (Mo.), Nevada, New England, New Jersey, New Mexico, Hudson-Berkshire (N.Y. Mass.), Long Island (N.Y.), Metropolitan (N.Y.), Westchester (N.Y.), Western New York, West Point (N.Y.), North Carolina, North Dakota, Columbus (O.), Miami Valley (O.), Northern Ohio, Southwest Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Harrisburg (Pa.), Philadelphia (Pa.), Western Pennsylvania, Border (Tex.), Gulf Coast (Tex.), North Texas, South Texas, Virginia, Washington D.C., Western Washington (State), West Virginia, Wisconsin. The inactive divisions were: Birmingham (Ala.), Alaska, Sacramento (Calif.), San Diego (Calif.), Inland Empire (Idaho Wash.), New Orleans (La.), Mid New York, Nebraska, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah.

Non-administrative regional units, called Sections, are created for the purpose of conducting regional championships among divisions within a section. The first sectional championship was organized in the Pacific Coast in 1925 and has been held annually ever since. The Midwest held its first championship in 1934, the Southwest in 1950, the North Atlantic in 1955, and the Southeast in 1966. The names of the sections indicate the general boundaries of their territory, with the North Atlantic including those divisions from Maine to Washington, D.C. and west to the Ohio border (excluding the

Metropolitan Division), the Southeast including the states from Virginia to Alabama, the Midwest including the entire area commonly known by that name, the Southwest covering the territory south of the Midwest, and the Pacific Coast including California, Oregon, and Washington.

J. Professional Certificate of Merit

The Professional Certificate of Merit is an honorary award voted by the Board of Directors of professional teachers of fencing who have rendered distinguished service to the AFLA by developing among their students the qualities of technical skill and love of fencing, as well as the spirit of sportsmanship. This award does not purport to certify the professional competence of fencing instructors, but the AFLA believes that outstanding instructors are deserving of recognition by the national governing body for fencing in the United States.

The Professional Certificate of Merit is never voluntarily offered by the Board of Directors and it cannot be solicited by a teacher of fencing. A proposal for the award must be made by two or more members of the Board, or by the Executive Committee of a division, in the form of a letter to the Board accompanied by the fencing history of the professional to be honored and the names and achievements of at least two of his recognized pupils in AFLA competition. The submitted material is then reviewed by the Certificate of Merit Committee which reports to the Board of Directors its findings and recommendations.

Chapter VIII - The Amateur Code and Rules Governing Exhibitions

A. Constitutional Definition

The Bylaws of the AFLA (Article IV Section 2) contain the following definition:

"An amateur fencer is one who participates in fencing solely for the love of the sport, who has not derived direct or indirect financial benefits from competition or exhibitions in fencing, and who has never been a professional teacher of fencing or professional competitor or trainer in any branch of athletics."

The Bylaws also give the Board of Directors the exclusive power to enact, interpret and apply the Amateur Code. The Board is guided in its interpretations and decisions by its own precedents and those of the AAU and the FIE.

B. Precedents in the United States

Under the precedents of the AFLA there is no objection to the receipt of compensation by an amateur fencer for writing, editing or publishing news reports, articles, magazines, or books on fencing; or for weapon or equipment repair, or manufacture; the guiding principle in these cases being that the fencer is capitalizing upon his skill as an author, designer, speaker, electrical technician, rather than upon his skill or reputation as a fencer. Compensation received as an official at collegiate fencing meets must not substantially exceed actual out of pocket expenses incurred in connection therewith and must conform to a basic plan of general application that has been approved by the Board of Directors. The policies of the AFLA with respect to fencing exhibitions are stated in a separate portion of this chapter.

Under the precedents of the AAU, the following acts are forbidden:

- (1) Participation in any competition not held under the rules and sanction of the AFLA.
- (2) Obtaining any financial benefits, directly or indirectly, from participation in any competition or exhibition in any sport. This includes the sale of personal prizes, receipt of excessive travel expenses, and any other financial benefits.
- (3) Participation in a competition or exhibition against or with persons ineligible to compete as amateurs, without having first obtained permission to do so from the Board of Directors or from an authorized representative of the Board.
- (4) Participation in any sport under an assumed name, unless duly approved in advance by the proper governing body; or commission of fraud or of grossly unsportsmanlike conduct in connection with participation in any athletic sport.

C. International Precedents

The FIE Statutes report the following precedents:

- (1) An amateur may participate in mixed competitions (with or against professionals) provided that such competitions are authorized by their national federation; he may not compete in an event organized by a professional group (1931 Congress).

(2) An amateur has the right to receive in cash, as a maximum, the reimbursement of his actual expenses in participating in a competition. But such reimbursement cannot be contingent upon the final standing of such a fencer in the competition (1949 Congress). Reimbursable expenses may include: (a) transportation costs; (b) the cost of lodging and meals; (c) pocket money in a moderate amount (1956 Congress).

(3) An amateur does not have the right: (a) to bet upon the competitions in which he takes part; (b) to sell or pledge prizes won in competitions; (c) to participate in competitions under an assumed name without the authorization of his national federation; (d) to participate in competitions for money; (e) to lend his name to any kind of commercial advertisement; (f) to accept cash prizes in a competition; (g) to accept reimbursement for participation expenses in international tournaments for a period longer than 30 days per year, travel time excluded; (h) to accept reimbursement of the expenses of persons accompanying him to a competition; (i) to accept, under any form whatsoever, any indemnification for loss of earnings or loss of employment time. However, this prohibition does not include vacations under the normal conditions of his profession, or vacations granted under similar conditions on the occasion of the Olympic Games (and provided they do not constitute in a round-about fashion a reimbursement, direct or indirect, of lost salary), or the payment in hardship and exceptional cases, after due inquiry in each instance and in the form of a disbursement made directly to the employer, of an indemnity to the wife or mother of an athlete who is the sole support of his family (IOC, 35th Session, 1938); (j) to accept any remuneration to shift his affiliation from one club to another or to remain a member of a club; (k) to accept any remuneration for the use of articles or equipment marketed by a particular dealer; (l) to be or to have been paid as a fencing master or teacher or provost teaching fencing (1958 Congress); (m) to be or to have been paid for training other persons for sports competition (1959 Congress).

(4) For each Olympic Games only those fencers who conform to the latest definition approved by the IOC will be considered as eligible amateurs (1958 Congress).

D. Amateur Coaching

1. Policy

The AFLA recognized that the teaching of fencing by amateurs is a major instrumentality for the development of the sport in the U.S., but suggests that amateurs encourage established groups to hire a professional teacher as soon as the membership can support one.

2. Prohibitions

In furtherance of this policy, the following prohibitions have been enacted:

- (a) An amateur coach may not receive direct or indirect compensation for his services.
- (b) An amateur coach may not, without specific authorization from the Board of Directors or the national AFLA Executive Committee, regularly give instruction (even if he receives no compensation) in any case where some person or organization assesses a fee or requires a consideration for such instruction, as distinguished from the use of physical facilities or equipment. However, nothing in this paragraph is intended to prohibit mutual instruction or coaching by members of a club for their common benefit.
- (c) An amateur coach may not receive reimbursement of expenses for giving private lessons or for private training of an individual for fencing competition. An amateur coach may receive reimbursement of his actual out-of-pocket expenses for travel and subsistence in connection with group coaching, but this shall not be construed as authorizing the payment of compensation for instruction under the guise of reimbursed expenses.

3. Exemptions

Notwithstanding the preceding prohibitions, the following are regarded as amateur fencers unless otherwise disqualified:

- (a) Teachers of physical education or other subjects who are full-time members of the faculty of an accredited elementary school, high school, preparatory school, college or university, who, as an incidental part of their duties, offer instruction in fencing to students regularly enrolled in such academic institutions, and who receive no extra remuneration therefore beyond their regular academic salaries.
- (b) Members of the Armed Forces of the U.S. who are detailed or assigned to give instruction in fencing as part of their service duties, and who receive no extra remuneration therefore beyond the service pay of their rating or rank.
- (c) Students who are degree candidates in good standing, who teach fencing at their college or university as an incidental condition of their participation in an established plan of financial aid to

students, and who receive benefits under such a plan that do not exceed the amount normally given to other students of similar financial need and scholastic standing.

(d) Student counselors in summer camps who teach fencing as an incidental part of their duties and who do not receive more than the normal stipend for camp counselors of similar age and experience.

4. Discontinuance of Amateur Coaching

The Board of Directors, or its Executive Committee, may upon its own motion or upon complaint of any person order an investigation of any situation involving amateur coaching. Upon an affirmative finding by the Board that the continuance of such amateur coaching is detrimental to the best interests of fencing, the national secretary shall forward to the amateur coach by registered mail a formal notification of such finding. Thereafter, the acceptance of any reimbursement of expenses by the amateur coach shall constitute a violation of the Amateur Code and shall render the individual liable to disciplinary suspension for one year, and to permanent suspension upon repetition of the offense.

E. Status of Professionals in Other Sports

The AFLA By-Laws no longer require that all persons who are professionals in other sports be automatically denied amateur status in fencing. A distinction is made between professional competitors and trainers in any sport, who are denied amateur status in fencing; and professional teachers of other sports, who are eligible for amateur status in fencing as long as they are not professional teachers of fencing. This distinction has been specifically approved by the IOC in correspondence with the FIE. However, the rules governing competitors in the Olympic Games or Pan American Games may, by reason of professionalism in another sport, deny amateur status to persons regarded as amateurs by the AFLA and the FIE. The eligibility of AFLA members for Olympic or Pan American competition, therefore, will be determined by the general definition of an amateur then currently approved by the IOC or the Pan American Sports Organization.

F. Administration of Amateur Code

Each case in which there has been an alleged violation of the letter or spirit of the Amateur Code will be reviewed on its merits by the Board of Directors. When a violation is found to exist, the Board may terminate or suspend the amateur status of the violator, depending on the seriousness of the offense. Insofar as the action of the Board is disciplinary in character, it must be preceded by notice to the alleged violator and a hearing on the issue, if requested by the alleged violator.

G. Rules Governing Exhibitions

1. Requirement of Official Permission

No amateur member of the AFLA may participate in an exhibition without permission from the Board of Directors, or the division Executive Committee, or an authorized representative of these governing bodies. Violation of this rule may result in severe disciplinary penalties.

2. Type of Exhibition

It is the policy of the AFLA that any fencing exhibition must be conducted in a manner which will properly publicize and popularize the sport. No exhibition shall be authorized under conditions that place fencing in an unfavorable light.

Exhibitions of modern fencing shall conform to the rules of the AFLA. No bouts between men and women are permitted if any score is kept. The wearing of masks is required.

Exhibitions of historical swordplay in period costume are encouraged and participation in special comedy bouts within the limits of good taste is permitted.

3. Television Programs

Participation of an amateur fencer in television programs is strictly limited to that portion of the telecast devoted to entertainment. Appearance in any portion devoted to an advertising message is prohibited. If identified as a fencer on the program, donation of the fees (if any) involved in the appearance may be donated to the AFLA or the USOC to preserve amateur status.

4. Financial Limitations

An amateur may receive reimbursement of his actual out-of-pocket expenses for travel and subsistence, and may accept a medal or prize of nominal value, in connection with an occasional fencing exhibition. He may not receive any other remuneration, and he may not devote any substantial and regular portion of his time to giving exhibitions for which he receives reimbursement of expenses and prizes.

BY LAWS OF THE AMATEUR FENCERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INCORPORATED

ARTICLE I

Organization and Name

The name of this Corporation shall be "The Amateur Fencers League of America, Incorporated". The Corporation is chartered and exists under the Non-Profit Corporation Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is qualified as a tax exempt organization under the Federal Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE II

Purposes

The purposes of the Corporation shall be:

1. To promote the social welfare by advancing physical fitness through the establishment, maintenance and promotion of regular programs of athletic activity, physical conditioning and training in the art and sport of fencing.
2. To combat juvenile delinquency by providing, for children and youths, regular supervised programs of wholesome athletic activity and training in the art and sport of fencing.
3. To further individual self-discipline, build character and promote sportsmanship by providing regular supervised training, instruction and competitions in the art and sport of fencing.
4. To aid in the improvement and development of the powers of analysis, thinking, decision-making and self-discipline of the individual through training in the art and sport of fencing.
5. To provide programs of supervised and qualified instructions with approved and trained coaches and teachers in the art and sport of fencing.
6. To organize and supply directions for inter-collegiate and inter-scholastic fencing meets and competitions.
7. To instruct the public and provide general information with respect to the art and sport of fencing and the benefits to be derived from participation therein through lectures and other programs on the subject useful to the individual and beneficial to the community.
8. To disseminate knowledge and basic factual material about the art and sport of fencing.
9. To establish classes of formal instruction in the art and sport of fencing by a regular faculty according to a regular curriculum at fixed locations.
10. To establish and promote a nationwide program of fencing competitions.
11. To establish and promote the growth of fencing clubs and salles d'armes throughout the country.
12. To select and prepare individuals and teams to represent the United States in international competitions including the Olympic games and the Pan-American games.
13. To encourage the art and sport of fencing in the United States of America, its territories and possessions, to define amateur status in respect to fencing and to formulate and enforce regulations relating thereto.
14. To formulate and publish rules for management of fencing contests and exhibitions in the United States of America, its territories and possessions.
15. To group all amateur fencers within its territorial jurisdiction for the purposes of conducting annual local and national championships, and competitions preliminary thereto designed to awaken and maintain interest in competitive fencing as well as in the art of fencing as a cultural promotion and exercise.
16. To promote "people to people" friendship by maintaining harmonious relations with fencing systems of foreign countries and committees of other organizations interested in promoting international competitions and advancing the sport and art of fencing.

ARTICLE III Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall commence on 1 September and end on 31 August following.

ARTICLE IV Membership

Section 1. All persons who have met their obligations with respect to payment of dues as hereinafter provided in Article V shall be members of the corporation.

Section 2. Membership shall be of six classes: Honorary, Active, Collegiate, Student, Associate, and Life.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP shall be open to anyone who shall have rendered distinguished service to the cause of fencing. A candidate shall be elected an Honorary Member of the Corporation by the Board of Directors of the Corporation upon a two-thirds vote of those present at any meeting. Honorary Members shall have all the rights and privileges of Life Members.

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all persons upon payment of the dues specified in these By-Laws.

COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all persons who have attained the age of 19 but have not reached their 25th birthday as of the beginning of the current fiscal year upon payment of the dues for the current year as specified in these By-Laws.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all persons who have not yet attained the age of 19 as of the beginning of the current fiscal year upon payment of the dues for the current year as specified in these By-Laws.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP shall be open to any person upon payment of the dues as specified in these By-Laws. Associate Members shall have all the rights and privileges of Active Members, subject to the limitation that they shall not be entitled to fence in competitions.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP shall be open to all persons upon payment to the Corporation of the Life Membership fee specified in these By-Laws. Life Members shall have all the rights and privileges of Active Members, but shall be exempt from the obligation of paying dues subsequent to the payment of the Life Membership fee.

Section 3. All members, except Associate Members, shall be entitled to participate in any competition held under the auspices of the Corporation, subject to the limitations of these By-Laws and to such regulations and limitations as the Board of Directors may from time to time lay down with respect to particular categories or classes of members or competitions.

All members who have paid their dues, as specified in these By-Laws, on or before February 1st of each fiscal year and who have attained their 21st birthday as of that date shall have the right to vote on all matters that may be voted upon by the Corporation pursuant to these By-Laws and, to hold any office to which they may be elected or appointed provided that only amateurs may be elected as officers of the Corporation. The date of admission to membership is determined according to the provisions of Article V.

Section 4. Membership shall not entitle any member to any share in the assets of the Corporation, all of which are hereby declared to be irrevocably dedicated to the charitable purposes set forth in Article II of these By-Laws. All rights and privileges of membership shall cease upon death, resignation, expulsion or failure to pay dues.

ARTICLE V Fees, Dues and Arrears

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

Class of Membership	Annual Dues	Annual Dues Prepaid for a 3-year period
Active	\$10.00	\$25.00
Collegiate	6.00	15.00
Associate	3.00	7.50
Student	2.00	6.00

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

Section 2. Annual dues shall be allocated according to the following schedule, and Divisional and Sectional shares of dues shall be paid by the Secretary of the Corporation to the Treasurers of the Section and divisions to be retained by them.

Class of Membership	Allocation of Dues			
	Annual Divisional Share	Annual Sectional Share	Prepaid for a 3-year Period Divisional Share	Prepaid for a 3-year Period Sectional Share
Active	\$3.00	\$1.00	\$7.50	\$2.50
Collegiate	1.00	1.00	2.50	2.50
Associate	1.00	—	2.50	—
Student	1.00	—	2.50	—

Where the division is not a member of any specified section, the Sectional share of dues shall be paid by the Secretary of the Corporation to the Treasurer of the Division to be retained by the Division.

Section 3. LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE. The Life Membership fee shall be \$150.00. One-half of this fee shall be paid over by the Secretary of the Corporation to the Treasurer of the Division to which the member belongs to be retained by the Division, except that if the member also belongs to a section, the Secretary of the Corporation shall pay to the Treasurer of the Section \$10.00 to be retained by the section, and \$65.00 to the Treasurer of the Division.

Section 4. All dues are payable on application for membership and thereafter on or before September 1 of each fiscal year.

Section 5. All dues paid to the Secretary of the Corporation shall be recorded by him and unless allocated to a section or division paid over to the Treasurer for general Corporation purposes.

Section 6. A new member is not admitted to membership and an old member is not in good standing until his dues and fees have been received by the Secretary of the Corporation or by a duly authorized agent thereof.

ARTICLE VI Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Corporation shall consist of a President, an Executive Vice President, a Vice President for each established Section of the Corporation, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall preside at all meetings of the A.F.L.A., Inc. and of the Board of Directors, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to that office and which are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

Section 3. The Executive Vice President shall perform such duties as the President shall delegate to him.

Section 4. The Sectional Vice Presidents shall act as chairmen of their respective Sections and in order of their seniority (or if of equal service, then by drawing lots) in the absence of the Vice President, and the Executive Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Corporation and of the Board of Directors. Each Sectional Vice President shall within a time specified by the Secretary of Corporation, file with the Secretary of the Corporation a report of the finances and activities of his Section for the current year.

Section 5. The Secretary shall conduct all official correspondence of the Corporation, keep a record of all meetings of the Corporation and of the Board of Directors, issue notices to members of all meetings of the Corporation, and perform such duties as may be assigned to the Secretary by these By-Laws or by the President. If the Board appoints a Recording and/or Corresponding Secretary, the Secretary shall prescribe their duties and supervise their activities.

Section 6. The Treasurer shall keep the accounts of the Corporation; shall receive all moneys, fees, dues, etc.; shall pay all bills approved by the Board of Directors; and shall preserve vouchers for such disbursements. The Treasurer shall, at the Annual Meeting, submit a report, audited by a committee of the Board of Directors, of the financial transactions of the preceding fiscal year. The Treasurer shall keep all funds of the Corporation in such account or accounts, each subject to withdrawals upon such signature or signatures, as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe.

Section 7. Before exercising their offices the President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer shall each file such bond for the faithful performance of his duties as the Board of Directors may approve.

ARTICLE VII Board of Directors

Section 1. Responsibility for the general management and policies of the Corporation shall be vested in a Board of Directors composed of the officers of the Corporation, the Chairman of each Division of the Corporation and Additional Directors from the Divisions of the number hereinafter specified.

- (a) Each Division shall be entitled to one Director for the first seventy-five members and an Additional Director for each succeeding seventy-five members or major fraction thereof. Members, for purposes of entitlement to Additional Directors, shall be in good standing as of the end of the preceding fiscal year.
- (b) The president of the National Fencing Coaches Association of America *ex officio* shall be a director of the Corporation.

Section 2. The officers of the Corporation shall be elected annually by the membership of the Corporation in the manner specified in these By-Laws.

The Divisional Chairmen and Additional Directors, if any, of each Division shall be elected annually by the membership of each Division in the manner specified in the By-Laws of the Corporation and of the Division.

- (a) In the elections for Additional Directors each divisional member eligible to vote shall be entitled to cast as many votes as there are Additional Directors to be elected. Each such member may cast the whole number of his votes for one nominee or distribute them upon two or more nominees as he may prefer.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall be vested with full powers of management of the Corporation subject to these By-Laws.

Section 4. At any meeting of the Board of Directors a quorum shall be seven members present in person. On failure of a quorum a lesser number shall have the power to adjourn to a given time and place. The date, place and time of each meeting shall be designated by the President.

Section 5. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be convened, upon not less than fourteen days' notice, during the month of September.

Section 6. Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may, and upon written request of seven or more members must, be called by the President on fourteen day's notice. All notices shall state the object of the meeting, and business not mentioned therein may not be acted on at any Special Meeting, except that appropriations shall be in order at any meeting of the Board without notice.

Section 7. Voting by Mail.

- (a) Any specific question or matter which might be passed at a special Meeting of the Board shall be submitted to a vote by mail at the discretion of the President, or upon written request of any seven members of the Board of Directors who hold membership, in the aggregate, in three or more Divisions.
- (b) On vote by mail, the Secretary of the Corporation shall mail to each member of the Board a clear statement of the question to be voted upon, and of the date on which voting shall be closed, with a request that each member cast his vote thereon and communicate it to the Secretary prior to the closing date. The closing date shall be not less than fourteen days after the mailing of the question.

Section 8. The Board of Directors shall have power to constitute an Executive Committee composed of not less than five members which Committee shall include the President, the Executive Vice President and the Secretary. Such Executive Committee, if constituted by the Board, shall have such powers as the Board may by resolution prescribe, provided, however, that the power so delegated shall be limited to the power to take action until the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. The Board of Directors may appoint a Recording and/or Corresponding Secretary to serve without vote until the subsequent Annual Meeting of the Board and to perform such duties as may be assigned to them by the Board, the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Section 10. The Board of Directors shall appoint annually legal counsel to advise and represent the Corporation, its directors and officers.

Section 11. The Board of Directors shall have power to define amateur status and in the absence of action to the contrary the Board of Directors shall be deemed to have adopted the following definition:

An amateur fencer is one who participates in fencing solely for the love of the sport who has not derived direct or indirect financial benefits from competition or exhibitions in

fencing and who has never been a professional teacher of fencing or a professional competitor or trainer in any branch of athletics or who has been reinstated as an Amateur by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall have the sole power to interpret this Section, to enact an amateur code for the guidance of the members of the Corporation; to prescribe and apply disciplinary penalties for violations of the amateur code, including warning, reprimand and temporary or permanent suspension from amateur competition, according to the circumstances, and to grant reinstatement hereunder. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States duly appointed or assigned as instructors of fencing are exempt from the provisions of this section when in the discharge of such official duty.

Section 12. The Board of Directors shall have power to formulate, establish, and publish the rules governing all amateur member fencing competitions and all exhibitions in which an amateur member of the Corporation shall participate, and in the absence of action to the contrary the Board of Directors shall be deemed to have formulated, established and published the following rules.

- (a) All amateur fencing competitions in the United States, its territories and possessions, shall be conducted only under the rules and sanction of the Amateur Fencers League of America, Incorporated.
- (b) An amateur fencer willfully competing in competition in the United States, its territories and possession, not held under the rules and sanction of the A.F.L.A., INC., shall be liable to suspension and may be held ineligible to enter any contest under Corporation auspices for such period of time as the Board of Directors may determine.
- (c) Any amateur knowingly competing in fencing competition with anyone who has been suspended or disqualified by the Board of Directors of this Corporation renders himself liable to suspension and may be held ineligible to enter any contest under Corporation auspices for such period of time as the Board of Directors may determine.
- (d) Professionals shall be permitted to compete in amateur competition only under such rules and conditions as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe.

Section 13. Board of Directors to arrange for National Championships. The Board of Directors shall receive bids from the various divisions to hold the annual National Championship Tournament and shall select the time and place thereof. In no event shall the National Championship Tournament be held prior to the 30th day from the mailing of notice pursuant to Section 2 of Article XII.

Section 14. Disciplinary Powers of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors by a two-thirds vote of the members voting shall have power to reprimand, suspend, deny continuation of membership to, or expel any member whose conduct may be deemed detrimental to the welfare, interests or character of the Corporation, always provided, however, that any action other than reprimand may be taken only after the following conditions have been satisfied: (a) notice must be served upon the members of the Board and upon the member against whom the proposed action is to be taken, setting forth generally the character of the conduct forming the basis for the proposed action; and (b) if requested by the member to be disciplined or by three members of the Board, within ten days after the mailing of notice of the proposed action, a committee of not less than three members of the Corporation must be appointed by the President to investigate the conduct charged against the member, said committee must give the member an opportunity to be heard in respect of the charge and, after completing its investigation, must file a report favoring the action proposed to be taken by the Board.

Section 15. The Board of Directors may in their discretion, and upon the same vote as is provided for in the Section of Honorary Members in Article IV of the By Laws, elect an Honorary President, an Honorary Vice President and/or an Honorary Secretary-Treasurer. Any such honorary officer shall be elected for life and shall be entitled to all the privileges of an Honorary Member and to attend all meetings of the Board of Directors but shall not be entitled to vote as a member of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII Order of Business for All Meetings of the Corporation and the Board of Directors

1. Reading of Minutes
2. Report of Officers and Committees
3. Proposed Amendments to By-Laws (when appropriate)
4. Elections (when appropriate)
5. Unfinished Business
6. New Business

ARTICLE IX
Procedure for Meetings of the Board of Directors
and of the Corporation

Unless otherwise provided for in these By-Laws or in the Pennsylvania Non-Profit Corporation Law, procedure at meetings shall be governed by the provisions of Roberts Rules of Order.

ARTICLE X
Committees of the Board of Directors

Section 1. Subject to the provisions of these By-Laws, the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors or of its Executive Committee, shall have power to create and appoint the members of such standing and special committees as he may deem necessary or appropriate, designate the chairs thereof, and assign functions thereto.

Section 2. Every committee shall meet from time to time at the call of the Chairman thereof, and it shall be the duty of the Chairman to call a meeting upon the written request of a majority of the members of his committee or of the President.

Section 3. The Chairman of each Committee shall transmit a full report of its activities to the President of the Corporation prior to the Annual Meeting of the Corporation, and each Committee shall make such special reports as the President or Board of Directors shall direct.

ARTICLE XI
Meetings and Elections of the Corporation

Section 1. The Annual Meeting of the Corporation shall be convened in the same city as and during the national championship tournament, at a date and time fixed by the President of the Corporation.

Section 2. Special Meetings of the Corporation may be called by the President or the Board of Directors at a time and place of which there shall be at least thirty days' notice. Business not specified in the notice of any such meeting shall not be acted upon.

Section 3. At the Annual Meeting there shall be elected by the membership a Nominating Committee of not less than five voting members of the Corporation which shall nominate candidates for the offices of President, Executive Vice President, Sectional Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and for the National Divisional Directors, which candidates shall be voted upon at the next Annual Meeting.

A motion to close nomination for members of the Nominating Committee shall not be in order until nominations have been made of members of the Corporation who are members of at least five different Divisions. This Committee shall file its nominations with the Secretary of the Corporation on or before February 1st next ensuing; and the Secretary shall, on or before April 1st thereafter, mail to each member of the Corporation a copy of the nominations filed by the Nominating Committee, and such notice shall be published in the official publication of the Corporation within the prescribed time.

The Nominating Committee shall nominate one member from each Section to represent the Section as Vice-President. Nominees for the offices of Sectional Vice-President shall be appropriately designated in the publication of the nominations.

Section 4. Additional nominations may be made on written petition of not less than fifty voting members of the Corporation provided such petition is presented to the Secretary of the Corporation by May 1st.

Section 5. If no additional nominations for an office are made, the Secretary of the Corporation shall cast at the Annual Meeting a unanimous ballot for the candidate nominated for such office by the Nominating Committee. Where additional nominations have been made for any office, voting on the candidates for such office shall be by voting members only, on ballots prepared by the Secretary and mailed to all voting members as provided in Article XII of these By-Laws. Where three or more nominations have been duly filed for any office, the ballots shall be prepared and counted in accordance with a system for preferential voting approved by the Board of Directors. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted in a contested election.

- (a) The ballot shall be marked by putting a cross or other clear indication of choice opposite the name of the candidate or candidates for whom the voter desires to vote.
- (b) The ballot shall be sealed, in the envelope provided; the envelope shall be signed by the voter and returned to the Corporation Secretary on or before June 1st.

- (c) The envelopes so received are to be opened by the tellers only after the polls for election of officers are declared open at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation.

Section 6. The officers and directors of the Corporation shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast and shall take office as of September 1 next ensuing and shall hold office until the following August 31 and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section 7. At any meeting of the Corporation a quorum shall consist, unless specifically otherwise provided for particular purposes of meetings, of twenty-five members, present in person or by proxy, and all business before the meeting other than elections may be voted on in person or by proxy, and a majority vote of those voting shall rule, provided, however, that no proxy shall be voted on a proposed change to these By-Laws unless the proxy specifies whether it is to be cast for or against the amendment.

Section 8. Vacancies in the offices of President, Executive Vice President, Sectional Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or National Divisional Directors, occurring between Annual Meetings shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII
Notices and Mailings of Ballots

Section 1. Any notices of ballots shall be deemed validly given or delivered if mailed to a member at the address last designated by such member to the Secretary of the Corporation or, failing such designation, to the member at the address of such member furnished by the secretary of his or her division.

Section 2. Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be given to all voting members of the Corporation by the Secretary, which notice shall be mailed or published in the official publication of the Corporation on or before May 31 prior to such meeting and shall contain a statement of the name or names of the officer or officers to be elected by unanimous ballot, if any, and otherwise a reference to the candidates to be voted on at the meeting. Such notice shall include or be accompanied by the text of any amendment to these By-Laws to be acted upon at such Annual Meeting.

Section 3. Where any officer is to be voted on at the Annual Meeting, ballots for the candidates and return envelopes shall be mailed to all voting members on or before May 15 prior to such meeting.

ARTICLE XIII
Divisions and Sections

Section 1. In order to facilitate the development of fencing in the United States of America, its territories and possessions, the Board of Directors may, upon application in conformance with these By-Laws, create administrative units to be known as Divisions. Such divisions shall be created by a charter designating the territorial limits of jurisdiction and setting forth such powers as the Board may prescribe and reserving to the Board the right and power to rescind or amend such charter at its discretion or when the total number of members in the division has fallen below ten.

Membership in a division shall be limited to persons eligible for membership in the Corporation who reside in, or belong to a fencing club located within the territorial limits of the Division and who are not members of another division.

Section 2. In order to encourage annual interdivisional competitions throughout the United States of America, its territories and possessions, the Board of Directors is empowered to create non-administrative units to be known as Sections. Such sections shall encompass large areas whose geographical limits shall be fixed and recorded by the Board. All divisions lying within the area covered by the section shall be members of the section and shall support the annual Sectional Championships as provided in these By-Laws.

Section 3. Subject to the directives and limitations contained in these By-Laws, each division and section is empowered to draft the By-Laws under which its respective functions shall be carried out.

Section 4. The application for a Charter, addressed to the Secretary of the Corporation, shall be signed by not less than ten persons, accompanied by the dues and fees for the current year prescribed in these By-Laws and outlining the territorial jurisdiction sought for the proposed Division.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall, at its discretion, grant or deny the request for a Charter. If granted, the Charter shall be the Constitution of the Division and the members thereof shall, within six months, adopt rules for the administration of local affairs not inconsistent with these By-Laws and submit a copy to the Secretary of the Corporation.

Section 6. There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Division, of which there shall be at least fifteen days' notice, and a quorum shall consist of seven voting members present in person or by proxy.

Section 7. At the Annual Meeting of the Division there shall be elected a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, (or Secretary-Treasurer), Additional Directors and members of the Executive Committee.

Section 8. The management of the Division shall be vested in an Executive Committee which shall consist of the elected officers and directors and other annually elected members in accordance with Section 7 of this article.

Section 9. The Division Chairman shall, within the time and format specified by the Secretary of the Corporation file a complete report of the membership, finances and activities of the Division for the current year.

Section 10. Membership in a Section is limited to members of the component Divisions.

Section 11. The Management of a Section shall be vested in an Executive Committee composed of the Corporation's Vice President from that Section (who shall act as Chairman), the Chairmen of the Divisions which comprise the Section, and any Additional Directors from a Division in the Section. The Executive Committee shall conduct annual Sectional Championships and shall have such other powers as may be designated by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 14. The disciplinary powers of the Executive Committee shall be limited to the competitive penalties of expulsion or exclusion. All other discipline shall be referred to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIV The National Division

Section 1. All members of the Corporation who are not eligible, or do not apply for membership in a division shall be members of the National Division.

Section 2. The National Division shall be administered by the officers of the Corporation and the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XV Colors

The colors of the Corporation shall be Dark Blue and Gold.

ARTICLE XVI Amendments

Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed in writing at any Annual Meeting or at a special meeting of the Corporation called for the purpose of proposing amendments to the By-Laws upon thirty days written notice, setting forth the general tenor of the amendment or amendments to be proposed at such meeting. Proposed amendments shall be adopted if approved by a majority of those present in person or by proxy and voting at such meeting, subject to the provisions of Article XI, Section 7.

ARTICLE XVII Taking Effect of Revision

These By-Laws shall take effect on September 1, 1964 after their adoption of the Annual Meeting of the Corporation held in Atlantic City on July 10, 1964. Unless otherwise specified, amendments to these By-Laws shall take effect on September 1 next after their adoption. Copies of the amendments so adopted shall be mailed to every Division of the Corporation within thirty days after their adoption and notice of their adoption shall be given to all members. All members of the Corporation who shall not have tendered a resignation prior to the effective date of these By-Laws shall be deemed to have accepted their provisions and to have waived any rights which they may have had theretofore pursuant to the Constitution and By-Laws in effect prior to the taking of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XVIII Separate Accounts

Section 1. International Development Account. The Board of Directors is directed to establish and

maintain an International Development Account for the purpose of providing for the travel and related expenses of competitors, coaches, and officials, as selected by the Board of Directors, to participate in the following events:

- a. World Olympic Games
- b. Pan-American Olympic Games
- c. World Fencing Championships
- d. World Junior Fencing Championships
- e. Such other major international competitions as may be approved for participation by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. United States Development Account. The Board of Directors is directed to establish and maintain a United States Development Account for the following purposes.

- a. Development of promotional materials useful in publicizing fencing and fencing activities among students and the general public.
- b. Organization of programs for the holding of fencing clinics throughout the United States.
- c. Award of Scholarships for fencing instruction in designated sales, clubs, schools, and institutions, or with selected coaches, to promising fencers in all weapons as chosen by the Board of Directors.
- d. Production and purchase of films and other instructional material as an aid to the teaching of fencing and as a means of promoting interest in, and understanding of, the sport.
- e. Creation of facilities and development of programs for the training of professional and amateur coaches and instructors.
- f. Establishment of the full-time, salaried post of Executive Secretary of the Corporation.
- g. Establishment of a permanent headquarters and office for the Corporation.
- h. Such other similar domestic development purposes as may be approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Contributions to Separate Accounts. Any contributor to the Corporation may direct that his gift be placed, in whole or in part, in one or more of the Separate Accounts provided for in these By-Laws and his instructions shall be carried out by the Board of Directors.

Contributions to such accounts qualify as a deductible charitable contribution under the rules of the Internal Revenue Department.

The Board of Directors shall have the right to place all or part of any contribution made to the Corporation in one or more of the Separate Accounts when the donor provides no instructions for the application of his gift.

Subject to the provisions of these By-Laws, the Board of Directors shall have the right to place revenue, income, and property of the Corporation in one or more of the Separate Accounts.

Section 4. Management of the Separate Accounts.

- a. The management of the Separate Accounts provided for these By-Laws shall be vested in a board of three fiduciaries, one of whom shall be the President of the Corporation and two of whom shall not be directors or officers of the Corporation.
- b. The President of the Corporation shall serve as fiduciary for the term of his office and until his successor has been elected and qualifies.
- c. One of the remaining two fiduciaries shall be elected by the Board of Directors to serve for a term of two years and until his successor has been elected and qualifies. Thereafter, the term of this office shall be four years.
- d. The remaining fiduciary shall be elected by the Board of Directors to serve for a term of four years and until his successor is elected and qualifies. Thereafter the term of this office shall be four years.
- e. At least six months prior to the expiration of the term of a fiduciary other than the President of the Corporation, the fiduciary shall give notice to the Board of Directors of his willingness to serve for another term office. In the event the fiduciary notifies the Board of his willingness to

serve, the Board shall vote on the question whether to elect the fiduciary to another term of office. In the event the fiduciary does not receive a majority of the votes cast, or in the event the fiduciary is unwilling to serve for another term of office, then the remaining fiduciaries shall nominate another candidate for the approval of the Board of Directors. In the event that such nominee does not receive the approval of the Board of Directors, the remaining fiduciaries shall nominate additional candidates until the Board of Directors elects one of such nominees to office.

- f. In the event of the death, resignation, or inability to serve of a fiduciary, the remaining fiduciaries shall nominate a candidate to fill the unexpired term for the approval of the Board of Directors in accordance with the procedure set forth in the preceding paragraph.
- g. The board of fiduciaries shall have power to invest and reinvest the corpus of each such Account with due regard for both the earning of income and the appreciation of capital.
- h. The board of fiduciaries shall manage the Account in accordance with the principles of prudent management set forth in the Laws of Pennsylvania respecting fiduciaries, trusts and estates, except that the fiduciaries shall not be limited to investing in what are commonly known as "legal investments".
- i. The income from each Separate Account shall be paid over to the Corporation semi-annually and shall be expended for the purposes prescribed for each Separate Account.
- j. The principal of each Separate Account shall remain intact and not be subject to invasion or distribution by the fiduciaries for a period of fifteen years from the date of its creation or until the market value of the principal of the Separate Account shall equal \$100,000. Hereafter, at the direction of the Board of Directors, the Board of Fiduciaries shall have the power to invade principal and pay over to the Corporation an amount not to exceed in any one year 10% of the market value of the principal of the Separate Account.

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.

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Whatever programme is adopted, the final should start at a time which, having regard to local customs, will ensure that the results can be communicated to the press etc. in sufficient time to allow them to be published.

The organisers must allow sufficient time in the programme for the control of competitors' equipment to be effected. This requires a minimum of one day for each weapon. If events at two weapons are begun on the first day of the programme, the control must begin two days previously.

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.

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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.

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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).

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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).

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2. The composition of teams.

525 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.

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.

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

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.

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

(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.*

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.*

531 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 543ss).

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.*

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

Individual competitions may be organized:

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

A. — *UNDER THE POOL SYSTEM.*

1. *The number of fencers in a pool.*

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

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(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.*

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.

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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.

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The order of bouts in each pool is as follows:

4 fencers 6 bouts	5 fencers 10 bouts	6 fencers 15 bouts	7 fencers 21 bouts	8 fencers 28 bouts	9 fencers 36 bouts	10 fencers 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		

539 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.

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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.

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4. Classification.

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).

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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).

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

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(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

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the original pool, added to the hits received (and if necessary, the hits scored) during the barrage.

6. Barrages (Ties).

543 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.

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

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

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.*

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

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.

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.

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.

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).

553

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.

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.

Another Example: TABLE II.

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: 1. 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

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	×	V.3	L	V.2	V.1	V.1	V.1	V.0	L	—		6V.8.3*	
M	L	×	V.3	V.1	V.1	V.0	V.1	—	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.5.7	2V.3.8	
R	L	L	V.3	V.2	L	L	×	L	L	L			
S	L	—	L	—	—	—	V.0	×	L	V.3	abandons		
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	—	×	abandons		

* — 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	

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.

ORGANISATION OF INDIVIDUAL EVENTS AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS BY POOLS.

1. Organisation of Events by Pools

553a Individual Championships will be organised throughout on the pools system and pools will be composed, as far as possible, of six competitors.

The Directoire Technique will hold as many eliminating rounds as are required, relative to the number of entries, to reach either four quarter final pools of six competitors or three pools of six competitor. In either case promoting twelve competitors to form two semi-final pools of six from each of which three competitors shall be promoted to a final of six competitors.

2. Composition of Pools

For the first round the principle of "Tetes de Series" (seeding) must be observed. The Directoire Technique alone decides which competitors are to be seeded.

For the second round, competitors will be placed in each pool according to the classification established by the indicators obtained in the first round. If this classification places a competitor in a pool where there is already a competitor of his nationality, he will be demoted by one or two places.

In subsequent rounds competitors will be placed in each pool according to the classification established by the aggregate of the indicators obtained in each round except the first round, taking nationality into account.

When the classification places a competitor in a pool where there are already two competitors who were in the same pool with him in the previous round, this competitor will, as far as possible, be demoted.

Example: for 48 competitors i.e. 8 pools of six:
Classification of competitors:

Pool	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25
	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
	48	47	46	45	44	43	42	41

3. Qualification

Three or four competitors, as appropriate, shall be promoted from each pool.

4. Order of Bouts

See Articles 538 and 539.

5. Classification

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 aggregate of the indicators obtained in previous rounds and in the round just completed, disregarding the indicators obtained in the first round.

When there is equality of victories in the final pool, but only to determine the first three places, the classification is always determined by barrage bouts which must be fought according to the rules of the original pool. This barrage pool also determines the final classification of all the competitors who participate therein.

A barrage will only be held once. Should there be equality of victories in this barrage pool, the final classification will be determined by the aggregate of the indicators obtained in the previous rounds, in the final pool and in the barrage pool, but disregarding those obtained in the first round.

Should there be absolute equality of the number of victories and of the aggregate of indicators, the competitors must fence a further barrage.

At *épée*, when two competitors are concerned in a barrage and there is equality of victories and of indicators between them, the competitors will fence a bout in five hits and, should

they reach five-all, they will compete for one hit i.e. until a result is achieved.

6. Promotion

For promotion to the next round, if there is equality of victories, the classification between competitors in the pool will be determined by the aggregate of the indicators obtained in the previous rounds and of the round just completed, disregarding the indicators obtained in the first round.

Should there be absolute equality of victories and of indicators the competitors concerned will fence a barrage according to the rules of the original pool.

At *épée*, when two competitors are concerned in a barrage, the same system will be applied as laid down above for a barrage in a final pool.

7. Competitor abandoning a competition

See Articles 545 to 553

8. Number of Hits

See Article 562

On each pool sheet the aggregate of the indicators obtained in the previous rounds should be entered against the name of each competitor in the pool.

B. — BY DIRECT ELIMINATION.

1. Application.

554 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.

2. Method of holding matches and number of hits.

555 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).

3. Duration of matches.

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

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.

A general classification is obtained as follows: 559

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 4 competitors who won their matches in the first half of Plan D against the 4 competitors who were defeated in the second half of Plan B, and of the 4 competitors who won their matches in the second half of Plan D against the four competitors who were defeated in the first half of 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 firstly of the number of victories in the barrage then, if necessary, of the number of hits received and finally, of the number of hits scored in the final pool and the barrage.

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 received and finally of hits scored in this last barrage only.

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.

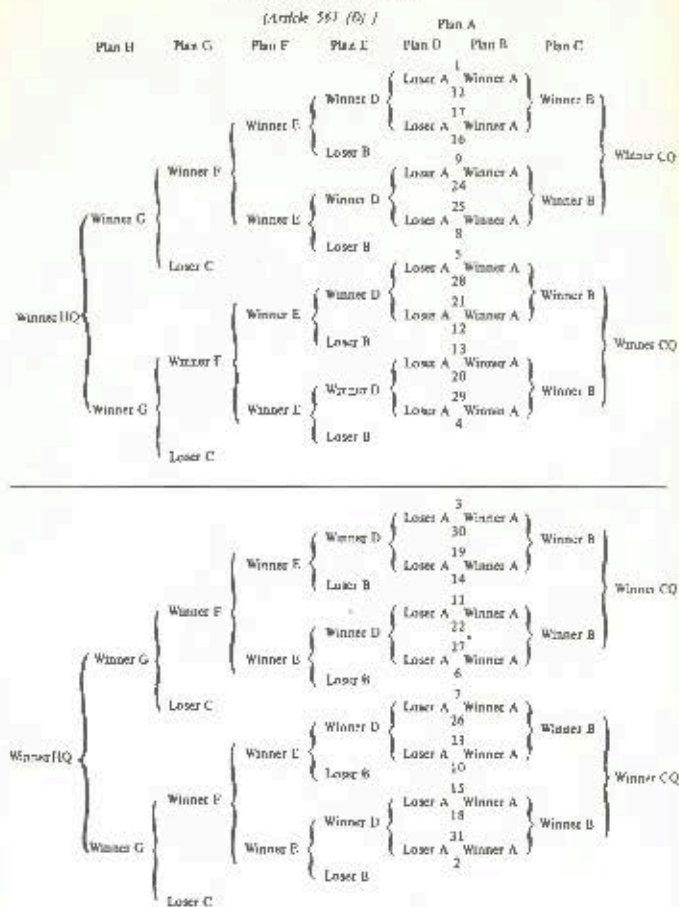
The same classification will also be used by the Directoire Technique to determine the classification between the teams placed first, then those placed second in the pools when drawing up the Match Plan for direct elimination. A supplementary match between the two teams beaten in the semi-finals will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

MATCH PLAN FOR DIRECT ELIMINATION WITH REPECHAGE
BETWEEN 32 COMPETITORS

(Article 563 (B) 1)



Q = Qualified for the final pool of six competitors.

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.

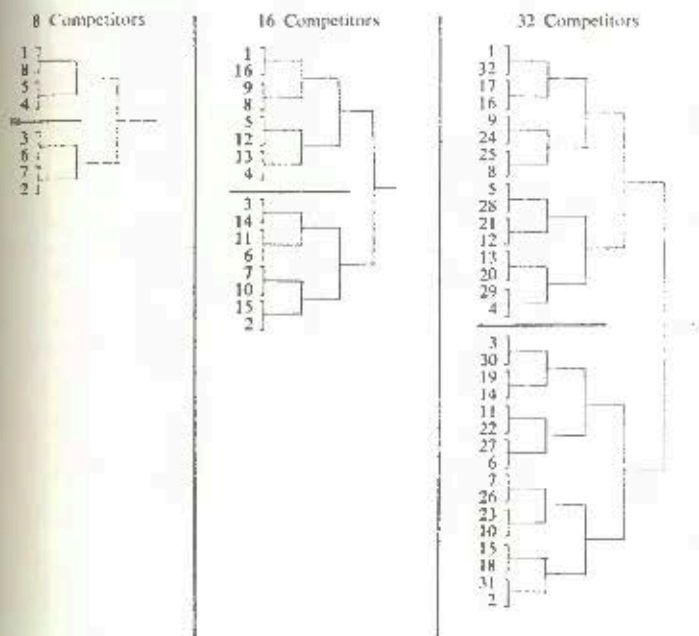
Number of Hits.

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.

8. Match plan for:



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.

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 FUGHT													
		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	0,682	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

S

40	41	42	43
0,300	0,242	0,208	0,180
0,275	0,213	0,177	0,151
0,250	0,198	0,165	0,140
0,225	0,172	0,139	0,114
0,200	0,145	0,113	0,088

64 Competitors



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

NUMBER OF HITS RECEIVED = H.R.

NUMBER OF HITS SCORED = H.S.	H.S. H.R.		NUMBER OF HITS RECEIVED = H.R.																																																		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52		
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	0.125	0.117	0.111	0.105	0.100	0.095	0.091	0.087	0.083	0.080	0.077	0.074	0.071	0.069	0.067	0.065	0.063	0.061	0.059	0.057	0.055	0.054	0.053	0.051	0.050	0.049	0.048	0.047	0.045	0.044	0.043	0.042	0.041	0.040	0.039	0.038			
3	1.5	1	0.750	0.600	0.499	0.428	0.375	0.333	0.300	0.275	0.250	0.231	0.214	0.200	0.188	0.176	0.167	0.158	0.150	0.143	0.136	0.130	0.125	0.120	0.115	0.111	0.107	0.103	0.099	0.097	0.094	0.091	0.088	0.086	0.083	0.081	0.079	0.077	0.075	0.073	0.071	0.070	0.068	0.066	0.065	0.064	0.062	0.061	0.060	0.059	0.058		
4	2	1.333	1	0.800	0.666	0.579	0.500	0.444	0.400	0.364	0.333	0.308	0.286	0.267	0.250	0.234	0.220	0.211	0.200	0.190	0.182	0.174	0.167	0.160	0.154	0.148	0.143	0.138	0.133	0.129	0.125	0.121	0.118	0.114	0.111	0.108	0.105	0.103	0.101	0.098	0.096	0.093	0.091	0.089	0.087	0.085	0.083	0.082	0.080	0.078	0.077		
5	2.5	1.666	1.250	1	0.857	0.750	0.666	0.600	0.545	0.500	0.462	0.429	0.400	0.375	0.353	0.333	0.316	0.300	0.286	0.273	0.261	0.250	0.240	0.231	0.222	0.214	0.207	0.200	0.194	0.188	0.182	0.176	0.171	0.167	0.162	0.158	0.154	0.150	0.146	0.143	0.140	0.136	0.133	0.130	0.128	0.125	0.122	0.120	0.118	0.115	0.113		
6	3	2.333	1.750	1.400	1.166	1	0.875	0.777	0.700	0.636	0.583	0.538	0.500	0.467	0.438	0.412	0.389	0.368	0.350	0.333	0.318	0.304	0.292	0.280	0.269	0.259	0.250	0.241	0.233	0.226	0.219	0.212	0.206	0.200	0.194	0.189	0.184	0.179	0.175	0.171	0.167	0.165	0.163	0.160	0.158	0.156	0.152	0.149	0.146	0.143	0.140	0.137	0.135
8	4	2.666	2.000	1.600	1.333	1.143	1	0.888	0.800	0.727	0.667	0.615	0.571	0.535	0.500	0.471	0.444	0.421	0.400	0.381	0.364	0.348	0.333	0.320	0.308	0.296	0.286	0.276	0.267	0.258	0.249	0.242	0.236	0.229	0.222	0.216	0.211	0.205	0.200	0.194	0.188	0.182	0.178	0.174	0.170	0.167	0.163	0.160	0.157	0.154			
9	4.5	3	2.250	1.800	1.500	1.286	1.125	1	0.900	0.818	0.750	0.692	0.643	0.600	0.563	0.529	0.500	0.474	0.450	0.428	0.407	0.387	0.375	0.360	0.346	0.333	0.321	0.310	0.299	0.289	0.281	0.273	0.265	0.257	0.250	0.243	0.237	0.231	0.225	0.219	0.214	0.209	0.205	0.200	0.196	0.191	0.187	0.184	0.180	0.176	0.173		
10	5	3.333	2.500	2.000	1.666	1.428	1.250	1.110	1	0.940	0.854	0.790	0.744	0.666	0.625	0.588	0.556	0.526	0.500	0.476	0.453	0.432	0.417	0.403	0.384	0.370	0.357	0.345	0.333	0.323	0.312	0.303	0.294	0.286	0.278	0.270	0.263	0.256	0.250	0.244	0.238	0.233	0.227	0.222	0.217	0.212	0.206	0.204	0.200	0.196	0.192		
11	5.5	3.666	2.750	2.200	1.833	1.571	1.375	1.222	1.100	1	0.917	0.846	0.780	0.733	0.688	0.647	0.611	0.579	0.550	0.524	0.500	0.478	0.458	0.444	0.423	0.407	0.393	0.379	0.367	0.354	0.344	0.333	0.324	0.314	0.306	0.297	0.289	0.282	0.275	0.268	0.262	0.256	0.250	0.244	0.239	0.234	0.229	0.224	0.220	0.216	0.212		
12	6	4	3	2.400	2	1.714	1.500	1.333	1.200	1.090	1	0.923	0.857	0.800	0.750	0.706	0.666	0.632	0.600	0.574	0.551	0.527	0.500	0.480	0.462	0.444	0.429	0.414	0.400	0.387	0.375	0.363	0.353	0.343	0.333	0.324	0.316	0.309	0.302	0.295	0.288	0.281	0.274	0.267	0.261	0.255	0.250	0.245	0.240	0.235	0.231		
13	6.5	4.333	3.250	2.600	2.166	1.857	1.625	1.444	1.300	1.181	1.083	1	0.929	0.867	0.813	0.765	0.722	0.684	0.650	0.619	0.594	0.568	0.542	0.520	0.500	0.481	0.464	0.448	0.433	0.419	0.406	0.394	0.382	0.371	0.361	0.351	0.342	0.333	0.325	0.317	0.310	0.302	0.295	0.289	0.282	0.276	0.271	0.265	0.260	0.255	0.250		
14	7	4.666	3.500	2.800	2.333	2.000	1.750	1.586	1.400	1.273	1.167	1.077	1	0.931	0.873	0.823	0.777	0.737	0.700	0.666	0.636	0.609	0.583	0.560	0.538	0.519	0.500	0.483	0.466	0.452	0.437	0.424	0.412	0.400	0.389	0.378	0.368	0.359	0.350	0.341	0.333	0.326	0.319	0.312	0.306	0.300	0.294	0.288	0.283	0.277	0.272		
15	7.5	5	3.750	3	2.900	2.143	1.875	1.667	1.500	1.364	1.220	1.154	1.084	1	0.938	0.882	0.833	0.789	0.750	0.714	0.682	0.652	0.625	0.600	0.577	0.555	0.536	0.517	0.500	0.484	0.469	0.455	0.441	0.429	0.417	0.405	0.395	0.385	0.375	0.366	0.357	0.349	0.341	0.333	0.326	0.319	0.312	0.306	0.300	0.294	0.288		
16	8	5.333	4	3.200	2.666	2.286	2	1.978	1.600	1.458	1.333	1.231	1.143	1.066	1	0.941	0.888	0.842	0.800	0.762	0.727	0.696	0.666	0.640	0.615	0.593	0.574	0.558	0.543	0.526	0.500	0.485	0.471	0.457	0.444	0.432	0.421	0.410	0.400	0.390	0.381	0.372	0.364	0.355	0.348	0.340	0.333	0.327	0.320	0.314	0.308		
17	8.5	5.666	4.200	3.400	2.833	2.479	2.125	1.889	1.680	1.546	1.417	1.307	1.213	1.133	1.063	1	0.944	0.895	0.850	0.809	0.773	0.739	0.708	0.683	0.654	0.630	0.609	0.586	0.566	0.548	0.531	0.515	0.500	0.486	0.472	0.459	0.447	0.436	0.425	0.415	0.405	0.395	0.386	0.377	0.370	0.362	0.354	0.347	0.340	0.333	0.327		
18	9	6	4.5	3.6	3	2.914	2.250	2	1.880	1.637	1.500	1.384	1.285	1.199	1.125	1.058	1	0.947	0.900	0.857	0.818	0.783	0.750	0.720	0.692	0.667	0.643	0.621	0.600	0.581	0.563	0.545	0.529	0.514	0.500	0.487	0.474	0.462	0.450	0.438	0.429	0.419	0.409	0.400	0.391	0.383	0.375	0.367	0.360	0.353	0.346		
19	9.5	6.333	4.750	3.8	3.166	2.714	2.375	2.142	1.900	1.728	1.584	1.46	1.356	1.266	1.187	1.148	1.055	1	0.950	0.905	0.864	0.826	0.791	0.760	0.731	0.704	0.678	0.655	0.633	0.613	0.594	0.575	0.558	0.543	0.528	0.514	0.500	0.487	0.475	0.463	0.452	0.442	0.432	0.422	0.413	0.404	0.396	0.388	0.380	0.373	0.366		
20	10	6.666	5	4	3.333	2.857	2.500	2.223	2	1.819	1.667	1.538	1.428	1.333	1.250	1.176	1.111	1.032	1	0.952	0.909	0.869	0.833	0.800	0.769	0.741	0.714	0.690	0.666	0.645	0.625	0.606	0.588	0.574	0.555	0.541	0.526	0.513	0.500	0.488	0.476	0.465	0.455	0.444	0.435	0.426	0.417	0.408	0.400	0.392	0.385		
21	10.5	7	5.250	4.200	3.500	3	2.623	2.384	2.100	1.940	1.750	1.615	1.500	1.399	1.312	1.235	1.166	1.105	1.050	1	0.954	0.913	0.873	0.840	0.808	0.778	0.750	0.724	0.700	0.677	0.656	0.636	0.618	0.600	0.583	0.568	0.553	0.538	0.525	0.512	0.500	0.488	0.477	0.467	0.456	0.447	0.437	0.429	0.420	0.412	0.404		
22	11	7.333	5.5	4.4	3.666	3.143	2.750	2.445	2.200	2	1.834	1.697	1.574	1.466	1.375	1.294	1.222	1.158	1.100	1.047	1	0.955	0.916	0.880	0.846	0.815	0.786	0.759	0.733	0.710	0.689	0.666	0.647	0.625	0.613	0.595	0.579	0.564	0.550	0.536	0.524	0.512	0.500	0.489	0.478	0.468	0.458	0.449	0.440	0.431	0.423		
23	11.5	7.666	5.750	4.6	3.833	3.286	2.875	2.586	2.300	2.094	1.917	1.763	1.643	1.533	1.438	1.353	1.277	1.214	1.150	1.095	1.043	1	0.955	0.920	0.885	0.852	0.824	0.793	0.766	0.742	0.719	0.697	0.676	0.657	0.639																		

HITS SCORED HS

Table with columns for player number, position, team, and various statistical metrics including hits, runs, and errors.

0.909	0.869	0.833	0.800	0.769	0.741	0.714	0.690	0.666	0.645	0.625	0.606	0.588	0.571	0.555	0.541	0.526	0.513	0.500	0.488	0.476	0.465	0.455	0.444	0.435	0.426	0.417	0.408	0.400	0.392	0.385	0.377	0.370	0.364	0.357	0.351	0.345	0.339	0.333	0.328	0.323	0.317	0.312	0.308	0.303	0.299	0.294	0.290	0.285																																																													
0.904	0.913	0.925	0.940	0.950	0.960	0.970	0.980	0.990	1.000	1.010	1.020	1.030	1.040	1.050	1.060	1.070	1.080	1.090	1.100	1.110	1.120	1.130	1.140	1.150	1.160	1.170	1.180	1.190	1.200	1.210	1.220	1.230	1.240	1.250	1.260	1.270	1.280	1.290	1.300	1.310	1.320	1.330	1.340	1.350	1.360	1.370	1.380	1.390	1.400	1.410	1.420	1.430	1.440	1.450	1.460	1.470	1.480	1.490	1.500	1.510	1.520	1.530	1.540	1.550	1.560	1.570	1.580	1.590	1.600	1.610	1.620	1.630	1.640	1.650	1.660	1.670	1.680	1.690	1.700	1.710	1.720	1.730	1.740	1.750	1.760	1.770	1.780	1.790	1.800	1.810	1.820	1.830	1.840	1.850	1.860	1.870	1.880	1.890	1.900	1.910	1.920	1.930	1.940	1.950	1.960	1.970	1.980	1.990	2.000

이 표는 1914년 1월 1일 기준의 미국 인구는 나타냅니다.

TABLE FOR INDICATORS

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

NUMBER OF HITS RECEIVED = H.R.

Main data table with columns for H.S. (2-70) and H.R. (2-70). Each cell contains a numerical value representing the ratio for a specific combination of hits scored and hits received.

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

A. — INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1. Annual Championship.

564 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.

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.

565 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).

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.

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

(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.

B. — TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS.

1. Simultaneous events.

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). 567

2. Entries.

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. 568

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.

The World Championships are open to all national federations affiliated to the F.I.E. 569

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.

570 The F.I.E. Rules must be strictly applied during the World Championships in addition to the Special Rules of the present chapter.

4. Order of events.

571 The events will be held in the following order:

- 1st day. Men's Foil Individual eliminating rounds
- 2nd day. Men's Foil Individual Final
Sabre Individual, eliminating rounds
- 3rd day. Sabre Individual Final
- 4th day. Men's Foil Teams, eliminating rounds
- 5th day. Men's Foil Teams, Final
Ladies' Foil Individual, eliminating rounds
- 6th day. Ladies' Foil Individual Final
Sabre Teams, eliminating rounds
- 7th day. Sabre Teams, Final
Epee individual eliminating rounds
- 8th day. Epee Individual Final
- 9th day. Ladies' Foil Teams, eliminating rounds
- 10th day. Ladies' Foil Teams, Final
Epee Teams, eliminating rounds
- 11th day. Epee Teams, 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.

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. 573

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.

The number of hits to be fenced for at all three weapons is as follows: 574

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. 575

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)

I. 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. 576

(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.

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.

577 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).

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.* 603

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).

(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.

(g) Submission of Equipment for Control

At the time appointed in the programme at every official F.I.E. competition, competitors must attend at the weapon control office and submit the equipment which is to be used in the next event. Competitors or team captains can only receive back the controlled equipment one hour before the commencement of the event.

Equipment rejected during the control may be rectified in the workshop.

However, equipment thus repaired will only be re-controlled after the control of all other competitors' equipment has been completed.

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.

611 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.

612 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) 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). All warnings as well as all penalties imposed must be repeated by the Directoire technique on all pool sheets on which the competitor penalised subsequently appears.

(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).

616 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).

617 (a) The Directoire Technique has jurisdiction over all 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).

(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). 618

(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.

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). 619

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. 620

(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).

621 (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 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):

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. 624

(b) *Refusal to award a hit actually made:*

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). 625

(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). 626

(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. 627

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:

628 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:

629 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:

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.

- 636 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 matches by direct elimination (see under each case).

3. Offences committed while fencing.

(a) Competence:

- 637 The President of the Jury is competent to deal with all offences committed while fencing.

(b) Offences concerned with the piste:

- 638 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 pool or team match or the matches by direct elimination (Cf. 30).

(e) For intentionally making a corps à corps at foil or sabre:
— penalty of one hit after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 224, 412).

641

(f) For dishonest or incorrect fencing:

—exclusion from the meeting after a warning during the same pool or match or the matches by direct elimination (Cf. 28, 605ss).

642

(g) For seeking to favour an opponent:

— exclusion from the competition after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 607).

643

(h) From having benefited from collusion with an opponent:

— exclusion after a warning during the same bout (Cf. 607).

644

(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 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 matches by direct elimination (Cf. 28, 605).

3. For a fleche attack which jostles the opponent:

—after a first warning given during the same pool or match or the 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 matches by direct elimination (Cf. 51).

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- (k) *For an accident:*
647 1. Retirement from the competition after 20 minutes rest (Cf. 50).

2. Retirement from the competition of a competitor whose physical inability to continue is obvious (Cf. 52).

4. Offences concerning sportsmanship.

- 648 (a) *Non-regulation equipment:*

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 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:*

For having been convicted of giving an intentionally partial judgment: 652

— 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:*

— 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.). 653

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 matches by direct elimination: 654

— 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): 655

— 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:*

656 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.

657 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:*

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. 660

3. Investigation — Right of defence.

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. 661

4. Method of decision.

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. 662

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. 663

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: 664

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.

665

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.

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. 701

2. Definition of equipment.

All electrical judging equipment includes: 702

(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.

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. 703

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.

704 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.

705 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.

706 The approval of an apparatus by the Commission as well as its acceptance (see 4 below) implies no guarantee against possible faults of construction.

707 All expenses incurred by the Commission for the examination of apparatus are the responsibility of the persons concerned.

4. Control of apparatus before each competition.

708 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).

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).

709 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.

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).

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.*

711

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 (46ft.) long; 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).

712

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.*

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

713

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.*

714 1. Any hit must cause a signal whatever the resistance of the circuits external to the apparatus. The duration of the break of contact which must always ensure that a signal is registered must be of 5 milliseconds.

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>
— 100 ohms	5 milliseconds
— 250 ohms	unlimited

3. A "non-valid" hit must be signalled for a break of contact of 2 to 10 milliseconds, when the external resistance is normal, that is of 10 ohms. This is to avoid, as far as possible, the fortuitous recording of a white, non valid, hit.

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.

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).*

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. ($5\frac{3}{4}$ ") 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).*

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.)

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.

718 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.

2. Pointes d'arrêt and buttons.

719 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.

2. The pointe d'arrêt may also be 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.)

3. 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.

4. 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 (17½ ozs.), that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point (Cf. 211).

5. 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.).

(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.

6. 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:

1. Affixing only by metal to metal is normally allowed. 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 $\frac{11}{16}$ "⁷) 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 the wires forming the circuit in the épée thus allowing the current to flow.

(b) Timing.

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.

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.

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.

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.)

730 At épée, the connection of the various parts by three-way plugs and sockets on spools and connecting cables is as follows:

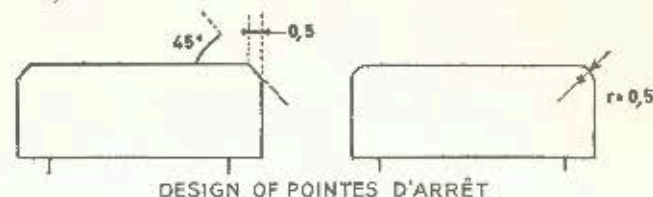
- the pin 15 mm. from central pin: to the wire in the épée which is most directly connected to the pointe d'arrêt;
- the centre pin: to the other wire in the épée;
- the pin 20 mm. from the central pin: to the blade of the épée and to the metallic piste.

B. — *WEAPONS* (Cf. 712).

1. *Principle.*

731 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.)

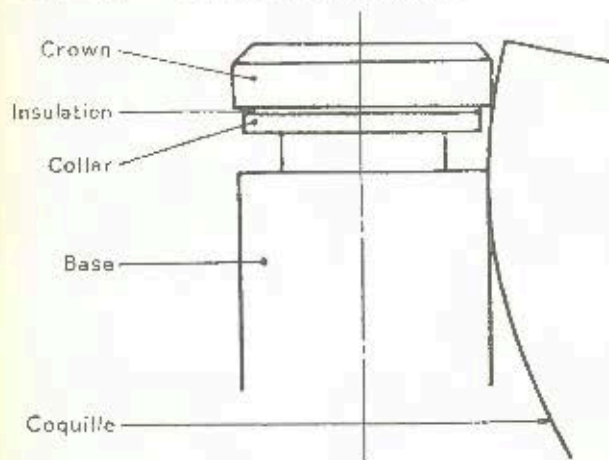


DESIGN OF POINTES D'ARRÊT

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 S.I. 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.

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