

## CHANGES TO BFA RULES 2006 EDITION – MAY 2010 VERSION

(latest updates are to be found in section 11)

### 1) SEPTEMBER 2006: DECISIONS AT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**t.37 and t.38:** *Replace these articles by the following:-*

#### *Olympic Games and World Championships*

##### *Individual competitions*

**t.37 1** For the rounds of pools and the direct elimination table, **the Refereeing Delegates** select the referees by drawing lots.

**2** **For the pools**, the referee must be of a different nationality from that any of the fencers in the pool.

**3** For the **direct elimination tables at each weapon**, the Refereeing Delegates establish, among the referees present, a list of the best referees at each weapon (according to the grades obtained during the season).

For each quarter of the table, 4 referees are assigned by drawing lots from among at least 7 to 8 referees, to referee the bouts in the order of the table. They must be of a different nationality from that of any of the fencers participating in that quarter of the table.

As the table progresses, the referees will be switched around in a sequence established beforehand.

**4** At the end of each round, the Refereeing Delegates can **withdraw a referee** whose performance was not satisfactory. This decision must be taken by the majority of the Refereeing Delegates present. However, a referee may not be changed during of a bout except in exceptional circumstance. In such a case the decision, which must be well founded, must be taken by the majority of the Refereeing Delegates present (this rule is equally valid for team competitions).

**5** **For the final of 4**, the Refereeing Delegates, immediately after the end of the direct elimination tables, select 4 referees by lot from among at least **7 to 8** referees, who must be of a different nationality from any of the fencers.

10 minutes before the final, the Refereeing Delegates will draw lots to assign the referees for all the bouts at the same time, in the following order: 1<sup>st</sup> semi-final, 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-final, final, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place (Olympic Games).

**6** **The drawing of lots is done** with the help of a computer for the pools and up to the direct elimination table of 64 and by hand from the direct elimination table of 64 onwards.

**t.38** *Team competitions*

The same rules as those in article t.37 3), 4), 5) and 6) are applied to the team competitions, with two referees per match

**o.54.1:** *Replace the title and sub-article 1 with the following:-*

*Entries by name for Senior and Junior World Cup competitions, Satellite competitions and Zonal competitions*

**CHANGES SUPERCEDED BY THAT MADE IN MAY, 2007.**

**o.79:** *Add a sub-article o.79.4 as follows:-*

**4** **For Zonal Championships, both Senior and Junior**, each national federation may enter:-

- a maximum of 4 fencers per weapon in the individual competitions.
- one team (consisting of 3 fencers with or without a reserve) per weapon in the team competitions.

### 2) DECEMBER 2006: DECISIONS AT NOVEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**o.53.3 :** *ADD at the end of the first para:-*

Nevertheless one or more fencers may be added, up until 10.00am on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a fine of 150 euros per fencer added.

To do this, the national federations must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer, together with the payment equivalent to the fine.

*MODIFY the second para to read as follows:-*

Changes of name, only with the agreement of the FIE and only for reasons of 'force majeure' or injury, can only be made up to 24 hours before each event.

**Book m., annexe A, page 39, ADD an overall introduction:**

SEE BELOW, FEBRUARY DECISIONS, FOR REVISED VERSION

**Book m., annexe A, page 50, 4.1, MODIFY the first para. as follows:-**

To obtain FIE homologation, the manufacturer must send his masks to one of the following three institutes: : In Germany "Denkendorf"; in France CRITT or IFTH. The institute will conduct penetration resistance tests on the metal mesh and the visor of the sample masks presented in accordance with the CEN norms (e.g. Norm EN 13567).

**Book m., annexe B, page 61, ADD an overall introduction**

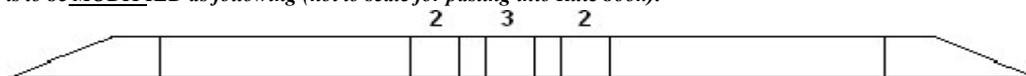
The installation of a clock and a system for showing the score are both obligatory for the homologation of scoring apparatuses; they must be visible to the spectators.

### **3) FEBRUARY 2007: DECISIONS AT FEBRUARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**t.1: ADD to the end of the article:-**

- The Zonal Championships.

**Page 9, diagram: The profile diagram showing the position of the lights in the side of the raised piste, etc was obsolete and is to be MODIFIED as following (not to scale for pasting into Rule book):-**



2 = Extension lamps  
3 = Scoring apparatus

**t.35.1: MODIFY the first sentence as follows:**

All bouts at fencing are directed by a **referee** who must be an FIE referee licensed for the current season.

**t.45.2, last paragraph: REPLACE the last two lines by:-**

m.23.4) Commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with Articles t.114, t.116 and t.120.

**t.87.5 and t.87.6 (Non-Combativity): REPLACE both these sections of t.87 with the following (date of implementation March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007):-**

#### **.5 Individual events**

**a)** If during the two first periods of a direct elimination bout both fencers make clear their unwillingness to fight \*, the Referee will award a warning (yellow card) against each of the two fencers and will proceed to the next period, without the minute rest.

**b) If the offence is repeated,** the Referee will each time award a penalty hit (red card) against each of the two fencers and will proceed to the next period, without the minute rest.

**c)** When both fencers make clear their unwillingness to fight \* during the **third period** of a direct elimination bout:-

**i)** if there has been no occurrence of the offence during the preceding periods, the Referee will award a warning (yellow card) against each fencer, and will proceed to a last minute of fencing;

**ii)** if the offence has already been committed during the course of the preceding periods, the Referee will award a penalty hit (red card) against each of the fencers, and will proceed to a last minute of fencing;

This last minute, which will be fenced in its entirety, will be decisive and will be preceded by a drawing of lots to decide the winner should the scores be equal at the end of the minute.

#### **6 Team events**

**a)** If both teams make clear their **unwillingness to fight** \* during a team match, the Referee will award a warning (yellow card) against each of the two teams and will proceed to the next bout.

**b) If the offence is repeated,** the Referee will each time award a penalty hit (red card) against each of the teams and will proceed to the next bout, and so on up to the last bout.

**c)** If both teams make clear their unwillingness to fight \* during **the last bout:-**

**i)** if there has been no occurrence of the offence during the preceding bouts, the Referee will award a warning (yellow card) against each of the teams, and will proceed to a last minute of fencing;

**ii)** if the offence has already been committed during the preceding bouts, the Referee will award a penalty hit (red card) against each of the teams, and will proceed to a last minute of fencing;

This last minute, which will be fenced in its entirety, will be decisive and will be preceded by a drawing of lots to decide the winner should the scores be equal at the end of the minute.

**Clear unwillingness to fight (non-combativity) \***

If two of the criteria below are combined, there is unwillingness to fight:

1. criterion of time : one minute of fencing without a hit
2. absence of blade contact
3. excessive distance (greater than the distance of a step-forward-lunge)

t.105: MODIFY the title of the article from 'Exclusion from the competition' to:

*Exclusion.*

t.105.3. DELETE this third part of t.105.

t.120, page 56, between group 3 and group 4, Non-combativity.

For 'Third Offence', REPLACE 'BLACK CARD' by 'RED CARD'.

t.127. e) REPLACE the current text with the following:

The athletes who participate in FIE competitions undertake to respect the FIE anti-doping Rules, use neither prohibited substances nor prohibited methods and agree to submit to any anti-doping control, whether in- or out-of competition;

o.2.2 REPLACE the current text with the following (to reflect the fact that the FIE will no longer issue licence cards to signify the ownership of an FIE Licence):

Every competitor or participant in a competition, irrespective of his status, is required to **be licensed for the current season** (cf. Statutes, Chapter IX).

***Book m., annexe A, page 39, MODIFY the overall introduction approved in November, 2006 (additions shown in blue):***

Fencing material used at an official FIE competition and featuring the FIE emblem must, without exception, have obtained a certificate of homologation delivered by the FIE SEMI commission to the manufacturer concerned, certifying that his fencing material complies with FIE Rules.

The following is the material that manufacturers must submit to the SEMI Commission, subsequent to a request in writing for homologation and the authority to mark with the FIE emblem: apparatuses for the signaling of hits, blades, foil and épée points, masks, jackets and breeches, protective plastrons.

To obtain the FIE homologation of a piste, the manufacturer concerned must contact the SEMI and submit a file requesting homologation, including all technical characteristics, and a sample of the piste (30 cm wide x 40 cm long). If the analysis is positive, the SEMI will issue a homologation certificate authorizing the manufacturer to mark the piste (from the date of the delivery of the certificate) with the FIE emblem.

For the homologation file of their fencing material to be completed, manufacturers must answer any SEMI requests for information regarding the homologation.

When the SEMI commission has received the file requesting homologation, including the manufacturer's samples and the reports of the different tests (from the institutes CRITT, Denkendorf and IFTH for clothing, under-plastrons and masks; and CRITT, Sofranel and Visti for blades), if the analysis is positive they will issue a homologation certificate authorizing the manufacturer to mark his future production (from the date of the delivery of the certificate) with the FIE emblem.

The SEMI must be informed of any modification whatsoever that has the effect of causing a non-conformity to the samples provided for the original homologation. Obviously the manufacturer must wait for written confirmation of the SEMI Commission's agreement to the proposed modification before launching the new production.

The FIE emblem is a registered trademark. The fact that a piece of equipment carries the FIE emblem attests that the latter has been manufactured in accordance with the prescriptions of the Safety Norms and the Rules of the FIE.

#### **4) MAY 2007: DECISIONS AT MAY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

t.43.1:

***First paragraph, DELETE the words 'on the piste and'.***

***ADD after sub.para. f):***

- In pools, this checking must be done at the roll call of the fencers.
- For bouts in the direct elimination and the finals this checking must be done in the assembly area.

The organisers of all official FIE competitions (junior and senior) must make provision in their set-up for an assembly area.

***t.45.5: ADD a new paragraph to t.45, after t.45.4, as follows:-***

5. If the conductive jacket does not conform to the rules, the fencer must put on a spare jacket that does conform to the Rules. If this jacket does not have his name and nationality on the back, the fencer has until the next stage of the competition (from the pools to the table of 64, the table of 32, etc) to get his name and nationality

printed on it. If this is not done and except in cases of 'force majeur', the referee will eliminate the fencer and he cannot continue to participate in the competition.

**t.86.2: DELETE the words 'hair correct' and add this new paragraph at the end of the section :**

Before the start of the bout, the fencers' hair must be fastened and placed inside the clothing and/or mask in such a way as to ensure that:

- it does not cover a valid surface (and thus prevent a hit from being scored).
- it does not conceal the name and nationality of the fencer.
- it does not need to be put back in place during the bout, thus interrupting it.

In the case of violation of this rule, the referee will apply the penalties for group 1 offences (t.114, t.116, t.120).

*o.54: (application from season 2007-8). Changes to current text (last modified in September 2006) are shown in red.*

*Entries by name for Senior and Junior World Cup competitions, Satellite competitions and Zonal competitions.*

**1. The entry of the names of the fencers and all possible replacements, and the entry of teams, must be made via the FIE website 7 days before the competition at the latest (including for satellite competitions).**

**For Zonal competitions**, both senior and junior, the entries of the fencers and of the teams must be made via the FIE website 7 days before the first event of the Championships at the latest.

**2.** After the **deadline** for entries indicated on the FIE website, there can be no further additional entries nor the withdrawal of a name except in cases of properly authenticated injury or 'force majeure'.

However, before the Tuesday preceding the competition:

- a fencer may be **replaced** by another. To do this, the national federations must send to the FIE, in writing (fax or e-mail), a request for a fencer to be replaced.
- **one or more fencers may be added**, on payment to the FIE of a fine of 150 Euros per fencer added. To do this, the national federations must send to the FIE, in writing (fax or e-mail), a request to add a fencer, together with a copy of the bank transfer for the appropriate fine.

**From the Tuesday preceding the competition, if a fencer is withdrawn because of injury or 'force majeure', the national federation must inform the FIE and the organisers. The fencer cannot be replaced.**

*o.78.2: (application from season 2007-8). REPLACE the text by the following:*

For **Grand Prix competitions**, the competition supervisor, designated by the Executive Committee of the FIE, shall also be president of the Directoire Technique.

*m.5. ADD a new section 5, as follows:*

**EQUIPMENT AND CHECKING OF WEAPONS**

a) At foil and epee, only traditional or homologated pointes d'arrêt are accepted. No other kind of pointe d'arrêt, notably new ones that are not homologated, will be accepted at the weapon control.

In order to make the identification easier, please note that a traditional pointe d'arrêt has two screws to fix the tip of the pointe d'arrêt to the base, the whole is in metal, and there is no plastic in the base.

To make the checking of weapons easier and allow the complete observation of the tip and its base, foil fencers are requested to present their foils for checking with bare points, not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15 cm.

b) In order that the registering of hits by the contact of the point on the opponent be correctly registered by the scoring device, the pointes d'arrêt must be clean. The electrical resistance measured in ohms must not exceed the limit of two ohms (m.5.4.a).

c) The blades, the guards at epee and foil and the guard at sabre must be totally of metal.

Apart from at sabre where the part of the guard next to the pommel is insulated (insulating sheath), their exteriors must not be covered by any material (plastic or other).

The guard may not feature any advertising. This is also the case for the insulated part of the sabre guard.

d) Any fencer or other person who tries to register hits in a way that does not comply with the rules, either with the weapon or by manipulating the scoring device, will be excluded from the competition or from the competition zone and, after identification, will be liable to a further penalty.

*m.45: REPLACE the current text by the following:*

Only electrical apparatus designed with wires connecting the fencers to the central apparatus and registering hits by light signals with auxiliary sound signals are authorised, except for apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorised by

the SEMI. This excludes other apparatus based on wireless waves and those which register sound signals only.

## **5) JUNE 2007: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECISIONS**

*t.22.1: REPLACE this paragraph by:*

The use of the **non-sword hand and arm** to carry out an offensive or defensive action is forbidden (cf. t.114, t.117, t.120). Should such an offence occur, the hit scored by the fencer at fault is annulled and the latter will be penalised as specified for offences of the 2nd group (red card).

*t.120 (first page): MOVE the words*

Use of non-sword arm/hand\* ..... t.22.1

*from the first group of offences and place them in the second group*

*o.79.3: REPLACE this paragraph by:*

For **Grand Prix competitions**, entries are limited to a maximum of 8 fencers per weapon per country. The organising country may enter up to 12 fencers, plus the number of fencers needed to make up the pools, up to a maximum of 20 fencers.

## **6) DECEMBER 2007: DECISIONS AT NOVEMBER FIE CONGRESS**

### **A) IMMEDIATE APPLICATION**

*t.75: REPLACE sub-article 3 by the following text:*

**3 An attack with a lunge is correctly carried out:**

- t.75.a)** in a **simple attack** (Cf. t.8.1) when the beginning of the straightening of the arm precedes the launching of the lunge and the hit arrives at the latest when the front foot hits the piste;
- t.75.b)** in a **compound attack** (Cf. t.8.1) when the beginning of the straightening of the arm, on the first feint (Cf. t.77.1), precedes the launching of the lunge and the hit arrives at the latest when the front foot hits the piste.

**4 An attack with a step-forward lunge is correctly carried out:**

- t.75..a)** in a **simple attack** (Cf. t.8.1) when the beginning of the straightening of the arm precedes the step-forward and when the hit arrives at the latest when the front foot hits the piste;
- t.75..b)** in a **compound attack** (Cf. t.8.1) when the beginning of the straightening of the arm for the first feint (Cf. t.77.1) precedes the step-forward, followed by the lunge, and the hit arrives at the latest when the front foot hits the piste.

*t.120 (Offences and Penalties): 'Non-combativity' is MOVED from its previous categorisation located between Group 3 and Group 4 on the schedule, and is included among the First Group offences.*

### **B) APPLICATION 1<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

*t.22.2: ADD the following paragraphs a) and b) to the end of this sub-article:*

- a)** If, during the fencing phrase, there is protection or substitution of a valid surface, the fencer at fault will be penalised as specified for offences of the 1<sup>st</sup> group (cf. also t.49.1, t.72.2).
- b)** If, during the fencing phrase, as a result of protection or substitution of a valid surface, a hit correctly given is registered as not valid, the fencer at fault will be penalised as specified for offences of the 1<sup>st</sup> group (cf. also t.49.1, t.72.2) and the hit will be awarded by the referee.

*t.33: ALTER the title of the Article to the following:*

**Injuries or cramp, withdrawal of a competitor**

*t.33.1 and 2: INCLUDE 'or cramp' three times. The text of these two paragraphs becomes:-*

- t.33.1.** For an **injury or cramp** which occurs in the course of a bout and which is properly attested by the delegate of the FIE Medical Committee or by the doctor on duty, the Referee will allow a break in the fight lasting no longer than 10 minutes. This break should be timed from the point when the doctor gave his opinion and be strictly reserved for the treatment of the injury or cramp which brought it about. If the doctor considers, before or at the end of the 10-minute break, that the **fencer is incapable of continuing** the fight, he will decide that the fencer should retire (individual events) and/or be replaced, if possible (team events) (cf. o.44.11.a/b).

2. During **the remainder of the same day**, a fencer cannot be allowed a further break unless as a result of a different injury or cramp.

t.45.3.a) iii) ALTER the text to:-

- a) **iii)** has been passed by the preliminary check but is fraudulent.

t.45.3.b) REPLACE the two sub-paragraphs with dashes by the following single sub-paragraph:-

- in cases iii), iv), v) and vi), the Referee will penalise him as specified for offences of the 4<sup>th</sup> group (cf. articles t.114, t.119, t.120).

t.75.5 REPLACE the first two sentences of the sub-article (to “ ...t.120.) by:-

5. **The fleche and any forward movement** in which the rear foot completely passes the front foot is forbidden. Any offence will be penalised as specified for penalties in the 1<sup>st</sup> group (cf. t.114, t.116 et t.120).

t.81: REPLACE the text of the whole Article by the following:-

The regulations laid down in this Part apply to **all persons** who take part in or attend a fencing competition, including the spectators.

t.85.1: REPLACE the last two lines (after “entered in the event.”) as follows:-

entered in the event. Should this rule be broken, the penalties specified for offences of the 4<sup>th</sup> group will be applied (cf. t.114, t.119, t.120).

t.87.2: in 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> lines, REPLACE ‘hits made while falling’ by ‘hits made during or after a fall’. The last 3 lines thus become:-

ments on the piste, hits achieved with violence, hits made during or after a fall) are strictly forbidden (cf.t.114-t.120). Should such an offence occur, any hit scored by the fencer at fault will be annulled.

t.87.3: REPLACE this sub-article by the following:-

Before the beginning of each bout, the two fencers must perform a **fencer’s salute** to their opponent, to the Referee and to the spectators. Equally, when the final hit has been scored, the bout has not ended until the two fencers have saluted each other, the Referee and the spectators: to this end, they must remain still while the referee is making his decision; when he has given his decision, they must return to their on-guard line, perform a fencer’s salute and shake hands with their opponent. If either or both of the two fencers refuse to comply with these rules, the Referee will penalise him/them as specified for offences of the 4<sup>th</sup> group (cf. t.114, t.119, t.120).

t.114.3.c): REPLACE this sub-article by the following sub-articles c) and d):-

**c) Exclusion from the competition**, suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following two months of the active season, whether current or forthcoming, demonstrated by a BLACK CARD by which the Referee identifies the person at fault.

**d) Expulsion** from the competition venue (any person disturbing the order of the competition).

t.118.3.b): REPLACE this sub-article by the following:-

**b) at the second infringement** during the same competition a BLACK CARD and/or expulsion from the competition venue.

t.120: A revised layout for the Schedule of Offences and Penalties (see separate PDF file), reflecting also the relevant changes listed above.

o.27: REPLACE the text of this article by the following:-

**o.27** The final, which is by direct elimination, shall consist of 4 fencers.

o.77.3: REPLACE the text of this sub-article by the following:-

**This supervisor is either :**

- a member of a FIE Commission,
- a member of the FIE Executive Committee,
- a member of a group of persons, appointed by the Executive Committee, available and experienced at organising competitions.

He is appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE, at the suggestion of the FIE Bureau.

o.83.1.a): REPLACE the text of this sub-article by the following:-

**The official Open ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup, Grand Prix or Satellite competitions in which the fencer has participated, with a limit of no more than three from any one continent, plus the World Championships or Olympic Games and the Zonal Championships.

m.25.7: ADD a new sub-article f) as follows:-

- f) The mask must contain a horizontal safety strap at the rear of the mask, with the two ends of the strap firmly affixed to the two sides of the mask. This strap may be elastic or of any other material that may be approved by the S.E.M.I. Commission.

m.32.5: ADD a new sentence: see correction in 7) below.

m.33.3: ADD the following sentence to the end of the sub-Article:-

When a conductive overglove is worn, the overglove must contain a device which fixes the position of the overglove on the arm so that its position on the arm cannot be changed during the bout.

Publicity Code p.4.2: ADD the following sentence d) to the end of the sub-Article:-

- d) A sports organisation as organiser of a sporting event may invite any kind of sponsor to support the event, as long as its activity is not in contradiction with the FIE rules and the Olympic Charter.

### **C) APPLICATION 1<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2009**

t.47.2: REPLACE the current text by the following:-

**The target** at foil excludes the limbs and the head. It is confined to the trunk, the upper limit being the collar up to 6 cm 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, thence by straight lines to the junction of the lines of the groin (see Figure 4, p. 24). It also includes the part of the bib beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin and which, in any case, may not be lower than the line of the shoulders.

*Figure 4 ('Valid target at foil') will be MODIFIED to show the changed target.*

m.27: NUMBER the current text ("The mesh of the mask...") as sub-article 1 and ADD new sub-articles 2 and 3:-

m.27.2 as follows:-

The part of the bib that is beneath a horizontal line 1.5 - 2 cm below the chin, must be entirely covered with a material that has the same conductive characteristics as the conductive jacket.

### **7) PUBLISHED JULY 2008**

m.32.4/5: REPLACE the current texts by:-

- 4. The electrical contact** between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a wire and one or two crocodile clips. The wire must be attached to the mesh of the mask either by means of a crocodile clip or by being soldered, and must be between 30 cm and 40 cm long. (*Application 2008-9 season*): **In the case of a coiled cable, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 25 cm in length, with a tolerance of  $\pm 5$  cm.**
- 5. The electrical resistance** between the crocodile clip and any point on the mask must be less than 5 ohms. The crocodile clip(s), the design and size of which must conform to the conditions laid down in Article m.29.2.c), must be soldered to the end(s) of the wire.

### **APPLICATION JANUARY 2009:**

m.27.3 (means of connecting the bib to the jacket):-

Means of connection: the electrical contact between the conductive jacket and the mask must be ensured by means of a white-coloured wire and one or two crocodile clips (cf.m.32.4).

### **8. PUBLISHED MAY 2009**

m. Annexe 2.1.2, 1.GENERAL (page 55): ADD the following texts after the first sentence:-

At men's and women's sabre the wearing of the transparent mask is obligatory: at every stage of Grand Prix events, Team World Cup events and in the individual and team events of the Senior, Junior and Cadet and Veteran World Championships.

At men's and women's foil the wearing of the transparent mask is obligatory:

- In Grand Prix and all the individual events at the World Championships and the Olympic Games, from the last 32 onwards;
- In the team events of the Team World Cup and the World Championships, for the last 4 or 8 teams;
- In the team events at the Olympic Games, from the beginning of the competition.

## **9. CHANGES INTRODUCED AT NOVEMBER 2009 CONGRESS**

Old text to be deleted shown ~~struck through~~, new text as indicated.

- o.2.2 *New text:*  
Every competitor or designated official in a competition is required to have a valid international licence for the current Season.  
(cf.Statutes, Chapter IX)
- o.6.2 *Delete the whole of paragraph b) and the letter a) in front of the first paragraph.*
- o.7 *Replace with the following:-*  
The **checking of the organisers' equipment**, as well as the equipment of the fencers, must be carried out in accordance with the rules to be found in the Material Rules, by personnel who are qualified and designated by the organizing committee. If there are present designated members of the SEMI Commission, this function must be carried out by them or under their control.
- o.9.1 *New text as follows:-*  
The **programme** must be displayed, communicated and respected and must take into account the time needed for the fencers to rest between bouts. It should be arranged in such a way that no fencer is obliged to participate in events for **more than 12 hours in 24**. In any case, no pool, bout or match may begin after midnight, or at any time when it can be foreseen that there is a likelihood that it will end after midnight.
- o.10 *Amend wording of first line as follows:-*  
The first round of all ~~the~~ individual and team competitions, including the World Championships and the Olympic Games, must be .... *the remainder without change.*
- o.13.1 *Delete "Except where there are contrary provisions in these Rules," and delete ~~any~~ in the last line.*
- o.15.3 *Delete whole of paragraph 3: 4. now becomes 3, and 5. becomes 4.*
- o.18 *New text:-*  
Before the competition starts, the Directoire Technique will decide on and announce the **number of fencers who will be eliminated based on the ranking established by the pools.**
- o.29 *New text:-*  
This formula is used for the **individual competitions of the Open World Championships**, as well as for the **Open World Cup competitions and for Grand Prix competitions.**
- o.31.4 *New text:-*  
Should a fencer who has been entered not turn up, a fine (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) payable to the FIE will be inflicted on the Federation of the fencer at fault except in a case of force majeure which is duly justified.
- o.32.1 *Add:-*  
For Grand Prix competitions, the number of fencers eliminated

based on the indices of the pools must be 30%.

- o.33.1 *Add:-*  
Grand Prix competitions must be fenced on (only) four pistes.
- o.33.3 *New text:-*  
**Should one of the 16 exempted fencers** who had been entered in accordance with the Rules **not present himself** to fence (cf. o.31), his position in the table will remain empty and his federation will be required to pay to the FIE a fine (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) unless his absence is caused by circumstances duly justified as being outside his control.
- o.39.2 *Delete World Junior Cup and substitute* official FIE junior ranking of the year in course.
- o.39.4 o.39.4 *Change to read:*  
Those ranked 65 onwards in the official FIE junior ranking of the year in course.
- o.47.2 *New text:-*  
The **table will be drawn up** based on the ranking of the teams entered, at the latest one hour after the end of the quarter finals of the individual event.

Heading before o.50:-

*Change* Entries ~~by member federations~~ to Entries to competitions.

- o.50.3 *Change one month* to two months
- o.51.a *Delete telegraph address and substitute* e-mail address
- o.53.title *After* Entries for World Championships, *add* (all categories)
- o.53.1 *Delete the final sentence: 'No additional entries...'*
- o.53.2 *After* fifteen days *insert* (by midnight, Lausanne time)
- o.53.3, 4 and 5 *Replace current texts with the following:*
3. **Withdrawal of a fencer.**  
After the **cut-off date** for entries, there can be no further withdrawal of a name except in any case of force majeure duly justified.
  4. **Addition of fencer(s) after the cut-off date.**  
Nevertheless one or more fencers may be added, up until 10.00am (local time in the town hosting the World Championships) on the day before the competition, after payment to the FIE of a penalty (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) per additional entry. To do this the national federation must address a request to the FIE to add a fencer or fencers, together with immediate payment of the penalty.
  5. **Changes of names**, only with the agreement of the FIE and only for reasons of 'force majeure', can only be made at the latest up to 24 hours before the start of each event.

o.54 *New text:-*

**o.54.**

*Entries by name for Senior and Junior World Cup competitions, Grand Prix competitions, Satellite competitions, World Cup team competitions and Zonal Senior and Junior competitions*

1. **The entry of the names** of the fencers and all possible replacements, and the entry of teams, must be made via the FIE website 7 days before the competition at the latest (midnight Lausanne time).  
For team entries, the names of the fencers making up the teams may be changed, by informing the organizers, until the day before the competition, at the latest at the end of the quarter-finals of the individual competition.

## 2.–Withdrawal of a fencer or team.

After the closing dead-line for entries, no named fencer or team may be withdrawn.

From the Tuesday preceding the competition, should a fencer have to be withdrawn for reasons of force majeure, the national federation must inform the FIE and the organizers. The fencer may not be replaced.

## 3. Substitution of a fencer.

Until the Monday preceding the competition (midnight Lausanne time), a fencer may be replaced by another. To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE, by fax or e-mail, a written request to substitute the fencer.

## 4. Addition of a fencer after the deadline.

However, until the Monday preceding the competition (midnight Lausanne time), one or more fencers may be added after payment to the FIE of a penalty (cf 0.86, table of financial penalties and fines) for each additional entry.

To do this, the national federation must send to the FIE (by fax or e-mail) a request for the additional fencer(s) and a written commitment to pay the penalty within 15 days.

5. Should a fencer or team who have been entered **not present themselves to fence**, their federation will be penalised with a **fine** (cf 0.86, table of financial penalties and fines), payable to the FIE, except in cases of properly authenticated 'force majeure'.
6. The organisers of all official competitions must, at risk of a penalty of a fine payable to the FIE (cf 0.86, table of financial penalties and fines), refuse the entry of any fencers not appearing on lists conforming with the above, **any entry** not requested by a federation and any entry of either fencer or referee not in possession of an FIE licence valid for the current season.

o.55 *New text:-*

- o.55.** No fencer may take part in an official event of the FIE unless he or she is at least 13 years old on 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of the competition.
1. Fencers taking part in all the official **FIE Cadet competitions** must be under 17 years old at midnight on the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.
  2. Fencers taking part in all the official **FIE Junior competitions**, individual or team, must be under 20 years old at midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place (cf 0.80).
  3. Apart from the stipulations above, there is **no maximum age** limit for those taking part in any other official events of the FIE, except in regard to the different Veteran categories.

o.56

i) 2<sup>nd</sup> line, last word; delete ~~'major'~~ and substitute 'official FIE'

ii) 3<sup>rd</sup> line: delete ~~the~~ Directoire technique and substitute 'a Directoire technique'

o.57

*New text:-*

**The Directoire Technique is composed of people who have the experience and competence to organise competitions.**

### 1. World Championships and Olympic Games

- a) The technical organisation is undertaken by a Directoire Technique of **six** members of different nationalities, one of whom must represent the organising country.
- b) The **President of the Directoire Technique** and the other members are appointed by the Executive Committee of the FIE.
- c) Should there be a tied vote among the members of the Directoire Technique, **the President** of the Directoire Technique **has the casting vote**.

### 2. World Cup competitions

- a) The Directoire Technique is composed of three qualified persons from the organising country or invited by them.

- b) For Grand Prix competitions, the Supervisor of the competition, designated by the Executive Committee of the FIE, is also the President of the Directoire Technique.
- o.58.3.c *Delete : according to the rules for individual and team events*
- o.58.3.e *New text:- e) It supervises the **progress** of the event(s);*
- o.70 *In 1,2,3and 4: Delete :- after consultation with the Organising Committee.*  
*In 2, change 'SEMI Committee' to 'SEMI Commission of the FIE'.*  
*In 3, change 'Refereeing Committee' to 'Refereeing Commission of the FIE'.*
- o.71/o.72 *Delete o.72 ; renumber o71, second paragraph (Entries are limited....the team events.) as o.72.*
- o.78, o.79 *Delete present o.78.*  
*Renumber o.79.1 and 2 as o.78.1 &2;*  
*Delete o.79.4 ;*  
*Renumber present o.79.3 as o.79.*
- o.80 *Delete first word ~~The~~ and replace with Only*
- o.81.2,3 *New texts:-*
- 2 . For **Grand Prix and World Cup team** competitions,7 referees, proposed by the Refereeing Commission and in consultation with the organisers, will be designated by the Executive Committee, and delegations will not have to provide any referees. These 7 referees will be at the expense of the organisers, who will in return keep the entry fees.
3. Should a national federation not provide the required number of referees, a fine (cf o.86, table of financial penalties and fines) will be inflicted on it if it has notified the fact 15 days in advance. This fine is doubled if there was no notification 15 days in advance.
- This fine must be paid by the delegation to the organisers so that they are able to arrange for other referees to replace those missing as necessary.
- ¶If a national federation does not pay this fine, it must reduce the participation of its fencers in conformity with the quotas (cf o.81.1 above)
- The Supervisor must ensure the proper application of this article.
- o.82.2.c,d *Delete text of c); d) becomes c)*
- o.82.3 *New text:-*
3. **Participation**  
 Team participation is open to all countries and limited to **one team per weapon per country**.
- o.83.1.c *New text:*  
 For both Open and Junior rankings, the ranking is kept permanently up to date. The competition in the current year cancels out the corresponding competition in the previous year, and the points allocated for a competition cancel out the points attributed at the same competition in the previous season. If a competition does not take place in the current season, the points obtained at the same competition in the previous season are deleted on the anniversary of the competition.
- o.83.1.e *New text:-*  
 e) After each competition which is taken into account to establish the ranking; this is updated automatically after verification of the results by the FIE.

**o.86 Table of financial penalties and fines**

	<b>Article</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Date of payment</b>	<b>To be paid to</b>	<b>By whom</b>
Entry to World Championships after closing date	o.53.3	150 euros per entry	With the entry	FIE	By the National Federation
Entry to other FIE competitions after closing date	o.54.4	150 euros per entry	With the entry	FIE	By the National Federation
If a fencer or team duly entered does not turn up	o.31.4, o.33.3, o.54.5	750 CHF or 500 Euros per fencer or team	On receipt of notification of the fine	FIE	By the National Federation
Participation of a fencer or team not properly entered	o.54.6	1500 CHF or 1000 euros per improper participation	On receipt of notification of the fine	FIE	By the organiser
Required number of referees not respected (organisers informed 15 days in advance)	o.81.3	750 CHF or 500 Euros per referee	At the same time as the information is sent to the organiser	Organiser	By the National Federation
Required number of referees not respected (organisers informed less than 15 days in advance)	o.81.3	1500 CHF or 1000 Euros per referee	At the same time as the information is sent to the organiser	Organiser	By the National Federation

t.21.1 *After the words 'unarmed hand' insert 'or the knee of the back leg'.*

t.42.2, 3 *New texts:*

2. After reaching his decision regarding the materiality of a hit, the Referee, **by applying the rules**, decides which fencer was hit, whether both were hit (épée), or whether there was no valid hit (cf. t.55ss, t.64ss, t.74ss).

**t.42. 3. VIDEO-REFEREEING**

- a) Video-refereeing is compulsory at all 3 weapons at **Grand Prix, World Cup team competitions, the World Championships, Zonal Championships and qualification events for the Olympic Games.**
  - i) For **Grand Prix** competitions, video-refereeing is compulsory and must be used as soon as the timetable allows the competition to be run on only 4 pistes, and in any case **from the table of 64.**
  - ii) For **World Cup team** competitions, video-refereeing is compulsory **from the table of 32** onwards, including the matches for 3rd place but excluding the other ranking matches.
  - iii) For individual and team competitions of the open **World Championships**, video refereeing is obligatory **from the beginning**

**of the competition** onwards. 8 pistes equipped for video-refereeing are thus necessary.

**b) Appeals**

i) In **individual** events, the fencer has:

- in **pools** which the video-refereeing system is used, one possible appeal during each bout;
- in **direct elimination** bouts, two possible appeals.

Should the referee agree with the fencer who appealed for the video-refereeing the latter is entitled to retain his right of appeal.

ii) In **team events**, the fencers have one possible right to appeal to the video-refereeing per relay and they are entitled to retain this right should the referee agree with the appeal.

iii) In the case of an appeal for video-refereeing, the referee will walk over to the refereeing delegate, they will watch the video together and after consultation with the delegate, the referee will give his final decision.

- c) At **conventional weapons**, when both lamps are lit, the referee must consult his monitor before making a decision.
- d) If the fencers' scores are **equal at the end of the match**, for the decisive hit, the referee must use the video-refereeing and walk over to the refereeing delegate. They will examine the video together and, after consulting the delegate, the referee will give his final decision without the possibility of consulting the video again.
- e) The last action will be replayed on the referee's and the refereeing delegate's monitors, first at the **real speed** and then in slow motion, at **20%**.
- f) The **refereeing delegate** may at any time request that the referee review his decision.
- g) Following a request by one of the fencers to check the video, the **decision given is final** and his opponent cannot ask for the same action to be reviewed again.
- h) The person(s) monitoring the referees' decisions do not have to be members of the Refereeing Commission. For the World Championships, the refereeing delegate in charge will designate this or these person(s). For « Grand Prix » competitions, the delegate from the Refereeing Commission will designate this or these person(s).

t.70.4 *Delete: then 5. becomes 4. and 6- becomes 5.*

m.32.5 *Add the following sentence:-*

In addition, the electrical resistance in this wire (between crocodile clip and crocodile clip or crocodile clip and soldering) must not exceed 1 ohm.

m.33 *Add a new section 4.:-*

**4.** The conductive tissue (lamé) must satisfy the specified control conditions (cf m.28.5)

**Contents lists and indexes**

O Contents *After section F, add:-*  
Table of financial penalties and fines.....o.86

O index Age of participants *delete o.71*  
Directoire technique *delete o.78*  
Entries *add o.72 and o.78*  
Penalties (financial) *add o.86*  
Stateless *delete entry.*  
World Cup (Directoire Technique) *delete o.78*  
World Cup (number of participants) *add o.78*

T Contents Under Part 1, Chapter 6 – Validity or priority of the hit *add:-*  
(including Video-refereeing)

T index *Add:-* Video-refereeing.....t.42.3

## **10. CHANGES INTRODUCED IN APRIL 2010**

### **THE FOLLOWING CHANGE IS APPLICABLE IMMEDIATELY**

*Article o.65.2 is DELETED*

### **THE FOLLOWING CHANGES ARE APPLICABLE FROM OCTOBER 2010 ONWARDS:**

*Article o.81. 1 first sentence NOW READS:*

The number of FIE A or B Grade referees (cf. t.35) that must accompany teams to junior A Grade competitions is:

*o.81. 3 NEW TEXT:*

For A-grade, Grand Prix and World Cup team competitions, 7 referees, proposed by the Refereeing Commission, will be designated by the Executive Committee and delegations will not have to provide any referees. These 7 referees will be at the expense of the organisers who in return will keep the entry fees  
The Supervisor must ensure the proper application of this article.

*o.82. 2. a) NEW TEXT:*

The Team World Cup tournament is composed of a maximum of **five** integral competitions (through to the first place). Points will be allocated at the end of each competition.

*o.83. 1. a),b) NEW TEXT:*

a) The official Open ranking of the FIE takes into account the best **five** results of the World Cup, Grand Prix or Satellite competitions in which the fencer has participated, **irrespective of continent**, plus the World Championships or Olympic Games and the Zonal Championships.  
b) SEE FURTHER MODIFICATION IN SECTION 11. BELOW.

*o.83. c)- e) NEW TEXT:*

c) Points obtained in a Grand Prix competition of the FIE and a Zonal Championship are multiplied by a factor of **1.5**.  
d) Points obtained in the individual events of the Open World Championships and in the Junior World Championships are multiplied by a factor of **2.5**.  
e) Points obtained in the individual events of the Olympic Games are multiplied by a factor of 3. At the Olympic Games, fourth place is awarded 54 points.

*o.84.1. a) NEW TEXT:*

a) The official team ranking of the FIE takes into account a team's best four results in the Team World Cup competitions, **irrespective of continent**, plus the Open World Championships or the Olympic Games and the Zonal Championships.

## **11. CHANGE INTRODUCED IN MAY 2010**

### **THE FOLLOWING ALTERATION TO THE CHANGES ANNOUNCED IN APRIL, 2010, IS APPLICABLE FROM OCTOBER 2010 ONWARDS:**

*o.83. 1.b) NEW TEXT:*

b) The official Junior ranking of the FIE takes into account the best **five** results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, **irrespective of continent**, as well as the World Championships and the Zonal Championships.