

MINUTES COACHING COUNCIL MEETING

- **DATE:** 06 APRIL 2017 PLOVDIV
- **Venue:** COMPETITION VENUE JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2017
- **TIME:** 15:00 – 16:30

1. WELCOME

President of the Council, Dr. G. Tyshler welcomes everybody at the FIE Coaches Council meeting and thanked all members present for making it possible to meet during the competitions. Special thanks to members of the FIE management, E. Tsukhlo, K. Kulchzar and E. Murdaka for joining the council at the meeting.

1.2 ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Present:

Coaches

TYSHLER Gennady – RSA

CIPRESSA Andrea – ITA

AOKI Yusuke – JPN

MARCELIN Stephane – FRA

PAVLOVITCH Vladislav – RUS

MASSIALAS Gregory - USA

Apologies:

WANG Haibin – CHN

LEE Hyun-Soo – KOR

BENCE SZABO – Executive Committee Member, Executive Committee Representative

SAUCEDO Guillermo Jorge – ARG

SZEPESI Laszlo – HUN

Special guests:

G. Tyshler invited coach Petru Kuki (ROM) and coach Andrey Klyushin (RUS) to help with the translation during the meeting.

2. PROPOSALS FOR FIE CONGRESS 2017

Proposal one

The Turning of the Shoulder is something that has been very much opposed by the international foil community ever since its introduction after Rio Olympics.

THE RULE: In foil it is forbidden, during the course of fencing, to advance the shoulder of the non-sword arm in front of the shoulder of the sword-arm (cf.t.19). If a competitor does so he is liable to incur the penalties enumerated in Articles t.114, t.116, t.120. Any hits scored by the fencer at fault while committing this offence will be annulled.

This rule should be cancelled.

Motivation:

- It is very difficult to understand how much “the shoulder of the non-sword arm” should be advanced “in front of the shoulder of the sword-arm” and for all referees and fencers to maintain the same understanding of this rule.
- There are enough penalties in the rules for covering the target, turning, irregular movements on the piste, use of non sword arm, etc.

Proposal was discussed. All members of the Council are in favour of this proposal.
Special comments: Refereeing committee should be advised to use the rules of fencing in “close quarters” more consistently.

Proposal two

To reduce the blocking time in foil fencing. Proposal by G. Tyshler.

Current rules in foil.

6. After a period of time of 300 ms (\pm 25 ms tolerance) after the first hit signalled by the apparatus (this period of time bears no relationship to ‘fencing time’ which is the basis of judging according to the conventions governing foil fencing), the latter must ignore all signals for subsequent hits.

t.59. When **compound 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; that is to say that the stop hit must arrive before the attacker has begun the final movement of the attack.

t.6. *Fencing time* is the time required to perform one simple fencing action.

c) The *stop hit made within a period of fencing time*, i.e. ‘in time’ (cf. t.59, t.79).

The proposal is to reduce the blocking time from 300ms to a period of the “Fencing time “ , approximately 180 ms. The correct time for the foil fencing should be determined by the tests and experiments. In this case the “valid stop-hit” will be recorded and “after a hit has been registered, a subsequent hit made by the other fencer will only be registered if it occurs within a maximum of “(180ms ?).

In this case the foil refereeing will be easier and less dependent on the referee.

Foil fencing is the only weapon where the validity of the stop hit is determent by the referee. It is time for foil fencing to get in line with other weapons.

b) Timing in epee

The apparatus must register only the first hit which is made. If the interval of time between two hits is less than 40 ms (1/25th of a second), the apparatus must register a double hit (both signal lamps must light up simultaneously). When the interval is greater than 50 ms (1/20 of a second) 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 (1/25th and 1/20th of a second).

Discussion on the matter took place during the meeting.

MASSIALAS Gregory, CIPRESSA Andrea, PAVLOVITCH Vladislav, MARCELIN Stephane were against the proposal. The main reason is that coaches do not see the reason to change the rules in foil. Foil coaches are happy with the current blocking time.

Proposal was not supported.

Other proposals and recommendations

Proposal three

To investigate possibility of reducing the gap (tolerance) in blocking time in sabre from 20 milliseconds to 3-6 milliseconds

All coaches present supported the proposal.

Proposal four

Recommendation to fie office

Publishing of the world championship program 6 months before event

All coaches present supported the proposal

Proposal five

Recommendation to fie office

Changing of the rules should be conducted step by step (one change of the rules after another)

It is important that changing of the rules will be conducted step by step. For example we had changing of the blocking time and the distance in sabre at the same time. It is very difficult to analyze the impact of each individual change on the sabre fencing.

All coaches present supported the proposal

Proposal six

Recommendation to FIE office

The distance between the continental championship and the world championship is too small. It is only 3 weeks and not enough for rehabilitation and preparation.

All coaches present supported the proposal.

Proposal seven

Shorten the length of the epee bout to 2 minutes. Proposal was discussed. Coaches are not in favor of this proposal.

Proposal eight

Recommendation to FIE office

Quota for competition entry

Quota for competitions entry at World cup competitions was discussed. The current quota does not affect the small federations, but for the big federations it becomes difficult to enter young, promising (under 23) fencers into competitions. Sometimes fencers when they become seniors after junior age category are not strong enough to get in to top 12 in their country to be entered in to senior competitions. This will result in young promising fencers finishing their fencing careers and quitting fencing.

Coaching Council is asking the sport department to come with the proposal on the matter for the further discussion.

Proposal nine

Plastic Brest Protection in women foil

Gregory Massialas propose that the Coaches Council push FIE Sport Department and/or the Semi Commission to apply the rules with regards to these materials so that manufacturers can start the process of preparing these chest protectors to the fencers, and thus the fencers can purchase the chest protectors that reflect the current rules. The rules were passed, we just have to apply the rules. It seems quite a simple thing that will have a positive influence on the sport.

This may seem a small issue, but it is something that has dogged foil for over a decade - the bouncing points from the chest protectors. In my opinion it is the reason that the quality and excitement of WF has gone down from the 2004 and earlier era. It will have a

significant impact on the way WF is fenced, and in a good way. There will be far less "squiggling and wiggling" defensive actions to avoid getting hit, and the attack will finally have a way to consistently score. This will make the game more visually pleasing to the eye, exciting, and is in the best interest of our sport.

Coaching Council supporting Gregory on the matter.

Proposal ten

Priority of attack in foil with simultaneous beat and parry in foil.

Rules:

4. Attacks by beats on the blade:

a) In an attack by beating on the blade, the attack is correctly carried out and retains its priority when the beat is made on the foible of the opponent's blade i.e. the two-thirds of the blade furthest from the guard.

b) In an attack by beating on the blade, when the beat is made on the forte of the opponent's blade i.e. the one-third of the blade nearest the guard, the attack is badly executed and the beat gives the opponent the right to an immediate riposte.

t.58. When a compound attack is made, if the opponent **finds the blade during one of the feints**, he has the right to riposte.

5. **Only the fencer who attacks is counted as hit:**

b) If he attempts to find the blade, does not succeed (is the object of a **dérobement**) and continues the attack.

c) If, during a compound attack, his opponent **finds the blade**, but he continues the attack and his opponent ripostes immediately.

Rules articles were discussed by the members.

Recommendation: To discuss the matter with the rules committee first in person and then to make official letter to rules committee asking the referees to apply the rules consistently.

Proposal eleven

Recommendation to FIE office

Competitions per weapon in one region for men and women

It will be important that FIE will organize the competitions for the same weapon at the same location or close, that one National coach responsible for women and men events can be present and manage both teams.

All coaches present supported the proposal

Proposal twelve

Epee weight 500 gram

Rules:

2. The **pressure** required on the pointe d'arrêt in order to complete the circuit in the épée, and thus cause the apparatus to register a hit, must be more than 750 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point.

Proposal is to reduce the weight to 500 g.

Coaching Council was not in favour of this proposal.

CONCLUSION

Dr. G. Tyshler thanked everybody for the work done. Council has managed to discuss more than 10 different proposals in 75 minutes with most of decisions taken. All the members should confirm their votes by email.

Draught of the minutes will be circulated by the president to all members for comments. The date for the next meeting will be announced.

Meeting closed.

06.04.2017