

FIE FAIR PLAY COUNCIL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Date, place and time of the meeting: 4th & 5th July 2025 - Istanbul	Agenda
<u>Participants</u> Jennifer Yamin Osmonzhan Kasymov Patricia Aiyeuro Alejandro Benitez Romero Omneya Mansour Zuleydis Ortiz Puente Ali Toumi Dhw Hassen Zouari	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call for Fair Play Nominations (focus on Tbilisi 2025) 2. Seasonal Promotion of Fair Play Speed up online presence, including social media 3. Training the trainers – online courses 4. Fencing expert questionnaire for voluntary support Additional items <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Meeting with FIE executive Committee Members 6. Meetings with other Commissions and Councils
<u>Absences</u> Gabor Deregan Ting Han	

Agreed that Patricia Aiyeuro to take meeting notes.

Jennifer Yamin chaired the meeting in the absence (due to ill health) of the president of the council Gabor Deregan.

MEETING REPORT

Point 1

1. Call for Fair Play Nominations

- No names proposed for Wuxi; focus on nominations for Tbilisi 2025 Senior World Championships.
- Jennifer Yamin proposed nominating OH (South Korea) for his Olympic final gesture helping Ferjani (Tunisia) after he fell, instead of scoring a touch. Paris 2024 falls within this season (ending October), making the nomination valid. on a global stage, was the fight between OH (South Korea) v Ferjani (Tunisia) . In the gold medal bout , where Tunisian fencer Ferjani fell and OH, instead of going for the touch helped him up. This happened in Grand Palais, in an Olympic Final. Such a fair play act was inspiring and would inspire young people from around the world.
- Venezuela team nomination to be submitted by Kelly Koehler once video evidence is available will be shared to council to make a decision.
- Agreed to await reports from Tbilisi for further nominations.
- Jennifer shared several fair play videos for review.

Actions:

- Enhance promotion at Tbilisi, instruct referees and officials to observe and report fair play moments.
- Set up a Fair Play booth in Tbilisi, with Gabor Deregan and Omneya Mansour staffing it.

- Council to review any footage sent to them and respond as soon as possible.
- Jennifer to invite Vlad from the new media team to discuss creating a short explanatory interview on Fair Play in fencing.

Discussion:

More promotion in Tbilisi is required to look out for fair play moments. Follow up on fair play booth in Tbilisi and instructing referees and other officials to look out for fair play and fill out a reporting form.

Council had a discussion about the rules and why we cannot award some fair play decisions that do not follow the fencing rules, such as allowing your opponent to hit you deliberately to give them the touch, where you feel it should have been awarded to them.

We cannot promote something against the rules, this can put the referee into question for not applying the rules properly.

- Clarified that actions violating fencing rules (e.g. deliberately giving a touch) cannot be promoted as fair play.
- Council went through various videos to define and show examples of Fair Play
- Need to source video content for use in the booth.

Point 2

2. Seasonal Promotion of Fair Play

- Proposal to produce a video showcasing real examples of fair play (to be discussed further with the PCM Commission; Jennifer to arrange the meeting tomorrow).
- Discussed awarding Fair Play at competitions as well as at congress. Considered practical challenges of coordinating timely review with local organisers.
- Agreed that videos should include real examples and interviews of winners and top ranked athletes in each weapon.

Point 3

Training the Trainers

- Agreed on designing an online, interactive format with a mix of multiple-choice and short-answer questions.
- Members to propose one question each for the quiz after the meeting break.
- Fair Play briefings to be included in referee meetings at major championships.
- Plan to organise a meeting with the Coaches Council to discuss embedding fair play training in coaching education.

Point 4

Fencing expert questionnaire for voluntary support

Initial draft Interactive questionnaire items

1. What does fair play mean to you?
2. What are the main principles of Fair Play?
3. Have you performed an act of fair play at a competition?
4. What are the benefits of Fair Play in sport?
5. How does Fair Play influence the integrity of sporting competitions?
6. Does Fair Play align with fencing's values?
7. Are you aware of FIE Fair Play awards? (Yes/No)
8. Would lending your equipment to an opponent be Fair Play? (Yes/No)
9. Is helping a fallen opponent instead of attacking Fair Play? (Yes/No)
10. Is a team physio helping another federation's fencer Fair Play? (Yes/No)

Point 5

Meeting with FIE Executive Committee Members - Interim President Abdelmoneim El Hussein and Secretary-Treasurer Ferial Salhi.

- Both expressed thanks to the council and underlined the importance of Fair Play in fencing and the Olympic movement.
- Emphasised need for councils and commissions to develop clear strategies with KPIs.
- Highlighted threat from emerging sports and need to strengthen fencing's Olympic position.
- Discussed FIE's investment in prize money (including Tbilisi event and referee rewards), social media improvements and plans to improve the Fencing TV Channel.
- Emphasised need for modernisation, high-quality video content, and athlete engagement.
- Jennifer Yamin reiterated need for funding for promotional resources. Interim President confirmed funding was available.
- Ferial Salhi thanked everyone on the council, Fair play by excellence brings education- traditionally fair play is in fencing, By bringing experience together, as we are on the fair play council, we will be in a good position in the future. We need to act now to bring our goals to modernize and make our image better so that we are not at risk. We need to invest in our athletes to attract other s such as spectators, sponsors etc..
- Executive members thanked the council for its work and stressed the importance of teamwork and working together..

Point 6

6. Meetings with Other Commissions

Referees Commission

- Full meeting not possible due to schedule.
- Jennifer spoke with Irina Knysch (President of Refereeing Commission) to reinforce the need for referees to record fair play moments.

Coaches Council

- Attended by 6 members led by President Guennadi Tychler.
- Jennifer explained Fair Play Council's work.
- Agreed ways to promote Fair Play:
- Include in coaching seminars and academy courses
- Organise webinars
- Recognise coaches as potential fair play role models

Promotional and Marketing Commission

- Agreed to update the Fair Play section of the website (which is outdated).
- Fair Play Council to provide 2-minute video content explaining Fair Play.
- Video content suggestions:
- Interviews with Fair Play award winners at congress on their experience.
- Interview Top-ranked fencers in each weapon discussing Fair Play and safe sport.
- Examples from other federations' Fair Play initiatives.
- Fair Play at zonal competitions.
- Plan to produce: two videos to showcase Fair Play
- An educational booth video (for screens ideally around the venue)
- Fair Play video - A short 20–30 second social media version
- Additional ideas:
- Signage at major championships
- Music and storytelling dedicated to Fair Play
- Localised videos for different confederations in various languages

Point 7

Next Steps / Actions Agreed

- Gather and finalise quiz questions for the online training module and put on a platform
- Fair Play council to coordinate with Vlad (and media team) for video interview planning.
- Prepare promotional video content for website and social media.
- Develop materials for Fair Play booths in Tbilisi.
- Review videos for fair play awards
- Provide PCM commission with content to update the Fair Play web page