

# **RAPPORT DU CONSEIL DES VETERANS DE LA FIE** **FIE VETERANS' COUNCIL REPORT** **INFORME DEL CONSEJO DE LOS VETERANOS DE LA FIE**

<b>Date, lieu et heure de la réunion :</b> <b>Date, place, and time of the meeting:</b> <b>Fecha, lugar y horario de la reunión:</b>	<b>July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 via Zoom</b> <b>Start 13:00 CET</b> <b>End 18:00 CET</b>
<b>Participants:</b> <b>Participants:</b> <b>Participantes:</b>	1. Benoit PINCEMAILLE (Pres.) 2. El Houssine AMEZIANE 3. Mirna BOROSAK 4. Peter BRIGOLA 5. Rita COMES 6. Kovacs LIN 7. Mohamed NAHI 8. Marja-Liisa SOMEROJA
<b>Absences (indiquer si l'absence avait été annoncée) :</b> <b>Absent (indicate if the absence had been announced):</b> <b>Ausencias (indicar si la ausencia fue anunciada):</b>	1. Velichka HRISTEVA 2. Luis FILARDI (part of the technical team of the Central American and Caribbean Games – cannot attend) 3. Jie DENG (got injured during exercise – cannot attend)

## **INTRODUCTION** **INTRODUCTION** **INTRODUCCIÓN**

The meeting with the Women and Fencing Council was brought forward at the request of the Veterans Council.

40+ and 70+ at FIE Veterans World Championships:

In order to be able to compare the effect of 40+ and 70+ participation of women, Benoit will provide the statistics of the last 10 years of European tournaments. The Women and Fencing Council will feature 40+ and 70+ female fencers in FIE tournaments on social media together with the promotion commission. The aim is to show how joyful and happy vet fencers can be.

After the meeting with the Women and Fencing Council, Benoit welcomed everybody again and started to follow the agenda.

## **RAPPORT DE LA RÉUNION** **MEETING REPORT** **INFORME DE LA REUNIÓN**

### **Point 1 / Item 1 / Punto 1: Opinion of the Veterans Council about the Modifications of organisation and technical rules**

- The Veterans Council agreed with the changes of the organization and technical rules.

### **Point 2 / Item 2 / Punto 2: Forthcoming World Veterans Championships DAYTONA 11 -16 October 2023**

- Rita Comes – report in annex.
- Preview of the World Championships in Dubai 2024

Benoit showed a Video from the Junior and Cadet World Championships 2022 and did a comparison to the upcoming Vet World Championships 2024.

### **Point 3 / Item 3 / Punto 3: Main recent activities of veterans in the Confederations**

#### Europe

- European Championships (Power Point presentation of Benoit see annex)
- EVF circuit (Power Point presentation of Benoit see annex)

#### America

- Rita Comes – report in annex.

#### Africa

- Mohamed

Mohammed reported that there were no activities in veteran fencing as well as cadet and junior fencing in Africa

#### Asia

- Kovacs

Due to COVID no Asian Vet championships have been held since 2019. Only a few nations held their national championships. Unfortunately, the Asia Confederation has very few activities. For 2024 the Asian Vet Championships are planned in Hong Kong and the same for 2025 in Singapore.

### **Point 4 / Item 4 / Punto 4: Should the "veteran" appellation be called into question?**

- The suggestion to change the naming to "Masters" was discussed intensively. In the end, this activity was switched to "Standby".

### **Point 5 / Item 5 / Punto 5: Do we want the Council to become a Commission?**

- The council believes that a group of COMEX-appointed members represents the views of veterans better than (elected) members of commissions.

### **Point 6 / Item 6 / Punto 6: Is the 60-year age limit for referees appropriate for veterans?**

- The Council has the opinion that the maximum age of the referees cannot be changed, because in any case at World Championships the referees are nominated by the FIE (from the master list). So, the maximum age of referees has to stay at 60 years.

#### Meeting with the Promotion Commission (Pres. Nikolay Mateev):

Dieter Lammer (FIE Technical director) and Ziad Feriani (Pres. FIE Rules Commission) also took part in this meeting.

- Test event to implement the 40+ category:  
At the 2025 World championships, the 40+ (all categories, genders and weapons) will be held to test the feasibility in all areas. After the positive conclusion, the 40+ category will be introduced regularly at world championships. After that clarification Dieter Lammer and Ziad Feriani left the meeting.
- Support of Promotion Commission for Veterans:  
The Promotion Commission will increase the posts on social media and are asking for standards at podium Fotos. It is very necessary to show not only the success or failure, but above all that fencing can bring happiness, especially to older athletes.

**Point 7 / Item 7 / Punto 7: Miscellaneous**

- Display of Veterans ranking on FIE website as other categories:  
After the World Championships in Milan, this topic will be discussed with the responsible persons.

Peter Brigola  
FIE Veteran Council  
Secretary

## ***EVF European Championships May 2023 THIONVILLE (FRA)***



**1462 fencers**  
**coming from 33 countries**



# Global organisation

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
325		304		433		459		303	
		MS1	40	ME1 Poules	138	ME1 Tableaux	138	MF1	64
MF2	77			ME2 Poules	224	ME2 Tableaux	224	MS2	60
ME3	156	MF3	62					MS3	46
MF4	32	ME4	83	MS4	23				
		WE1	82	WF1	33	WS1	20		
		WF2	37			WS2	35	WE2	105
WE3	47			WS3	15	WF3	24		
WS4	13					WF4	18	WE4	28

37 Referees

30 pistes

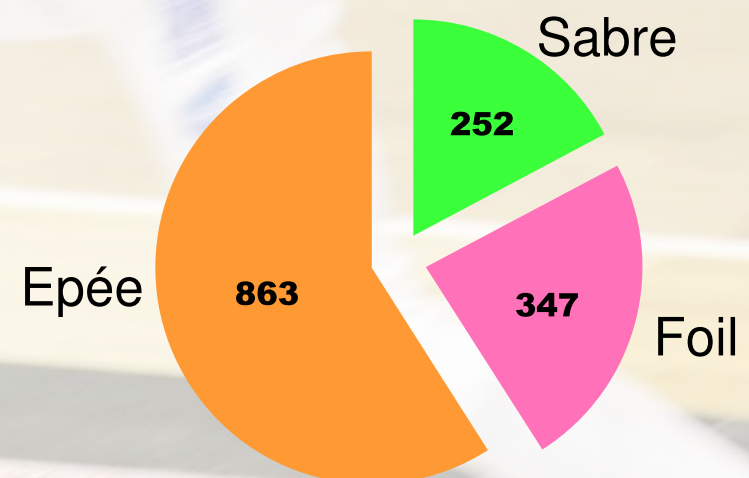
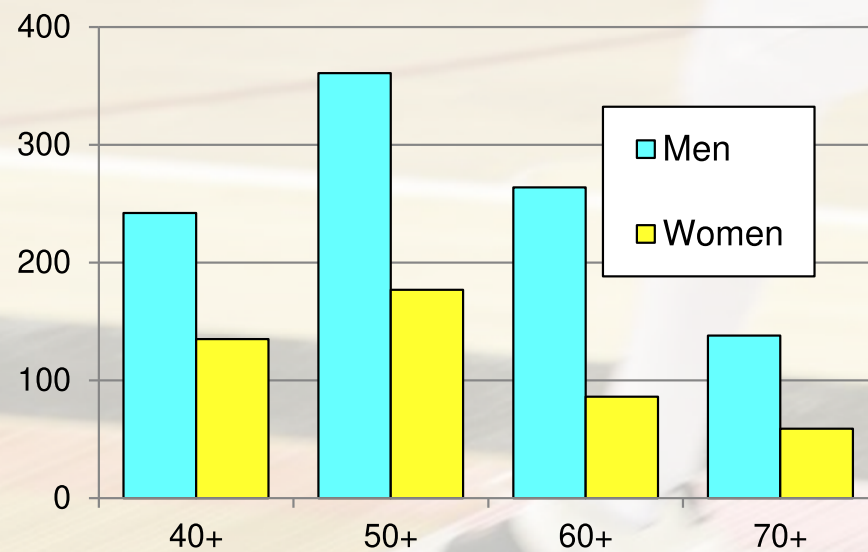
## ***Participation per countries***



FRA	404
GER	283
GBR	137
ITA	124
HUN	79
BEL	46
SUI	43
POL	43
ESP	42
NED	35
SWE	35
AUT	34
FIN	31
UKR	16
ISR	14
DEN	12
GEO	11
CZE	10
OTH	63



## Categories and weapons analysis



# Global results



	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
FRA	6	6	14	26
ITA	4	6	4	14
GER	4	4	9	17
GBR	3	1	7	11
FIN	3		1	4
HUN	2	2		4
CRO	1			1
SWE	1		1	2
BEL		2		2
AUT		1	6	7
ESP		1	3	4
UKR		1		1
NED			2	2
LAT			1	1



## ***Forward-looking***

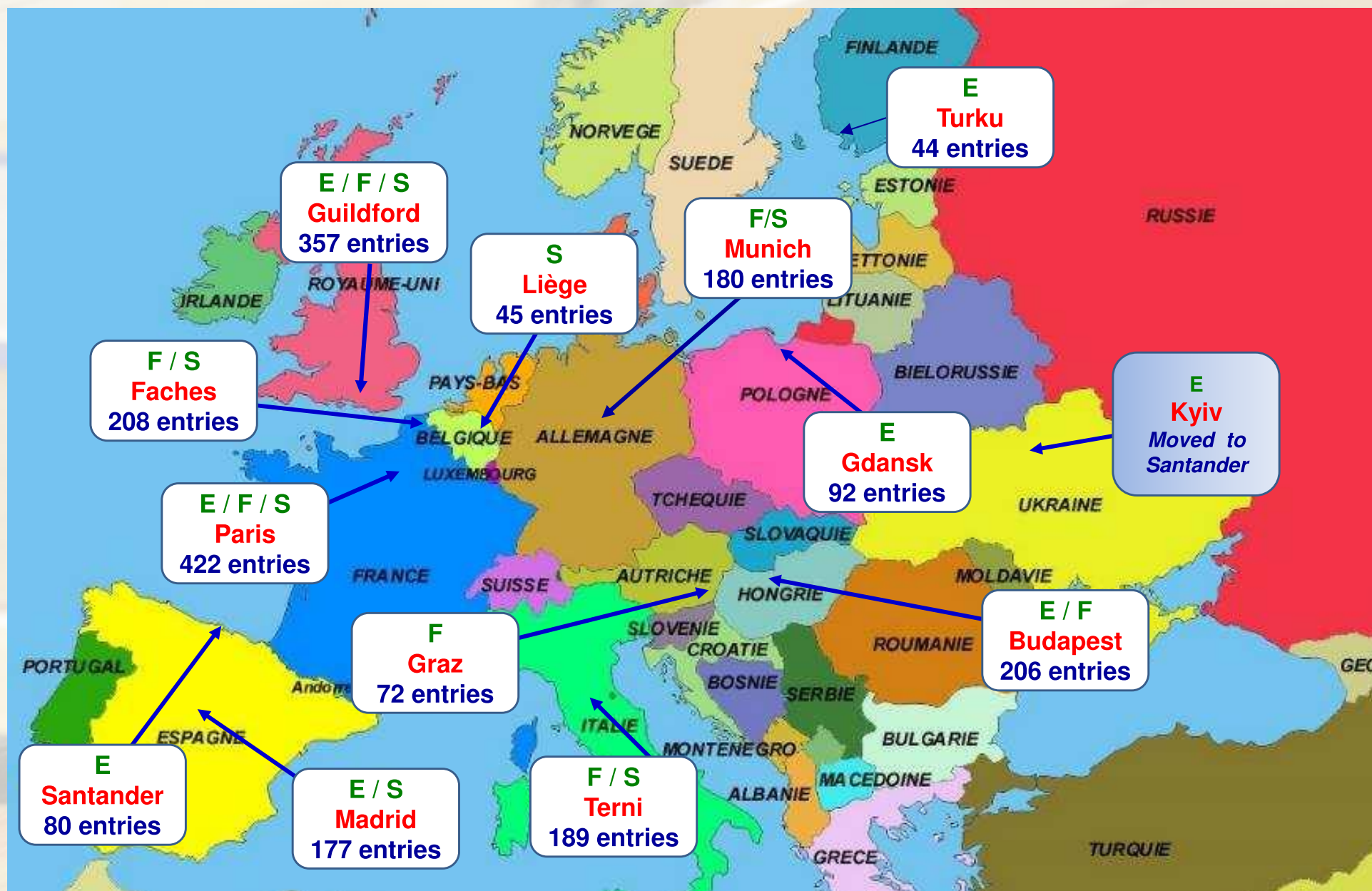
- **These Championships are APPRECIATED :**
  - ✓ Interest of local authorities
  - ✓ Hosting cities committed until 2027 !
- **The format 5 days / 30 pistes is APPROPRIATE :**
  - ✓ Can welcome up to 1800 fencers
  - ✓ Preserves the « open » concept
- **These Championships are PROFITABLE :**
  - ✓ Reasonable EVF requirements
  - ✓ Many partnerships opportunities

## ***EVF European Circuits***

- **Initiated in September 2018, encouragingly successful.**
- **Interruption 2020 /2021 due to Covid ...**
- **Season 2022 / 2023 :**

**12 Hosting cities**  
**More than 2000 entries**

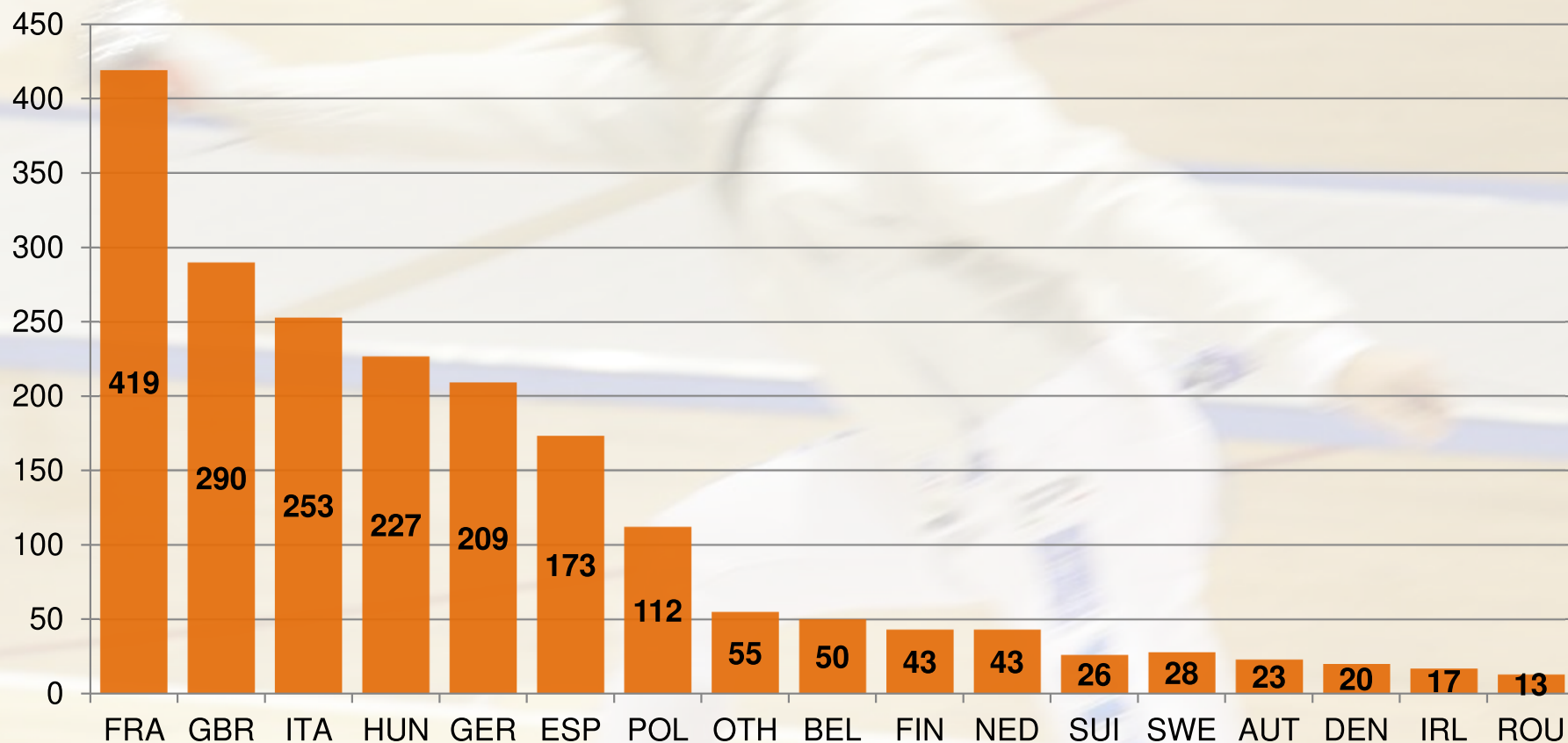
## EVF European Circuit 2022-23 - Geographical distribution





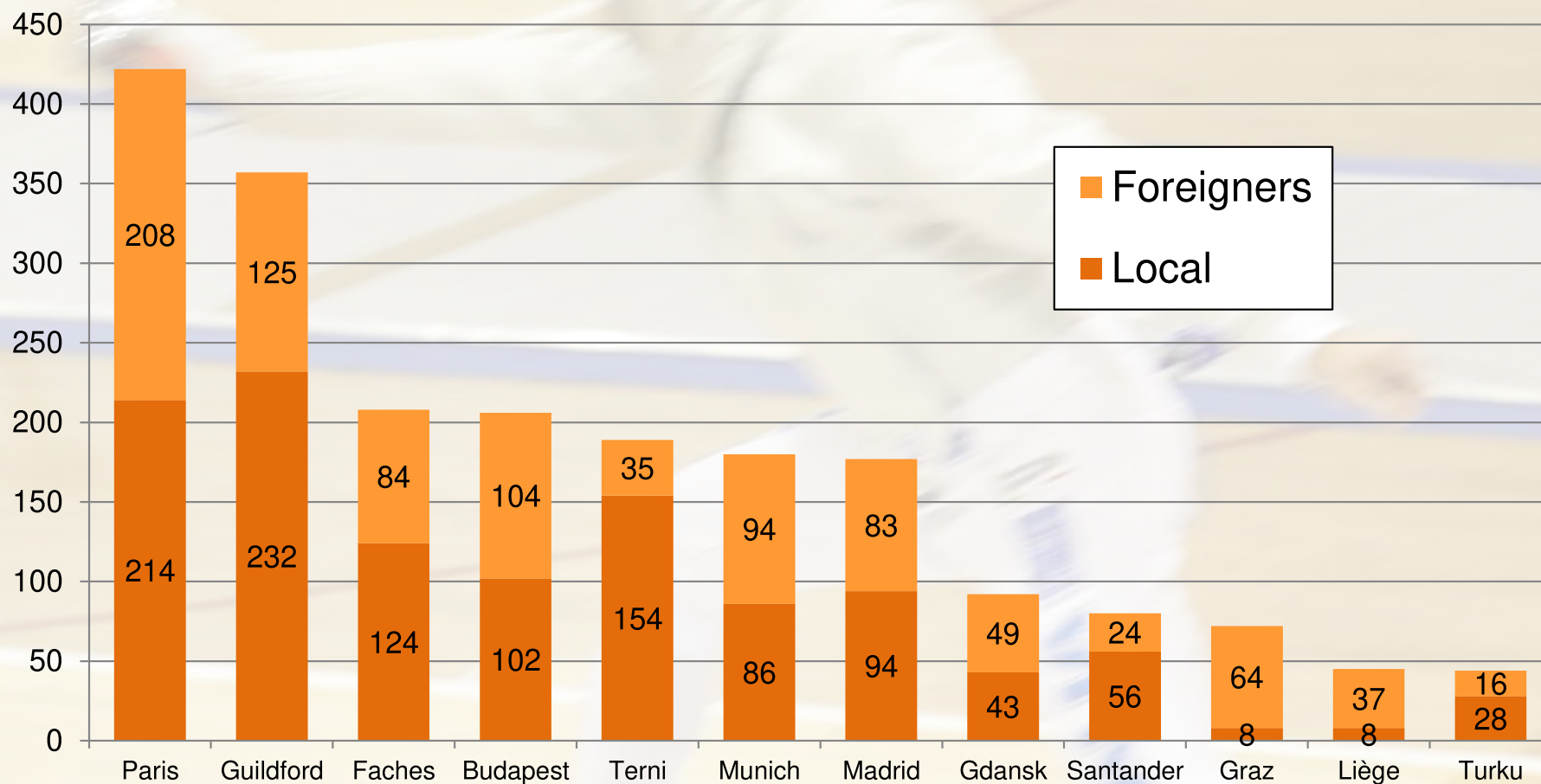
## *Participation analysis per countries*

entries



**2072** entries of **1328** fencers  
coming from **36** countries

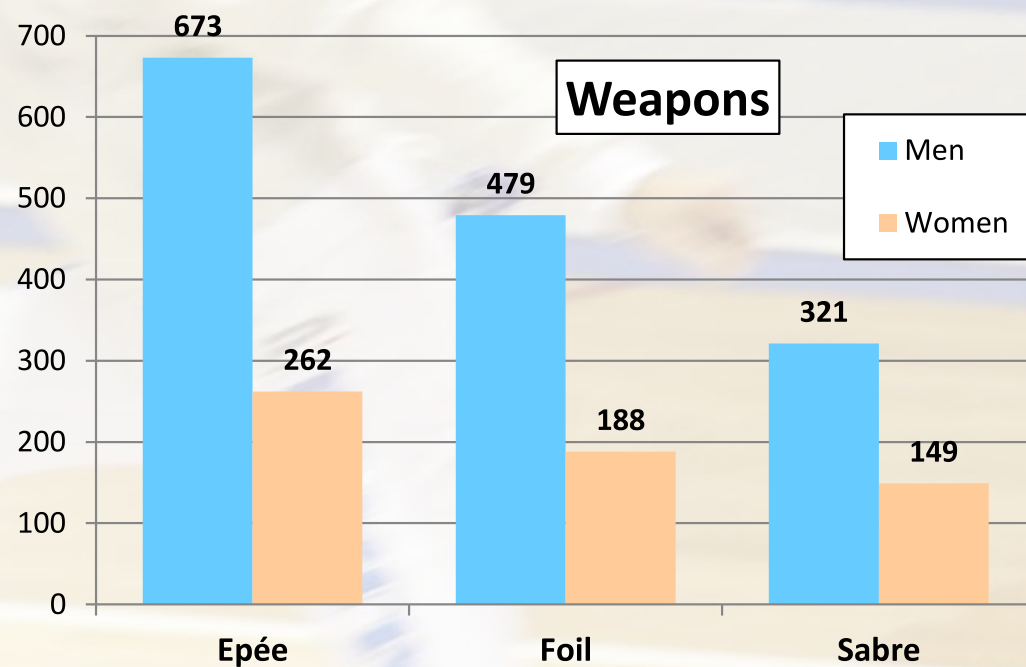
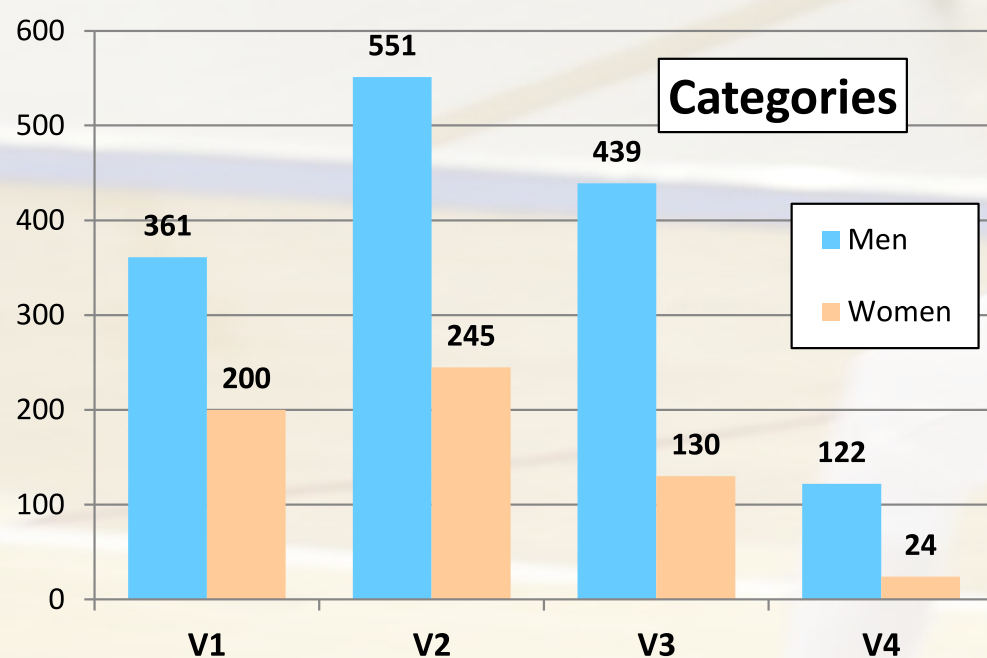
## *Participation analysis per hosting cities*



➤ **Fencers are not afraid to go abroad !**

## Categories and weapons

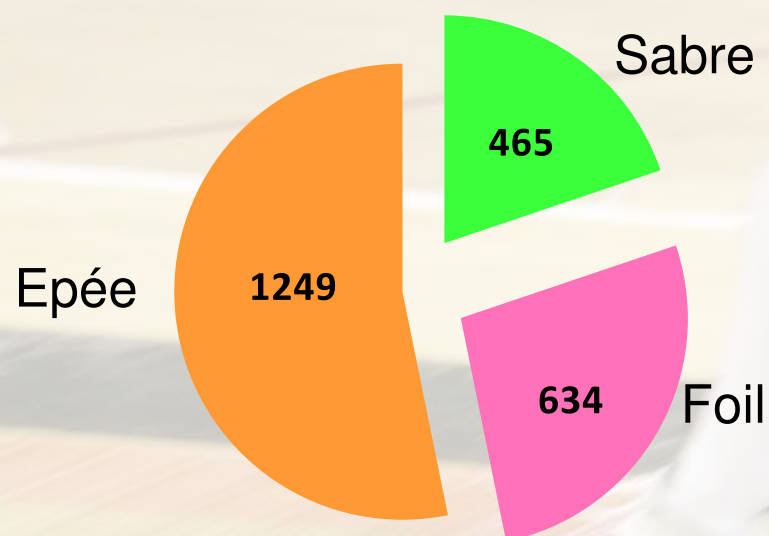
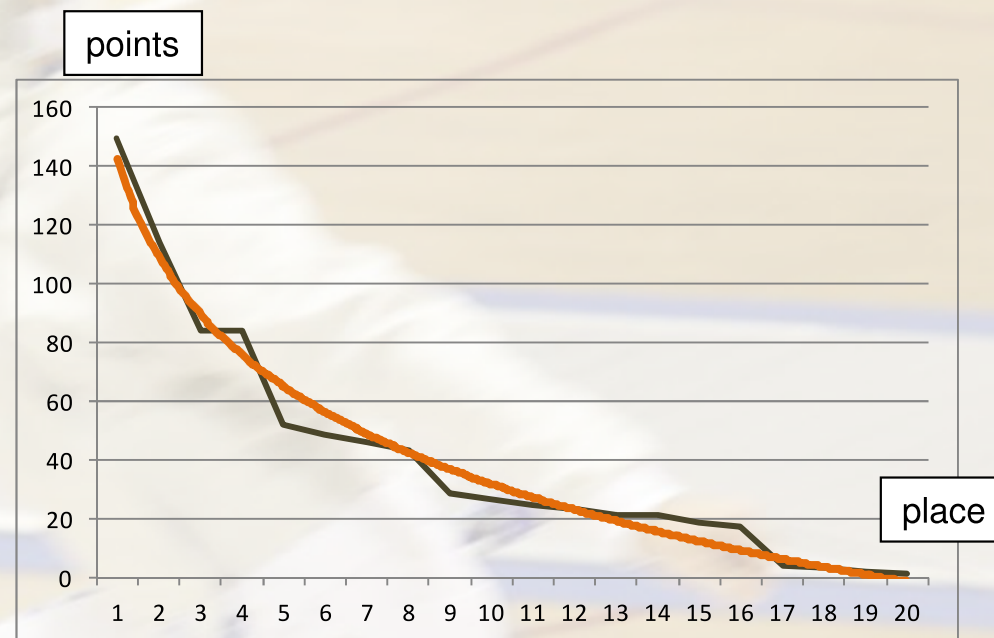
### Distribution of the 2072 entries :





## Creation of an individual ranking

- Points according to the place (logarithmic scale) e.g :
- Ranking by addition of the 5 best results, the last 2 years (sliding mode).
- 2348 fencers have a ranking :



*At the end of the season, the best fencer in each category, weapon and gender is :*

**FENCER OF THE YEAR !**

# EVF European Circuit 2023-24 - Provisional Calendar

		2023						2024					
		JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
FRA	Paris	FOIL + EPEE + SABRE											
ESP	Madrid						FOIL + EPEE + SABRE						
ITA	TBD							FOIL + EPEE + SABRE					
BEL	Liège												SABRE
HUN	Budapest			FOIL + EPEE + SABRE									
GER	Munich							FOIL+SABRE					
FRA	Faches								FOIL+SABRE				
AUT	Graz										FOIL		
FIN	Turku			EPEE									
GBR	Guildford								FOIL + EPEE + SABRE				
GRE	Athens												EPEE
POL	Gdańsk												EPEE
SWE	Stockholm										FOIL + EPEE		

EUROPEAN  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

## **2023- USA – Prepared by Rita Comes – Member of the FIE Veteran Council**

The number of Veteran Fencers in the United States has continued to increase. Veteran National Events and Regional Events are well attended by the Veteran Fencing Community. United States Fencing Association Members include Senior, Youth, Veteran and Para Fencers as one united organization.

It was unfortunate that the 2021 FIE Veteran World Championships had to be postponed due to the world Covid crises. We recognize the hardship and loss that so many suffered during this crisis. We are extremely excited to host the 2023 FIE Veteran World Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida during October 2023. All information – the website and invitation letters for the 2023 FIE Veteran World Championships have been published and forwarded to all Federations.

The United States Fencing Association (USFA) currently has about 39,000 (38,289) members. 3,936 are identified as Veteran Fencers. Veteran Fencers represent more than 10% of all USFA members. There are 626 individual Veteran Fencers that are competing in a variety of events during the 2023 USA National Championships in July – 19 of those Veteran Fencers are over the age of 80. The 2023 National Championships and July Challenge in Phoenix, Arizona had over 5,300 participants and is considered the largest fencing tournament in the world.

### **Team Participation**

Veteran Team Events have increased over the years. Many competitions are adding Veteran Team Events to Local and Regional Events. This has been proved a successful addition for marketing and profitability at competitions. The US will demo the FIE Veteran's Team format at a future event.

### **Veteran Camps and Competitions**

There has been a significant increase in Veteran workshops, Camps and Veteran Competitions across the United States with members traveling long distances to participate. Many Veteran Fencers are able to attend camps and competitions around the world and have appreciated the openness and help of the world fencing community. An increase of Regional (ROC) events in the US allowed for reduction of travel expenses and more participation of the fencers to compete and qualify for the US National Championships without having to travel to National Events during the year. There is an increasing number of Veteran Fencers that continue to participate in tournaments around the world and use these opportunities as a destination travel event.

### **Strategies for promotion of “older fencers”**

Regarding the strategies for promotion to “older fencers” our largest initiative has been starting the V80 category at our North American Cup (NAC) events since December 2018. As predicted, the Vet80+ women's participation has continued to increase in the US. The participants of the 80+ Events are very grateful for the experience, but more information will have to be gathered from other Countries before proposing to seriously consider suggesting that it be included as an event at the FIE Veteran World



Championships.

USFA has also increased the Social Media presence for Veteran Fencing - interviews, photos, memorabilia, and historical stories have really helped promote the image of Veteran Fencing.

A private USA Fencing Veterans Face Book (FB) page (1,900 Members) that was started in 2018 has grown by an additional 400 members in the past year. This page is used so that official and fun information could be shared amongst the Veteran Fencers around the world, there is also a private US Women's Veteran FB page (617 members). During the pandemic, a Veteran Women's Fencing Support Group was formed and had weekly then bi-monthly and now monthly Zoom meetings to support each other during this difficult time.

In leading up to the 2023 FIE Veteran's World Championships, we have an eager team of competitive fencers that fought their way for the spots on the USA Veteran Team. The Team has high hopes of receiving another recognition medal from the FIE for the 2023 Event as it did for the 2022 FIE World Championships. Promotion for the Daytona Beach, Florida Event and Veteran Fencing overall has brought a lot of attention to Veteran Fencing in the US and beyond.

We look forward to welcoming the World to Daytona Beach in October.



Rita Comes 2023