

INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)

2025 CONGRESS

HELD IN MANAMA (BRN) ON 22 NOVEMBER 2025

DECISIONS

1. VALIDATION OF ATTENDANCE AND PROXIES

139 federations took part in the Congress, of which 123 were present and 16 were represented.

2. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S DECISION REGARDING THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTERING PARTICIPANTS FOR THE 2025 CONGRESS

The extension of the deadline for registering participants for the 2025 Congress was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF THE REPORT OF THE 2024 CONGRESS HELD IN TASHKENT (UZB)

The report of the 2024 Congress held in Tashkent (UZB) was approved.

4. APPROVAL OF THE DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMMUNICATED BY LETTERS

The decisions of the Executive Committee communicated by Urgent Letter 6-24 and by Information Letters 4-25, 7-25, 8-25 and 16-25 were approved.

The appointment of Mr. Abdelmoneim ElHusseiny (EGY) as Interim President of the FIE was approved by the Congress.

5. APPROVAL OF THE 2024 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The 2024 annual report of the Executive Committee was approved.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT 2024, AUDITORS' REPORT, APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS, DISCHARGE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OF THE AUDITORS

The 2024 financial report, the accounts and the Auditors' report were approved.

Discharge was granted to the Executive Committee and to the Auditors.

7. PLANNED BUDGET FOR 2026

The planned budget for 2026 was approved.

8. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITORS FOR 2026

PwC has been reappointed for one year in 2026.

9. VOTE TO AWARD THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The organisation of the **2028** Junior/Cadet World Championships was awarded to the Italian Fencing Federation. These World Championships will be held in Rome on the following dates: 1 to 9 April 2028.

10. CALL FOR CANDIDATURES FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

A call for candidatures was made for the organisation of the following events:

- **2027** Veteran World Championships: The Fencing federation of Bulgaria announced its candidature.
- **2028** Veteran World Championships
- **2029** Junior/Cadet World Championships

11. QUALIFICATION SYSTEM FOR THE LA28 OLYMPIC GAMES

The Qualification System for the LA28 Olympic Games was approved.

12. ELECTION OF A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ms. Patricia Aiyenuro (GBR) was elected as member of the FIE Executive Committee.

13. ENTRY FEES, AMOUNTS TO BE PAID TO THE ORGANISERS :

	Euros
Entry fee cadet individual World Cup	30 (new)
Entry fee junior A-grade individual World Cup tournament	25 40
Entry fee senior A-grade individual World Cup tournament	60 80
Entry fee GP tournament	100 120
Entry fee junior team A-grade World Cup tournament	150
Entry fee senior team A-grade World Cup tournament	400

Application: Immediate for the new Cadet World Cup competitions and 1st January 2026 for the other competitions.

14. URGENT DECISION (ARTICLE T.122)

t.122

Before the beginning and at the end of a bout, the two fencers must perform the fencer's salute to their opponent, to the referee and to the spectators, as defined in article t.1.

When the final hit of the bout has been scored, the two fencers stand still on their on-guard line while the referee is making his/her decision.

The two fencers then perform the fencer's salute (cf. t.1) to their opponent, to the referee and to the spectators. The bout has then ended.

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 4th group (cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170).

Application: until the end of the ~~2024-2025~~ **2025-2026** season.

15. MEXICO: DECISION CONCERNING THE AFFILIATION OF THE MEMBER FEDERATION

The Congress decided to expel (disaffiliate) the Federación Mexicana de Esgrima (FME) from the FIE, in accordance with article 2.1.1(d) of the FIE Statutes.

INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)

2025 CONGRESS

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DECISIONS

AMENDMENTS TO THE FIE STATUTES

The texts below are applicable on January 1st, 2026, unless mentioned otherwise

Article: 1.2.5

1.2.5

The member **national** Federation which applies as a candidate to organise congresses, official competitions, or any other FIE international events, **must** document **the fact that** the organizer has used all means to enable all the member **national** Federations to take part in those events, without any discrimination whatever.

Note: Modification that only affects the Statutes in English and Spanish.

Article: 1.2.7

1.2.7

All bans, suspensions, expulsions or disqualifications issued by a national **member** federation ~~to a licensee of the FIE~~ because of the issuance of Black Card(s) or violation(s) of Codes of Conduct, Codes of Ethics, Disciplinary Codes or ~~Safe-Guarding~~ **Safeguarding** policies of the **national** member federation or criminal infractions **to a person who is a licensee of the FIE or was a licensee of the FIE at the time of the application of the above penalty and/or at the time of the commitment of the offence concerned** should be made known, ~~as soon as possible,~~ **immediately** to the Head Office of the FIE which will inform the **national** member federations of the FIE by listing such sanctions **on the FIE website under the Tab for FIE Documents – the Administrative Department**. The FIE will ban, suspend, expel or disqualify such licensee during the duration of the penalty imposed by the member federation.”

Article: 2.1.1

2.1.1 a)

By fencing master is meant a person whose principal activity is the teaching **or practicing** of fencing in return for payment.

Note: Modification that only affects the Statutes in English.

Article: 3.1 a)

3.1 MEETINGS

a) Congresses are held during the latter part of November or the first part of December each year, [save for force majeure events](#).

Article: 3.5.1

3.5 DECISIONS

3.5.1 Required majorities.

a) The decisions of the Congress are reached by a simple majority [of](#) votes cast. The simple majority rule applies as well to the establishment of the financial fees and resources (cf. article 1.6 of the Statutes) and decisions on entry fees are reached by a simple majority of votes cast. ~~The total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.~~

~~If in exceptional cases a Congress must decide on matters which are not on the agenda and not provided for by the Statutes, the decisions can only be made by a majority of 3/4 of votes cast and may never involve a modification of the Statutes. The total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.~~

- b) If in exceptional cases the Congress is requested to decide on matters which are not on the agenda,
- (i) these matters shall be added to the agenda by the FIE Bureau if they concern the budget, the accounts, the auditors, the report of the Executive Committee and the report of the Congress. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a simple majority of votes cast.
 - (ii) all matters not mentioned in Section (i) above require a majority of 3/4 of votes cast decision to be added to the agenda. The Congress then makes the decisions on such matters by a majority of 3/4 of votes cast.
 - (iii) matters under this section b) may never involve a modification of the Statutes.
- c) In all cases, the total number of votes cast must be at least equal to the majority of all the Federations present or represented at the Congress.
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Article: 3.5.6

3.5.6 *Secret voting*

At the Congress, the vote is secret on any point which concerns an individual person or a Member Federation **in particular**, or on the decision of the Chairman of the meeting, or at the request of at least 25% of the members present.”

Note: Modification that only affects the Statutes in English.

Article: 5.4.5

5.4.5 In a matter of urgency, the President may consult ~~in writing~~ with the Executive Committee. The decision will be made by a majority of its members.

Note: Modification that only affects the Statutes in English.

Article : 5.6.4

5.6.4 (Responsibilities of the President)

The President may also give a power of attorney to the CEO for ~~dealing~~ **transactions** below an upper limit which the Executive Committee will establish.

Article: 5.8.1 d)

5.8.1 BUDGETARY RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TREASURER

.....

d) A 'management' account, meant for the payment of current and recurring expenses, is operated under the sole signature of the President, the Treasurer, ~~or~~ the Secretary General ~~and~~ **or** the CEO (see point e).”

Articles: 9.1.8-9.1.10

9.1.8

- a) A National Federation can obtain a licence for a referee who is a citizen of ~~the~~ such country and whose licence will specify the nationality of the referee.
- b) A National Federation can obtain a licence for a referee who is not a citizen of such country, but who has been a resident in such country for more than three (3) years and whose licence will specify the nationality of the referee as FIE, *having first advised the country of which they are a citizen*.

9.1.9

- a) A National Federation can obtain a licence for a coach who is a citizen of the country of such National Federation and whose license will specify the nationality of the coach.
- b) A National Federation can obtain a licence for a coach who is not a citizen of the country of that National Federation, but which National Federation is intending to send the coach to an official competition of the FIE as a member of the delegation of such National Federation, *having first advised the national federation of the country of which they are a citizen*.

The licence for such coach will specify:

- i. the nationality of the coach's passport; and
 - ii. the nationality of the country of National Federation the coach is representing at the competition.
- c) If a coach changes the country s/he is to represent at a future competition, the coach or the National Federation s/he will be representing shall inform the FIE of the change, *having first advised the national federation of country for which they were previously licenced as a coach*, and the FIE will note such change on the coach's licence. The coach will not need to secure a new licence.
- d) A coach needs only one licence, even though s/he may represent more than one country at official competitions of the FIE.
- e) A coach needs a licence as a coach, even though such person has another licence as a fencer, referee, official at the World Championships or Olympic Games or member of the Executive Committee, a Commission, a Council or Ethics Committee.

9.1.10

Change of Nationality for Licensees other than Fencer or Coach

- a) A licensee, other than a fencer or coach, ("Licensee") who enjoys multiple nationality~~ies~~ must choose which country s/he wishes to represent. The fact that ~~she~~he has represented one of the countries *of which he/she enjoys the nationality*, in any capacity implies that s/he

has made a choice. If s/he wishes to represent another country of which s/he enjoys nationality, s/he must so advise the Head Office of the FIE and thereafter s/he may only represent this new country and can no longer represent the other country.

b) A Licensee who has already represented a country in any capacity and acquires a new nationality (from being stateless, through marriage or through naturalisation) can represent his /her new country immediately. Application for change of nationality must be received by the FIE Head Office no later than 90 days after the acquisition of the new nationality.

c) No approval of the national federation of the prior country s/he represented is required. [That national federation must however be advised of the intended change.](#)

Article: Chapter 9

9.3 SEX OF FENCERS

[For official competitions of the FIE, only people who are female sex at birth and have not started female to male hormone treatment will be eligible to compete in the women's category.](#)

APPLICATION: immediate

Article: 10.1. OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1 OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE FIE

10.1.1 The official competitions of the FIE include the Olympic Games, the [Senior World Championships](#), ~~Open the~~ Junior and Cadet [World Championships](#), ~~and the~~ Veteran World Championships, the individual and team [Junior and Senior](#) ~~Open~~ World Cup ~~s~~ competitions, ~~(Category A candidates, Category A, the~~ Grand Prix [competitions](#), ~~the satellites competitions)~~, ~~and the Junior-Cadet individual~~ World Cup [competitions](#), the [Senior and Junior](#) zonal Championships, as well as the Masters and Super Masters that are organised, any qualifying events for the Olympic Games that are organised, and any other competitions designated by the Congress of the FIE.

APPLICATION: immediate

Article: Chapter 13

It is recommended that Member Federations and Confederations develop and implement similar policies and procedures to safeguard and promote the welfare of all participants in fencing activity held under their respective jurisdictions.

The FIE Safeguarding Officer or the FIE Lead Safeguarding Officer is entitled to put in place appropriate protective measures whenever he/she becomes aware of any situation in which participants of international competitions or training camps of the FIE, and children in particular, are at risk or might be at risk.

Any licence holder offered one or more of the following assignments is, prior to accepting, required to inform the FIE of any current safe sport allegation before a competent authority, current sanction or current conviction relating to safeguarding matters. Any appeal against such sanction or conviction does not suspend this requirement.

- All officials designated for the World Championships and Olympic Games
- All referees at an official competition of the FIE
- All coaches at an official competition or training camp of the FIE, or
- Any person appointed by their National Federation with responsibility for athlete welfare at an official competition or training camp of the FIE.

Furthermore, the National Federations being aware of any current safe sport allegation before a competent authority, current sanction or current conviction relating to safeguarding matters regarding the above-mentioned person, shall inform FIE without delay.

Where appropriate, the FIE Safeguarding Officer will confer with the National Federation and the parties concerned to try to agree on safeguarding protection measures.

National Federations are required to inform their licence holders of this requirement.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE FIE ORGANISATION RULES

The texts below are applicable from January 1, 2026, unless otherwise indicated.

Article o.2

o.2

- 2 Every competitor, coach, referee or designated official in a competition, irrespective of his status, is required to ~~be~~ have an international licensed for the current season (cf. Statutes, Chapter IX).

Article o.3

Types of Competition

o.3

These Rules are obligatory **without modification** for the 'Official Competitions of the FIE', viz.:

- The fencing events at the Olympic Games
- The World Championships in all categories
- The Grands Prix
- The competitions of the World Cup cadet, junior and senior
- The Zonal Championships, junior and senior
- The Satellite competitions
- international competitions in which there are more than five nationalities, and which are approved by the FIE according to Article 1.2.6 of the FIE Statutes

APPLICATION: immediate

Article o.4.1

Criteria for World Cup Competition

Competition Admission

o.4

~~An individual~~ competition can only be classed or kept as a World Cup competition if it satisfies the following criteria.

- 1 Participation must include fencers:
 - from at least eight countries, for individual senior competitions in Europe;
 - from at least five countries, for individual senior competitions outside Europe;
 - from at least five countries, for individual cadet and junior competitions.

APPLICATION : immediate

Article o.4.1,2

o.4

A competition can only be classed or kept as a World Cup competition if it satisfies the following criteria.

- 1 Participation must include fencers:
 - from at least six countries, for team senior competitions in Europe.
 - from at least four countries, for team senior competitions outside Europe.
 - from at least four countries, for team junior competitions.
- 2 Participation in individual competitions must include a minimum of ten fencers listed in the top 32 in the official ranking of the FIE and representing at least five different countries for senior competitions in Europe (no requirement for juniors and cadet competitions outside Europe).

APPLICATION : season 2026-2027

Article o.12.2

o.12

2 It is the responsibility of the Bureau of the FIE or of its designated representative to settle any disputes, other than concerning discipline, which arise at World Championships. With respect to disciplinary actions, see t.143.4 and ~~t.175.2~~ t.176.

Article o.15.6

The Directoire Technique and the FIE delegates at official competitions

o.15

6 In case of conflict between the decisions of the DT and the relevant official delegate of the FIE, the decision of the official delegate of the FIE shall prevail.

Article o.22.1,3,5,6

Supervisor

o.22

1 The Organizing Committees of Grands Prix ~~and~~, Senior and Junior World Cup events, individual and team, and of Cadet World Cup events, must ensure the presence of a supervisor of the FIE from a country other than that where the competition is held, whose task it will be to verify that the competition properly fulfils the World Cup criteria.

APPLICATION: immediate

3 At competitions where there is no Refereeing Commission delegate, and no SEMI Commission delegate ~~and no Medical Commission delegate~~, it is the Supervisor who fulfils these respective functions. Where there is no Medical Commission Delegate the competition Medical Doctor on duty fulfils his/her functions. (cf. t. 45.1).

5. in order to ensure the smooth running of competitions, the Supervisor should be present on site at least 1 day before the Installation of the Venue of the competition.

5-6. The **travel, board and lodging costs** of the supervisor are the responsibility of the organisers, in accordance with the standards updated from time to time by the Executive Committee of the FIE.

Article o.25.1,3

o.25

1 **The number** of FIE A or B Grade referees that must accompany ~~teams-delegations~~ to cadet and junior World Cup competitions and satellite competitions are:

1–4 fencers: No obligation to provide a referee

5–9 fencers: One referee

10 or more fencers: Two referees

1 Junior Team: One referee

For cadet and junior World Cup competitions and satellite competitions, the name(s) of the referee(s) (who must have an FIE category in the weapon of the competition for which they are entered) must be ~~notified via~~ entered on the FIE website 7 days before the competition (midnight, Lausanne time).

3 In addition, the FIE Supervisor of cadet and junior World Cup competitions is required to report on gender diversity of the registered referees through the FIE Supervisor's report.

APPLICATION: immediate

Article o.26

o.26

For **Senior World Cup, Grands Prix and World Cup team** competitions, **8 10** referees, proposed by the Refereeing Commission, will be designated by the Executive Committee and delegations will not have to provide any referees.

The additional referees required (not less than **5 4**) will be provided by the organising committee. **All the referees will be at the expense of the organisers who in return will keep the entry fees.**

If these referees are of a different nationality to that of the host federation, the list must be submitted at least one month before the event to the FIE Refereeing Commission and Executive Committee for approval.

APPLICATION : season 2026-2027

Article o.27.1

“Para las finales, el Directorio técnico **puede deberá** designar a un delegado o un árbitro, en lo posible neutral, encargado de supervisar el trabajo del cronometrador, del marcador y del responsable de la señalización.”

Only applicable to Spanish version.

Article o.29.2,3,4

o.29

~~2 Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Cadet competitions must be under 17 years old at midnight on the 31st of December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.~~

To be eligible to compete in the current season's official FIE Cadet individual events, including the current season's World Cadet Championships, fencers must be under 17 years of age at midnight on 31 December of the current season.

~~Fencers taking part in all the official FIE Junior competitions, individual or team, must be under 20 years old at midnight on 31st December of the year preceding the year in which the competition takes place.~~

To be eligible to compete in the current season's official **FIE Junior** events, **individual or team**, including the current season's **Zone Junior Championships** and World Junior Championships, fencers must be under 20 years of age at midnight on 31 December of the current season.

4 All participants in an official competition of the FIE who are under the age of majority in the country in which such competition is being held must either:

- a) be accompanied by a person who is a parent or guardian of the participant or who has been delegated in a form valid in the country of the competition from a parent or guardian of such participant to act on behalf of the participant regarding health-related issues [and doping control](#); or
- b) have such power of attorney issued to a person who has achieved his/her majority [in the country of the fencer](#) and who will be at the competition site during the competition and has agreed to accept the responsibility delineated in such power.

Article o.31

o.31

Table of Financial Penalties and Fines

Participation of a fencer or team not properly entered or without a valid FIE licence for the current season	o.61.6	1000 euros per improper participation	On receipt of notification of the fine	FIE	By the organiser
Participation of a referee or coach without a valid FIE licence for the current season	o.2 9.1.2 statutes	150 euros per referee/ coach	On receipt of notification of the fine	FIE	By the National federation
Required number of referees not respected	o.25.1. b	1000 euros per referee	At the same time as the information is sent to the organiser	Organiser	By the National Federation

Article o.35

o.35

The first round of all the individual and team competitions, including the World Championships and Olympic Games, must be displayed by 4 p.m. local time, at the latest the day before the competition. [\(t.175\)](#).

Article o.37

JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

o.37

The programme of the Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships comprises twelve individual events (six junior and six cadet), and six junior team events — at male foil, female foil, male épée, female épée, male sabre and female sabre. **At each weapon, male and female, the World Championships** ~~These~~ begin with the ~~cadet~~ individual junior events, followed by the individual ~~junior~~ ~~cadet~~ events and lastly the junior team events.

Article o.38

o.38

~~When drawing pools in the World Cadet Championships, the Directoire Technique must take account of the following orders of strength:~~

- ~~1—The top 8 in the previous year's World Cadet Championships.~~
- ~~2—The 64 highest ranked in the official FIE junior ranking of the year in course.~~
- ~~3—Those placed 9–32 in the previous year's World Cadet Championships.~~
- ~~4—Those ranked 65 onwards in the official FIE junior ranking of the year in course.~~
- ~~5—The seeding provided by the national federations.~~
- ~~6—The Directoire Technique's decision.~~

APPLICATION : immediate

Article o.41,2.a

o. 41

2 Principles

a) The Senior Team World Cup **tournament** is composed of **five integral competitions (through to first place) spread, if possible, across all continents**. Points will be allocated at the end of each competition.

The Junior Team World Cup **tournament** is composed of **eight integral competitions** and points will be awarded at the end of each competition.

Article o.51

Grands Prix, Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet World Cups, Satellites

Official invitation

o.51

For **World Cup competitions and Grands Prix**, the invitations must be sent out at least two months before the competition in question.

If an organising federation fails to comply with the above-mentioned deadlines, it will be sanctioned with a fine amounting to 1000 €, paid to the FIE.

APPLICATION: season 2026-2027

Article o.61,1,3

Grand Prix, Senior and Junior World Cups (individual and team), Cadet World Cups and Satellite competitions.

o.61

APPLICATION : immediate

1

The entry of the **names of the fencers** and all possible replacements, and the **entry of teams with the indication of the names of those composing them**, must be made via the FIE website 7 days before the competition at the latest (midnight Lausanne time).

3 **Substitution of a fencer.**

Until ~~the Wednesday~~ **two days before** ~~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.

Article o.62.1

o.62

- 1 For **Grand Prix competitions and Individual World Cup competitions**, **Cadet, Junior and Senior**, ~~both Senior and Junior~~, at each weapon, each national federation may enter a maximum of 12 fencers. The organising country may enter up to 20 fencers plus the number needed to make up the pools.

APPLICATION: immediate

Article o.79.2

o.79

2 A fencer who **is excluded** is scratched from the direct elimination table and his results are annulled as if he had not taken part. The fencer is recorded without a classification at the end of the final classification list with the information "Excluded". Cf. **t.149.2** ~~t.124.3.b~~, t.170.

Article o.87.1

o.87

1 The main phase consists of an integral direct elimination table, which is fenced on four pistes, one quarter of the table per piste. The first round of the table of 64 may, however, if required for the organisation of the competition, be fenced on eight pistes. ~~Grand Prix competitions must be fenced on four pistes.~~ **Grand Prix competitions must be fenced either on four pistes or on eight pistes, all equipped with the video-refereeing.**

Article o.89

D. MIXED FORMULA B – JUNIOR AND CADET WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS, **CADET WORLD CUPS, ~~AND~~ JUNIOR WORLD CUP COMPETITIONS AND ZONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

Mixed Formula B

o.89

One qualifying round of pools, a direct elimination table to qualify for a final by direct elimination.

This formula is used for the individual competitions of the Junior and Cadet World Championships, ~~and the~~ **Cadet and Junior World Cup competitions and Zonal Championships**. The seeding rules for the Zonal Cadet Championships are established by the Zonal Confederations.

APPLICATION: immediate

Article o.95

o.95

The organisation formulae for the Olympic Games are established by the Executive Committee, with the approval of the IOC. (See art. ~~9.1.1.1~~ 9.1.2.1 of the Administrative rules).

APPLICATION: immediate

Article o.99.5

o.99

5

a) In the course of a match the captain of a team may ask to **substitute** for a fencer the reserve nominated before the start of the match. This substitution may only be made at the end of a bout **of a substituted fencer and the announcement**, that a fencer is to be substituted, must be made at the latest before the beginning of the bout preceding the next bout of the fencer who is to be replaced and must be reported by the Referee to the opposing team captain, except the substitution in case listed in o.99.6.a. However, the fencer who has been replaced may fence one more time during that match, but only to replace the fencer who originally substituted him. This second replacement is not allowed if the first replacement has been made for the reasons listed in article o.99.6. No further substitution for a fencer on the piste is allowed, even in the case of an accident or unavoidable circumstances. ~~The announcement that a fencer is to be substituted must be made at the latest before the beginning of the bout preceding the next bout of the fencer who is to be replaced and must be reported by the Referee to the opposing team captain.~~ At World Championships and Olympic Games, the referee must also report this immediately to the Directoire Technique.

Article o.105

Video Refereeing

o.105

Table

Competitions	Individual event VIDEO, from	Team event VIDEO, from	Number of pistes equipped with VIDEO	Teams and ranking matches
Senior World Cup	T 64	T16	4 or 8	T 1-8
Cadet and Junior World Cup	not mandatory	not mandatory	not mandatory	not mandatory

APPLICATION: immediate

Article o.108.1.a.c.d,2,3

Official FIE individual ranking

o.108

1 Principles

- a) **The official Senior 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) **The official Junior ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six 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.
- c) **The official Cadet ranking of the FIE** takes into account the best six results of the World Cup competitions in which the fencer has participated, irrespective of continent, as well as the World Championships.
- e) d) For ~~both~~ Senior, ~~and~~ Junior and Cadet rankings, the ranking is **rolling**.

2 Scale of points

- a) The ranking of **Seniors**, ~~and~~ **Juniors** and **Cadets** is based on the **following points system**:

3 Honours

The winner (first ranked fencer) of each **senior** official ranking of the FIE will be announced at the end of the Senior World Championships or Olympic Games.

The winner (first ranked fencer) of each **junior** official ranking will be announced at the end of the Junior World Championships.

The winner (first ranked fencer) of each **cadet** official ranking will be announced at the end of the Junior World Championships.

APPLICATION : immediate

VETERANS TEAM EVENTS

o.119

~~1 Participation~~

~~Each country may enter one team per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of 6 competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon, but c.f. o.103.2 b below.~~

~~2 The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:~~

~~a) For each weapon, the teams are composed of three fencers of the same nationality, one from category "A", one from "B" and one from "C", with or without a reserve for each category. A team cannot begin the match if it is not complete.~~

~~b) In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he is going to fence plus 1.~~

~~c) The teams are placed in the pools direct elimination table according to the ranking of the three two best fencers in each category in the individual championship, registered for the team event. In the table 16 the losers are placed in table B with direct elimination, losers from the table of 8 are placed in table C with direct elimination (Annexe B) Teams are ranked, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table. The losers of the semifinals will fight for the 3rd place. The team ranked 1 is the one having the lowest total. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of each match.~~

~~d) Each team may request, before a given relay, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason duly recognized by the Medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay. There can only be one substitution per team per match.~~

~~3 A fencer who has been replaced because of an injury may not fence again during that match. If both a fencer and the reserve are forced to retire, or if a fencer is excluded, their team is deemed to have lost the match.~~

~~4 The relay system is always applied. The three fencers of a team fence against their opponent of the same category. Each fencer fences his/her opponent twice giving a total of 6 relays. The relays are for 5 hits (5-10-15-20 etc.). Exceptionally, a relay may end at more than 5,10,15 etc. if a fencer scores a valid last hit of the relay and is at the same time awarded an additional penalty hit: in this case both hits will be counted; the maximum time for each relay is 3 minutes.~~

~~5 The team that first reaches the maximum score of 30 hits, or that which has scored the greatest number of hits after the expiry of regulation time, is the winner.~~

~~6 The order of categories for each match is established by the referee with the captains on the piste prior to the start of the match: The referee will draw lots, and the winning captain will choose the first category in the order. The losing captain will choose the second category.~~

~~7 The competition consists of a round of pools of 3 or 4 teams, in which all the teams participate, and a direct elimination phase for the highest placed 16 teams; the other teams will be classified according to their ranking after the round of pools. October 2024 44 FIE~~

~~a) The order of matches in a pool of 4 is as follows:~~

~~Match 1 : The team ranked 1 vs the team ranked 4~~

~~Match 2 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3~~

~~Match 3 : The winner of Match 1 vs the loser of Match 2~~

~~Match 4 : The winner of Match 2 vs the loser of Match 1~~

- ~~Match 5 and Match 6 : The two remaining matches.~~
- ~~b) The order of matches in a pool of 3 is as follows:~~
- ~~-Match 1 : The team ranked 2 vs the team ranked 3~~
 - ~~Match 2 : The team ranked 1 vs the loser of Match 1~~
 - ~~Match 3 : The team ranked 1 vs the winner of Match 1~~

~~The initial ranking on which the drawing of the pools is based is established from the results of the fencers in the individual events. (cf. o.103.2.c)~~

~~The composition of the direct elimination table of 16 teams (or 8 if there are less than 16 teams) is established according to the general ranking established by the results of all the teams in the pool round. In the event of an absolute tie between the teams ranked 16 and 17 (or 8 and 9), the highest ranked team in the initial pool ranking shall qualify.~~

~~However, in no case, teams which have already fenced each other in the pools should meet again immediately in the direct elimination. To avoid this, the lower ranked of the two teams in question may be moved:~~

- ~~— in the case of a tableau of 16, the team ranked 9 may change places only with the team ranked 10, the team ranked 11 may change places only with the team ranked 12, the team ranked 13 may change places only with the team ranked 14 and the team ranked 15 may change places only with the team ranked 16.~~
- ~~— in the case of a tableau of 8, the team ranked 5 may change places only with the team ranked 6 and the team ranked 7 may change places only with the team ranked 8.~~

~~8 If fewer than 6 teams participate in the competition, they all fence in a pool unique; a match for the 3rd and 4th places is then held, followed by a match for the first place between the teams who came 1st and 2nd in the pool.~~

~~9 Ranking matches from 5th place onwards will not be fenced and teams will be ranked, in each round of the table, according to their ranking after the pools.~~

1. Participation

Each country may enter one team per category (Veterans and Grand Veterans) per gender and per weapon, thus giving a total of twelve competitions. The teams shall be composed of fencers who participated in the individual competition of the corresponding weapon. ~~but c.f. o.103.2 b below.~~

2. The rules for team competitions are applicable with the following exceptions:

Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 40-49 or to age group 50-59, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 50-59, plus up to two reserves.

Grand Veterans: teams of three composed of fencers belonging to either age group 60-69 or to age group 70 and over, with at least one fencer belonging to age group 70 and over, plus up to two reserves.

Fencing mode is 45 hits relay described in o.99 with application of non-combativity rule at any match.

~~The competition begins with a round of pools of 3 and 4 teams established according to e.103 c) and followed by a direct elimination phase according to e.103 7. Particular cases depending on the number of teams:~~

- ~~• only 1 team: the organisers must inform all nations that there will be no competition at that weapon.~~
- ~~• 2 teams: only one match between these two teams.~~
- ~~• 3 teams: one poule of three followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 4.~~
- ~~• 4 teams: one poule of four followed by D.E. from a tableau of 4.~~
- ~~• 5 teams: one poule of five followed by D.E. from an incomplete tableau of 8.~~

~~The losers of the semi-finals have to fence for the bronze medal.~~

a) In the case of a team being short of a fencer in any of the weapons, the team may use a fencer who has competed in the individual championships at another weapon or who is registered but has yet to compete, but his/her ranking will be deemed to be last in the individual competition at the weapon of the team in which he is going to fence plus 1.

~~b) The teams are placed in the pools according to the ranking of the three fencers in the individual championship. The number 1 team is the one with the least points. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of each match.~~

b) The teams are placed in the direct elimination table according to the ranking of the two best fencers in each category in the individual championship, registered for the team event. In the table 16 the losers are placed in table B with direct elimination, losers from the table of 8 are placed in table C with direct elimination (Annexe B) Teams are ranked, within each round of the table, according to their initial place in the table. The losers of the semifinals will fight for the 3rd place. All the fencers registered for the team event must be present at the piste before the start of each match.

c) Each team may request, before a given relay, the substitution of a fencer. However, in case of injury or other medical reason, duly recognized by the medical delegate, the substitution can be immediate, even during the relay.

There can be up to two substitutions of reserves per match but must maintain compliance with the age category representation requirement.

A fencer, once substituted, may not fence again in that match.

INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)

2025 CONGRESS

HELD IN MANAMA (BRN) ON 22 NOVEMBER 2025

DECISIONS

AMENDMENTS TO THE FIE TECHNICAL RULES

The texts below are applicable from January 1, 2026, unless otherwise indicated.

Article t.20

t.20

2 It is obligatory for any fencer who warms up or trains with another fencer on site at an official FIE competition (including in the training halls linked to the competition) to wear **full fencing clothing and equipment** which conforms with the FIE regulations. **This includes breeches and long socks in accordance with m.25.**

Any person giving a lesson must wear at least a fencing master's plastron as well as a fencing glove, **long trousers** and a mask conforming with the regulations.

Any fencer taking a lesson must wear at least a mask, **and** a glove, a **chest protector, a top covering the torso and shoulders, and shorts which reach to within 10cm of the knees or lower.**

Articles t.22.8,9,10,11,12,13

t.22

8 At the beginning of each period (in a direct elimination bout) and of any additional minute of fencing time, the fencers are placed on guard in the middle of the piste.

9 The competitors may not be replaced on guard, at their correct distance, in such a way as to place behind the rear line of the piste a fencer who was in front of that line when the bout was halted. If he already had one foot behind the rear line, he remains in that position.

9 10 If a fencer has crossed the lateral boundaries of the piste, with one or both feet, he must be placed on guard at the correct distance even if this means that he is placed behind the rear line and thus causes a **technical** hit to be awarded against him. (cf t.35.1, ~~t.146~~ t.148).

~~10~~ 11 Competitors come on guard when the Referee gives the order 'On guard!', after which the Referee asks, 'Are you ready?'. On receiving an affirmative reply, or in the absence of a negative reply, he gives the command for fencing to commence with the word 'Play!'.

~~11~~ 12 The fencers must come on guard correctly and remain completely still until the command 'Play!' is given by the Referee.

~~12~~ 13 At foil and sabre fencers may not come on guard in the 'in line' position.

Articles t.23.6

Beginning, stopping and restarting the bout

t.23

~~6 The Referee may not 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 Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group.~~

Article t.30.2

t.30

2 These judges, one on each side of the piste, will watch **all aspects of the fight** and will indicate, by raising their hand or when asked by the Referee, if the non-sword arm or hand has been used, or if the fencer has protected or covered the valid target with a non-valid surface (cf. t.79, ~~t.98~~, t.97, t.158-162, t.165, t.170).

Article t.43

t.43

1 The fencers may ask how much time they have left to fence each time that the fencing is interrupted **if the time is not provided on the apparatus**.

Article t.48

Judges

t.48

1 Judges must be of a different nationality from the fencers, main referee and video-referee on the piste.

Article t.49

Video-referees consultants

t.49

Whenever video refereeing is used, there shall be designated video-referees consultants who will watch the match live, then, should the need arise, subsequently on the video screen, and interact with the referee as specified in t.60-62, o.105.

The video-referee-consultant must:

- ~~1. be a referee holding an FIE licence for the year in question;~~
- ~~2. have been trained to assist with the video;~~
- 1 ~~3.~~ be of a different nationality from the fencers on the piste;
- 2 ~~4.~~ be of a different nationality from the main referee;
3. be of a different nationality from the judges

Article t.50.2,3,5,7

Designations of referees and video-referees consultants

Individual competitions

Article t.50

t.50

- 2 For the pools**, the referee must be of a different nationality from that any of the fencers in the pool *if possible*.
- 3.** For each quarter of the table, ~~4~~ referees are assigned by drawing lots from among at least of ~~4~~ 3 to ~~5~~ 4 referees, to referee the bouts in the order of the table, *if possible*. They must be of a different nationality from that of any of the fencers participating in that quarter of the table *if possible*. **Then, the video-referees consultants will be assigned by drawing lots among a list of at least ~~4~~ 3 to ~~5~~ 4 referees.**

As well as the two groups of the referees and the video-referees could be assigned by drawing lots to referee the bouts in the order of the table.

At each referees' meeting before any competition, the referees will be asked to declare their potential conflicts of interest to the Refereeing Delegate or to the President of the Directoire technique (for *cadet and* junior competitions). This information must be notified to the FIE by the Refereeing Delegate or the Directoire technique President (for *cadet and* junior competitions).

APPLICATION : immediate

- 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 a list of 4 to 5 referees, who must be of a different nationality from any of the fencers.

15 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: 1st semi-final, 2nd semi-final.

As soon as the two semi-finals are over, the Refereeing Delegates will establish a list of 4 or 5 referees and draw lots to assign the referee and video *referee consultant* for the final as well as (at the OG) the referee and video *referee consultant* for the 3rd place bout.

- 7.** In conformity with articles t.50.2 and t.50.3, the designation of the video *referee -consultant* must be made by drawing lots using a computer programme. The name and nationality of the video *referee -consultant* must also be written on the pool or match sheet, beside those of the referee.

Article t.51

Team Competitions

t.51

The same rules as those in article t.50, 3,4,5,6 and 7 are applied to the team competitions, ~~with two referees per match.~~

Article t.52

Junior World Cup and Satellite competitions

t.52

Cadet and Junior World Cups and Satellite competitions

The Rules described in t.50 and t.51 ~~above are applied by the Directoire Technique, assisted for the finals by the official FIE Refereeing delegate.~~ should be applied if the number of referees allows it.

Article t.56.11

t.56

11 A competitor who, intentionally drops his/her weapon during the fencing phrase will be penalised as specified in Articles t.166 and t.170, ~~for the offences of the 2nd group.~~ However, a hit scored by the opponent is valid, provided that the action was started before the 'Halt!'.

Article t.61.3

t.61

3 In the case of an appeal for video-refereeing, the referee will walk over to the video-referee consultant, they will watch the video together and after having analysed the action, the referee will give his final decision.

Article t.62.4,6

t.62

4 The video-referee consultant may at any time request that the referee use the video-refereeing.

Once the referee, together with the video-referee consultant, has analysed the action, whether it is:

- at the referee's initiative
- at the request of the athlete
- in case of a tied score, before the decisive hit
- at the video-referees consultants request

the decision given by the referee is final and no other review of the same action can be requested.

6 Each time the referee consults the video, whether on his own initiative, following an appeal or at the suggestion of the video-referee consultant, the opinions of the referee and the video-referee consultant must be recorded on the match sheet.

Article t.64.3

t.64.3

3 at épée, the fencer is wearing a **jacket conforming to the regulations** and that the material from which the clothing is made has not too smooth a surface (cf. m.25.4.b).

6 at all three weapons, the fencer is not equipped with any **electronic communication equipment** which would allow a person off the piste to communicate with the fencer during the bout (cf.t.73.1.g & 2).

Article t.71

t.71

If a fencer appears on the piste:

- with only **one** regulation **weapon** (cf. t.114, 115); or
- with only **one** regulation **body wire**; or
- with only **one** regulation **mask wire**, or with **a weapon or a body wire which does not work**, or which **does not conform** with the Rules; or
- without his **protective under-plastron** (cf. t.64.5); or
- with a **conductive jacket** which does not fully cover the valid target; or
- with a mask whose 2nd security device is not securely fixed to the body of the mask; or
- with **clothing** which does not conform with the Rules (control mark, size, logo, name on the jacket, etc.) ;

the Referee will apply the penalties stipulated in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group **and the fencer should obtain a regular equipment in a time not exceeding 5 minutes**.

Article t.72

t.72

Similarly, even during the course of a bout, any fencer whose mask, at the moment he presents himself on guard and ready to fence, is not securely held on his head by the 2nd security device (cf. m.25.7.f), commits an offence in the first group and will be penalised in accordance with articles t.158-t.162, t.165, t.170.

Article t.77

t.77

2 At foil, only hits which arrive on the valid target are counted (except as provided in Article t.79.1.c).

Article t.109

t.109

Everybody taking part in or present at a fencing competition must respect the FIE statutes and rules, including but not limited to the FIE Ethical Code and Safeguarding Policy. They must remain orderly and must not disturb the smooth running of the competition. During bouts no one is allowed to go near the pistes, to give advice to the fencers, to criticise the Referee or the judges, to insult them or to attempt to influence them in any way. Even the team captain must remain in the space assigned to him and he may only intervene in the situations and in the manner provided for in Article t.130 of the Rules. The Referee must stop immediately any activity which disturbs the smooth running of the bout which he is refereeing (cf. t.137,1-3). Any person who, for any reason, threatens or insults an official commits an offence of the ~~4th~~ 3rd group and is penalised according to article t.~~169~~.167-168.

Article t.116

t.116

Under no circumstances should the fencers **dress or undress on the piste** except in the case of an accident duly recognised by the doctor on duty or by the representative of the Medical Commission (cf. ~~t.126~~, t.158-162, t.165, t.170.). Any infringement will be sanctioned for the offences of the 1st group.

Article t.118.1

t.118

1 When a fencer or complete team **do not present themselves** to the Referee **at his first call**, ten minutes before the time indicated to come onto the piste for the start of the pool or team match, or the start of the bouts of direct elimination (cf. Article t.66.1, t.144.2), the fencer or team concerned will be **eliminated**.

Article t.120

t.120

~~Should a fencer abandon a bout by leaving the piste (cf. t.23.6),~~ The Referee may not allow a fencer to **leave the piste**, except in exceptional circumstances. If a competitor does so without permission he will be penalised as specified in Articles t.158-162, t.165, t.170, for the offences of the 1st group.

Article t.122

Before the beginning and at the end of a bout, the two fencers must perform the **fencer's salute** to their opponent, to the referee and to the spectators, as defined in article t.1.

When the final hit of the bout has been scored, the two fencers stand still on their on-guard line while the referee is making his/her decision.

The two fencers then perform the **fencer's salute** (cf. t.1) to their opponent, to the referee and to the spectators. The bout has then ended.

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 4th group (cf. t.158-162, t.169, t.170).**

Application: until the end of the ~~2024-2025~~ **2025-2026** season.

Article t.124

Unwillingness to fight (Non-combativity)

t.124

There is unwillingness to fight when there is one minute of fencing without a hit or without a hit scored off the target.

In the event of **unwillingness to fight**, the Referee will immediately call 'Halt!' as a decision of "fact" (cf.t.136.2).

Unwillingness to fight is sanctioned as follows (t.170):

1 Individual events – Direct elimination

~~P-yellow cards and~~ P-red Cards are awarded to both fencers simultaneously, ~~starting with a P-Yellow card, followed by a P-Red card.~~ The P-Black card is awarded as described in 1**e**) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P-~~yellow~~ **red** card.

~~b) When, for the second time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both fencers with a P-red card.~~

b e) When, for the ~~third~~ **second** time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, a P-black card is awarded as follows:

i) If the scores of the two fencers are equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking and by

drawing lots among any fencers who are not in the ranking, with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the bout.

ii) If the scores of the two fencers are not equal, the Referee sanctions the fencer with the lower score with a P-Black card. The fencer with the higher score wins the bout.

2 Team events

~~P-Yellow~~, P-Red cards are awarded to the two teams simultaneously, ~~starting with a P-Yellow card and followed by a P-Red card~~. The P-Black card is awarded as described in 2-~~eb~~) below.

a) When, for the first time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P-~~yellow~~ red card.

~~b) When, for the second time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, the Referee sanctions both teams with a P-red card.~~

~~b e~~) When, for the ~~third~~ second time, there is one minute of unwillingness to fight, a P-Black card is awarded as follows:

i) If the scores for the two teams are equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, with a P-Black card. The team with the higher initial seeding in the competition, which is based on the FIE ranking, wins the match.

ii) If the scores for the two teams are not equal, the Referee sanctions the team with the lower score with a P-Black card. The team with the higher score wins the match.

3 In both individual and team competitions

a) The ~~P-yellow (warning)~~, P-red (penalty hit) and P-black (the possible losing of a bout or match) cards received during any one bout or match (during all 9 relays) are valid only for that bout or match. They are not transferable to the following bout or match.

No P-card (~~yellow~~, red or black) may be awarded in individual competitions at 14-14 or in team matches at 44-44.

b) In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.

c) In both individual and team competitions, the period/relay continues after the awarding of a ~~P-Yellow or a~~ P-Red card.

d) The minute starts again after each hit, each hit off the target, each hit annulled, each penalty hit and at the beginning of each period or relay.

e) The referee must record these ~~P-yellow~~, P-red and P-black cards separately on the score sheet. The sanctions awarded for unwillingness to fight are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.

f) In both individual and team competitions, if, at the end of the regulation time, there is equality of scores, article t.124 does not apply and articles t.40.3 and t.41.5 will apply.

APPLICATION : season 2026-2027

Article t.127

t.127

At the end of a bout, the Referee must bring together the two fencers, **to announce clearly the score**, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. He must say clearly: 'Mister X won against Mister Y with the following score...'

At the end of a team match, the Referee must bring together the two teams, **to announce clearly the score**, which will be transmitted to the Directoire Technique. He must say clearly: 'Team X won against Team Y with the following score...'

Fencers must present in either national uniform (m.25) or national tracksuit. Fencers must not present on piste in a state of undress.

Article t. 131.1,2,3,4,5,6

t.131

1. During the round of pools only fencers and referees are allowed inside the Piste Enclosure. The size of the piste enclosure must not exceed 40 meters by 10 meters.

4 2 During the direct elimination of the individual events, the fencer's **coach, medical staff and technicians** are not allowed to remain near their fencers; **the coaches** are allowed to be inside the competition area in a place indicated by the organisers.

2 3 The Referee may, whenever he considers it necessary, authorise a person to **come briefly to the assistance** of a fencer.

4 Each nation which has a fencer taking part in the round of the competition in progress may designate a maximum of **two people** who have the right to be positioned near the **Field of Play Piste Enclosure, outside it but close to a point of access**. The organisers must provide the necessary space for these people.

5 When inside the Field of Play, coaches and team captains must wear full length trousers, tops covering their torso and shoulders and closed shoes.

6 For World Championships, coaches and team captains inside the Field of Play must wear the tracksuit of the country they are representing.

Article t.135

t.135

- the Refereeing Commission delegate(s) (cf. o.20);
- the Directoire Technique (cf. t.139, o.15 to **e.22 o.17**).

- the Supervisor (cf. o.22).

Article t.158

t.158

~~There are three types of penalty to be applied in the cases indicated in the table in Article.~~ If a referee has to penalise a fencer who has committed several faults at the same time, he should penalise the least serious fault first.

Article t.159

t.159

Penalties are **cumulative and they are valid for the bout** with the exception of those indicated by a **BLACK CARD**, which means exclusion from the competition, suspension for the remainder of the tournament and for the following 60 days of the active season (1 September – World Championships for the **Cadets and Juniors**, and 1 September – World Championships for the Seniors), whether current or forthcoming, or both (cf.t. 169.2).

APPLICATION : immediate

Article t. 167.2

t.167

2

If during the same bout the fencer commits the same or a different offence in this group, he is penalised with a **BLACK CARD** (exclusion from the competition, suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following 60 days of the active season (1 September – World Championships for the **Cadets and Juniors**, and 1 September – World Championships for the Seniors), whether current or forthcoming).

APPLICATION : immediate

Article t.169.1

The Fourth Group of Offences

t.169

1

The first infringement in the Fourth Group, is penalised by a **BLACK CARD** (exclusion from the competition, suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following 60 days of the active season (1 September – World Championships for the **Cadets and Juniors**, and 1 September – World Championships for the Seniors), whether current or forthcoming or both).

APPLICATION : immediate

Article t.170

t.170

BLACK CARD	Exclusion from the competition , suspension from the remainder of the tournament and for the following 60 days of the active season (1st September – World Championships for the cadets and juniors and 1st September – World Championships for the seniors), whether current or forthcoming.
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APPLICATION : immediate

Article t.170

t.170

0.5	Unwillingness to fight: the sanctions imposed are shown by specific P- cards which are not cumulative with any other sanction awarded.	t.124.1, t.124.2	1 st time	3 rd 2 nd time
			P-Yellow Red	P- Black
P CARDS (t.124)		P-yellow (warning), P-red (penalty hit), P-black (possible loss of the bout or match). In both individual and team competitions, fencers and teams who have lost the bout/match following the award of a P-Black card, will be ranked in the final results of the competition as having lost the bout/match. They receive the corresponding points.		

APPLICATION: season 2026-2027

Article t.172.1

t.172

1 No appeal can be made against the decision of the Referee regarding a point of fact, except as permitted in o.105 and t.60-t.62 t.63 for video refereeing (cf. t.136.1/2, t.137.2).

INTERNATIONAL FENCING FEDERATION (FIE)

2025 CONGRESS

HELD IN MANAMA (BRN) ON 22 NOVEMBER 2025

DECISIONS

AMENDMENTS TO THE FIE MATERIAL RULES

The texts below are applicable from January 1, 2026, unless otherwise indicated.

Article m.1.4

m.1.

1. There are three types of weapons: foil, épée and sabre.
 2. All weapons are authorised providing only that they conform to these regulations and to the safety standards which are annexed.
 3. The weapon should be so constructed that it cannot normally injure either the user or his opponent. All methods of treating a blade between the guard and the tip (button) including the groove, by grinding, filing, heating or other methods, are forbidden.
 4. ~~Sharpening the edges or angles of the point is forbidden.~~
-

Article m.2.2

m.2.

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 handle when the weapon is mounted).

At all three weapons, the use of maraging steel blades is obligatory.

- 2 A **handle** within which the tang of the blade is fixed ~~by a locking nut or in any other way,~~ and which enables the fencer's hand to hold the weapon. It may be composed of one or several parts: in the latter case it is divided into a **grip** (which is normally held in the hand) and a pommel (rear portion of the handle which locks the handle onto the tang).
-

Article m.5.3.b.c,4.a, 5.a.d

m.5

- 3 Any system of attachment inside the guard is allowed, provided that it conforms to the following requirements.
 - a) It must be **easy to detach** or **attach** the body wire.

b) It must be possible to **check it** ~~by a simple method such as using a penknife or a coin.~~

~~c) It must be easy to apply the pointe d'arrêt of the opponent's weapon to the earth circuit connected to the blade.~~

4

a) The maximum **electrical resistance** allowed for foil and épée is 2 ohms **and for sabre 1 ohm.**

~~b) Those who wish to assemble electric 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 fixed so that they can be attained by anyone who is reasonably careful.~~

~~c) They are advised:~~

~~thoroughly to **de-oxidise** the external surface of the guard and the connecting surfaces inside it;~~

~~**not to damage** 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.~~

5

a) At foil and épée, 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 at the weapon control with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm~~

~~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 further penalty.~~

Articles m 8.5.d

m.8.5.d

5.

~~d) The groove in the blade must be uppermost.~~

Article m.9

m.9

2 ~~Eccentric mounting is forbidden, that is to say that t~~ The blade must pass through the centre of the guard. The diameter of the guard must be between 9.5 cm and 12 cm.

Article m.10

m.10

Electric wire

m.10. 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.

The groove in the blade must be uppermost.

Article m.11

m.11

3. 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 g, that is to say that this weight must be lifted by the spring of the point. The weight of 500 g supplied by the Organising Committee may have a tolerance of ± 2 g, ~~i.e. 498–502 g.~~

Article m.12.1,3,7

m.12

1 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 onto the end of the blade, which must be cut and threaded for this purpose respecting the following conditions.

3 All methods of **soldering or brazing** or in general any heating which may affect the temper of the blade are forbidden. ~~Only solder of very easily melted tin, used with a soldering iron, to prevent the tip from coming loose, is authorised.~~

~~7 When a button made of light alloy is used, instructions should be sought from the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

8 7 At the point at which the wire passes into the button, the **width of the groove** must not exceed 0.5 mm, and its depth must not exceed 0.6 mm measured on the diameter of the core of the thread, in order to weaken as little as possible the section of the blade.

9 8 Only the members of the **SEMI Committee** of the FIE or the **Directoire Technique** can require the verification of the above points.

Article m.16.1

m.16.

1. The blade, which is **triangular in section** without cutting edges, is made of steel and must comply with the safety standards described in Annexe A to the Rules.

~~There are two methods of manufacture (see Figure 9):~~

- ~~— By forging a steel cylinder (Cross section of blade, A);~~
 - ~~— By folding a sheet of steel (Cross section of blade, B).~~
-

Article m.19.1,3,4.b,6

Pointe d'arrêt and button

m.19

1. The electric button is completed by a **pointe d'arrêt** which must conform to the following specifications.

~~It must be easy to apply the pointe d'arrêt of the opponent's weapon to the earth circuit connected to the blade.~~

- a) The pointe d'arrêt is **cylindrical. Its front surface** is flat and perpendicular to its axis. Its edge will either be rounded with a radius of 0.5 mm or have a chamfer of 0.5 mm at 45° (see Figure 10).

3. This weight of 750 g, ~~which is supplied by the Organising Committee,~~ may have a tolerance of ± 3 g, i.e. 747-753 g.

4.

b) ~~To enable a check to be made on the piste,~~ the **total course** or travel of the point must be greater than 1.5 mm (cf. t. ~~43~~ **68.3**). The gauge used should have a tolerance of a maximum of ± 0.05 mm.

~~6.~~

~~When there is a hit, the electrical contact must be established.~~

Article m.23.3

m.23

~~3. The end of the blade may also be formed by a solid button which must have the same section as the button which is folded over (Figure 12).~~

43. if the blade has a curve, it must be distinct curve which must be continuous, and the deflection must be less than 4 cm. Blades with sharply bent extremities or which curve in the direction of the cutting edge are forbidden.

The curve of the blade must be measured as follows:

- i) the blade is placed on a flat surface so that the curve is uppermost;
- ii) the maximum distance between the flat surface and the blade is measured: this distance is deemed to be the curve of the blade (cf Fig 13).

54. The sabre blade must have a flexibility equivalent to a bend of minimum 4 cm and maximum 7 cm measured in the following way.

- a) The blade is fixed horizontally at a point 70 cm from the tip of the blade.
- b) A 200 g weight (tolerance +/- 1 g) is hung 1 cm from the tip.
- c) The curve is measured at the tip of the blade between the weighted and unweighted positions (see Figures 12 and 13).

Article m.24.5

m.24

~~5 The resistance in the weapon must not exceed 1 ohm.~~

Article m.25

GENERAL CONDITIONS

m.25.

~~The national uniform includes the socks, the breeches and the jacket.~~

2. Safety: Fencer's clothing must be clean and in good condition and with FIE Homologation label. It must not be possible for the opponent to be obstructed or injured by the equipment, nor for it to have either buckles or openings in which the opponent's point may be caught up — except accidentally — and thus held or deflected. The jacket and its collar must be completely buttoned or done up.

3. Characteristics of the clothing:

~~a) Fencers' clothing must be made of sufficiently robust material and be clean and in good condition.~~
The national uniform includes the socks, the breeches and the jacket.

g) For all official FIE competitions, the wearing of national strips (logos) is **compulsory** on both legs, optional on the arm(s) (cf. t.74.2), and the logos must be identical.

5. Breeches and Socks

d) Both socks worn by the fencer must be matching - the same design and colour.

7 Mask :

~~c) When the checks are carried out the person responsible for them may, if in doubt, ensure that t~~ The entire mesh of the mask, ~~both at the front and at the sides, is~~ must be able to withstand, without permanent deformation, the introduction of a conical instrument, the angle of the surface of the cone being at 4° to the axis and at a pressure of 12 kg.

~~d) A mask which does not comply with the safety requirements laid down in this article will be rendered visibly unusable by the weapon checking personnel or the Referee in the presence of the person who presented the mask to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned.~~

Articles m.28.5.c

m.28

5

~~e) A conductive jacket which is considered to be unusable will be so marked with a very visible coloured paint by a member of the SEMI Committee of the FIE.~~

Article m.29.1.a,3.c

m.29. Body wire and attachment plugs

1

a) The conductive wires of the **body wire** ~~(the fencers' personal equipment)~~ must be well insulated electrically from each other, twisted or joined together, and not be affected by humidity.

3

~~e) The wire from the point will be protected by an insulated sheath from the place where it enters the guard right up to the insulated connection on the plug socket. Under no circumstances may the non-insulated wire extend beyond this insulated plug connection (cf. m.5, m.9).~~

Article m.31.1.a

Body wire

m.31.

1. a) The **conductive wires** of the bodywire ~~(the fencers' personal equipment)~~ must be well insulated from each other, insensitive to humidity, and either joined or twisted together.
-

m.37

Body responsible for checks

4. The Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint the member(s) of the SEMI Commission to be accountable for the checking of weapons, clothing and equipment of the fencers at the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games and for the World Championship.
5. For other official FIE competitions the **Organising Committee** will appoint one or more persons to be responsible for this checking.
-

Article m.38.

m.38

1. Fencers are obliged to **present themselves** at the Weapon Checking Centre, at the time advised in the timetable of each official competition of the FIE, with the equipment they intend to use during the event in question. The number of articles handed to the Checking Centre is limited to four weapons, three body wires, two conductive jackets, two masks and three mask-to-jacket leads per fencer. To make the checking of weapons easier and allow the complete observation of the tip and its base, foil fencers must present their foils at the weapon control with bare points not covered with adhesive tape over the first 15cm.
6. The fencers or the team captain can only insist on the **return of the equipment which has been checked** one hour before the start of the event.
7. A mask which does not comply with the safety requirements laid down in this article will be rendered **visibly unusable** by the weapon checking personnel or the Referee in the presence of the person who presented the mask to the weapon check or the team captain of the fencer concerned.
8. A conductive jacket which is considered to be **unusable** will be so marked with a very visible coloured paint by a member of the FIE SEMI Commission.
-

Articles m.39.2,3

m.39

- ~~2. The fencers or the team captain can only insist on the return of the equipment which has been checked one hour before the start of the event.~~

~~3. Any repairs to equipment rejected during the checking can be carried out in the repair workshop. Repaired equipment will, however, only be tested again after the first set of checks of the other fencers' equipment has been completed~~

Article m.40

m.40

Body responsible for checks

~~m.40. 1. The Executive Committee of the FIE will appoint the member(s) of the SEMI Committee to be responsible for the checking of weapons, clothing and equipment of the fencers at the fencing competitions of the Olympic Games and for the World Championships.~~

~~2 For other official FIE competitions the Organising Committee will appoint one or more persons to be responsible for this checking.~~

Article m.41

m.41

1. The items of equipment which have been thus checked will be **distinctively marked**. A fencer must not, on pain of penalties (cf. t.120), use any equipment which does not bear this check mark.

2. Any repairs to equipment rejected during the checking can be carried out in the repair workshop. Repaired equipment will, however, only be tested again after the first set of checks of the other fencers' equipment has been completed.

Article m.42.1,2.c

m.42

1. In order to allow those carrying out the checking to fulfil their task, the organisers are required to make available the **equipment** (~~gauges, weights, scales, electrical measuring machines, etc.~~) and the personnel necessary to carry out the work.

2.

c) An electrical checking device to check quickly the electrical **resistance** ~~of the point is not too high~~, and that the body wire and the weapon are **correctly assembled**. ~~Devices enabling these measurements to be taken easily are, in fact, commercially available.~~

Article m.51.11

m.51

11. For official FIE competitions (cf. o.3) the apparatus must obligatorily be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) with minimum 5 minutes backup time.

Article m.52.4

m.52

~~4. For official FIE competitions (cf. t.1) the apparatus must obligatorily be powered through external batteries or UPS (Uninterruptible power supply) with minimum 5 minutes backup time.~~

Article m 56.2,5

m.56

2 ~~It is desirable for t~~ The **spools must to be placed** close to the pistes, but outside them so that fencers do not trip over them.

~~5. Those in charge of checking equipment during competitions must have a simple and practical device at their disposal to allow them to **check quickly** that there are no breaks or short circuits in the three wires of the spools.~~

Article m.57.5.a and c

m.57

5

~~a) It is preferable to lay the conductive piste on a **wooden base** with some flexible material between. It must be provided with some device which enables it to be kept well stretched.~~

~~ba)~~ The wooden bases are **12–15 cm** above ground level. Their sides must not be sloping.

~~eb)~~ It ~~is preferable to~~ **must** have a metal strip, screwed down if possible, which will keep down the edges of the conductive piste along the entire length of the base on both sides.

~~dc)~~ Pistes made of metallic mesh must never be placed directly on a floor of reinforced concrete or tiles.

9. Pistes used in the World Championships and in the Olympic Games must be tested before competition by the organisers using the ~~Slip Meter~~ **apposite device**.

Annexe A

1. WEAPONS

BLADES

SPECIFICATION FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF FENCING BLADES

2. General conditions

There are two methods of manufacture (see Figure 9):

- By forging a steel cylinder (Cross-section of blade, A);
- By folding a sheet of steel (Cross-section of blade, B).

The steel used for the manufacture of fencing blades must have the ability to withstand high levels of exertion, a high degree of resistance to breaking and a low susceptibility to corrosion. Please refers to the Standard table STM (European standard ISO) about the quality.