



Commission de la Signalisation Electrique, du Matériel et des Installations

S.E.M.I. Commission

Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 and 24 June 2007

Hôtel de la Paix, Lausanne (SUI)

Were present :

José Eduardo DOS SANTOS (POR)	President
Rafaela GONZALEZ (CUB - MH)	Representative of the Executive Committee
Ali Mohammad AZIZI (IRI)	Member
Jacek BIERKOWSKI (POL)	Member
Daniel DECHAINED (USA)	Member
Maria Wilda EBERL LOPEZ (CHI)	Member
Atsushi HARINISHI (JPN)	Member
Mehmet KARAMETE (TUR)	Member
Gabriela MAYER (CAN)	Member
OH Won - Suk (KOR)	Member, interpreter: Ms So Yonne Déglon-kim
Semion RIKHTMAN (RUS)	Member

Claudia SANCHEZ Secretary of the meeting

Absent with apologies: none

Meeting of Saturday 23 June 2007 – 09.00 to 19.30

1.- President's Opening Remarks -

The President of the SEMI Commission, Mr Eduardo Dos Santos, welcomes all the members and gives the floor to Ms Rafaela Gonzalez, Representative of the Executive Committee for this Commission, who expresses her wishes for a good meeting and presents the expectations of the Executive Committee.

The agenda is approved as distributed.

2. Opening Remarks by the Executive Committee Representative for the SEMI Commission

Ms Rafaela Gonzalez welcomes the members and thanks them for their participation in this meeting.

3. Information and Issues

The President points out that even though there was no SEMI meeting last year, the members were consulted via e-mail. After getting the approval of the Executive Committee and the FIE President, the necessary modifications to the Material Rules were able to be made and decisions were able to be taken. He reports the various activities of the members:

Ms Gabriela Mayer noticed during a competition in Canada that a 1600 NW mask was not mentioned on the official FIE list with the name of its manufacturer, and the name 'Le Mask' displayed on the spring-tongue of the mask was different. After contacting the manufacturer, the situation was settled as a sample of the mask, along with CE certificates and a SEMI document regarding homologation to DOMA Technologies, was sent to SEMI for analysis, and the name 'Le Mask' was added to the official list of masks homologated by the FIE.

Due to several errors in the Rules, Mr Karamete proposed to add to the Rules that the manufacturer may not put the name of his stockist on the FIE label of quality in place of his own. This will be studied during the meeting in the paragraph 'Modifications and Additions to the Rules'.

Daniel De Chainé noticed that, in America, the companies Blue Gauntlet and Absolute Fencing started selling masks that were in the process of being homologated, before receiving their homologation certificates. The SEMI Commission wrote to them and telephoned them to explain the procedure laid down by the Rules, and they claimed to be unaware of it. After communicating with the companies, both situations were settled, but it remains necessary to include penalties in the Rules to prevent this type of situation from occurring - this will be done during the meeting.

Mr Azizi was a delegate of the SEMI Commission for the first time at the Junior World Championships in Belek. Mr Dos Santos highlights the good work of the SEMI delegates during these championships (Karamete as member of the Organising Committee and Bierkowski, Lopez, Azizi as delegates).

In February in Moscow, Mr Dos Santos and Mr Rikhtman carried out tests, for sabre and épée, on the wireless signalling apparatus of the Russian company Primula; these tests were successful.

The épée and sabre tests carried out on the apparatus during the Grand Prix Monal in May on metal pistes directly laid on the ground were fine. However, problems appeared when wireless Primula was used with a conductive carpet or with a piste laid on a podium, due to the quantity of metal of the podium influencing electromagnetic fields. The company Primula returned to Russia with the SEMI's recommendations to help solve these problems.

Analysis of the proposals that concern SEMI for the 2007 FIE Congress

Brazilian Fencing Federation (BRA)

Proposal 2 (deferred from the 2005 Congress)

Reincorporate the bib as a valid surface at foil

MOTIVATION.

Provides greater safety for fencers
Reduces non valid hits during matches
Reduces interruptions during matches
Makes refereeing easier.

Opinion of the Executive Committee of the FIE: in favour but follows the opinion of the SEMI Commission.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: From a technical point of view, there is no problem: tests with a conductive addition to the part of the bib under the chin were already carried out in 2005.

With regard to fencers' safety, the opinion of the Medical Commission is needed.

Sam Cheris (MH, USA)

1. Add at the end of m.33:

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

Opinion of the SEMI Commission : in favour but one must consider that in the case of gloves with a conductive part corresponding to the gauntlet, a solution is already in place.

2. Add to m.25 (7), following the third paragraph, a new sentence:

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

Opinion of the SEMI Commission : in favour of this proposal, but the proposed text becomes Article m.25.7.f).

3. Add to m.32 (fifth paragraph, following "...and must be between 30 and 40 cm. long."

In the case of a coiled cable, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 30 cm. when the cable is at rest.

I would like to note that these are items were in the previous rule book, but somehow appear to have been dropped when the rulebook was re-organized prior to the 1999 publication. Rationale: These items will help improve both the safety and the smooth functioning of bouts.

Opinion of the FIE Executive Committee: follows the opinion of the Rules Commission.

Opinion of the Rules Commission : the Commission did not find any trace of those texts in the versions of the Rules previous to 1999. Should the SEMI Commission consider these texts as up to date, the Commission agrees to incorporate them.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission: the Commission agrees with this proposal and specifies that, in French, the term is not « cable enrouleur » but « cable enroulé ». The text in this paragraph becomes: « In the case of a coiled cable, used by certain fencers, the maximum length of the free cable must not exceed 25 cm in length, with a tolerance of ± 5 cm.»

British Fencing Association (GBR)

PROPOSAL, MODIFIED TEXT, PUBLICITY CODE, p.10.1 (MANUFACTURERS' MARKS).

AIM : to bring these rules up to date, taking account of the fact that, typically, the marks on clothing are a combination of the manufacturer's mark, the FIE Quality Label (for which, up to now, there is no maximum height specified) plus the CEN label. The inclusion of the FIE and CEN labels is responsible for the great part of the increases proposed.

The proposal takes into account clothing on the market today, which is therefore currently worn by the fencers.

p.10. Position and sizes

1. The articles of the fencers' **equipment** may carry the following visible marks:

- a) **Mask, main structure.** One or more mark(s) (1), on the rear of the spring or the sides of the mask, maximum combined size ~~6.0 cm x 5.5 cm~~ 50 sq.cm, or on a label fixed to

the inside of the mask (2); these dimensions include the FIE quality label. (Pre-2008 masks need not so carry an FIE quality label if they are furnished with a CEN level 2 label (2)). In addition the rear safety strap may feature the name and/or mark of the manufacturer, maximum size 50 sq.cm. (3)

- b) **Mask, bib.** One mark, maximum size 50 sq.cm (4) , in the corner of the bib; this dimension includes the FIE quality label. If no FIE quality label is included, the maximum size is 10 sq.cm.
- c) **Jacket** One or more mark(s) (5) at the bottom of the jacket on the hip on the side of the non-sword arm, maximum combined size ~~4.5 cm x 2 cm~~ 75 cm² sq. cm., including the FIE quality label. In addition, one mark on the collar, maximum size 30 sq.cm if in the form of a script or 20 sq.cm if in the form of a label (6).
- d) **Breeches.** One or more mark(s) ~~at the bottom of the leg~~ on the side of the breeches, on one side only, combined maximum size ~~4.5 cm x 2 cm~~ 75 cm² sq. cm., including the FIE quality label (7).
- e) **Stockings** One mark on each stocking, maximum size ~~4.5 cm x 2 cm~~ 10 sq.cm. when laid flat (8).
- f) **Shoes** The name of the brand on each shoe, maximum size ~~4.5 cm x 2 cm~~ 10 sq.cm, or the normal badge or insignia (e.g. bands).
- g) **Gloves** ~~No mark~~ one mark on the gauntlet, maximum size 10 sq.cm (9).
- h) **Weapon.** No mark visible from any distance. On sabres, the name of the manufacturer is permitted on the insulated part of the guard (10).

On jackets, breeches and gloves the size of mark(s) is calculated by measuring the piece(s) of cloth sewn or otherwise attached to them containing the mark(s).

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE PROPOSAL

- (1) *Manufacturers can separate their logo and the FIE Quality label onto two marks.*
- (2) *On any design of mask without a metal back spring, the mark(s) and Quality Label are to be included in an interior label which also carries the CEN marks. As some of these masks do not currently display the FIE Quality Label we propose an exemption from displaying this be allowed until 2008 if the CEN label is displayed.*
- (3) *Some manufacturers display their name on the safety strap, in particular when there is no rear spring.*
- (4) *Some manufacturers display a mark including the FIE Quality label on the bib.*
- (5) *Manufacturers can use two labels side-by-side to display their mark and the FIE quality label.*
- (6) *The approval of a mark on the collar of the jacket a number of years ago was never formalized in the Publicity Code.*
- (7) *Common practice seems to be to attach the marks to the side of the breeches rather than to the bottom of the leg.*
- (8) *Minor increase in dimensions to ensure compliance.*
- (9) *Some manufacturers are already fixing marks to gloves.*
- (10) *Some manufacturers put their name on the insulated part of sabre guards .*

CODE DE LA PUBLICITÉ, MARQUES DES FABRIQUANTS

	Actuel (en principe sans compter le label FIE)	Proposé, marques (label FIE inclus inclus) cm2	SITUATION COURANTE:-						PBT	
			Allstar		Negrini		Paul		dimensions	inclus
			dimension	inclus	dimensions	inclus	dimension	inclus	dimensions	inclus
Veste	4.5cm x 2cm (1 marque)	75	47.5	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	74.8	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	31.5	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	cm2	<i>A suivre - to follow</i>
Pantalons (culotte)	4.5cm x 2cm (1 marque)	75	47.5	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	74.8	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	31.5	Marque Label FIE Label CEN		
Masque, structure principale	6.0cm x 5.5cm (1 marque)	50	35	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	25 + 11 47	Marque FIE Marque total	12.8	Marque Label FIE	Masque A Masque B	Rien. La masque ne comprend pas un ressort. Label a l'intérieur pour CEN, depuis 2008 avec label FIE aussi.
Masque, att.de sécurité		50					43.2	Marque		
Bavette	Approuvé mais sans dimensions	50 avec label FIE, 10 sans label FIE	47.5	Marque Label FIE Label CEN	21*	Marque (*chaque de 2 marques)	26.3	Marque Label FIE Label CEN		
Bas	4.5cmx2.0cm	10 (a plat)								
Chaussures	4.5cmx2.0cm	10								
Gant	Rien	10								
Arme	rien visible de loin	rien visible de loin. Au sabre, le nom sur la partie isolée.								

Opinion of the Rules Commission : the size of the manufacturer's mark must be the one authorised by the IOC. Any increase of the size of the manufacturer's mark must be part of a sponsoring contract with the athlete.
The quality label (which must be the FIE emblem) must be separated from the manufacturer's mark.

Opinion of the SEMI Commission : the Commission cannot agree with the proposal. The Commission agrees with the opinion of the Rules Commission. During the SEMI meeting (23, 24 June) in which the proposal was analysed, several samples were analysed that did not comply with the FIE Rules or the Olympic Charter.

In effect, with regard to the size of the manufacturer's mark, the proposal does not take into account the IOC Olympic Charter which specifies the maximum size allocated per piece of equipment: 6cm² for a mask, 20cm² for clothing, reference: Olympic Charter Bye-law 53 page 102 (English version, 2004).

The space for the FIE quality label, the size of which respects the Olympic Charter, is intended for identification of the name of the manufacturer of the item of equipment during material checks. This label must only mention the manufacturer's name once. The size of the quality label must be in compliance with the FIE Rules (pages 55 and 56).

For their publicity, manufacturers always have the option of using spaces reserved for sponsors, as specified by the publicity code (non-weapon arm and rear leg), but it is the fencer's decision whether or not to keep the publicity.

The situations described above have often been at the centre of discussions between manufacturers and the SEMI Commission.

According to the SEMI Commission, publicity and quality labels should not be confused and the size of the FIE quality label should not be increased due to this, therefore the opinion of the commission on this proposal is Not In Favour.

Proposal 2

ELECTRIFICATION OF THE BIB OF THE FOIL MASK

The attached drawings clearly show how to make the part of the bib, that could become a valid target at foil, conductive by using a metallic fabric, currently used in making the electric jacket.

The metallic fabric must be sewn over the part of the bib that currently covers the valid surface so that it goes all the way up to the collar of the actual plastron.

A layer of insulating material must be placed between the bib and the metallic fabric, extending further than the metallic part, on the outside as well as on the inside of the bib, so as to avoid sweat soaking the fabric and potentially making the entire mask conductive.

In order to ensure the electrical connection between the bib and the jacket (as we don't estimate it necessary for a wire to connect bib and jacket due to the problems this would undoubtedly cause), the metallic fabric will only be sewn entirely to the bib on the external surface of the mask, while the internal side will remain unattached along its upper edge and only sewn along the external edge; the insulating layer, on the other hand, will be entirely sewn on the inside as well as on the outside.

With regard to the wiring cable, it is important to note that the current rules on the foil's contact times allow the signal of valid hits on the bib even if the bib is not in contact with the jacket at the moment of the first impact.

In this case, in fact, the hit bib is pushed against the jacket by the opponent's weapon, restoring contact and the signalling of the coloured valid hit light, while the white lamp, caused by the first contact between the opponent's foil and the bib, has not had time to light up.

The above does not exclude the option of connecting the bib firmly to the jacket with a wire, a metallic button, a strip of metallic fabric or in any other suitable way.

Concerning the use of the foil masks currently being used, electrification of the bib, in order to conform to the new rules, could be easily done by the fencers themselves or their families in one of the following ways:

- by covering the current bib with the layers of insulating and conductive material, available from all fencing equipment retailers, and following the above information with regard to the positioning and sewing of these layers;
- by putting, over the current bib, a detachable cover that is made out of the metallic fabric, contains an insulating layer on the inside and can be fixed to the bib itself with Velcro® or perhaps with elastic bands that hook around the security strap of the mask.

Opinion of the FIE Executive Committee: in favour but follows the opinion of the SEMI Commission.

Opinion of the Rules Commission : in favour of the incorporation of the entire bib as valid surface at foil. This proposal concerns the technicalities of application and should be submitted to the SEMI Commission. The article t.47.2 must be modified as follows :

"The target at foil excludes the limbs and the head. It is confined to the trunk, the upper limit being the collar up to 6 cm above the prominences of the collar bones; at the sides to the seams

of the sleeves, which should cross the head of the humerus; and the lower limit following a horizontal line across the back joining the tops of the hip bones, thence by straight lines to the junction of the lines of the groin (see Figure 4, above). **It also includes the entire bib of the mask**".

Opinion of the SEMI Commission :

From a technological point of view, there is no problem in making the conductive bib.

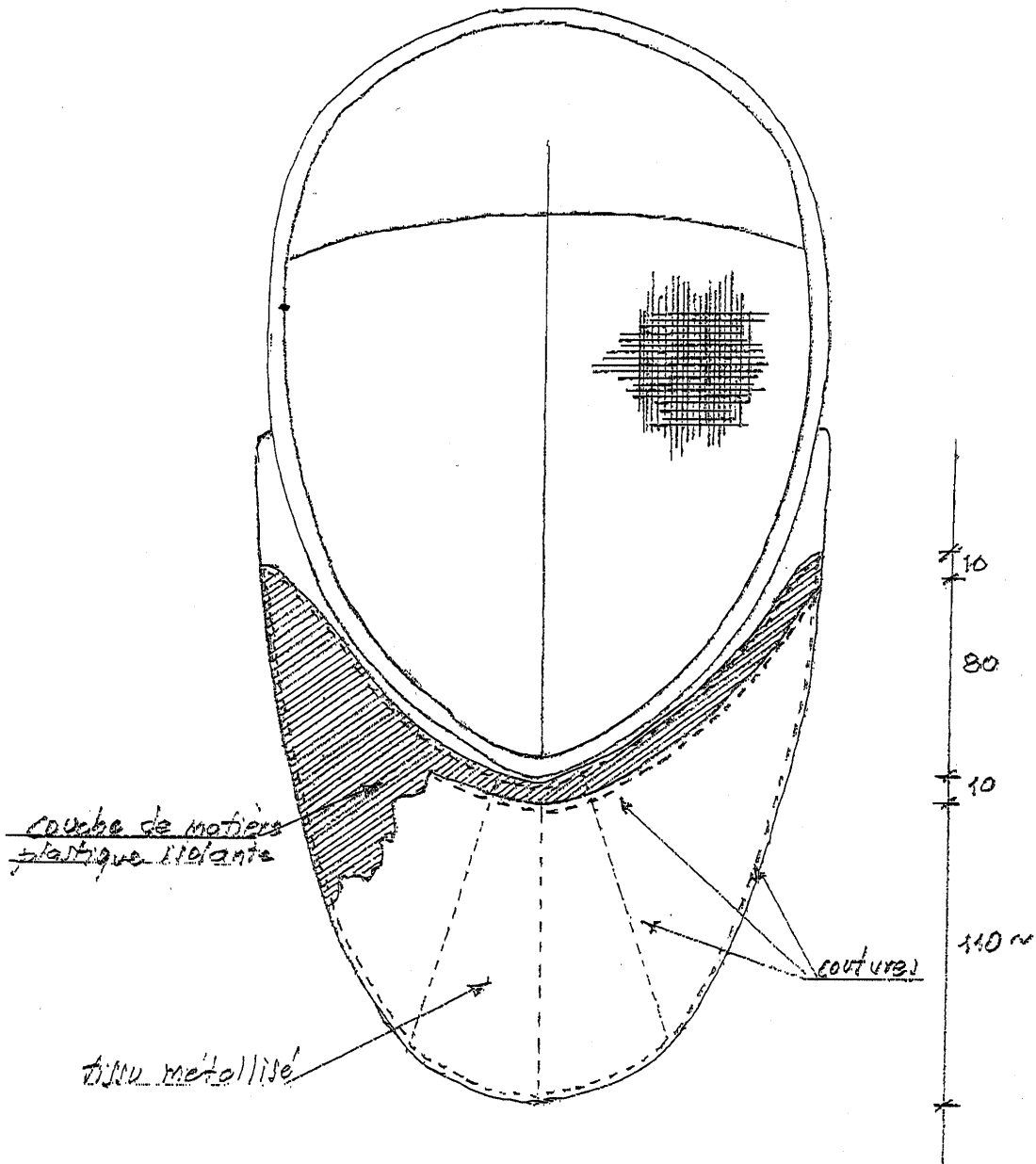
Should this proposal be approved, SEMI recommends studying the distance between the chin and the conductive part in order to ensure that the conductive surface does not touch the mesh of the mask when the fencer lowers his head, and the band which surrounds the mask may be widened.

This proposal implies either a new mask or a more economical solution that would involve a conductive piece being added to the bib.

The President points out that the company Negrini already carried out several studies in 2005 relating to the conductive addition to the bib, these studies and samples may be taken into account if this proposal from the Italian Federation is approved.

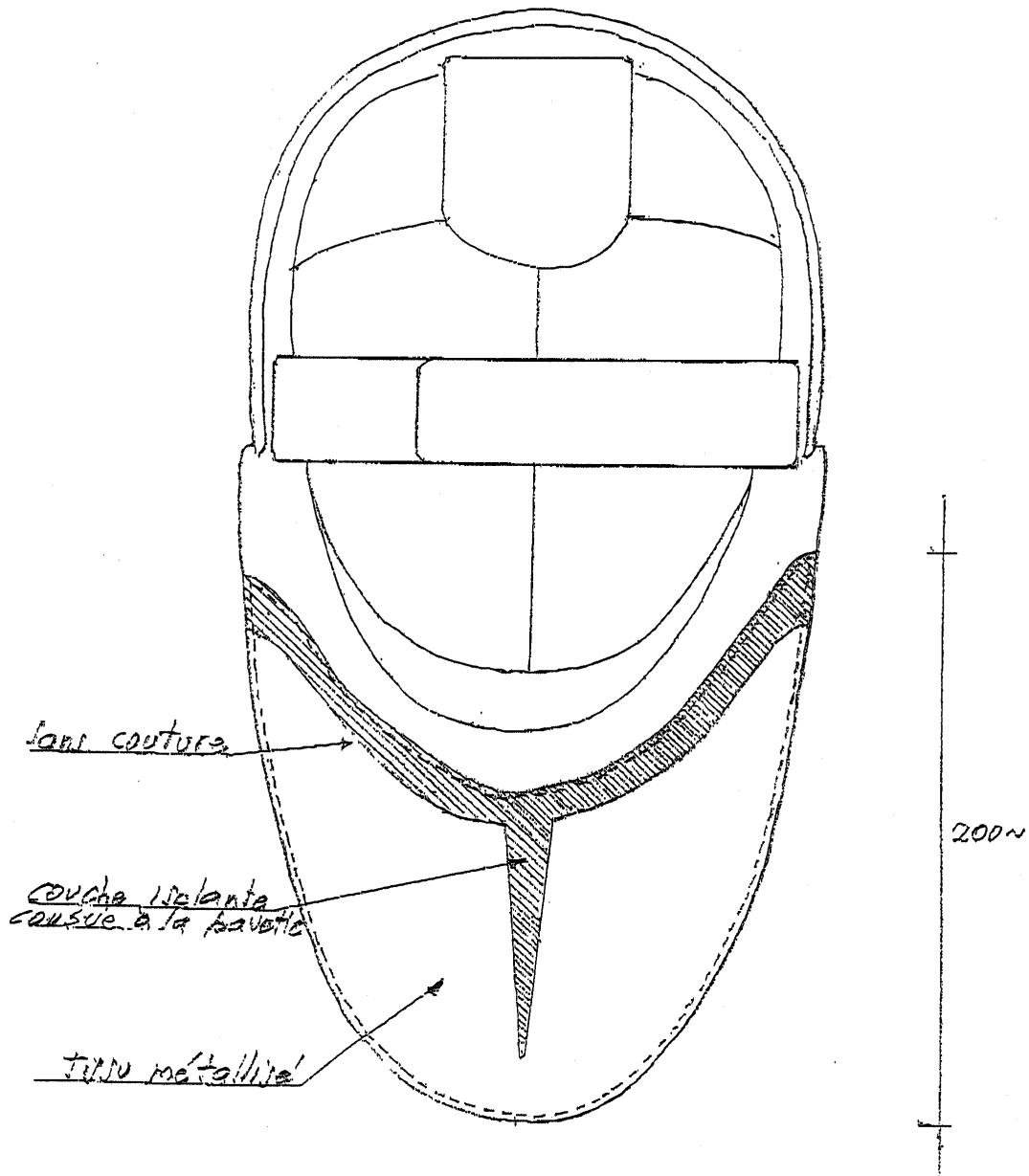
The SEMI Commission considers a connecting wire between the conductive jacket and the conductive bib preferable so as to ensure the hit signal is conducted in all positions of the fencer's head.

Bavette électrolysée au fluor



Vue antérieure
Echelle 1:2

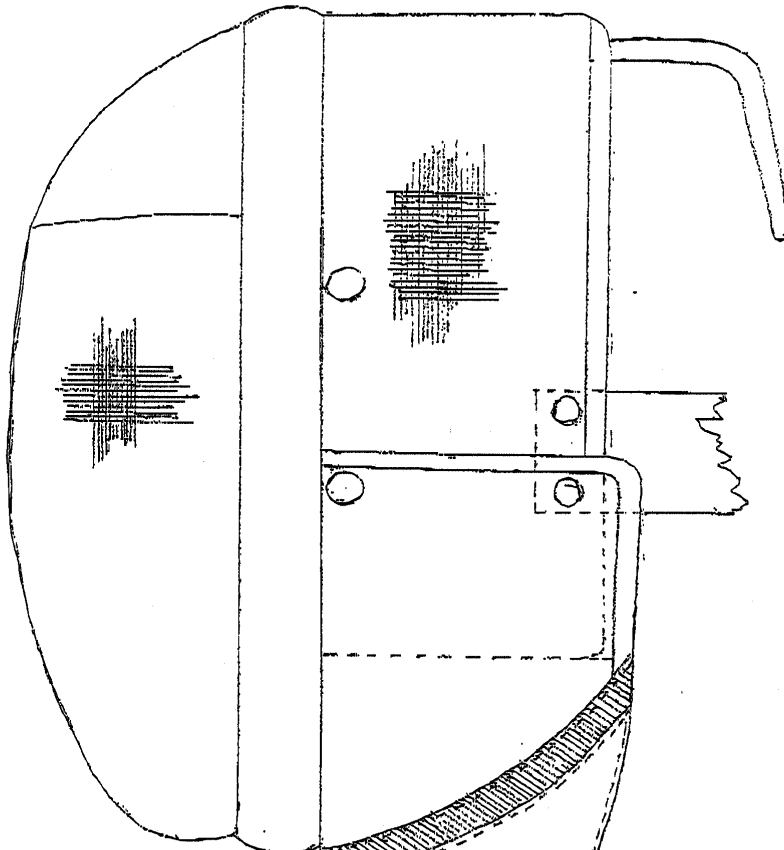
Bavette électrolysée soufflée



Vue postérieure
Echelle 1:2 réel, mm.

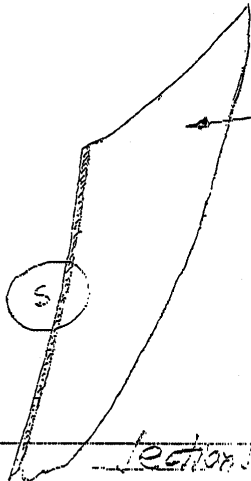
Commission de p. 31.
Le Procédant

Boîte électrisée au fibres



Couche isolante

tissu métallisé 110V



1234

- 1. tissu métallisé
- 2. couche isolante
- 3. couche
- 4. couche isolante

Section de la boîte

Vue latérale

4. Homologations

Information requests received from manufacturers, fencers and parents.

4.1 Homologation of pistes

Coloured aluminium pistes selected for the Olympic Games

The Commission is analysing samples of the pistes which will be used at the Olympic Games. These are by the company Greenapple and are in non-reflective aluminium in green, yellow, blue, red, silver and gold.

The slipperiness of the pistes is tested on-site with the 'Digital Slipmeter ASM 825' device and the pistes conform to the homologation requirements and parameters. The anti-reflection studies and piste construction details were explained.

4.2 Blades

The lists of blades homologated by the FIE are sent to all the members and are published on the FIE website along with the Rules. The President has recently received two homologation requests for épée blades with tests carried out by Sofranal, the blades come from the company STM and from Gloria-Pro, a new Russian company.

4.3 Masks

The « le mask » mask will be added to the list of masks homologated by the FIE.

4.4 Jackets, breeches and under-plastrons

For the homologation of a uniform, SEMI currently receives CE reports and certificates along with the manufacturer's request for homologation and a sample of the finished product. Some people have asked SEMI for a list of approved uniforms, but the Commission is of the opinion that this would lead to confusion as, in some cases, uniforms by the same manufacturer have different logos according to the year; publishing such a list would lead to confusion and the refusal of uniforms which conform to the Rules.

The members of the Commission mention the problem of imitation of the FIE emblem, which could be copied in any country around the world. The study of an inimitable logo was proposed.

The President proposes that in the future: “every manufacturer must declare the exact number of products (uniforms, under-plastrons, masks) that he wants to market with the FIE emblem, and the FIE will provide the same number of emblems/quality labels (with, if possible, an integrated microchip)”. This would allow a better control of the registered worldwide production and manufacturers registered with the FIE will be protected.

4.5 Hit-registering testing apparatus for contact time and double hits

Regarding hit-registering apparatus, they are only homologated if they comply with the requirements of the Rules. A testing apparatus, which tests contact and double-hit times, is available on the market and costs 800 Euros (company: Adash).

At the very least, the countries which organise Grand Prix competitions must test their apparatus with this testing apparatus. Members of the Commission will have discussions with their Federations to have a testing apparatus at their disposal so that they may use it in their country.

(reference: FIE information letter n° 6-07, point 6: Checking of contact and blocking time at the 3 weapons).

4.6 Wireless equipment

The decision is taken to add the following text to the Material Rules (homologations – English text: end of page 39, French text: end of page 31):

“ With regard to contact and double-hit times, and the electrical resistances of the equivalent electrical drawings for each type of hit, a wireless device's initial checking must be carried out by its manufacturer, which must make its own testing boxes. The contact time, double-hit time and electrical resistances will be confirmed by the SEMI Commission, after it receives samples of the wireless apparatus and portable components, along with the request for FIE homologation and the file containing the specification, instructions for use, electrical drawings and reports of the tests carried out by the company requesting the

homologation. The manufacturer also has to produce a list of the competitions and fencers that have used its wireless apparatus.”

4.7 Official lists of blades and masks

The next lists will be created over the following week and will be used for the material and weapon checks during the 2007 European Championships and Pan-American Games.

Visit from the President of the FIE

From 12.30 to 13.00, the SEMI Commission is honoured by a visit from the FIE President.

He congratulates the SEMI Commission for its excellent work and acknowledges the commitment of its members with regard to the different FIE assignments, despite not meeting every year. He was able to meet the members and exchange ideas with them during the various championships. If necessary, the SEMI Commission will meet again next year.

After analysing the coloured metal pistes proposed for the Olympics, Mr Roch gives his consent for their use at the Olympics. Mr Karamete shows him the studies relating to the anti-reflective pistes. It is specified that during the 2007 World Championships, the pistes used will be in conductive carpet by the company Artos, as the coloured aluminium pistes are a very recent development (May).

Mr Roch is informed of the label-copying issue, the need to create an inimitable logo and the need for manufacturers to declare their production. He asks that the SEMI Commission put forward this idea to the Executive Committee: **he agrees with manufacturers paying for the quality label and that only manufacturers registered with the FIE will be allowed to receive the FIE emblem (see also 4.4. Jackets, breeches and under-plastrons in this report).**

Mr Roch reports the decisions of the SEMI Commission on the proposals that will be presented to the 2007 Congress (Brazil, Sam Chervis, Great Britain and the Italian Fencing Federation).

After a discussion on the valid surface at sabre, it is decided that the SEMI Commission will put forward a proposal to the Executive Committee, requiring an urgent decision from the latter: **“At sabre, the forearm, which includes the conductive gauntlet, and the glove are part of the target area. The inner part of the sabre guard and the electrical socket must be well insulated.”**

Further studies are needed to decide whether or not only the upper part of the glove will be in conductive material.

Thus, fencers will have to hold their weapons properly and will no longer be able to grip the outside of the guard.

-End of the morning meeting.

4.8 Bodywires and mask-to-jacket wires for the finals

The afternoon session begins with a discussion on the need to distribute new, good-quality bodywires to fencers when bouts are broadcast on television, so as to prevent interruptions of the bouts due to bodywires being changed on the piste.

It is noted that there are mainly three different types of sabre and foil bodywires with different plugs (2 pin, LP and bayonet). At the Team World Championships in Turin, 9 bodywires with different plugs were retrieved.

The problem arises when a fencer has to stop the bout because the wire is worn and the electric wire breaks. For the Olympic test event, which is also the Team World Championship for Men's Foil and Women's Epée, the FIE will benefit from sponsorship from the company Omega and will be in a position to **provide fencers with new bodywires for free, in order to avoid interruptions mid-bout. This solution is approved by the SEMI Commission for the April 2008 test event, as long as the foil (and sabre) bodywires use the 2-pronged plugs - with 97% of fencers using this plug, it is the most commonly used plug. If this turns out to be a good solution, it will also be adopted for the Olympics.**

4.9 Pointes d'arrêt

The President gives an account of the current pointes d'arrêt. He considers it necessary to clarify the pointe d'arrêt homologation procedure in the FIE Rules, and to add the following text to the Material Rules (homologations – English version: end of page 39, French version: end of page 31):

“ To obtain an FIE homologation for a pointe d'arrêt, the manufacturer must, in order for the homologation tests to begin immediately, present the SEMI Commission with a complete

file containing mechanical drawings, the description of the pointe d'arrêt, the button and how it works, studies on its electrical behaviour as well as samples of the pointe d'arrêt and complete weapons with the pointe d'arrêt. The manufacturer that obtains homologation for its pointe d'arrêt will be authorised to mark its name and the FIE emblem on the pointes d'arrêt and bases with an engraver, never with non-conductive ink.”

5. Revision of the Rules

Certain articles were clarified and paragraphs were added to the Rules:

- m.5.5.a)

This is a new text which mainly concerns weapon and material checks.

It is decided to delete “over the first 15cm”. Thus, the third paragraph becomes:

“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 with bare points not covered with adhesive tape.”

This allows fencers to keep adhesive tape on the rest of the 15 cm of the blade except for on the pointe d'arrêt.

- Foil m.11. Pointe d'arrêt

It is decided to add a paragraph with the following text:

“Note: when the base is covered with insulating (non-conductive) adhesive tape/ribbon, the diameter of the covered base may in no case be larger than the pointe d'arrêt.”

- The points m.24.8. (Sabre), m.25.6. (Equipment and Clothing – Glove) and m.33. (Sabre Glove) were interpreted, analysed and explained.

The last reported accidents at sabre were analysed; the reason that these accidents occurred is put down to an increase in the number of attacks with the point of the sabre and to poor-quality gloves when they are wet, particularly gloves in synthetic leather. Gloves must be of good-quality and made out of resistant leather in order for sabre blades to be unable to perforate them, and fencers must be aware that it is up to them to change a wet glove.

In Turin, SEMI decided to include the inspection of gloves with the initial checking of weapons. The decision has now been taken to add the following paragraph to the Material Rules:

« m.5.5 e)

In order to guarantee the safety of the fencers at all weapons, the gloves will be checked during the initial checking of weapons as well as in the call room. Any glove that is wet or in poor condition will be refused during the checks.»

- The points m.32.5. (mask-to-jacket wire), m.29.1.c) (crocodile clip), m.25.4.a) (the jacket must overlap the breeches by at least 10 cm) were analysed, interpreted and explained.

- m.25.7.c) Checking the mesh of the mask

During weapon and material checks, the wire-mesh of the mask is tested if there is any doubt as to its safety. This test must only be carried out on masks that present irregular or interrupted meshing. The SEMI Commission has received complaints pertaining to the testing of wire-mesh that was new or in good condition; the introduction of the conical instrument, the angle of the surface of the cone at 4° to the axis and at the pressure of 12 kg or higher, has caused distortions to the wire-meshing.

The decision is taken to add the following paragraph to the end of m. 25.7.c):

« In a case of doubt as to the safety of the wire-meshing (irregular or with broken wires), the testing instrument must be introduced into the lattice of the mask's meshing without forcing. It is mandatory that this test only takes place in the presence of the person responsible for the checking of material and weapons.»

- m.34.1 Conductive t-shirt, paragraph broken into two

Introduce a new paragraph by breaking the text just before “At wireless sabre the fencer...”

- m.28.1 Conductive Jacket

Add the following to the end of paragraph m.28.1 :

“More precisely in all the fencing positions, without exception.”

- m.42.2.g)

After “In effect, it is the task of the Referee to check, before each event, that the conductive jacket, having been checked and marked, entirely covers the valid target area, and accordingly to make the final decision whether it may be used.”, it is decided to add the following paragraph:

“Checks in the call room for individual table of 32 bouts and team table of 8 bouts are the responsibility of those responsible for the checking and the SEMI delegates. This does not rule out an intervention by the referee in cases of non-compliance.”

- m.42.2.h)

To ensure that the marks made on the blades during checks are done with non-conductive ink – following competition organisers reporting this abnormal situation and based on the solutions they adopted – the decision is taken to add a paragraph with the following text: **“During weapon checks, the blades may be marked with an electric engraver or conductive ink, but in no case should non-conductive ink be applied to a blade.**

Should the pointes d’arrêt be marked during checks, it must never be done with non-conductive ink.”

- m.45. Apparatus authorised by SEMI

Explanation of the current text « ...except for apparatus without wires using encoded waves authorised by the SEMI... »

- m.11 Pointe d’arrêt

After a discussion and presentation of the standard pointes d’arrêt made by the companies Scherma Sport and Allstar, a proposal will be put forward to the Executive Committee to include the following text after the text on homologations (English version: page 39, French version: page 31):

« Manufacturers are given the possibility of engraving their name permanently on the base and on the surface of the button, along with the three letters FIE. To obtain authorisation for this, the manufacturer is required to send a drawing and a sample of the pointe d’arrêt and button duly engraved to the SEMI”

Motivation: enable identification of the manufacturer of the pointe d’arrêt

- The decision is taken to add the following paragraph to the Rules (English version: page 39, French version: page 31) :

« In the case of a request for the homologation of a pointe d’arrêt, the manufacturer must present a complete file with: mechanical drawings, the drawing of the base and the button with the name of the manufacturer and the letters FIE in place, the description of how the point works, the description and proof of the electrical behaviour of the pointe d’arrêt, as well as samples of the pointe d’arrêt and foils and épées with the pointes d’arrêt already assembled.”

Annexe A - homologation: page 39 (English version), page 31 (French version)

It is decided to add the word « pistes » after « ...protective plastrons». The end of the second paragraph becomes : « protective plastrons, pistes. »

It is decided to put the paragraph on the homologation of pointes d’arrêt (above) after the end of the paragraph on the homologation of pistes.

4. Label of quality

It is decided to add to the Material Rules a paragraph with the following text: **(Label of quality – English version: page 58, French version: page 54):**

« Under no circumstances is the manufacturer permitted to replace his name with the name of his stockist.»

m.1.3 Characteristics shared by all three weapons

It is desirable that the tip of the sabre be made larger and the SEMI Commission will contact the manufacturers so that they may study a new tip, but the quickest way to ensure gloves resist perforation is that studied in the addition m.5.5.e) (see this report).

In compliance with paragraph m.1.3., "all methods of treating a blade by grinding, filing or other methods, are forbidden."

The possible solution that would involve making the tip of the sabre less sharp also reduces the area of contact of the surface of the tip and will not be adopted.

- Annexe B (Characteristics of Apparatus):

It is decided to add the following paragraph to the Material Rules:

"In order to meet refereeing needs, the chronometer must allow the time to be introduced directly (manually) and automatically."

- In the French version: Table of Contents - Annexe B starts on page 59 and not 57

- Other

6. Addition to the Rules

Due to breaches of the FIE Rules and the fact that, without asking for the advice of or informing the FIE or SEMI Commission, some manufacturers introduce pieces of equipment that do not comply with the Rules, a proposal will be sent to the Executive Committee to decide and confirm the legal aspects of the text proposed below. Among the cases detected over the past two years, there has been: sale of equipment with the FIE emblem without having ever requested homologation from the FIE; sale of material with the FIE emblem when the material was in the process of being homologated by the FIE, and the manufacturer had only submitted what was required but had not yet received the FIE homologation; sale of FIE material that did not correspond to the samples sent during the initial homologation; substitution of the name of the manufacturer that had received homologation for its mask with several other marks of its stockist, which did not allow the material to be identified with the FIE's homologation lists and caused confusion during the checking of material and weapons; other cases.

This text was proposed as an addition to the Material Rules, end of page 39 (English version) after all the additions to this page defined during this meeting, and will require the opinion of the Executive Committee:

« Penalties

In case of infraction of the FIE Rules, a penalty proportional to the gravity of the infringement may be imposed on the manufacturer, such as: temporary or permanent suspension from the list of FIE manufacturers, from the FIE website, and any other penalty."

7. 45-minute meeting with the Medical Commission

At the end of the afternoon, the SEMI Commission met with the Medical Commission and was informed of the studies carried out by the Medical Commission relating to sabre injuries caused by non-broken blades.

The SEMI Commission informed the Medical Commission that, as an immediate measure, the decision had been taken to check gloves during the initial checking of weapons and, afterwards, in the call room (reference m.5.5.e) in this report).

8. Miscellaneous issues

The Saturday afternoon meeting ends around 19.30 after a brief summary of the subjects covered during the day.

Meeting of Sunday, 24 June 09.00 to 14.30

9. Summary and clarification of the decisions taken during the Saturday meeting

A summary of the subjects covered in the Saturday meeting was given and these were further

explained. An in-depth analysis of the connection between wireless apparatus and a central apparatus took place, including block diagrams. The company STM must find, as rapidly as possible, a way to synchronise the signal of the central apparatus's chronometer with its wireless system. This is imperative in order for the wireless system to function properly, and for the peace of mind of the DT members, SEMI delegates, referees and fencers.

10. Details on call room checks in the Rules and handbook of specifications

Mr Roger Hsu, who is often part of the Directoire Technique in the World Championships and Zone Championships in Asia, asked the SEMI Commission for an explanation on the checks in the call room and a text on these in order to help organisers complete their task as they often don't know what is needed or what job needs to be done.

It is therefore decided to add the following paragraphs after m.43.4. (Control room).

« m.43.5 The organisers of the World Championships must plan for a larger number of volunteers working in the initial weapons control room the day before, and during, the individual events. The ideal number is 2x9 people, which allows there to always be 9 people on-site at any given time of the day.»

« m.43.6 Call Room

The Call Room for the Olympics, World Championships and Grand Prix competitions must be situated next to the coloured pistes and finals piste and must contain enough seats and space for eight teams x (4 fencers + 1 trainer + 1 head of delegation) + 2 volunteers (1 for each bag of weapons) + 3 referees + those checking + the technical delegates of the DT and of the SEMI Commission.

The ideal size for this call room is 200 m², minimum, with 1 control post for each piste and a wall clock in the centre. The bags and control posts will have the colour of the corresponding piste.

This area is big enough during individual competitions, but when team competitions begin, it is essential to have the 200 m² space organised properly and for discipline to be kept.

The parade of fencers, referees and volunteers carrying the weapons bags with the checked material begins upon exiting the Call Room. In some events, the organisers also plan hostesses for this procession.

After each match, the weapons of the winner must return to the call room.

The calling of the fencers and referees must be coordinated by speakers, who receive a list of the fencers and referees from the DT. The DT must also provide those checking the material and weapons with a copy of these lists and the latter must put them up inside the Call Room”.

The President also specifies that when a fencer wants to change weapons during bouts on the coloured pistes, during semi-finals or during finals, the referee must confiscate it and place it behind him. During the finals and semi-finals, the delegates of the SEMI Commission must remain attentive that the fencers do not recover non-complying weapons during the matches.

He advises the members of the SEMI Commission to concentrate on their checking tasks instead of taking on the responsibility of going and getting the fencers on the piste or calling them, as other people are in charge of this.

11. SEMI designations and meetings

SEMI meetings

Due to the number of issues that are raised and need to be studied, the members of SEMI are of the opinion that it is not sufficient for the SEMI Commission to meet every 2 years.

« The commission will put forward a proposal to the Executive Committee to officially meet once a year, in addition to meeting during the World Championships on the initiative of the members present.»

The Designations of the SEMI Commission

From 2005 to 2007, nearly all members of the commission have had 2 designations as delegates in the Junior and Senior World Championships, and all members have had at least one designation.

For the 2007 St. Petersburg Senior World Championships, the following are designated as delegates of the SEMI Commission: Mehmet Karamete, Semion Rikhtman, Eduardo Dos Santos.

For the designations of the 2008 Junior World Championships, Catania (ITA), the 3 senior members (more than two mandates) Rikhtman, Bierkowski and De Chaine have indicated that they are more interested in the Senior competitions, and the following have volunteered for Catania: Mr Oh Won Suk, Ms Maria Eberl, Mr Azizi and Ms Gabriela Mayer (except if she is designated for the DT). It is highlighted that, of the 3 delegates who will be designated by the Executive Committee, there will need to be at least one member who has more experience and has communication skills either in French, English or even Italian.

Regarding the Olympics, the Executive Committee will decide at a later date who the delegates of the SEMI Commission will be. Without exception, all members of the SEMI Commission have shown an interest in being designated as delegates at this sports event.

12. Communication between members, consultation of members via e-mail

Over the past two years, the members have been consulted by e-mail several times and decisions have been taken in concordance with the members' responses. This decision-making method has proven to be effective.

13. Tasks distributed to members

Once the conclusions of the studies are reached and the tasks have finished being attributed to members, they will be forwarded, as quickly as possible, to the President of the SEMI Commission by email.

The members of the SEMI Commission have been attributed with the following tasks:

- Ms Rafaela Gonzalez will pass on to the Executive Committee the decisions of the Commission along with any explanations necessary relating to the report of the meeting and decisions taken.
- Mr Karamete will carry out research on the uniforms and gloves, new materials, resistance to perforation etc.
- Mr Rikhtman will be responsible for the homologation of Algorithm Pribor (Omska) and Amico's latest apparatus.
- Mr Daniel De Chaine will study the electrical behaviour of the foil and épée pointes d'arrêt that will be sent to him by the President.
- Ms Gabriela Mayer will continue to ensure communication between the SEMI delegates and the DT during the World Championships, and will inform the SEMI of the decisions of the DT.
- Mr Jacek Bierkowski will prepare a general document (2-pages long) on the checking of weapons procedure.
- Mr Harinishi will test and study, using the Adash testing apparatus, the contact and double hit times of the hit-registering apparatus which are in Japan.
- The members Mr Oh Won Suk, Mr Atsushi Harinishi, Mr Azizi and Ms Maria Eberl will prepare a document on the checking of weapons in their country and explain the current situation.
- Among other tasks, the President will continue to : coordinate tasks within the Commission and the Commission's members; respond to e-mails requesting explanations or clarification; establish a list of masks homologated by the SEMI Commission; coordinate pistes and apparatus homologations; keep communication open with the manufacturers and the Institutes; inform the members, the FIE and its President of the tasks carried out by the SEMI Commission; ask for the opinion of the Executive Committee and the President, when necessary.

14. Miscellaneous points and closing of the meeting.

The members are thanked for their presence, their cooperative attitude and the interest they displayed, which enabled a good working atmosphere and a productive and successful meeting.

**As no more questions are raised and
the agenda has been covered, the meeting ends at 14.30.**