

## **Report of the FIE Refereeing Commission**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>/Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2009 in Lausanne.**

Present: - Mr René Roch (President of Honour of the FIE, part of the meeting), Mr Emmanuel Katsiadakis (representative of FIE Executive Committee), the members of the FIE Refereeing Commission, Mrs Nathalie Rodriguez (CEO FIE), Miss Ao Jie (FIE Competition Manager), Mr Ioan Pop (Technical Director of the FIE, for part of meeting)

Mr Marco Siesto was excused as he was the refereeing delegate at the Grand Prix in St. Petersburg.

Mr Mohamed El Motawakel welcomed Mr Roch, Mr Katsiadakis, Mrs Nathalie Rodriguez and Miss Ao Jie and all the commission to the meeting and said that the Refereeing Commission had a very important role to play in the future of fencing. He thanked everyone for their participation and hoped the meeting would be very productive.

Mr Katsiadakis said that the Refereeing Commission was the most important commission in the FIE and had done a good job up till now and he hoped this would continue and indeed improve. He was pleased to be working with the Refereeing Commission once again and said that we all needed to develop refereeing for the good of the future of fencing.

### **Agenda Items:-**

#### **1. Belfast World Championships**

The commission was presented with the evaluation of the referees who had worked in Belfast. Mohamed El- Motawakel thanked all the delegates for their hard work and good co-operation. This had been the first time we had used six delegates at a World Championships, and this was now needed with the video refereeing and two competitions per day. The delegates had been divided into two groups each day and had carried out their evaluations of the referees. It was stated that six delegates was the minimum needed with four working on the video monitors and the other 2 controlling the second competition and being available to manage the referees etc whilst the four other delegates were on the video monitors.

It was stressed that the delegate at the video must be competent at the weapon being fenced.

Claus Janka said that the evaluation still needed to be more precise and objective and the commission agreed and Claus will present a new evaluation form to be discussed at the next meeting of the commission.

## **2. Video Refereeing**

The commission agreed that the current rules concerning the video should be maintained and that the referee has the final decision but must listen to advice from the delegate on the monitor. It was also agreed to maintain having two video screens, one for the delegate and another at the piste for the referee to be able to use to confirm his decision.

## **3. Refereeing Examinations**

It was pointed out that the FIE Administrative Rules set the structure of the examinations and so if the commission wants to change the examinations it needs to make a proposal to the FIE Executive. It was agreed to keep the current system for the examinations in 2009. This will be an examination based on video sequences and a theory examination. (a working group will study the examinations and propose changes at the next meeting of the commission, possibly to include a practical part of the examination.)

the FIE is to ask if the dates can be moved to September. Proposed: Salah Ferjani plus one other to be the examiners.

Examinations for Europe will be in Plovdiv and the FIE is to ask the organisers to change the dates to 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July. The examiners proposed are: Ilgar Mamedov and Mohamed El- Motawakel.

Examinations for Asia will be held in Singapore from 9<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> July and the Examinations for the Pan-American Confederation are to be held in San Salvador but examiners proposed are: Salah Ferjani and Wael Hussein.

Examinations for Africa will be held at Dakar in Senegal from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> August. The examiners proposed are: Keith Smith and Claus Janka.

To enable more candidates to take the examination it was agreed to have 20 candidates per weapon per day as there is a long waiting list.

The commission asked that in future the FIE Executive discuss the dates and places of examinations with the commission before publishing them so as to ensure members of the commission are available to be examiners.

It was pointed out that the Confederations must ask the FIE for examinations and state place and date. It was agreed to organise two examinations in each Confederation Zone if the Confederations ask for this. Europe has asked for a second examination in Denmark at the time of the Junior European Championships.

For the future the following was also agreed that each country could only have a maximum of 10 candidates at any one time for refereeing examinations. (Season 2009/10)

The deadline for entering examinations would be strictly followed.

There would be two examinations per zone of requested by the Confederation (and possibly three if needed.)

Candidates who were allocated to examinations and who said no to two examinations would be removed from the list.

#### **4. A “C” Licence for Confederations**

Keith Smith proposed creating a C licence for confederations to allow future referees to be trained and gain experience before taking the FIE examination. The commission agreed to this proposal but said it needed to be organised by the confederations.

#### **5. Zonal Championships**

The commission stated that they should be involved in the selection of referees and delegates for the Zonal Championships and make proposals to the FIE Executive. The Pan-American and European Zonal Championships had proposed referees and delegates to the FIE Executive these had been approved.

#### **6. Moscow Veteran Championships**

It was stated that the FIE does not allocate referees for the Veteran World Championships. The FIE Executive designates the President of the DT, the refereeing, SEMI and medical delegates but always tries to make the most economical choice. It was agreed that Ilgar Mamedov would be the refereeing delegate unless the organisers wanted to pay for a delegate from outside Russia.

#### **7. Delegates for the Senior World Championships.**

Mr Katsiadakis stated we needed the best delegates for the Senior World Championships. The commission was asked who was available and then the commission proposed the following refereeing delegates for the 2009 Senior World Championships in Antalya.

Mohamed El-Motawakel  
Marco Siesto  
Keith Smith  
Ilgar Mamedov  
Claus Janka  
Wael Husein.

#### **8. Selection of Referees for the Senior World Championships, 2009.**

The commission made a selection of 36 referees plus reserves from each continent. These will be submitted to the FIE Executive for an email vote and confirmation.

## **9. Derek Cotton's Proposals**

The commission studied the proposals and agreed to create a Referee Development Sub Committee consisting of Derek Cotton, Ilgar Mamedov, Keith Smith and Salah Ferjani. They would report at the next meeting.

The commission agreed that some practical refereeing should be included in the examination but asked the Referee Development Sub Committee to make proposals at the next commission meeting.

The commission agreed that there should be more than one examination per zone provided the Confederations asked for this.

The commission agreed that certain terminology needed to be changed. They agreed to remove "non- correct" and replace it with "sur la preparation" and also point in line with Line/Ligne. Mohamed El-Motawakel asked members of the commission to send any other proposed changes to him to be discussed/decided at the next commission meeting.

The commission thanked Derek Cotton for his paper.

## **10. Salah Ferjani Proposals**

The commission studied these proposals in detail and agreed that the Refereeing Development Sub Committee should study them further. In particular the use of seminars for training and improving referees was considered to be very important and the need for delegates to give advice to referees during each championships and competition.

The commission thanked Salah Ferjani for his thoughtful proposals.

## **11. FIE Executive Proposals**

These were the proposals for the Congress that the FIE executive wanted the opinion of the Refereeing Commission on.

Proposal 1 Executive Committee FIE Licences. **The commission was in favour of the proposal.**

Great Britain Proposal concerning putting the video refereeing into the Rules. **The commission was in favour of the proposal.**

Hungarian Proposal concerning video refereeing. **The commission was NOT in favour of the proposal.**

Russian Federation Proposals.

1. The commission was in favour of a study and testing before making a final decision. The commission also regretted that the proposal did not include foil. It was felt we needed more information before deciding on the exact timings at sabre and eventually foil.
2. Video Refereeing Proposal. **The commission was not in favour.**

### **12. Budget and Working Plan.**

This was presented by Mohamed El-Motawakel. The commission studied it in detail. The commission approved of the proposals but needed the FIE Executive to agree funding.

### **13. Apologising process of unavailable.**

This season many referees and some delegates had been unable to participate in Grand Prix events but had only given their apologies very late. In future it was agreed that referees and delegates must give at least one months notice if unavailable unless unavoidable circumstances. Referees who gave inadequate notice of non availability would not be selected again.

### **14. German Proposal to the FIE Congress**

Claus Janka asked why the commission was not discussing the German Proposals and Mr Katsiadakis explained that the FIE Executive had already decided against these proposals.

### **15. Referee Evaluation Forms**

It was agreed to use the current forms to the end of this season. These must be sent to the FIE and the commission within two weeks of the competition. Claus Janka will present ideas on a new evaluation system and form at the next meeting.

### **16. Other Items.**

1. The commission asked the SEMI Commission to explain and to try to avoid a repetition of the fault whereby the lamps come on in the mask when using the STM Wireless system but do not come on in the scoring apparatus.
2. The commission felt asking the fencers and referees to come to the Call Room 30 minutes before a match was too long.
3. Salah Ferjani felt the non combativity rule needed to be made more precise.

4. It was agreed to create and publish lists of referees who are suitable and usable in the World Championships and Grand Prix, the Senior World Cups and then the Junior World Cups. The commission would draw up these lists in conjunction with the National Federations. This would allow all referees and federations to see clearly where a referee was currently able to referee and this would also be a much more transparent system. These lists would be based on the current ability and experience of the referees.
5. The Youth Olympic Games are in Singapore in 2010. The commission noted that the IOC wants younger referees for these Youth Olympic Games.
6. The commission would prioritise Junior World Cups and making evaluations at these competitions. Mrs Nathalie Rodriguez agreed that members of the commission could/would be appointed as observers at a minimum of 2 Junior World Cups each to allow them to observe the referees and make real evaluations.
6. Keith, my suggestion regarding the junior World Cups and the Youth Olympic Games was not valid since after checking the qualification criteria, it appears that the fencers will only be selected among the fencers ranked best at the **cadet (and not the junior)** World Championships. Please accept my apologies. Please indicate in your e-mail to the members that I have made this correction after the meeting. (Note from Mrs Nathalie Rodriguez after the meeting)

#### **Date and Place of Next meeting**

It was agreed to meet on the 31<sup>st</sup> October/1<sup>st</sup> November 2009 weekend. The location to be decided as soon as possible.

**Keith Smith**  
**FIE Refereeing Commission**  
**Secretary to the meetings**

