



RULES COMMISSION MEETING

Lausanne, September 4-5, 2010

Present:

SCHIRRMACHER, Lutz (GER), President
ASSADOURIAN, Sarkis (IRI)
BELMONTE, Manuel (CAN)
CAFIERO, Giuseppe (ITA)
HIGGINSON, Stephen (GBR)
KULCSAR, Krisztian (HUN)
LAMON, Janine (SUI)
SHIM, Jae Sung (KOR)
THULLBERG, Pierre (SWE)

SALHI, Férial, Executive Committee Representative

RODRIGUEZ M.-H., Nathalie, CEO

Absent excused:

CARLESCU-BADEA, Laura (ROU)

The Commission met on September 4th and 5th, 2010 at the Hôtel de la Paix in Lausanne.

The President opened the session, and welcomed the members of the Commission, as well as Mrs. Rodriguez and Ms Salhi. He asked Steve Higginson to take notes for the Commission's meeting report.

The Commission then studied the proposals submitted for presentation at the Congress.

I. Various points about the Rules

a) Parallel to this meeting, the Rules Commission and the Refereeing Commission have met to discuss jointly of the proposals submitted to both commissions.

b) Also, the Refereeing Commission asked that the following omissions to article t.120 be corrected:

Line 1.13, (in French) replace « coup porté » with « touche portée »

Line 1.16, "get dressed and..." is missing

Line 3.24, "t.92.6" is missing

The Rules Commission agreed unanimously to make these corrections.

c) The Refereeing Commission also indicated that articles t.28 and t.102 do not correspond to one another, rather that they are ambiguous and contradictory.

Therefore, the Rules Commission modified these articles as follows, and submits their new version to the COMEX for an urgent decision:

t.28

1. A competitor who crosses one of the lateral boundaries of the piste with one or both feet is penalised according to article t.102.

t.102

A competitor who crosses the lateral boundaries of the piste with one or both feet resumes the bout at a correct fencing distance from his opponent, then is penalised by the loss of one metre of ground. (cf. t.25).

II. Study of the proposals

1) Some proposals pertaining to the World Championships are postponed and will be studied by the Veterans Council. See **annex prop reg veterans suspendues pour conseil vet 3L.doc**

2) The other proposals submitted for study of the Commission are attached in the annex entitled **prop. REGLEMENTS congres 3L.doc**

III. Other business

Situations and proposals submitted by Sarkis ASSADOURIAN (IRI)

The Commission studied the question of uneven odds for the fencers, coming from the fact that the indicators are uneven as some of the first round pools are composed of 7 fencers, and some other pools are composed of 6 fencers only.

The first indicator (V/M) already favours those who only fenced 5 bouts in a pool of 6, versus those who have fenced 6 bouts in a pool of 7. For example, two fencers may have won 3 bouts, but 3/5 (0.60) is a better indicator than 3/6 (0.50). And when one considers the second indicator (HS-HR), the fencer who had the possibility of scoring more hits is advantaged. For example, if both fencers won all their bouts 5:4, the fencer who fenced 6 bouts has a +6 hit indicator, while the fencer who only fenced 5 bouts has a +5 hit indicator, which is lower.

Obviously, one can argue that the standings in the direct elimination table does not represent these two fencers in a fair and just manner.

It is hard to imagine how one can compensate for the V/M indicator problem, as it already is expressed as a percentage. On the other hand, M. Assadourian suggested (and he has illustrated his point with many examples) that if the hit indicator were a percentage of the hits actually scored and received versus the total number of possible hits, one would have a fairer ranking.

It is of course impossible to reach a perfectly fair situation for everyone. For this to take place, it would be necessary to have the same number of fencers in each and every pool at any given event. But the proposed solution would be a step towards ideal fairness.

This would also be fairer for situations in which, beside pools of 7, we finally end with one or several pools of 5 (for example a pool of 6 in which one injured fencer had to withdraw).

The Commission has been told that it would be easy to adjust the competition management software in order to make this change. There would be no problem as far as the competition organisation and flow are concerned.

M. Assadourian will apply his method, as a test, to real competition results, in order to demonstrate the fairness of his proposal.

In the meantime, the Commission is in favour of the ideas presented.

All the points on the agenda having been dealt with, the President adjourned the meeting and thanked all participants for their excellent and productive work.